

RACES Notes for 06/09/2007

News and Announcements

1) Upcoming Events:

- Jun 23-24 ARRL Field Day
- Jul 4 Bisbee Coaster Race
- Jul 6-8 Williams Hamfest
- Sep 1-3 Paradise 2007

2) MCU Fueling Procedures - Sometime ago we covered the revised fueling procedures for the MCU. At that time we provided locations for the different County Highway locations around the county. These facilities are available 24 hours a day and accessible by using the MCU Voyager Card and the same gate code as the MCU storage facility at the CARA Club Site. We should be using those locations as our primaries and only use the Gas City location in Sierra Vista at the end of a mission before putting the MCU away. Using gas stations such as Chevron, Shell, etc around the county is to be discouraged and are only to be used when there is a fuel emergency.

Prior planning is key to avoid those situations. As a reminder, the County Highway Department Yard fuel locations are:

Benson - 901 E 4th St

Bisbee - 1229 Hereford Rd (Near Fleet Management)

Douglas - 3665 N Leslie Canyon Rd. (Near the County Fair Grounds)

Elfrida - 4019 W. Thompson Rd. (Near the County Landfill)

Wilcox - 140 E. Maley Rd. (on the east side of south Highway 186)

3) Bisbee Coaster Race - Just a reminder that the annual Bisbee Coaster Race will take place on the 4th of July in Bisbee. RB Rice is taking names for volunteers for this annual event. It is a lot of fun so I recommend that you put this on your calendar as well and let RB know if you are available to assist. We typically need 14-15 volunteers to support this event.

Training:

You should remember from the previous RACES Net discussion that that the ICS 300 Course focuses on Type 3 Incidents. We have also learned in the past that Incident Command is scaleable, meaning that it expands and contracts to fit the needs or complexity of the incident being managed. Additional positions may be activated and filled at staff or division/group and unit leader level positions as needed. As incidents extend into multiple operational periods, additional resources may also required.

Additional features of ICS require the development and use of a common communications plan and interoperable communications processes. Persons serving as communications team leaders need to become familiar with the ICS Communications Plan (ICS Form 205). This is a relatively easy to fill out and should be completed for each mission. Since Search and Rescue missions are our most common mission, the ICS 205 forms for SAR missions are usually predictable.

We now have some pre-filled in ICS Form 205's in the MCU that usually only require adding in the name and date of the mission. Look for them the next time you are in the MCU.

As incidents become more complex, other desired functions and activities are required beyond just command. It is also important that common terminology is used to describe the various functions, incident facilities, resource descriptions, and position titles. I would like to cover a couple more of those terms tonight.

Here are a couple more terms you should be familiar with:

- Incident Command Post - The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed.
- Staging area - The location where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment.
- Base - The location where primary logistics functions are coordinated. There is only one Base per incident. The Incident Command Post may be collocated with the Base.
- Camp - A location where food, water, rest, and sanitary services are provided to incident personnel.
- Unity of Command - This means that an individual reports to only one supervisor and receives work assignments only from their supervisor.
- Span of control - This term refers to the number of personnel a single supervisor should have management supervisory responsibility over.
 - Under ICS, that number is from three to seven subordinates. It may vary depending on the complexity of the task.
- Unified Command - In incidents involving multiple jurisdictions, a single jurisdiction with multiagency involvement, or multiple jurisdictions with multiagency involvement, Unified Command allows agencies with different legal, geographic, and functional authorities and responsibilities to work together effectively without affecting individual agency authority, responsibility, or accountability.

I know that is a lot to digest so we will come back to this concept again and further break down the concepts associated with it. Just don't confuse Unity of Command with Unified Command.

That all for this evening. We will pick it up again next time. Let's go down the net for comments.

Bob
Robert L Hollister