



**USCG Auxiliary District 11 North - Surface Operations Report  
March 2023**

To: COMO Curtis Han, District Commodore  
 Jim Losi, District Chief of Staff  
 District 11 North Board & Staff  
 From: COMO Wally Smith, District Staff Officer – Operations (DSO-OP)

This report covers D11N surface activities for the month of February 2023.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

1. New Boat Crew Handbooks
2. Check Ride Due Dates & PPE Accountability
3. OPTREX Calendar

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**DETAILS**

1. **New Boat Crew Handbooks - Where are they?**
  - o ALAUX 41-22 – Auxiliary Training Handbook Boat Crew
  - o ALAUX 42-22 – Auxiliary Training Qualification Handbook Boat Crew

## New Surface Ops Qualification & Training Handbooks

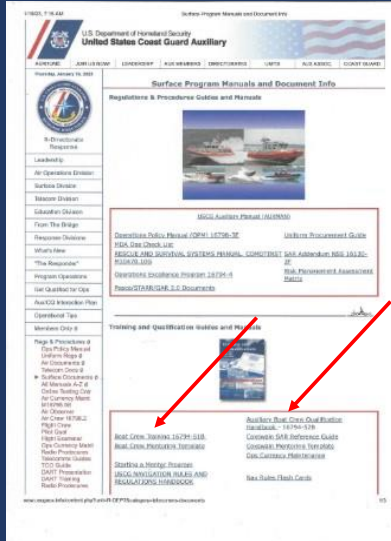
**How to find them:**

- Go to **AUXDATA**
- Go to “Aux Manuals – Quick Links ( right side on Home Page)
- Go to “Surface Operations”

## New Surface Ops Qualification & Training Handbooks

### How to find them:

- Boat Crew Training - 16794-51B
- Auxiliary Boat Crew Qualification Handbook – 16794-52B



### 2. Check Ride Due Dates & PPE Accountability

An updated QE Checkride list is posted on the Surface Operations web page that can be accessed from the District's website. Those who last qualified in 2017 or 2018 are no longer listed on the report. Please collect all PPE from members who are no longer active in surface operations.

### 3. OPTREX Calendar

Please reserve dates NOW for the 2023 OPTREX season. Upcoming OPTREXs currently listed on the District Calendar are below:

#### **OPTREX CALENDAR - 2023**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
5	Station Vallejo	02-03 June
7	Jordanelle Reservoir	11-12 August
6	Santa Cruz	08-09 September
10	TBD	22-24 September

Continued on the next page.



## Division Reports

(Includes some editing for accuracy)

### Division 1

From Nancy Marion, SO-OP

### Highlights

1. Operational Activities-February
2. Division 1 OPTREX Planning Update
3. New Annual Proficiency Checks

### Details

1. **Operational Activities** – COX Terry Blanchard on OPFAC SILVER CHARM had three Helo Ops patrols in February in support of USCG Air Station SF. (See Photo below)
2. **Division 1 OPTREX Planning Update:** Division 1 is working with Sector SF to set a date for our 2023 OPTREX/OPEX. For the convenience of our members, we will again hold the event over two consecutive Saturdays, as we did last year.
3. **New Annual Proficient checks:** Division will continue to work with Surface Operations members (Boat Crew & Coxswains) in the rollout and completion of the new Annual Proficiency requirements.

### Goals:

- Rotating members into training patrols for OPTREX preparation and building underway hours. Providing training opportunities for our current crew members and initial qualification candidates.



OPFAC SILVER CHARM: COX Terry Blanchard, Deck Crew Lou Sarto & Alex Bennett. Safety Officer, Nancy Marion

### **Division 3**

From John Hardin, SO-OP

No report submitted.

### **Division 4**

From Paul Verveniotis, SO-OP

- Working with a possible customer to purchase the Maverick facility.
- Looking forward to starting patrols in April in support of the local sailboat races in the South Bay.
- We have a couple of members who are interested in getting their Navigation Systems qual for support of our local PATONS.

### **Division 5**

From Lew Derfuss, SO-OP 5

Glenn Hunter and I are compiling names and making plans for a Boat Crew Academy, If you have interested members that haven't made their desires do so now to Glenn and I. We have scheduled a Division 5 OPTREX for Fri-Sat 2-3 June 2023 out of Station Vallejo, so get as much of your training completed. We also have had our first OPTREX Planning Meeting and are working out plans to meet new training guidelines that include initial and three year Requalification night certification.

Anyone interested in Boat Crew Operations or getting patrol time please advise Lew Derfuss SO-OP 5 with your contact information and I will try to find slots on upcoming patrols as space



allows. Additionally, Tom Hurley FL 52 has been conducting patrols on Audrey L -so more opportunities. With our Operational Fleet of AUXFAC's Coxswains and Crews we need to work together to maximize opportunities and fill our AUXFAC on as many patrols as possible. Flotilla 53 sometimes have some open opportunities for crew and trainees. Take advantage of these opportunities. The OPTREX will be here before you know it so it is important for trainees to participate in as many patrols as possible when they are offered so you will be successful during QE check rides.

### **Division 6**

From Mark McLaughlin, SO-OP  
No report submitted.

### **Division 7**

From Paul Brown, SO-OP  
Nothing to report for Div 7

### **Division 8**

From Dave Johnson, SO-OP  
Operations Reports:

Flotilla 88 Clear Lake: No Report

Flotilla 87 Mendocino: No Report

Flotilla 11 Crescent City: No Report

F39 Redding: No operational activities for the month.

### **Division 10**

From Dock Pierce, SO-OP

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. FLOTILLA MEMBER PPEs
2. SPRING CREW TRAINING
3. CREW/COX'N
4. FACILITIES
5. WORKSHOPS

#### **DETAILS:**

1. PPEs BEING INVENTORIED AND INSPECTED
2. PLANNING OR ATTENDING BOATING SEASON KICK-OFF AND SAREX RIO VISTA
3. CREW: 6 TRAINEES BEING MENTORED  
COX'N: 1 COX'N TRAINEE NEAR COMPLETION, WORKING ON ALL TO BE CURRENT.
4. NEW FACILITY BEING UPGRADED AND USED HEAVILY FOR TRAINING, OTHERS BEING READIED FOR THE SEASON.
5. OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS WILL BE ATTENDED WHEN PRESENTED.



### **Division 11**

From Bill Stolz, SO-OP  
No report submitted.

### **Division 12**

From Jim Losi, SO-OP

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- **DIV12 Surface Operational OPFACS & STATUS**
  - (1) Div 12 OPFACS are:
    - (a) AQUAMARINE
    - (b) SERVANT
    - (c) Mark Evans' OPFAC – Mark has decided to withdraw his OPFAC from offer to use.
    - (d) ODYSSEY – We are waiting to hear if Greg Gleeson will continue to offer his OPFAC for use. He is concerned with the size of his boat in SF Bay.
  - (2) Coxswains in Div 12 are as follows:
    - (a) Greg Gleeson, 113-12-91
    - (b) Greg Olsen, 113-12-91
    - (c) Virginia Luchetti, 112-12-91
  - (3) Morgan Swigget is a coxswain in training
  - (4) Bob Torio, Jeff Grave and Jean-Pierre Carjuzza are all boat crew trainees.
  
- OPFAC SERVANT was launched and back in the water as of Sunday, 26 February 2023 and back in the slip at the OYC.
  
- Discussed the possibility of procuring an obsolesced USCG small boat to serve as a roving OPFAC for District 11NR coxswains who don't have an OPFAC to use regularly.
  
- 2) **2023 Goals and Objectives**
  - a) Terry Blanchard and I have discussed and started planning regularly scheduled two-boat training. We would like to have at least one patrol per month where training takes place.
  - b) We would like to have guest rides for prospective new members to the Auxiliary and for existing members who wish to join boat crew operations.
  - c) Operational Activities:
    1. PATON Patrols
    2. Fleet Week – West TARP Boat
    3. Kite Surfer Safety Patrol with Station Golden Gate



4. Training – Div 12 members with a focus on new boat crew members
5. Joint Training with Station Golden Gate and Station San Francisco
6. Joint training with Active Duty Reserve (May)
7. Engage in general MOM/Training patrols on a regular basis
8. Joint training with the small boats attached to the PACAREA Cutter Forces group.

### **Projects**

- Check Ride Program for coxswains and boat crew members and trainees
- Recruiting members with prospective OPFACs

### **Future Activities**

- Running maintenance on OPFAC SERVANT

### **Challenges**

- Allocation of time with only one OPFAC and many requests
- Demands from members requesting check rides earlier in the year rather than the 4Q21.

### **Goals and Objectives**

- Get as many members as possible ready for their check rides.
- Training excellence and mission excellence.

\*\*\* END OF REPORT \*\*\*

Respectfully submitted,  
COMO Wally Smith, DSO-OP



**SEMPER GUMBY!**

**BONUS MATERIAL – See below**



19 February 2023 - Debora Cohen, Flt 6-10, at the helm of the 301219. Crew members Michael Brown, Flt 41, & Jim Cohen, Flt 6-10, on lookout.



After heavy winter rains, storm debris is cleared from Monterey Bay in the vicinity of Santa Cruz, Jim Cohen on starboard watch & Michael Brown on tow watch.





**Jim Cohen and Morgan Swiggett, Flt 12-1, at the dock in Santa Cruz Harbor with retrieved debris.  
Perhaps the start of a new Santa Cruz Mountains log home?!**