



**Homeland
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**
Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Date: November 2014
To: EXCOM, District Board/Staff
From: D11N RESPONSE TEAM (ASC, DSO-AV, DSO-CM, DSO-OP)
Subject: D11N RESPONSE Report/ Respectfully Submitted

HIGHLIGHTS:

CWO Colin D. Langeslay

CWO Curtis Barthel

CWO Matthew D. James (OTO REPORT)

AUX STAFF OFFICER REPORTS:

ASC-REPORT – COMO V. CONNELL

DSO-AV REPORT- LARRY OLSON

DSO-CM REPORT-COMO M. WILLIAMS

DSO-OP REPORT-COMO G. RAMSEY

2014 FLIGHT HOURS

2014 FIXED & LAND MOBILE HOURS

2014 UNDERWAY BOAT HOURS

OPERATIONS EVENT CALENDAR

CWO Colin D. Langeslay, AUXLO, SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO

Greetings from Sector San Francisco!

On behalf of Sector San Francisco Commander Captain Stump, Response Department Chief Commander Thompson, and myself, I want to start out by saying how impressed we are with the great things constantly happening across our AOR. From SAR response by "WHATEVER", on the Strawberry Reservoir in Utah; to Land Mobile support for top level VIP's visiting the area; to Living Marine Resource flights along the coast; to huge marine events like Fleet Week...D11N Auxiliary has much to be proud of and I'm humble to be part of the team! Much of what you're doing has visibility at the highest levels and doesn't go unnoticed, so thank you. Also, thanks to all who've help make my transition into the SSF/AUXLO position easier, I appreciate your support.

I've been fortunate to get out on a few occasions to meet some of you, and I hope to join BOSN Matt James on the road next summer as he travels throughout our area visiting Flotillas. It's truly the people that make our organization great on both the Silver and Gold side. Group gatherings of Auxiliarists for any reason should be seen as an opportunity for me to get out of the office say hello, I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to join in...although I can't make any promises on attendance, I'll try my best when possible.

Recent changes to AOM procedures have been somewhat challenging for us all. I ask that you be patient and help us move forward, any suggestions for improvement should be routed up

the chain of command and are always welcome. Problems associated with claims have been reduced to the occasional basis that are relatively minor in nature, so thank you for that.

Be safe and have fun,
Semper Paratus!
~Colin

CWO Curtis Barthel, AUXLO, SECTOR HUMBOLDT

All Coxswains active in SECTOR Humboldt with regards to recent changes to the Patrol Area Coordinator's (PACs) and the Order Issuing Authority (OIA's) AOM capabilities please advise me if you do not feel like your orders are being completed quickly enough.

I am putting together a process for us to do the orders here and it really shouldn't have any impact on the speed of payment. However, one may fall through the crack and all I ask is that the members contact us immediately, instead of letting it fester. Also, if they are hearing things they don't understand or that does not make sense, then please e-mail or call me.

I want to make sure with all the changes; there are not a bunch of rumors swirling around. Again, with all the changes, the members need to realize this should have very little if no impact on them.

Trust me, I don't want someone waiting two weeks to approve my travel claim, and I don't want an Aux member to wait two weeks for their orders to be paid.

Thanks
Curt

CWO Matthew D. James (OTO REPORT)

AOMS- Changes in Active Duty Processes.

Coast Guard Finance Center in Virginia had been hinting for several months that various regional practices that allowed Auxiliary members to activate, approve, and (in some regions) submit patrols for reimbursement were not going to be allowed to continue. As an organization, the Coast Guard has been facing ever-tightening internal audit controls on our finance processes. Although the Auxiliary Operations Manual contained some verbiage that made it appear permissible for some of these practices to continue, FINCEN ruled last month that the Auxiliary patrol and reimbursement processes must follow the regulations set forth in the Claims and Disbursement Manual.

What were the changes?

1. AOMS approvals and submittals shall only be completed by Active Duty E-6 and above or Civilian Employees GS-7 and above. Auxiliary members shall not click the "approve" or "submit" buttons in AOMS. This means the Patrol Area Coordinators (PAC's) will still review patrol requests for accuracy and de-conflict where necessary. Instead of approving the patrol, they will mark the patrol as reviewed in the comments box. The active duty OIA can then quickly review the request and approve.

2. Those same active duty and civilian members that approved the patrol cannot be the same person that submits the patrol for reimbursement. This two-person integrity requirement stems from the regular procurement process that requires duties to be separated. The two sectors and Air Station San Francisco are realigning their internal process to make this happen. For the immediate future, I am handling the submission side of Sector SF's patrols.

These changes should not impact the field. Your expectation for timely approvals and reimbursement should not be altered. The PAC's are still available to manage the local AOR patrol needs as well as lend their considerable AOMS expertise to any questions you may have with the procedures. Linda Vetter created an outstanding AOMS user guide that I strongly recommend all of you download and keep handy by your computer. What are some potential changes?

1. Each Sector is going to have to find a way to scale their staffing and collateral duties to manage the AOMS workload. The good news is AOMS makes the process much simpler than in the past. You may potentially see OIA responsibilities spread out among other field units within the sector. You will likely be interacting with members of the sector supply and finance staffs for reimbursement issues. Please be patient and professional with them; most F&S folks have had little to no interaction with Auxiliary members throughout their careers. This is an opportunity for you to wow yet another Active Duty cohort with your knowledge and professionalism.

2. AOMS may soon offer an "endorsed" button or something similar so that PAC's, DO-OPS, or other designated auxiliary members can still have a role in the oversight and scheduling of patrols. Linda Vetter, Doug Kerr, and Gail Ramsey are actively working with DIRAUX to provide suggested changes to CG-BSX for AOMS.

What's the Bottom Line?

Keep requesting and executing patrols as you always have. Work through your chain of leadership to resolve any issues you experience with the approval and reimbursement process. Make sure you have updated contact info for your OIA. Stay flexible. These changes are not a reflection of a lack of trust or a punishment for issues in the past. These are regulations that have been on the books for years that were selectively enforced up until now.

PPE- Inspection Intervals and Serviceability

I'm one month into conducting a series of PPE records audits throughout the region. Overall, most flotillas have been staying on top of the required inspection intervals. But, I've also seen a few flotillas where no record-keeping was taking place resulting in all of the PPE being considered unserviceable. If your last build-up or semiannual inspection was completed in April of 2014, your semi-annual was due before the end of October 2014. Once the calendar turns over past six months, your equipment is considered "unserviceable". That means you should not be on the water without getting the equipment inspected and logged back in service. You place yourself at risk operating with unserviceable PPE: it may not perform as designed when you need it to, and you may not be reimbursed for injury or damage claim costs if you weren't complying with this Commandant directive at the time of the mishap. Work with your FC and FSO-OP to stay on top of the semi-annual maintenance. If you are issued a PLB, make sure you conduct the monthly battery tests and have the FSO-OP log them into the flotilla's records.

PPE- Inflatable PFD'sAs I mentioned last month, the updated Rescue and Survival Systems Manual (RSSM) only allows four models of inflatable PFD's to be worn on patrol. Two of

those models are intended for LE/Tactical use and won't be used by Auxiliary. The two acceptable models are:

1. Mustang MD-3183 with the hydrostatic inflator.
2. Lifesaving Systems CG-485 Survival Vest Inflatable.

I strongly recommend the MD-3183 over the CG-485 based on the maintenance intervals. The CG-485 requires monthly pill and pin replacements while the MD-3183 only requires semi-annual inspections. The MD-3183 is available for direct purchase for Auxiliary members at a discounted price. I'll post the info on my web page soon.

We had a detailed conversation the CG-731, the Office of Boat Forces, a few weeks ago regarding inflatable PFD's. We were working to find ways to keep some of the other models used in the field in service past the June 1, 2015 compliance date. Unfortunately, the four systems listed in the RSSM will be the only approved models for Coast Guard boat operations, including Auxiliary patrols. This means you will not be allowed to wear the Stearns SOS suspenders, Mustang MD-3031, or any other model after June 1st, 2014.

DIRAUX recognizes the impact this may have on some of you. Work through your chain of leadership to voice your concerns and we will try to keep you outfitted based on our resource levels.

Additionally, if you wish to continue wearing one of the approved models on patrol, you must complete the applicable Personal Qualification Standard (PQS) for your model prior to June 1st, 2015. I'll post the applicable PQS's to my web page before the end of the year.

Inflatable PFD's are systems that require logs to be kept. Make sure your FSO-OP starts a log sheet for your PFD if you decide to purchase one of your own. You will also need to purchase the equipment pouch for your inflatable (if required) in order to carry your survival equipment. Do not wear an inflatable over your SAR vest.

Personal Locator Beacons

Please go into the NOAA beacon database and ensure you have updated your password to "D11Nauxiliary". In the coming months, many of you will receive emails from me instructing you to turn your PLB over to facility owners within your patrol areas. I will change the registrations over the facility and the facility owners will be responsible for conducting the monthly tests and ensuring the tests are logged. There is still some discussion with CG-731 about monthly testing requirements versus pre-patrol checks. I'm also starting a conversation about PLB usage in the internal lakes. In the meantime, we will continue to move forward with complying with the written guidance.

I'm estimating that the new PLB issuance requirements will effectively expend all of my PPE funds for FY '15.

That's it for November. I'll be going silent for December holidays. I hope to have more final information on AOMS and PPE by the January report.

Best wishes for safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.

AUXILIARY SECTOR COORDINATOR – REPORT: COMO V. CONNELL

1. Rescue 21 outages coverage: SECSF continues to request AUX land mobile assets on an ongoing basis in support of Rescue 21 outages for the foreseeable future. AUX Land Mobile units in Bodega Bay, Lake Tahoe and Post Ranch have been supporting this mission listening for distress calls while Rescue 21 is temporarily stood down for updates.

2. Fleet Week: despite less than ideal communication and interface with the AUX from SECSF this year, the AUX component of Fleet Week support went well. AUX supported on the water and offered shore side support to ship tours for the general public over the four day period. Linda Vetter and Simone Adair have both submitted reports with details on AUX support.

3. SECSF AUXLO is working with SECSF Command in regard to Active Duty from SECSF attending some of our Division COWs. This continues to be a work in progress with likely short notice responses from SECSF.

4. SECSF has asked for AUX support to Operation Safe Crab 2014. The Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety (CFVS) Program is tasked with dockside pulse operations to make contact with as many commercial crab vessels possible in San Francisco Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey, Moss Landing, Santa Cruz, Half Moon Bay, and Bodega Bay before the season opens. The crab fishing season officially opens on 15NOV south of Russian River, and 01DEC north of Russian River if not otherwise delayed by California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

5. SECSF has requested AUX VSC support to Mavericks Surfing event which may occur anytime between NOV-MAR on relatively short notice. DSO-VE is organizing support from DIV 4 VEs for this annual event which is expected to attract more recreational boaters this year since land access to the event will be restricted.

DSO-AV REPORT

AVIATION SAFETY WORKSHOP: We had an excellent Safety Workshop at Air Station Sacramento on last Saturday, 01 Nov 2014. There were 40 Auxiliarists in attendance and we had CWO3 Colin Langeslay along with LT Marshall Burtt and LT Rolla Boggs from Air Station San Francisco. Our most important task was to complete the required Safety Training Event, which was mandatory in order for auxair members to receive orders after 31 Oct 2014. We did accomplish this task, along with other important safety subjects that are important to safe aviation.

SAFETY PATROLS: Auxair continues to provide four to six patrols each week, in support of the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary surface vessels.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Olson
DSO-AV

DSO-COMS REPORT

Greetings all,

Auxiliary Telecommunications Qualification Procedure

The initial step in training to become qualified as an Auxiliary Telecommunications Operator, for Land Mobile or Fix Station Training or both is to complete the TCO-PQS. Found here at this web address. <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg3/cg3pcx/missions/TC-PQS.pdf>

Print out the document and consult with your Flotilla Commander, the assignment of a mentor is very critical to the successful completion of the PQS qualification process.

The mentor must be qualified in telecommunications, preferably with at least 2 years' experience as a Land Mobile or Fixed Station operator. Each Division has a qualified mentor who may provide positive training opportunities for candidates. Once the tasks have been signed off to the satisfaction of the mentor and upon completion of the required tasks; the final three pages, 34-36 once signed by the appropriate CM staff officer must be signed by the DSO-CM to qualify the candidate.

There are two options in order to complete the process. Preferred method is to scan the last three pages after being completed and emailed to mikewms05@comcast.net. I will print or attach an electronic signature and forward to DIRAUX for their administrative action.

Another method is to mail the completed last three pages to DIRAUX who will then scan the document, email to me and I will then complete the form and return to DIRAUX.

Radio offer for use form must be completed by each member who desires to obtain authorization to use a radio designated for Auxiliary Communications. The form must be completed by the member; the radio must be inspected and signed by an authorized FSO-CM, SO-CM, or DSO-CM. The form is located at <http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7004.pdf>

Finally each potential TCO-LM operator must have on file an approved Vehicle Facility Offer for Use. This document may be found at <http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7065.pdf>

Please send in digital photo of your vehicle prepared for a Land Mobile patrol, magnetic patrol signs attached and should show an external antenna. For an in-depth discussion go to the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual, chapter 3, and Annex 4. Any operational decal issued by DIRAUX should be affixed to the radio not the vehicle.

Non-Emergency Land Mobile Patrols

1. The tasking of AUX Land Mobiles and request for assistance from the Sector San Francisco, or subordinate organizations must include appropriate instructions to insure that the essential mission tasks are understood, and that point of contact information at Sector is included as well. Those LM, Sector requested patrols will be processed as Reimbursable. Normally they are process by the Auxiliary Sector Coordinator.
2. The Order Issuing Authority, (OIA); (SECSF AUXLO) has the ultimate approval authority for all LM facilities, currently, all requests for Non-Reimbursable LM patrols are being approved in the Delta area.
3. All Land Mobile Patrols either Reimbursed or Non-Reimbursed must be coordinated thru the Patrol Area Coordinator. Coast Guard Stations must be included and aware of a Land Mobile Patrol operating within their AOR. **It is imperative that all patrols, Surface and/or Land Mobile be coordinated and approved in the same manner.**
4. Required information to be added in the comments section of the AOM order request.
 1. Patrol Intentions:
 2. Radio Guard:
 3. Other AUX Facilities:
 4. Other CG/OGA:
 5. Operator Info:
 6. Time mission starts to time mission ends
 7. Other amplifying information

Example:

1. LM Patrol Delta area between X and Y
2. Radio Guard: Station XYZ???
3. None or list specifically
4. None or list specifically
5. John Doe 1234567***800*555*1212
6. 0800-1800 Local
7. LM patrol to

I anticipate a TCO-PQS class at the PCA fair to qualify members as Telecommunication Operators. Additionally we have reached out to Sector to schedule a seminar to discuss their expectations from Auxiliary Land Mobile Operators conducting patrols in their AOR. More information to follow.

Respectfully Submitted,
COMO Michael L. Williams
DSO-CM

DSO-OP REPORT-

This link to AOM Guidelines, assembled by Linda Vetter that should assist all concerning the ins and outs of AOM. I know many of us have spent hours giving guidance to Coxswains and owners of Facilities on how to use AOM. This should make all our efforts and our member's understanding far easier. As Mr. James suggested keep the information close, will save frustration for all.

All PACs please keep these Guidelines on file so if you are asked any questions you can send the member the attached and also remind them it is on our District Web Site.

<http://ops.d11nuscgaux.info/calendar/flyers/AOMPatrolClaimsGuidelines.pdf>

From Dean LaChappelle:

The importance of Look-Outs on an underway facility cannot be over estimated. Generally, the look-out warns the Coxswain of approaching danger or conflicts and gives a description, relative bearing and distance well in advance of the situation becoming problematic. The Coxswains has the responsibility to acknowledge the report and process the information. However, we are all missing a different look-out - coxswain reporting rule.

When a coxswain intends to make a course change, particularly a change of 10 or more degrees, the coxswain must inform the look-outs and give them time to clear the new course and verbally respond before executing the maneuver.

For Example:

*Cox: "Look Outs"short pause ... "Coming Right 45 degrees".
after checking in the direction of the turn; for over taking, crossing traffic, obstacles, traffic that may become a hazard on the new course etc.

- *Look-Outs: "Clear to the Starboard" and "Clear to Port"
- *Cox: "Clear to Come Right" Only then, does the coxswain execute the maneuver.
- *Clearing the space that the coxswain intends to turn too is as important as reporting any other potential hazard.

OPERATIONS 2015 EVENT CALENDAR:

Please work with your members as to when your 2015 Event will take place. Remember to please check the OPS Calendar and not infringe on a date already spoken for. Also if QEs come from afar it will be easier for them to find lodging, at the government rate, when another popular event (bicycle races, school registrations, music festivals or ??) is not occurring in your area. Request the date of your event after checking the District Calendar and be sure to avoid when others have requested an OPS event, District Meetings, PCA Fair, District Events and remember Mother’s Day is sacred.

2014 FLIGHT HOURS

| Mission Hours as values | 11NR - Div 03 | 11NR - Div 04 | 11NR - Div 05 | 11NR - Div 12 | DIST 11N |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| | Sector San Francisco | 853.50 | 25.50 | 11.40 | 145.00 |
| 11NR - Eleventh Northern | 853.50 | 25.50 | 11.40 | 145.00 | 1,035.40 |

2014 FIXED & LAND MOBILE HOURS

Working with AUXINFO to attempt to find an accurate report for all that our Land Mobiles and members that stand Radio Watches. Please bear with me.

2014 UNDERWAY BOAT HOURS

[Cube questions should be directed to Harry Schoepe, BC-ISL@cgaux.org](mailto:Harry.Schoepe_BC-ISL@cgaux.org). Cube last refreshed on Sunday, November 02, 2014.

[AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a)][Sector San Francisco][All Facilities][All Unit Locations][All Activities][CY 2014][All Statuses][All Positions][All Operations][All Claimants]MEASURES

| Mission Hours as values | 11NR - Div 01 | 11NR - Div 03 | 11NR - Div 04 | 11NR - Div 05 | 11NR - Div 06 | 11NR - Div 07 | 11NR - Div 08 | 11NR - Div 10 | 11NR - Div 11 | 11NR - Div 12 | Sector San Francisco |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| CHART - Aton/Chart Update Patrol (03) | 39.00 | 25.50 | 49.50 | 78.10 | 32.40 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 64.20 | 93.40 | 382.10 |
| INTERCEPT - (55a) Air/Vessel Intercept | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.80 |
| LOG - Logistics Mission (54a) | 0.00 | 17.70 | 5.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.40 | 25.00 |
| MOM - (01a) Maritime Observation | 1,338.50 | 2,435.20 | 188.40 | 2,806.90 | 1,634.30 | 3,132.90 | 101.30 | 289.10 | 584.80 | 569.10 | 13,080.50 |
| REGATTA - (02) Regatta/Safety Zone Support | 261.10 | 873.80 | 250.60 | 356.70 | 290.80 | 28.10 | 75.10 | 59.20 | 340.70 | 227.20 | 2,763.30 |
| TRNQUALS - (22a) Ops Training (Qualifications) | 125.50 | 928.80 | 179.80 | 404.70 | 392.30 | 89.60 | 492.00 | 0.00 | 61.00 | 107.50 | 2,781.20 |
| AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a) | 1,764.10 | 4,281.00 | 674.20 | 3,646.40 | 2,349.80 | 3,250.60 | 675.20 | 348.30 | 1,050.70 | 998.60 | 19,038.90 |

[For flyers, regarding these events please go to the District Calendar:](#)

OPERATIONS OPEX/OPTREX EVENT CALENDAR - - 2014 & 2015

| | 2015 | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| APR 30- MAY 3rd | Flotilla 3-9 | Antlers, Lake Shasta, Contact: Carl Pierce |
| May-09 | Division 1 | Berkeley Yacht Club, Contact: R. Celia |
| May 15-16th | Flotilla 8-8 OPTREX | Location & Contact info TBC. |

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| <p>Respectfully, COMO Gail L. Ramsey Primary e/mail: Deltapony2@juno.com Office Phone: (510) 437-3500 Cell: (510) 708-4629</p> | <p>DIRAUX OFFICE HOURS: 0730 to 1530 Mon thru Thurs ID card and New Member Processing Mon thru Wed 0730 to 1300 By Appointment Only Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) issue, by appointment only. Tuesday is the designated "AUX Tuesday" walk-in days when most of the staff is available for customer service. ALL SERVICES ON OTHER DAYS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. DIRAUX E/Mail Address: D11AUX Northern@uscg.mil</p> |
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