

**Seventh Coast Guard District
Disaster Contingency Plan
Florida Keys Division 13
2009**

Section 1 - Introduction

1.1 Mission

This plan describes Coast Guard Auxiliary District 7 Division 13 preparedness, training and response operations for severe heavy weather, including hurricanes, tornados and other natural disasters such as floods or earthquakes, and the appropriate deployment of Coast Guard Auxiliary resources which may be executed in conjunction with other Coast Guard units or separately.

1.2 General

In the event of severe weather or other natural disasters occurring in our Seventh District but not directly affecting the flotillas in this division, Auxiliarist from the flotillas can be expected to continue to perform our peacetime role of assisting the Coast Guard in promoting maritime safety, and conducting SAR missions. We will continue to provide Auxiliary facilities including surface, air and radio facilities and specifically trained and qualified Auxiliarists as backfill replacement or augmentation to Coast Guard Units such as Auxiliarist trained as Coast Guard Radio Watchstanders, JOODs, qualified small boat crew and coxswains, ATON specialist, etc.

Such individually trained Auxiliarist with specially equipped surface operations vessels can greatly assist the Coast Guard by performing tasks such as, but not limited to, checking ATONs, channels, pollution, marine terminals, floating debris/hazards, available ramps, and disabled boats for survivors or transporting personnel supplies, equipment or FEMA personnel and other officials. Slower moving specialty equipped Auxiliary aircraft facilities might be ideal for logistical support, aerial survey and reconnaissance assessments, photographic recording and as and “eye in the sky” to support surface vessels. Auxiliary manned communications base station nets are ideally suited to the Coast Guard’s Incident Communications System.

Note:

Auxiliary aircraft facilities are only deployed through the Auxiliary Air Coordinator and Coast Guard Air Station Miami.

1.3 Limitations

In the event of a natural disaster occurring in this division’s area, our members have the priority of looking after their family and property needs first, so assistance for immediate post storm operations should be drawn from nearby flotillas/divisions in unaffected areas.

- Auxiliary surface and air assets will normally operate during daylight hours with the exception of emergency SAR or vessels with special equipment such as search lights, radar or night vision equipment etc.
- All mission tasking must come from the Coast Guard order issuing authority, although, our flotilla resources are prepared to operate in a multi-agency responsive environment with other governmental agencies.

- Our flotilla will not be the sole or lead responders to an emergency. This plan exists primarily for Auxiliarists and their facilities to support the Coast Guard which may or may not have arrangements with other municipal, state, Red Cross, or federal agencies. Our members when invited to do so by our order issuing Coast Guard authority, are willing to participate in the planning of and training in disaster plans, as a member of “Team Coast Guard”.

1.4 Local Government Disaster Plans

The following link to Monroe County’s Emergency Management web site provides information about local Monroe County’s disaster plan and evacuation plans:

<http://www.co.monroe.fl.us/pages/hurricane/shelter.htm>

1.5 Designated Mooring areas

There are no designated mooring areas for storms.

1.6 Plans for Securing Flotilla Property

Unless otherwise directed each Flotilla Staff Officer is responsible for securing all equipment, computers, electronics, and supplies under their control.

FSO-PE is responsible for One PowerPoint System (Computer and Projector).

FSO-MT is responsible for One PowerPoint System (Computer and Projector).

FSO-OP is responsible for all Personal Protection Equipment not issued to members.

1.7 Training and Drills

It is recommended that volunteers for post storm tasking be current in first aid, CPR and have completed ICS 100.

Additional training and joint exercises with Coast Guard Station Islamorada should be completed prior to June 1 of each year. These exercises include testing the calling tree, radio net drills, and ATON and waterway checks.

Additional training and exercises may be requested by Commander, Coast Guard Station Islamorada.

1.8 Member Notification Procedures

Upon receiving notification that condition four alert phase has been activated, the Flotilla Commander or his designee will initiate the pre storm communications plan. The calling tree will be activated. The FSO-CM will be requested to activate the Calling Tree and will begin making arrangements for the flotilla’s Radio Net to be activated. See Calling Tree - Attachment A

FSO-PB will place status message on Flotilla 888 number. 888 470 5566 ext. 9. FSO-PB will be responsible for maintaining a current status on 888 number.

Section 2 – Resources

(Confidential)

Section 3 – Condition Descriptions

3.1 Condition Five

This is a stand down condition from 1 December to 31 May each year except when modified by a rare winter hurricane.

During this period, our flotilla in conjunction with a division designee will hold planning liaison meetings with our Coast Guard order issuing authority (Coast Guard Station Islamorada). Topics should include; points of contact, radio frequencies for Control nets, location of shelters and storage areas and a program to conduct post heavy Weather Emergency exercises and drills as follows:

- Radio nets and drills should simulate field communications and verify contacts between land, mobile, fixed, vessels, aircraft, portable communications units. Auxiliary mobile support, Coast Guard Groups and Stations and interface with long range Auxiliary HF-SSB radio.
- Annual updates for CPR and First Aid
- Verify Calling Tree
- Assemble list of year round members

3.2 Condition Four

A seasonal hurricane condition set automatically each year on 1 June and extending through 30 November, unless otherwise directed by Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District. A Condition Four Alert is issued when a hurricane could potentially make landfall within 72 hours. Activities include:

- Prior to June 1st of each year, Auxiliary 13-8 should conduct post storm training and drills in conjunction with Coast Guard Station Islamorada.
- Review Post Storm procedures with flotilla prior to June 1st of each year.
- Prior to June 30, all auxiliarists should review their family evacuation / safe haven plans and notify their flotilla commander of any changes. All vessels, mobile support units and facilities should be maintained at least a 70% fuel capacity.
- During the month of June, the flotilla rosters and calling trees should be reexamined, modified as needed and forwarded to the division which shall note the changes in their plan and forward it to the DSO-OP.
- If a Condition Four Alert (possible Hurricane within 72 hrs) is posted, all facilities volunteered for post storm operations should top off fuel and begin to secure property and facilities and report status to VFC or his designee.

3.3 Condition Three

Set when weather advisories indicate that a hurricane MAY make landfall within a specified area of the Seventh Coast Guard District mainland within 48 hours.

Within the Targeted Area:

- The FC, VFC and SO-OP or other designated staff officers shall ensure that all contingency plans for Conditions Four and Five have been met and are current.
- All flotilla members should prepare for evacuation, secure their facilities, homes and personal property and prepare their evacuation kit.
- Flotilla property should be secured as follows as directed in section 1.13.:
- Anyone with flotilla property which needs to be secured during a storm should ensure someone has access to the property if you are out of town or plan to evacuate early.
- The FC, VFC, FSO-OP or other designated flotilla officer contacts the DCP or VCP and informs them that the flotilla has completed condition three requirements

Outside the Targeted Area:

- The DCP, VCP, SO-OP or other designated division staff officer of the division adjacent to the target area will contact its flotillas to put them on alert status and make a list of Auxiliary resources available and ready to respond.
- All DRATs and all other operational facilities including PWCs should be 100% fueled and provisioned with some food and water, a change of clothing along with all the additional equipment as required and report their “alert status” to their FC, VI, SO-OP or other designated staff officer who will relay this information to the DCP or VCP. Towing vehicles shall also be fully fueled and readied. Crews for the DRATs should have their personal special equipment packed and placed on “alert status” ready to depart in 24 hours.
- MCUs and ALSVs and their crews in adjoining divisions should be 100% fueled, provisioned and equipped as required. Crews are alerted to re-check their equipment, provisions and special personal clothing and should participate in the readiness radio nets as they are activated.
- HF-FM stations and Longe Range HF-SSB stations should ensure the readiness of emergency battery power for their communications equipment and conduct an exercise to verify communications and report their readiness to the FC, VFC, SO-CM or other designated staff officer who will relay this information to the DCP or VCP. These stations should be placed on an alert status ready to activate their nets within 24 hours notice. Whatchstander schedules for 24 hour coverage starting in condition two should be prepared.
- Auxiliary Pilots should be prepared to respond to requested pre hurricane reconnaissance flights as directed by the Auxiliary Aviation Coordinator.

3.4 Condition Two

Set when weather advisories indicate that a hurricane WILL PROBABLY make landfall within a specified area of the Seventh Coast Guard District mainland within 24 hours.

Within the Targeted Area:

All flotilla members should have secured their properties and evacuated. [Note: All auxiliaries who have volunteered for post storm tasking should also take an auxiliary working uniform (working blue or ODU – NOT Tee Shirt) and identification card and to aid them in accessing restricted areas.]

Outside the Targeted Area:

- The FC, VFC, FSO-OP or designated staff officer shall check that all the requirements for the previous conditions are met.
- Flotilla VHF and long range HF-SSB nets are activated and their Coast Guard order issuing authority, SO-CM or other designated division officer is advised. All nets in the adjoining flotillas and divisions are on a 24 hour communications schedule.

3.5 Condition One

Set when weather advisories indicate that a hurricane WILL make landfall within a specified area of the Seventh Coast Guard District mainland within 12 hours.

Within the Targeted Area:

All flotilla members should have secured their properties and evacuated.

Outside the Targeted Area:

- Adjoining divisions / flotillas shall check that all prior conditions have been met.
- All VHF-FM and long range HF-SSB radio nets are operational and integrated. They should be reporting hourly or as needed to handle emergency traffic to the Auxiliary District Net Controller.
- All Volunteer Auxiliary on alert status are fully prepared and resting but readily available to be deployed within three hours.

3.6 Condition Post Storm

The period after the storm has passed and there is no possibility of it returning to the affected area. When Condition Four is reset by District Commander, all Auxiliary units should automatically reset to Condition Four.

Within the affected Area:

Again it should be stressed that the primary responsibilities for all auxiliaries are to the safety of their families, their own property and as such. Auxiliaries within a disaster area are not to be utilized in post storm activities until they have completed their damage assessments, secured their personal property, recovered from all the damaging effects from the storm and advised the nearest order issuing authority of their availability.

Auxiliary Point of Contact: Coast Guard Station Islamorada first then Flotilla Commander by whatever means possible within 24 hours of your return. (phone, cell phone, VHF channel 16 and 23A or in person. Auxiliarist to Auxiliarist VHF traffic should be on 83A

Auxiliarists first priority is their safety and property. All Auxiliary Members upon return contact POC and Flotilla Commander. Auxiliarists will be notified by Auxiliary Operations of tasking.

Tasking in the following areas will be assigned when conditions permit:

- Establishing Radio Net
- Watchstanders
- ATONs / Channel patrols
- Document sunken / damaged vessels – obstructed waterways
- Harbor & Canal Environmental / Safety Patrols
- Survey of available ramps
- Other assigned duties and patrols designated by CG.