


 Michigan Section
 ARES/RACES

Spring 2010 Exercise

DEC Meeting
 2010-02-25




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General Concepts

- Simplex exercise
- Traffic flows between Counties and Districts
- Traffic flows between Districts and VHF nets
- Traffic flows between VHF nets and HF nets
- Traffic flows between HF nets and SEOC

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Background


- ECs have asked for additional exercises
- October SET exposed a number of shortcomings
- Spring exercise planned for April 10
- Will place significant demands on DECs, VHF nets

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Message Flow



Message flow within District to be planned by District

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Objectives

- Force examination of District communications plans
- Force VHF nets to examine simplex plans
- Develop relationships between ARES and NTS
- Expand NTS knowledge within ARES/RACES

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Unfortunate Requirements

- Because nets mostly didn't stand up during SET, many net sessions will be pre-scheduled
- Specific message flows will be prearranged
- All required liaisons spelled out ahead of time
- IRL, these should happen as needed because players understand the need

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Providing for Counties

- Because counties usually want to test direct circuits to SEOC, direct comms will be available on CW for much of the exercise
- Phone circuits will be consumed by net traffic so direct contact with counties on phone will be unwelcome



Planning

- A rather detailed DEC Guide is being prepared
- It is expected that DEC's will drive planning for their District
- Districts will have at least a month to plan for the exercise
- Districts should also include local needs in plans
- Districts must also plan for liaison with local NWS office(s)



District Communications

- HF nets will carry traffic to VHF nets directed to Districts
- Since this is a simplex exercise, nets and districts will need to pre-plan relays to get traffic
- Messages will require all counties be queried to formulate a response
- Districts will need a plan to contact all counties without repeaters
- MARS has indicated a willingness to assist with traffic



DEC Guide



Expectations

- Districts will use the opportunity to examine their communications plans
- Each county should know how to contact other counties in the District and adjacent Districts
- District should have a plan for contacting counties



Scenario

- Base scenario around New Madrid fault
 - There will be an NLE around this scenario in 2011
- Fault causes little direct damage in Michigan, but widespread utility damage
 - Some direct damage in D5
 - No natural gas (hospital generators)
 - Widespread power outages
 - Widespread communications outages



Schedule

- Exercise will run from 8AM to 1PM
- HF nets will collect traffic from SEOC
 - VHF nets will have reps at HF nets
- VHF Nets will deliver traffic to Districts
- Reverse process for responses

	MITN	MACS	Wolverine	UP	GLETN	QMN	MVTN	SEMTN	TMMTN	NLEUP
08:00	SEOC									
08:30	SEOC					D5, D6, D7				
09:00	SEOC	SEOC					D1, D2			
09:30		SEOC	SEOC					D3		
10:00				SEOC						D8
10:30										
11:00							D5, D6, D7			
11:30				SEOC			D1, D2	D3		D8
12:00							SEOC			

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Planning (again)

- Communications will require multiple VHF (or other) relays
- DECs and Net Managers will need to collaborate early to identify relay stations
- DECs should also consider MARS help when available

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Questions?



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