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Shaken Sisters

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A major state-wide communications outage has occurred after a Magnitude 9.1 earthquake in the Central Cascades Region of Oregon. The epicenter of the earthquake was in the Three Sisters Area. Cascading failures of the power grid have caused state-wide outages.

We are 4 days into the event and cell phone tower locations have run out of fuel for their generators, and refugees needing medical assistance and shelter are travelling to all parts of the state. Most of the permanent amateur radio repeaters in the state are out of power.

Many roads in the Sisters area are impassible, and the government is requesting mutual aid for medical, road construction, communication and other services.

Most normal communications are impacted within the state - no cell, no Internet, few tower-based repeaters.

Exercise:

Test ability to mobilize resources, contact adjacent counties, pass traffic, perform logging, and test readiness to provide mutual assistance.

Expectations:

Counties will activate local simplex nets with a Net Control and determine resources available. Individuals may check-in by voice net or by using the Winlink Check-in Form addressed to their EOC. List of the voice check-ins will be transmitted to County EOC.

Exercise:

Each County will send a Unit Activation, Declaration of Emergency, and an Initial SitRep Form to AA7DD and KD7ZDO using the Winlink System via HF, or if necessary, VHF to Winlink Gateways. Standard Oregon forms should be used. Each county should attempt to make contact with all or as many of your immediately adjacent counties as possible using Winlink Peer-to-Peer as a primary mode, in Packet, VERA and/or PACTOR and as many voice bands as possible. HF (80m, 40m, Etc.) VHF/UHF. Bonus points for message traffic

passed to non-adjacent counties.

In your communications, please include a damage report for your area scenario and needs for your location. Please include your location including your county name. Please ensure that ALL traffic is headed by “THIS IS AN EXERCISE MESSAGE.”

Only repeaters having battery or generator backup that will last to 5 days or more are usable in this exercise, to include portable repeaters put up on the day of the SET may be used.

Each EOC and Alt-EOC/COOP will maintain a running ICS-214 Activity Log as well as a running ICS-309 Communications Log during the hours of the SET. Log every connection, including failed contacts. The data may be logged on paper or electronically on the Winlink Forms in the Forms Library. If logging on paper the logs needs to be transferred to Winlink digital form.

Please send your after action report with counties attempted, contacted and by what modes and frequencies, to aa7dd@live.com . These will be scored and forwarded to KA7OZO.

Scoring for this SET is 1 point per band and mode (with Winlink Peer-to-Peer stressed) and scored 2 points per contact per county contacted.

Just a reminder, Oregon ARES members should have a printout of from the Benton County (BCARES) website for State Plan County Data (<http://www.bcares.org/>) so that they will have the frequencies available for inter-county operations. All ECs should ensure that their page on that website is updated prior to the SET.

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Prepared with the assistance of District 3 ECS