



Colorado District 25 ARES After Action Report

Your Name: Ronald Rich Dist. 25 Emergency Coordinator

Your Call: KCOGKZ

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Your District: D25

Month of Activity: May 15-June 7 2008

Day(s): 23

Year of Activity: 2008

Description of Activity:

D25 along with Delta County and Montrose County SKYWARN units were ask to help the Offices of Emergency Management's in both counties to monitor and report on problems during the Spring runoff of snow melt water.

Duration of Activity (In hours): 552

Serving Amateur Radio Groups:

CO ARES Dist. 25, Delta County SKYWARN, Montrose County SKYWARN

Served Agency (ies):

Delta/Montrose Offices of Emergency Management / Sheriffs Departments.

Describe Served Agency Participation:

Members of D25 and SKYWARN chose/were assigned to problem areas of Bridges, Creeks and Streams. Members monitored these areas in several ways, from using the resources of the U.S. Weather Service's automatic stream monitoring gauges via the Internet, plus daily visual monitoring of these areas. Ham station operators were available on local repeater on 24-7 basis to track and monitor the situation.

The Delta County OEM provided an 800mhz DTRS radio to D25 so that we could have direct communications with the County Dispatch Center in Delta at all times. This radio was also capable of communications with Montrose and Mesa Counties if nessary.

Number of Amateurs participating: 20

List Amateurs Participating (Optional):

AAØJD-KØJJJ-KØSUM-KØSX-KAØNEV-KCØETV-KCØGKZ-KCØNMP-KCØOIM-KCØQXX-KCØUER-KCØVQC-KDØEH-KEØOG-KIØKY-KIØMR-NØSUB-WBØCQG-WBØITG-WØHLC

List Goals of the Activity:

1. To provide extra eyes and ears to closely monitor the water situation, on call 24-7.
2. Set up operation and resource nets to facilitate communications between the Net Control stations (3) and mobile units in the field
3. Coordinate communications between the Ham stations and Dispatch Centers in Delta and Montrose Counties.
4. Keep complete logs, activity reports and all pertinent information for reporting purposes.
5. Establish a working agreement with OEM's and Dispatch Centers for the use of the 800 DTRS radio.
6. Use local repeater and simplex Amateur Radio frequencies to coordinate and maintain consistent communications.

Goals Met? (Y/N): Yes

Explain:

D25 personnel train year round for Net operations. We have three Hams who have a lot of experience in Net operations. Sherry KCOOIM is lead Net Control with John KCOETV and Vernon KCONMP acting as relief and backup Net Control Operators.

What went well:

Due to the ongoing training in net procedures and traffic handling in Dist. 25, Delta county and Montrose county SKYWARN units, these nets operated smoothly. Traffic was passed in a timely manner. Logs were maintained. When any unit was out in the field and planning on being out of the vehicle at a Bridge or Stream they were required to have another Ham Operator on a home station in contact until they were clear of the area. If more than one mobile unit were out checking on conditions then a Net was established, with Net Controls accounting for all units. A nightly general net was called at 7PM for reports from field units.

Areas Needing Improvements:

This is the third year for us to be involved with high water watch and past experience has been a good teacher. Things worked very smoothly.

Lessons Learned:

The ongoing training of Dist. 25 ARES/SKYWARN personnel was very apparent during this incident. Nets ran very smooth; the NC stations maintained order and handled traffic in a very professional manner.

Comments:

District 25 ARES along with our SKYWARN groups are proud to have a very good working relationship with Rob Fiedler, Emergency Manager for Delta County and Robyn Funk Emergency Manager for Montrose County. These folks know their business and are a pleasure to work with. This was our third year of being involved in this issue in the area, and we learn more each go round.

Ronald Rich KCOGKZ AEC
District 25 Colorado ARES