



Date: 12FEB2018
 To: District Board & Staff
 From: DSO-OP Stolz & OTO Leavell
 Subject: Surface Response Report for February, 2018
 Highlights

1. OPTREX 2018 schedule
2. So what's the difference between an OPEX and OPTREX
3. Mandatory 2018 TCT and OPS Workshops
4. Patrol Orders

1. Division Commanders, please verify your OPTREX dates below. If there is no location or contact person indicated, send me the information ASAP. As a reminder, All Qualification Check Rides are scheduled for Saturdays unless another day is approved by the Chief QE Coordinator. Also, remember that 40 days prior to the OPTREX I need a proposed number of candidates so we can arrange travel for QE's. 30 Days prior to the OPTREX I need the QE request form with candidate names so they can be re-vetted.

I will be giving a short presentation about how to have a successful OPTREX at D-Train.

OPTREX Schedule 2018

UPDATED 12FEB2018

April 7	Division 5 OPEX NO Check Rides. They will offer the TCT and OPS workshops	Location: TBA Contact: Will Sumner
April 7	Division 5 OPTREX	Location:TBA Contact: Curtis Han
April 26 – 29	Antler's OPTREX	Location: Shasta Lake Contact: Carl Pierce
June TBA	Division 5	Location : Bodega Bay Contact :Wil Sumner
June 9 & 10	Division 1	Location: Loch Lomond Yacht Club Contact : Michel Mitchell
June 22 & 23	Division 12	Location: Coast Guard Island Contact: Virginia Luchetti
August 17-19	Division 7	Location: Jordannelle Res. Utah Contact:
August 24 & 25	Division 11	Location : Lake Tahoe Contact : Linda Haynes
September 15 & 16	Division 6	Location: Santa Cruz Harbor Contact: Sean Sheehan
September 22 & 23	Division 10	Location: Lake Millerton Contact: Rod Rollins
September 22 & 23	Flotilla 55	Location: Doran Beach Campground Contact: Wil Sumner
October 12-14	Division 3	Location: Brannen Island Contact: John Hardin

2.

OPEX

An *Operational Exercise* (OPEX) is a preplanned event designed to re-enforce, hone and refine previously learned skills, techniques and procedures. It may also be used to test the feasibility of programs or procedures. An OPEX can also include other agencies such as the Corps of Engineers, local law enforcement, federal officers, or a Coast Guard station. A Qualification Examiner (QE) is never included in an OPEX, the purpose of which is to hone previously acquired skills or to test a program or procedure. It is not intended to qualify people.

OPTREX

An *Operational Training Exercise* (OPTREX) is a preplanned training event designed for candidates to practice skills or tasks previously learned and have those skills evaluated by a Qualification Examiner (QE). There is often a training element for candidates not yet ready for a Qualification dockside or on the water check ride.

3. Both the TCT Workshop and Operations workshop are again required by National for Operations personnel this year. The Operations workshop must be completed and entered into AUXDATA by June 30, 2018. If not completed in a timely manner the Auxiliarist will be placed in REWK status. If not completed by December 31, 2018 the Auxiliarist will be in REYR status and only DIRAUX has the authority to remove REWK or REYR status.

The TCT workshop must be completed by December 31, 2018.

The TCT and Ops Workshops can be found on the National Response web page at.

<http://www.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=R-DEPT&category=WHATSNEW>

4. Another reminder for coxswains to close out patrol orders in a timely manner. Your crew depends on this so they get their maintenance hours posted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Stolz, DSO-OP / Doug Leavell, OTO