

Drill Report



Cupertino
ARES/RACES

1. Overview

Report Date: 5 February 2002
CARES Drill ID: CUP-2002-01T
RACES Activation: XSC-2002-01T
Control: County RACES
Drill Date: 26 January 2002

2. Planning

Reference Docs: Email, "EC: ARES Drill Sat, Jan 26,2002", Larry Carr, 1/11/2002.

Drill Objectives:

- Practice traffic handling between Cities and EOC, field Responder and EOCs
- Verify the operational state of the current packet system configuration

Scenario: Major storms have hit the south bay, with wide-spread telephone breakdown, including loss of 911 emergency communications. All streams and rivers in the county are close to flood stage, and it is raining very hard and is expected to continue.

3. Preparation

Drill Material: None.

4. Results

Participants: Andy W9BJX
Ken KR6CO
Jim KN6PE
Stuart KF6RZR
Vince K6TEN
Skip WA6VFD
Spence AD6YS

Narrative: County RACES initiated the drill at 1400 hours on 147.760, Command 1.

CARES activated the Cupertino Emergency Net and took check-ins. Seven members participated in the drill, with three members operating remotely.

Two members were dispatched to various sites throughout Cupertino to check on the status of our creeks and streams, and select multi-dwelling residences.

At 1526, CARES reported that the Steven Creek Dam failed. At about 1600, County RACES secured the drill.

What worked:

1. We got a good sense of the time it takes to dispatch individuals from one location to another.
2. Responders identified safe places to observe creeks and streams.
3. Message passing to County was effective.
4. The new 220 radio on the packet system checked out.

- What didn't work:**
1. When observing creeks and streams, there are no painted water level marks as reference.
 2. There was no planning in dispatching field units (sent 2 responders to the same general area).
 3. When transmitting on the CARES 147.570 frequency, we experienced de-sense (one radio interferes with the reception of another) on the County Radio frequency 146-760.
 4. CARES packet didn't work initially. Ultimately, a TNC setting was changed and we were able to exchange messages with County.
 5. Without earphone in the EOC, there was too much radio noise.

5. Conclusions

- Next Steps:**
1. Research and resolve radio de-sense conditions.
 2. Plan to integrate a CARES field drill in with the next County RACES drill (April 20).