



**Homeland  
Security**

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

*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



Date: April 2008  
To: Mike Williams, VCO & District Board/Staff  
From: D11N DSO-OP  
Subject: District OPS Report

### **ACCESS TO 2008 MARINE PATROL HOURS:**

This great tool is thanks to Irene Wetzel, DSO-CS.

The Surface Ops Home page features immediate access to the 2008 Marine Patrol Hours by divisions, flotillas, and members, visit: <http://ops.d11nuscgaux.info/surface.html> For flotilla report, click on the a division; for member report click on the flotilla. AUXINFO is updated weekly, usually Monday.

### **ALAMEDA COUNTY FLARE DISPOSAL:**

Alameda County Household Hazard Waste Disposal site is open every other week; Thursday, Friday and Saturday 0900 to 1300. They will be open May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> so you can figure every other week from then. The address for this location is: 2100 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, California. Other flare disposal information was in the November 2007 DSO-OP Report which can be read on our Surface page on our D11N Web site at: <http://www.d11nuscgaux.info/>

### **AP (Applicants) current status:**

Applicants (AP) can now go for Crew but not Coxswain. If their PSI (Personal Security Investigation) comes back unfavorable and they have completed their Certification as Crew, it will be removed.

AUXDATA's current set-up prevents AP Auxiliarists who have not yet completed a boating safety course from being recognized for their training efforts...in AUXDATA - this runs counter to the spirit of the AP policy changes established last year.

CAPT Bob Platt and Steve Lietuvnikas (OSC) are working to modify AUXDATA to correct this - exactly how soon the fix will be in place is something we can't pinpoint, but expect it to be soon (within the next 2-3 weeks) in the mean time, some basic premises to remember:

1 - an Auxiliarist can train, but not qualify, as a coxswain or in any of the aviation disciplines without a Favorable PSI (for coxswain, a Favorable OS is needed - for aviation, a Favorable DO is needed...but interim aviation certifications can be granted if a Favorable OS is received).

2 - an Auxiliarist cannot qualify in any program discipline without having completed one of the prescribed boating safety courses – this is a required task in any qualification, and it needs to be completed before certification...but not before training for that position - it also gets the Auxiliarist placed in BQ status when their Favorable PSI comes back.

3 - there are no differences in terms of liability coverage for Auxiliarists whether they are in AP, IQ, BQ, AUXOP status - proper assignment to duty and scope of employment are governing factors for all of them when it comes to determining liability coverage...not member status.



### **NAV RULES UPDATE:**

During prior years if you had a current “Masters License” you did not need to take the USCG Auxiliary NAV Rules test to maintain your Coxswain status. That is no longer the case: All Coxswains need to take the NAV Rules every five years on the anniversary date. The date does not extend to the end of the year.

### **DSAR:** (District Search and Rescue Competition)

Excellent article submitted by Robert Firehock, DSO-LP

Want to travel and see the world, learn skills and earn a college education—join the Navy. But if you want to see Cape May, New Jersey, in October, and have a blast while testing your boating skills with a bunch of like-minded Auxiliaries from all around the country, then get in gear for the June 7<sup>th</sup> District Search and Rescue Competition. A three-person team from each Division will get orders for Coast Guard Island in Alameda. There they will test their mettle in six events planned to span a range of search and rescue skills and knowledge, from communications to marlinspike, and the team that shows it knows it best will get orders to Cape May to represent D11N in the fall for a similar competition (see <http://www.auxnaco.org/nsar2008.htm>).

This is a terrific opportunity for anyone even tangentially operational. We all know the Auxiliary works best for those who are willing to cast a wide net, and this is definitely one of those opportunities. If your Division hasn't let you know how they plan to select a team yet, let them know you're interested. Each team needs at least one coxswain, and the others need to be boat crew qualified (I know, that's a bit more than tangential). If no one else is interested, the team you organize may be your Division representative by default. And June's a fine time to be in Alameda.

As currently planned, we'll have six events: a communications exercise, a written seamanship test, a line heaving event, a marlinspike challenge, a dewatering event and a navigation plotting exercise—more details to come. Teamwork is the key to success. Fun and learning are the goals of the undertaking. I went to the 2007 District competition on a lark and ended up in Toronto last fall at the International Search and Rescue Competition—it was the best Auxiliary experience of my still short career.

Preparing and participating in a SAR competition is a great chance to hone some skills, learn some new ones, have fun with friends, meet new ones, and basically have a good time doing what you like to do—hang around with boaters and do boat-related things, and you'll be on an Island, maybe the next best to being on a boat. And in Cape May, you'll even get on the water in an event. So mark your calendars (June 7<sup>th</sup> here, October 3-4 in Cape May) and push through the Division process to CGI. You'll be glad you did. The worst that can happen is that you'll have fun and learn something.

### **PWC UPDATE:**

The two changes to the Required Facility Equipment listed in Appendix C of the PWC Operator Qual Guide and listed again in task PWC-03-05-AUX (4.g and 4.r) are:

1. One throwable PFD is no longer required. (it is a good idea to carry something to assist a victim in the water)
2. Spare spark plugs are only required for 2 stroke engines. They are no longer required for 4 stroke engines.

**OPS REPORT INDEX:**

I have been receiving constant phone calls and emails requesting information we have covered in past DSO Reports. So for your pleasure please find attached the report titles and which DSO-OP report they can be found in. I am still working on the list but will attach it to this and future DSO-OP reports.

**GUIDANCE FROM SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO CONCERNING WEEKDAY PATROLS:**

The below letter was sent to all the Patrol Area Coordinators. It spells out the policy for reimbursable patrols very clearly.

To: Sector San Francisco Patrol Area Coordinators (PAC)  
Subj: REVISED ORDER ISSUING AUTHORITY (OIA ) GUIDANCE FOR PATROLS  
Ref: (a) Eleventh Coast Guard District Northern Region Auxiliary Procedures Guide  
CGD11INST M16790.1C

1. Summer months for Sector San Francisco’s Area of Responsibility (AOR) bring many boaters to our area lakes and waters. This influx of boats and PWC’s increases the need for auxiliary presence on the water.
2. Taking into consideration this increased need, while still recognizing the necessity of fiscal discipline, Sector San Francisco is revising its policy regarding approval for weekday auxiliary patrols.
3. Prior policy allowed approval of patrols only on Saturdays and Sundays unless specifically requested by a CG unit. From the 26 May 2008 until 03 September 2008, Sector San Francisco PACs are hereby permitted to authorize facility patrols on Fridays and Mondays as well as weekends and all federally recognized holidays.
4. Furthermore, PAC’s are permitted to authorize weekday patrols that have been requested by Sector SF’s local, state, and federal partner agencies; however, the PAC must receive a tangible, written request (preferably via email) from the specific agency before approving the patrol. In addition, the PAC shall forward all such requests to the Sector San Francisco Auxiliary Liaison Officer who will attach the request to the submitted CG- 5132 request for reimbursement.
3. Finally PACs are reminded that they are guided by ref (a) as amended by instructions contained in the D11 Newsletter *Northwind* dated April 2006. In accordance with these instructions, PACs are responsible for ensuring facility patrols do not overlap in patrol areas and are directed to keep in close contact with the Station Auxiliary Liaison Officers (AUXLO) to ensure USCG Station needs are met. Furthermore, PAC’s shall keep current with the Patrol Order Management System (POMS) and ensure members are entering patrol requests correctly.

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**Boat Crew Basics**

Great article by Bob Peterson on suggestions how to “Participate in a Man Overboard Evolution as a Pointer”. Just go to this link for the article; also please take advantage of the other monthly “Boat Crew Basics” articles that Bob offers. <http://ops.d11nuscgaux.info/surface.html>

**UP TOP:**

Attached is the latest edition of UP TOP with some excellent articles. Please distribute down your communications chain so all members can enjoy.



Up Top 03-08.pdf

**TCT: Team Coordination Training: (TCT)**

Reminder, please check with your IS (Information Services) Officer for your due date for TCT. Currently all Operational members need to take the 8 hour TCT every five years and the 1 hour refresher every year. The 1 hour is waived if you take the 8 hour that year. The 8 hour TCT is offered 4 times during the PCA Fair the third weekend in February and the third weekend in August. Other classes are available during the year, if you live in an area that is not easy for you to travel to the PCA Fair and you have ten members who need the class then contact me and a TCT Facilitator will be arranged for you. Active Duty stations also have opportunities for Auxiliary members to attend their TCT classes providing there is adequate space available.

**Flare Requirements:**

*Below is the direction from HQ:*

The only requirements for flares are the requirements for the facility itself. Flares should not be carried on the PFD. The survival equipment that must be carried and the list of optional items are in Chapter 4 Section E of the Ops Manual. The QE's should be checking the facility, including its pyro, prior to a check ride but can't require the pyro to be carried by anyone.

**2008 Underway Time: As of April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

<b>Mission Hours as values</b>	<b>ATON - Aids To Navigation (30,31,32)</b>	<b>AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a)</b>	<b>All Missions</b>
<b>11NR - Div 01</b>	16.00	207.20	<b>223.20</b>
<b>11NR - Div 03</b>	0.00	295.80	<b>295.80</b>
<b>11NR - Div 04</b>	0.00	181.80	<b>181.80</b>
<b>11NR - Div 05</b>	1.00	287.50	<b>288.50</b>
<b>11NR - Div 06</b>	0.00	46.00	<b>46.00</b>
<b>11NR - Div 07</b>	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
<b>11NR - Div 08</b>	8.70	173.90	<b>182.60</b>
<b>11NR - Div 10</b>	0.00	13.80	<b>13.80</b>
<b>11NR - Div 11</b>	0.00	28.90	<b>28.90</b>
<b>11NR - Div 12</b>	5.00	85.80	<b>90.80</b>
<b>11NR - Eleventh Northern</b>	<b>30.70</b>	<b>1,320.70</b>	<b>1,351.40</b>

**Current List of Operational Events in D11N for 2008:**

<b>2008</b>	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
APR 19-20	OPTREX DIV 5	Station Vallejo	POC: <a href="#">Phil Sanchez, DCP 5</a>
MAY 1- 4	OPTREX Flotilla 39	Antlers, Lake Shasta	POC: <a href="#">Charlie Duncan</a>
MAY 30-31- JUN-1	OPTREX DIV 1	YBI	<a href="#">POC: Skip Erickson SO-OP</a>
JUN 7	DSAR	Coast Guard Island	District Search and Rescue Competition
JUN 20- 22	OPTREX Flotilla 33	Radio One on the Sacramento	POC: <a href="#">Dean LaChapelle</a>
SEP 12- 14	OPTREX Flotilla 39	Lake Oroville	POC: <a href="#">COMO Mike Maddox</a>
OCT 11-13	TIE-OUT Flotilla 88	Clear Lake	POC: <a href="#">Betty Strach FC 88</a>
OCT 24-26	OPTREX Flotilla 3-10	Brannan Island	POC: <a href="#">Cal Faulkner</a>

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Respectfully,

DSO-OP, D11N

**INDEX BELOW (A work still in progress)**

<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>ISSUE</u></b>
ANSC-7003 (FILLING OUT FORM PROPERLY)	January-08
ANSC-7003 FORM INFORMATION	June-07
AUXDATA ENTRIES FOR CREWING ON USCG VESSELS	March-08
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	March-08
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	FEB-08 "STANDING LOOKOUT"
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	MAR-08 "PARTICIPATION IN A MAN OVERBOARD"
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	APR-08 " OPERATE OF VHF-FM RADIO/TELEPHONE
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	JUN-07 "TOUGHEST BOAT CREW TASKS?"
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	JUL-07 " TOUGHEST BOAT CREW TASKS (COND'T)"
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	AUG-07 "TOUGHEST BOAT CREW TASKS (COND'T)"
BOAT CREW BASICS BY R. PETERSON	NOV-07 "CREW MEMBER BOAT CREW TAKS
CALIFORNIA LAKE INCIDENTS -	April-07
CERTIFICATION STATUS	August-07
COXSWAIN "NON LEAD" HOURS	June-07
CREW QUALIFICATION MEMBER REQUIREMENTS	June-07
DSAR 2007	April-08
DSAR 2008	March-08
FACILITY DECALS	August-07
FACILITY VALUES	September-07
FEMA LINK FOR ICS COURSES	March-08
FLAGS, SIGNS, INSIGNIA & FACILITY MARKINGS	July-07
FLARE DISPOSAL	November-07
FLARE DISPOSAL (ALAMEDA COUNTY)	April-08
FLEET WEEK AFTER ACTION REPORT 2007	October-07
HOW DO I BECOME A QUALIFICATION EXAMINER	August-07
ICS (INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM REQ)	November-07
ICS REQUIREMENTS	October-07
NAV RULE DATE CHANGE	January-08
NAV RULES TEST REQUIREMENTS	June-07
NEW LIFE JACKET REQ FOR THE aux	March-08
NON-REIMBURSABLE PATROL PAPER WORK	August-07
OPERATIONS POLICY TEST	October-07
OPEX COORDINATOR	April-07
OPTREX COORDINATOR	May-07
OPTREX SCHEDULES	ALL
OUT OF DATE FLARES	November-07
PATROL ORDER REIMBURSEMENT DOCUMENT	September-07
PEPIRB REPLACEMENT BATTERIES	October-07
PROPER WEARING OF LIFE JACKETS	July-07
PSAR (PACIFIC SEARCH AND RESCUE 2007)	June-07
PYRO ON PFDS	March-08
QUALIFICATIONS AND RE-CERTS	November-07
QUALIFIED COX & CREW ???	January-08
RADIO PROCEDURES IN THE SECTOR SFO AOR	September-07
RECENT POLICY CHANGES	November-07
REYR - WHAT MAKES A MEMBER REYR?	January-08
REYR INFORMATION	March-08
SAFETY LIGHT	June-07
SECTOR SFO GUIDANCE FOR PATROLS	July-07
SIDE TOW & OTHER SURFACE INFORMATION	November-07
ST RIO VISTA WEDNESDAY OPPORTUNITIES	January-08
TCT	March-08
UP TO DATE DIVISION MISSION OPS HOURS	ALL
WEEKDAY PATROLS	January-08

