



**Homeland
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Date: November 2015
To: EXCOM, District Board/Staff
From: D11N RESPONSE TEAM (ASC, DSO-AV, DSO-CM, DSO-OP)
Subject: D11N RESPONSE Report/ Respectfully Submitted

HIGHLIGHTS:

CWO Matthew D. James (OTO REPORT)

AUX STAFF OFFICER REPORTS:

ASC-SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO REPORT – COMO V. CONNELL

ASC-SECTOR HUMBOLDT REPORT – CARL PIERCE

DSO-AV REPORT- LARRY OLSON

DSO-CM REPORT-COMO M. WILLIAMS

DSO-OP REPORT-DCAPT MIKE THOMPSON

2015 OPERATIONS EVENT CALENDAR

???, AUXLO, SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO:

Awaiting Assignment – See OTO Report

CWO Matthew D. James (OTO REPORT)

****Safety Recall Notice Link Below or Attachment****

<http://www.mustangsurvival.com/advisories?>

Mustang Survival has issued a recall notice for some MD-3183's manufactured in Canada in 2012. Those of you who have purchased or have been issued MD-3183's in the past year should read the advisory and perform the steps to determine if your PFD is affected.

-If DIRAUX issued you the MD-3183, contact me via the d11auxnorthern@uscg.mil address to arrange repairs.

-If you purchased the PFD personally, please follow the guidance in the recall notice.

Inflatable PFD Reminder

Hopefully this is the last time I need to put this reminder out. The changes to the Rescue and Survival Systems Manual last fall mandated only certain models of inflatable PFD's are authorized for wear on patrol. Those models are:

1. Mustang MD-3183 v22 inflatable PFD.
2. Lifesaving Systems CGA-485 Life Preserver
3. Mustang MD-0450 inflatable PFD

If you are wearing any other model of inflatable PFD on patrol you are doing it wrong.

Those of you wearing the inflatable PFD on patrol must have completed the applicable PQS for the specific piece of gear you are wearing and submitted a signed copy of the PQS to DIRAUX to include in our records.

Sector San Francisco OIA

I will be retaining the OIA role for Sector San Francisco for the next few weeks until the new AUXLO reports in. November is a busy month with changes of watch and Elected Officer's Training. I typically log into AOMS each day I'm in the office, but I'm only approving orders ten days or so advance. Weekends are busy with COW's and travel for my kids' soccer games, so you will need to call my cell number if you have a last-minute patrol request that you think needs to be approved. That being said, there aren't many circumstances that will justify a last-minute patrol request. My Out of Office Assistant on my email will reply with my cell number.

We learned the hard way that AOMS is still experiencing the glitch where patrols requested on the last day of the month are not showing up in the calendar view screen. This glitch affected a few of you on October 31st, you have my apologies for the oversight. We've made AUXDATA/AOMS team at OSC Martinsburg aware of the problem and they are working to resolve it so that it doesn't affect future months.

That being said, I was very dismayed to learn that some crews went out and patrolled on October 31st anyway without having their orders "approved" in AOMS. Glitches aside, you are not authorized to patrol without approved patrol orders. This is not a grey area. If your AOMS request has not been approved, you need to call me for a verbal authorization before you can depart the dock. I will suspend coxswains' certifications if this happens again.

PLB Issuance

We are 75% complete with issuing ACR PLB's to certified crewmembers. Once the certified crewmembers are covered, I plan to start recapitulating many of the older McMurdo models PLB's this spring. The plan for issuing PLB's for trainee use will vary by division and I plan to have those in service by June 1st.

Those of you that have been issued your PLB's need to ensure the FSO-OP has your beacon number and has initiated a maintenance record for your beacon to record the monthly battery tests. This last round of PLB issuance was something of a test of our PPE system. I expected the PLB users to follow up with their staffs to ensure the proper paperwork was started. Feedback I'm getting from the field indicates otherwise. You need to hold up your end of the bargain to keep the program moving forward.

Looking Ahead to D-Train

D-Train is being hosted by DIV 11 in Reno March 18-20th 2016. The event location looks outstanding and it promises to be a great event. I strongly encourage all FSO-OP and MA's to consider attending D-Train. I'll be providing a block of instruction on how to run and evaluate your PPE program. There will also be members from Sector San Francisco's Ready for Operations Team onboard to provide a hands on course for conducting the semi-annual inspections and paperwork.

As in past years, we will also conduct the annual Operations Workshop on the Sunday morning of D-Train. I hope I'll see you there for my last D11 D-Train.

ASC-SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO REPORT – COMO V. CONNELL:

- Auxiliarists provided outstanding support to the 35th annual San Francisco Fleet Week from 05-13 OCT. AUX members received kudos from many SF officials, including CAPT Greg Stump, CO of Sector SF and the Port of San Francisco, stating that AUX members were crucial to the success of the events.
 1. Eleven AUX Facilities and their Boat Crews helped maintain the safety perimeter for the Air Show over four days.
 2. TCOs from eight different Flotillas in five different Divisions augmented Sector watchstanders in the Command Center, handling radio guard for the Auxiliary surface facilities in transit, and provided a communications facility on Muni Pier as the link between PATCOM and the Air Show activities.
 3. 38 AUX shore side volunteers facilitated tours of 6 ships for 30,000 visitors over four days at 3 different piers. Their primary responsibilities were to convey information, answer questions and act as eyes and ears, alert for any safety or other type of anomaly. Auxiliary volunteers compiled a total of 407 hours of work and represented 8 Divisions and 16 Flotillas throughout District 11NR.
- Sector SF AUXLO BOSN Colin Langeslay has moved on from his AUXLO duties and has been assigned to other Sector operations duties. Sector is in the process of making some changes to how the AUXLO functions; the AUXLO duties may be shared among several Active Duty members at Sector SF. Changes are also anticipated in our Order Issuing Authority (OIA) for AUX patrols over coming months. More information to follow.
- Titans of Mavericks surfing event is planned to occur sometime between 01NOV and 31MAR near Pillar Point on the San Mateo Coastline, with short notice. DIV 4 AUX VEs and our Marine Safety members are planning to provide VSCs for sponsor and recreational vessels as well as some AUX UPV checks of passenger vessels attending the event.

ASC-SECTOR HUMBOLDT REPORT – CARL PIERCE:

Division 8: Continues to support Coast Guard, Sector Humboldt.

Flotilla 8-6: Continue to support the Coast Guard Station Humboldt Bay.

Flotilla 8-7: Continues to support the Noyo Coast Guard Station in the following areas:

1. Maintains the Helo Fuel Dump; stands ready to fuel the Helo when needed. For an example of the Auxiliarists assisting the US Coast Guard Sector Humboldt Air Station, see attached report, information, and photos.
2. Complete monthly inspection of PPEs at Noyo River Coast Guard Boat Station and provide ongoing boat training for the station.
3. Continue to provide the Coast Guard with weekly maintenance of the exterior glass enclosure of the lens at the Pt. Cabrillo Lighthouse as well as quarterly maintenance of lens.
4. Assist Coast Guard in Helo training exercises.

Flotilla 8-8: Continues to support the Coast Guard in the following areas:

1. Flotilla 8-8, along with several members of other Divisions within the District, responded to the needs of the Office of Emergency Services for Lake County at the Emergency Operations Center for the Valley Fire. District members also supported the evacuation centers during the

event and members contributed many days' worth of support for the EOC during the immediate period after the fire started on 12 September and for nearly two weeks thereafter.

2. The Flotilla also supported the annual Heroes of Health and Safety Fair in Lakeport, CA on Saturday, 17 October. During this activity, the flotilla fitted and gave out 131 life jackets to children under the age of 13. They also provided a public face for the Auxiliary to the public and handed out safe boating literature and interacting with fair attendees. The flotilla continues to support recreational boating safety on Clear Lake and to promote boating safety classes, as well as provide complimentary boat safety inspections.

Flotilla 8-11: Continues to support the Coast Guard station at Crescent City by:

1. Continuing to provide SAR coverage 24 hours, four days a week and availability 24/7 for call outs on a variety of assists on non-scheduled days.
2. Maintaining trained crews, by Coast Guard Standards, to operate the RB S11.
3. When requested, provide coverage for helo/swimmer training every month, weather permitting.
4. Maintain Coast Guard PPEs assigned to 8-11's use.

Flotilla 3-9, Division 3: Continues to support Sector Humboldt Air Station Helo program:

1. Flotilla 3-9 provided a facility as a platform for training with Sector Humboldt helicopters. The facility Eagle 1 has been winterized for the winter; will launch in the spring.

Flotilla 8-7 & 8-8 will provide a Thanksgiving dinner for the Noyo River Coast Guard Station, Ft Bragg, CA.

CWO 3 Thomas Moore has made me aware of the need for AUXCHEFs to help out at the different Stations under Sector Humboldt. I have contacted Linda Haynes, AUXCHEF regarding the need. In my December report, I should be able to provide more specifics.

Use of Auxiliary: The use of Auxiliary air and surface assets for MDA patrols and targeted operations in support of the LMR mission is strongly encouraged. They are particularly well suited to target the Salmon Fishing Fleet due to the near shore operation of this fishery. Other encouraged patrols include CLOSED fishing areas and National Marine Sanctuaries, patrols to determine fleet locations, and outreach/education efforts for fishery or Sanctuary specific regulations. Any observed non-compliance shall be immediately reported to TACON. LMR efforts by the Auxiliary shall be reported in the monthly LMR enforcement summaries. The Auxiliary shall not be involved in direct enforcement as per ref (b). This information is provided by BMC Joshua A. Mann, USCG Sector Humboldt Bay to Flotilla 8-7.

End of Report:

Submitted by Carl J. Pierce, DCDR Division 8
11 November 2015

DSO-AV REPORT:

It is with sadness that I report the passing of Auxiliarist Carol Simpson. Carol joined the Auxiliary in 2002 and was an active member of our aviation unit until she crossed the bar on September 27, 2015. Carol was a First Pilot and the co-owner of our Bell 47 helicopter along with Doug Kerr. Carol had her PhD in linguistics and did extensive, classified work for the U.S. Government and the U.S. Army. She held over 20 patents and many of her innovative developments are currently in use by the U.S. Army. Carol was an accomplished pilot and flew fixed wing aircraft as well as helicopters. Carol was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year and bravely fought the disease, which finally took her life in September.

We had a very informative and productive Aviation Safety Workshop on Saturday, 31 October 2015, at Air Station Sacramento. We were pleased to have LT Neil Penso and LT Rolla Boggs from Air Station San Francisco attend and instruct us on Crew Resource Management (CRM) along with other important safety subjects. Flotilla 3-1

provided an excellent lunch for our all-day training session. We conduct two of these aviation training workshops each year and always cover a variety of subjects important to aviation safety.

We are getting ready for our next Aviation Squadron Dinner, which will be on Saturday, 21 November 2015, at the Holiday Inn, Dublin. This is our last dinner of the year and spouses are invited to attend. We expect several members from the Gold Side as well as representatives from NOAA and other allied agencies that we support with our aviation services.

Finally, the Commanding Officer of Sector San Diego and Air Station San Diego is starting up an auxair program in order to provide support in the San Diego AOR. The Captain would like to model their program after ours in D11N. To assist Sector San Diego, we will be sending four of our auxair staff to Air Station San Diego on December 1st through the 3rd to help them get started. We will share our procedures and experience with our counterparts in the San Diego area and will work with them as requested and needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Olson
DSO-AV

DSO-COMS REPORT:

Greetings to all District 11 Northern Region Communicators
FLEET WEEK ACTIVITIES

The Auxiliary Communications team was given two tasks for Fleet Week 2015. The first was to augment Sector watchstanders in the Sector Command Center, principally by handling the radio guard for the Auxiliary surface facilities in transit, and the second was to provide and staff a communications facility on Muni Pier to be the link between PATCOM and the air show activities.

Deputy DSO-CM Comments and report below.

We solicited interest District-wide from the list of active Telecommunications Operators (TCO). In the end eight TCOs, plus the Deputy, stepped up to provide the requested support. They are all mentioned specifically below.

For the Muni Pier operation, Fred and Kevin Sellstrom brought their mobile communications trailer facility and set it up at the end of the Pier as in past years. In addition to them, one or two TCOs were assigned to support that location each day and Sector assigned a Coast Guard watchstander as well. Mike Rafatti, Carrie Van De Boom, Peter Thorner and Carol Paz all stood at least one watch with the Sellstroms at Muni Pier. The team's outstanding performance led by the Sellstroms can be captured best by the comments of LT Palmer in response to our request for feedback, specifically how our team performed relative to the expectations for our performance: “ *Superbly – Muni Pier team was essential to ensuring smooth air show execution.* ”

For the Command Center support, we assigned two TCOs each day. A more experienced operator was lead and a less experienced operator was put in second chair for support and the learning experience. Peter Thorner, an experienced Sector watchstander, took lead for the first two days and Jerry McAlwee took lead for Saturday and Sunday. Jack Leth, Mike Rafatti and Carrie Van De Boom each stood at least one watch in the Command Center in support of that operation. The feedback from OSC Egbert was that the Auxiliary performance was positive in every respect and that our presence was an important assist to the Command Center's operations during Fleet Week.

In addition to overall performance, we solicited specific feedback on the communicator competence, professionalism, and uniforms and conduct of our TCOs. The response was positive in every respect from both the Muni Pier operation and the Command Center effort. There were no negative comments from the Coast Guard on any aspect of our involvement.

As Team Leader I visited both the Command Center and the Muni Pier locations during the four-day evolution.

On days when I was not mobile, I monitored the communications from my East Bay location and can attest to the professionalism and competence that was demonstrated both on site and on air.

It is worth noting that TCOs from eight different Flotillas in five different Divisions served on our Fleet Week team this year. That not only expanded our list of operators with first-hand experience, but demonstrated the capacity and depth of our Auxiliary resources. Peter Thorner undertook the additional task of preparing a training aid to introduce our watchstanders to the Rescue 21 system in advance of their arrival on scene.

A Big BZ to Rob and these professional and dedicated Communications Team Members.

DTRAIN and PCA Instruction

In order to serve our Communication Team members and those who may desire to join us we are contemplating offering the following subjects at Dtrain and/or the PCA Fair. Potential subjects / seminars are listed in no particular order.

- Correct and optimal antenna selection and mounting on surface facility as well as automobile or truck. Discussion of antenna options, selection, mounts, connections, shielding, fusing and best location to mount if permanent, semi-permanent or temporary.
- Radio Facility owners bring their own equipment; one our more experienced and technical proficient operators will check performance of the radio antenna and connections with an SWR meter.
- Update on the District's land mobile program.
- Continued TCO training and signoff sessions
- Discussion of the optimal training, personnel, equipment, and administrative required to perform OPEX AUXCOM Command Center support. Will cover training, equipment, administrative and coordination requirements.

Should members desire to include other potential topics please contact a member of the Communications Staff.

Administrative Reminders

- The Radio Facility Inspection and offer for use Form ANSC-7004 is valid for three years, reminders are forwarded. Flotilla, Division or District Communication Officers are delegated duties as inspectors.
- Each land mobile operator who intends to utilize the privately owned vehicle as a mode of transport must complete the VEHICLE FACILITY OFFER FOR USE, ANSC-7065 this is valid for one (1) year. It is completed and forwarded to DIRAUX for acceptance. Please forward a JPEG image of your vehicle/s with the appropriate magnetic sign mounted as well as the antenna you will be using in the VHF or in some instances the HF mode.

A very special thanks to all the members of the District Eleven North Communications team. Deputy DSO-CM has performed his assignment in a flawless manner. His attention to detail in coordinating and staffing the District Land Mobile operations policy. Those members who willingly seek opportunities to assist in providing Rescue 21 coverage due to upgrades and maintenance provide an invaluable service to the Coast Guard. To those Communication team members who have performed Land Mobile duties in conjunction with ATON verification missions or serving as an AUXCOM for many of our surface operations thanks for your service.

We will continue to review, update, and implement appropriate policies as necessary to support the Coast Guard in their missions.

Thanks to all,

Mike

COMO Michael L. Williams DSO-CM

DSO –OPS Report:

For most of us, the boating season is slowing down or has ended. This is a great time to get your Offer of Use renewed, equipment checked, and vessel serviced.

- AOM – Be sure to log into AOM monthly so your password does not expire. It will give you a 15 day warning when your password is about to expire. You can always get it reset if it does expire, but it is easier if you do not have to.
- Check all your lines, bridles, and anchor rode for cuts, wear and abrasions. Budget permitting, DirAux can send out replacement lines, have your Flotilla Commander put in the request through the DirAux email d11auxnorthern@uscg.mil . You can clean older lines and take some of the stiffness out by placing them in a pillow case and then washing them with a very mild detergent like Woolite or a very low dose of laundry detergent. Front loading washers do best and always flake out lines so they can air dry. For lines with less than a few years of use, simply hand agitate in plain water to get the dirt and salt crystals out. FYI, mildew does not harm synthetic lines, it just looks bad.
- Please get your mandatory classes done now.
- Practice – Practice – Practice your knots, first aide, navigation, and all the other skills needed to be proficient and safe.
- PCA Fair in January and D-Train in March will have great training for OPS as well as all the other missions of the Auxiliary. Please try to attend.

Like always, be safe and have fun.

Respectfully,

Mike Thompson, DCapt. Response

OPS Calendar, Check the District website for ALL events and for the most up to date OPS events as more may have been added since the printing of this report.

DATE	EVENT 2015	DETAILS
JAN 16-17	PCA Fair	CG Island, Alameda CA Contact: Mary Kirkwood
MAR 18-20	D-TRAIN - Flyer	Location: Reno NV
APR 27 - MAY 1	Flotilla 3-9 OPTREX	Location: Antlers Lake Shasta Contact: Carl Pierce
APR 30 - MAY 1	Division 10 OPEX - No QE's	Location: Lake Kaweah Contact: Rod Rollins
MAY 20-22	Flotilla 8-8 OPTREX	Location: Clear Lake Contact:
JUN 10-11	Division 10 OPTREX	Location: Lake Millerton Contact: Rod Rollins
AUG 13-14	Division 1 OPTREX	Location: Loch Lomond Marina, San Rafael CA Contact: Bill Burns
SEP 10-11	Division 6 OPTREX	Location: Santa Cruz, CA Contact:
SEP 23-25	Division 5 OPTREX	Location: Bodega Bay CA Contact: