

# Fall 2023 After Action Report

## Held on October 8, 2023 1-4PM

While we responded to a major windstorm, the actual weather was clear and 85 degrees.

The exercise was started by a text from PBEM alerting participants to deploy, just as would happen in an actual incident.

### Activities Conducted Based on Objectives



All teams made progress on the objectives outlined for the exercise:

- Each team set up a staging area and most had an incident team lead (ITL), a scribe, an amateur radio operator (ARO), and some had a dedicated FRS/GMRS Radio Lead. Other teams had their ITL or their ARO coordinating intra-team activities via FRS/GMRS radios.;
- This CDE focused on Form 4
- Each team undertook a damage assessment activity;
- Individuals were asked if they had a current copy of their Ops Plan;
- Each team used FRS/GMRS radios for intra-team communication;
- Each team had an opportunity to practice triage, search and rescue, downed power lines, a gas leak and the decision on whether to respond or not to some scenarios.
- Teams had one scenario to discuss as a tabletop exercise. They were to decide how to respond to a school bus that overturned. The hotwash provided great input – the bus driver has the authority over the school children on the bus, meaning we would take our lead from them.
- Teams were asked to tie three knots

### Teams

Twelve teams participated in the Fall 2023 CDE, including West Salem CERT and one Zoom team. Most were comprised of members from their own team as well as other teams. Fifty-three neighborhoods were represented.

Each team had an exercise coordinator – a member of that neighborhood team that was not a direct participant in the exercise – who were aware of the scenario and all aspects of the scenario prior to the exercise. They assisted the planning committee in preparing materials for the team in advance of the exercise. They served as a resource for the team to provide the injects and any needed details to enable the team to move forward within the scenario. The exercise coordinators filled a vital role and this role will continue to be an essential part of future exercises.

## The Numbers

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Total number of registrants                  | 165 |
| Participants (registered)                    | 165 |
| Participants (day of registered)             | 165 |
| Participants (day of, actually participated) | 131 |
| Number of teams                              | 12  |
| Exercise Coordinators                        | 12  |
| Subnets                                      | 5   |

## Hours

524 hours logged

## Feedback Scores

| CDE Feedback Scores - Perfect Score is 5.00 |   |   |  |   |  |   |             |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|-------------|
| Date  | The exercise was well structured and organized. | The overall exercise was plausible and realistic. | The individual scenarios were plausible and realistic. | The exercise will help me be a better NET member. | I felt that my participation was valued and necessary. | The Incident Commander built a strong plan. | Total Score |
| Fall 2023                                   | 4.41  | 4.3   | 4.3  | 4.7   | 4.67   | 4.06  | 4.41        |
| Spring 2023                                 | 4.45  | 4.28  | 4.49   | 4.64  | 4.45   | 4.35  | 4.44        |
| Fall 2022                                   | 4.28  | 4.21  | 4.16   | 4.47  | 4.4  | 4.05  | 4.08        |
| Spring 2022                                 | 3.14  | 3.14  | 3.26   | 3.05  | 2.86   | 2.52  | 3.00        |
| Fall 2021                                   | 4.31  | 3.79  | 4.32   | 4.03  | 4.35   | 4.08  | 4.15        |
| Spring 2021                                 | 3.86  | 3.86  | 3.83   | 4.08  | 3.82   | 3.43  | 3.81        |

## What do participants want to focus on for the Spring 2024 CDE

Exercise participants identified several items that need continued focus in the next CDE:

Working with forms, forms, forms...this continues to be an area we need to continue to practice  
 ICS Structure  
 FRS Radio Techniques  
 Nighttime response  
 More medical training  
 Water, food and sanitation

## Comments from participants

- Clear injects, lots of them, but not all piled on top of each other. This made them manageable, allowing the team to practice most of them without being totally overwhelmed.

- Coming together of several NET Teams was new and good experience. A lot of sharing going on.
- Scenarios are often incomplete particularly where they involve hypothetical injured people. Resources of a given team are quite limited, so that any response is rather incomplete and uncertain. What we did best in this scenario is make hypothetical solutions such as recruiting a passerby to transport intermediate care (red) individuals rather than wait for base to come up with a solution without personnel to implement it. Similarly the incomplete medical descriptions stimulated us to decide how we might try to reduce the triage uncertainty by simple observations/ interactions with the "paper subject".

A "92 windstorm is an extreme though plausible event that would particularly immobilize our communities - so it was a good topic to stimulate our team.

- Pre-exercise communication on email was excellent. (2) Realistic scenario with good basic overview. (3) Appreciated the emphasis on the historical importance of the Columbus Day Storm of 1962. (4) Team arrived well informed and briefed of situation.
- Always difficult dealing with fictional victims and SUVs, especially when a scenario involved multiple victims. It was hard to keep track of the individual victims. A suggestion: would it be possible to have an individual sheet for each victim in the envelope with their injuries so that we could assess them individually and classify them? The full assessment sheets were in the triage area but we could have tagged the paper people and turned them over to triage when we got back.
- I'd add scenarios involving radio dead zones. Also I'd add a couple of complicated medical scenarios to force us to think more thoroughly about our skills. (In a real event I suspect me and my partner killed one of our bus victims.)
- I hate to complain. It was such a nice day it didn't feel like an emergency.

### Exercise Follow-up

The planning committee encouraged each team to conduct a brief "hot wash" immediately following the exercise to report on their experience, give initial reactions to the planning committee through their exercise coordinators, and begin to identify areas where individual teams need to work on improvement and also where the team currently excels so that their skills can be maintained. It appears that most teams were able to have an on scene (or nearby) hot wash.

The planning committee conducted a follow-up survey offered to all exercise participants to gather more in-depth feedback on various aspects of the exercise. The summary feedback is presented in the chart on page two of this report in the Feedback Scores section.

This after-action report will be used in planning future exercises.



# ARO Survey for Citywide Deployment Exercise (CDE) on October 8, 2023

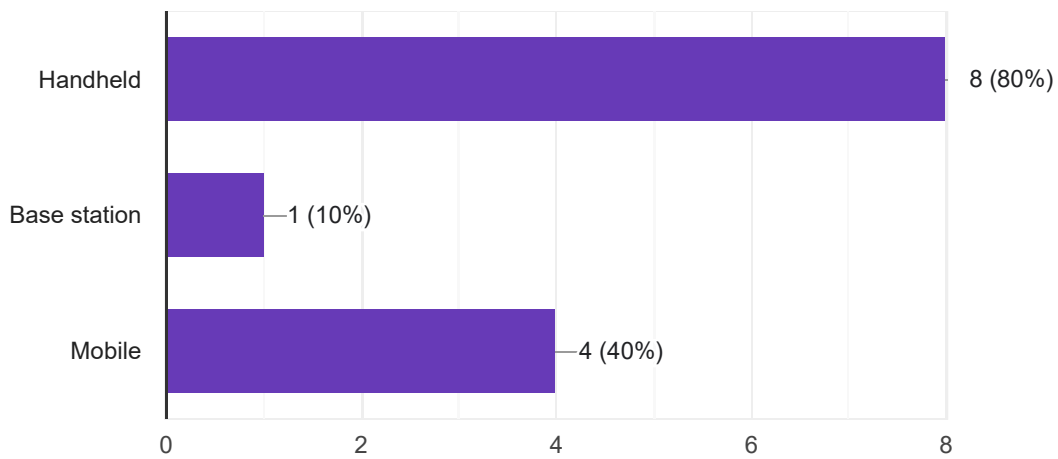
10 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

Type of the radio you used during the CDE on October 8th (check all that apply)

Copy

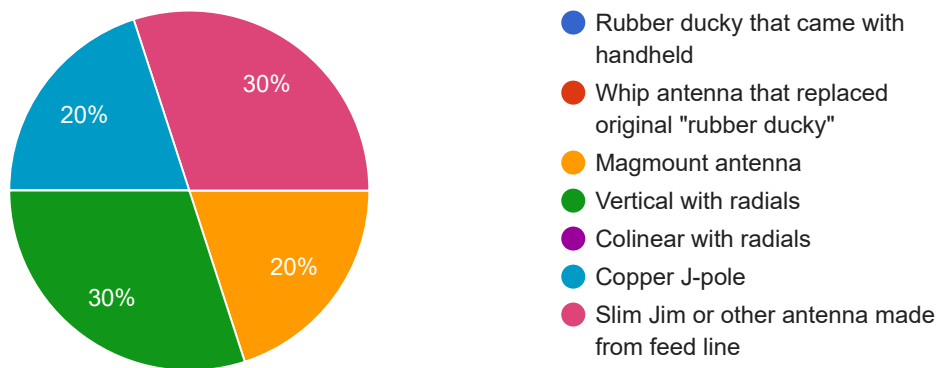
10 responses



Type of the antenna you primarily used

Copy

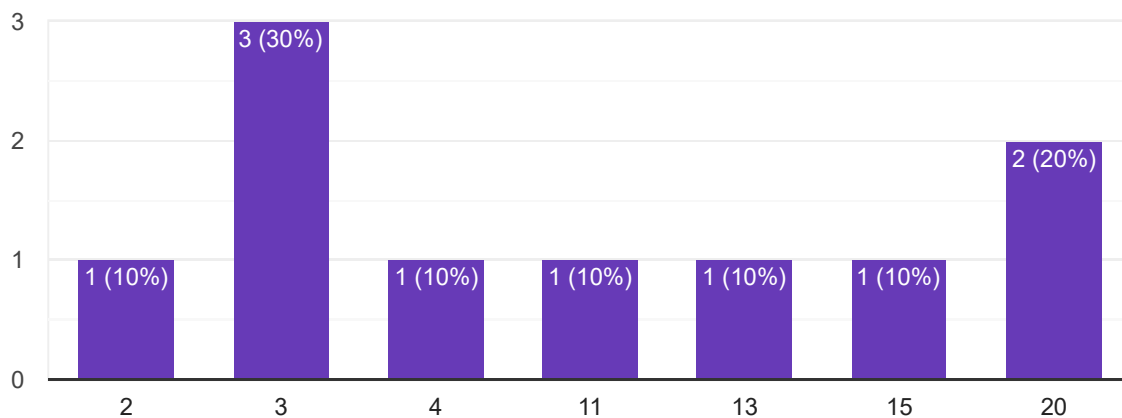
10 responses



Rough estimate of height of the base of your antenna **above ground level** (not above sea level) in feet during contacts with subnet control.



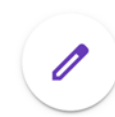
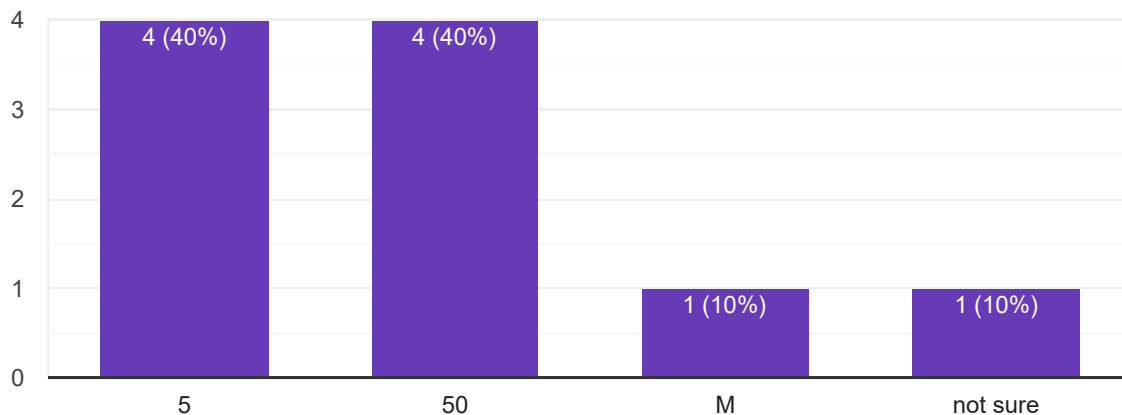
10 responses



Transmit power that you used in watts. (Most handhelds use 5 watts when set to high power.) If your radio has L, M or H power settings instead of watts and you're not sure what they correspond to, indicate L, M or H instead of watts.



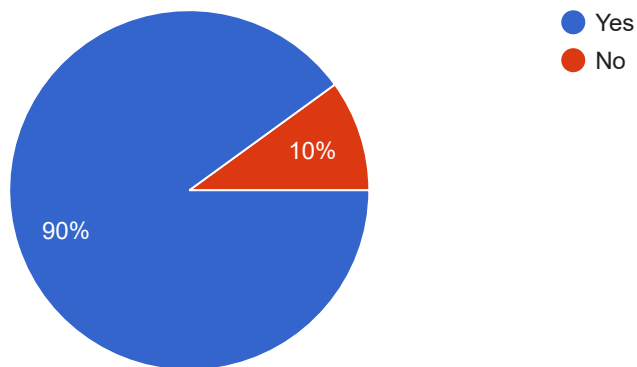
10 responses



### Were you able to check into the Resource Net?

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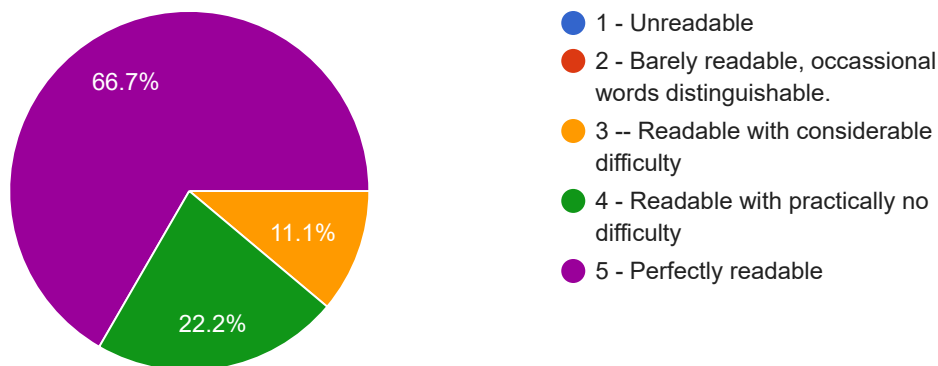
10 responses



### How well could you hear the Resource Net?

 Copy

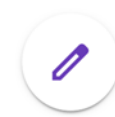
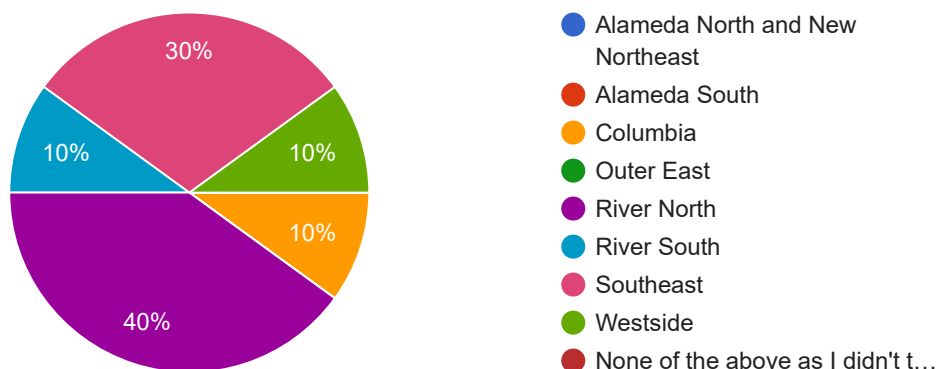
9 responses



### What subnet region did you participate in?

 Copy

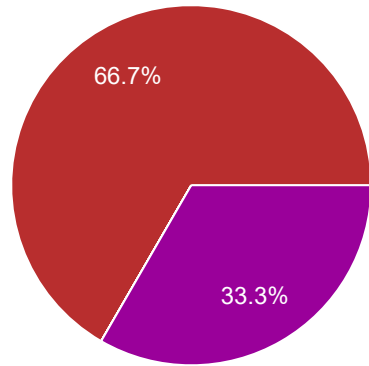
10 responses



If you tried another subnet before the one you selected above, what was that other subnet?

 Copy

3 responses

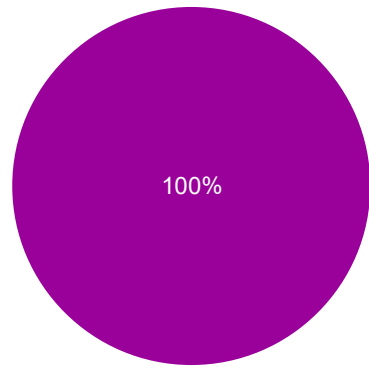


- Alameda North and New Northeast
- Alameda South
- Columbia
- Outer East
- River North
- River South
- Southeast
- Westside
- None of the above as I checke...

How well could you hear your Subnet Controller?

 Copy

9 responses

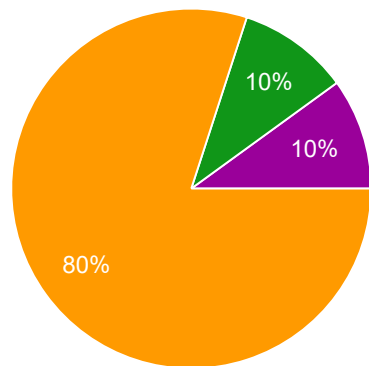


- 1 - Unreadable
- 2 - Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable.
- 3 -- Readable with considerable difficulty
- 4 - Readable with practically no difficulty
- 5 - Perfectly readable

How many NET Form 8s did your subnet controller read to you during the exercise?

 Copy

10 responses



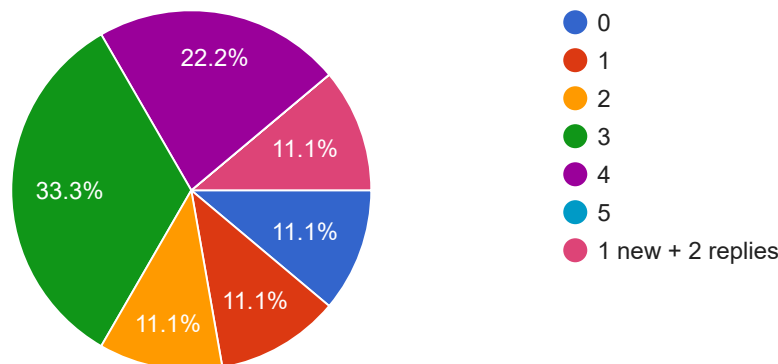
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 2 to "all ITLs", if you count the PAR check.



### How many NET Form 8s did you read to your subnet controller?

Copy

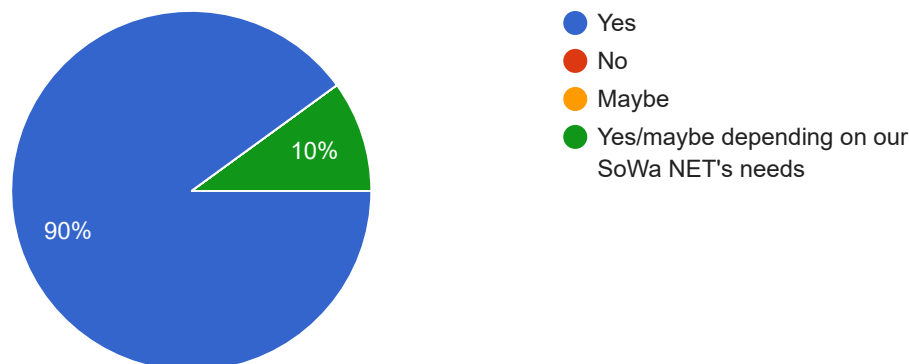
9 responses



### Do you expect to participate again as an ARO in the future?

Copy

10 responses

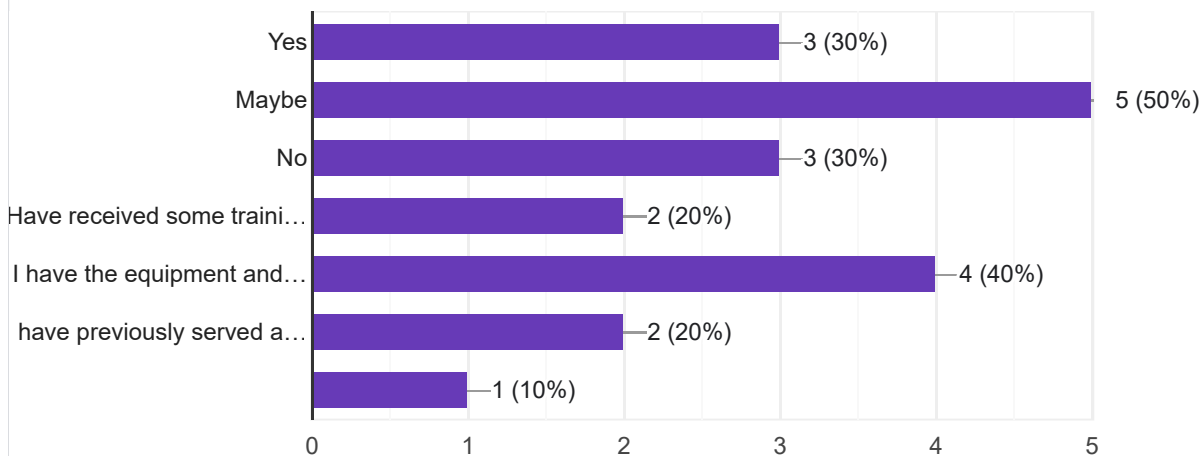


### Would you be interested in serving as a subnet controller in the future?

Copy

(Check all that apply)

10 responses





# SNC Survey for Citywide Deployment Exercise (CDE) on October 8, 2023

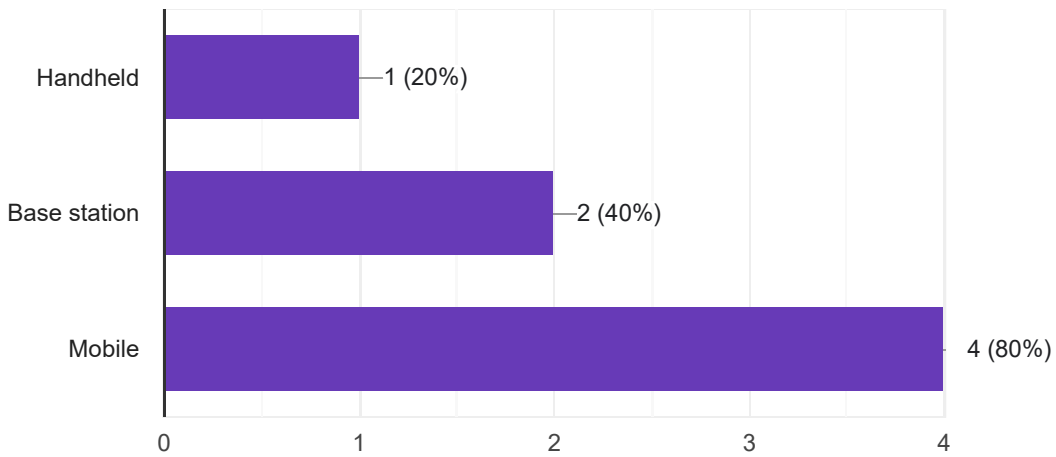
5 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

Type of the radio you used during the CDE on October 8th (check all that apply)

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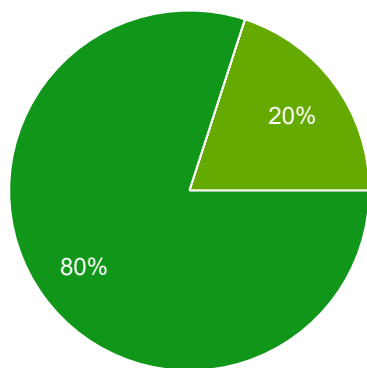
5 responses



Type of the antenna you primarily used

 Copy

5 responses



- Rubber ducky that came with handheld
- Whip antenna that replaced original "rubber ducky"
- Magmount antenna
- Vertical with radials
- Colinear with radials
- Copper J-pole
- Slim Jim or other antenna m...
- Ed fong enclosed jpole



Rough estimate of height of the base of your antenna **above ground** level (not above sea level) in feet

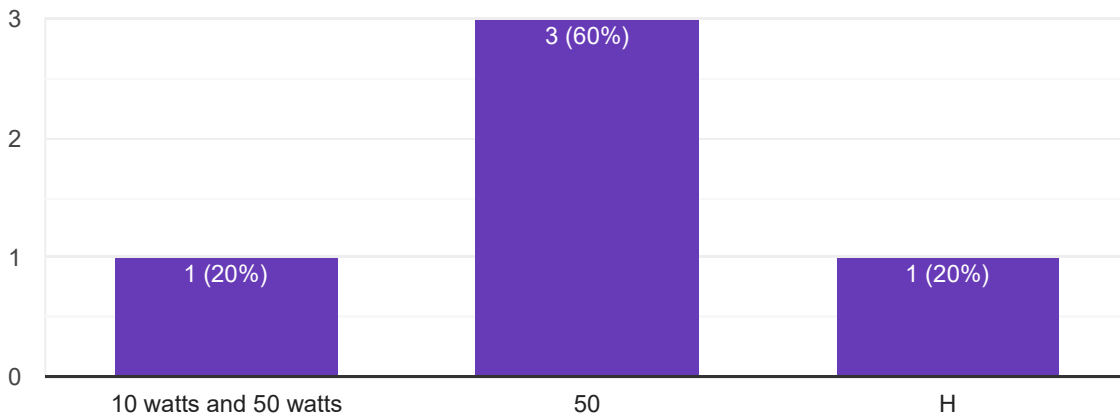
5 responses

20  
15  
120  
11  
30

Transmit power that you used in watts. If your radio has L, M or H power settings instead of watts and you're not sure what they correspond to, indicate L, M or H instead of watts.



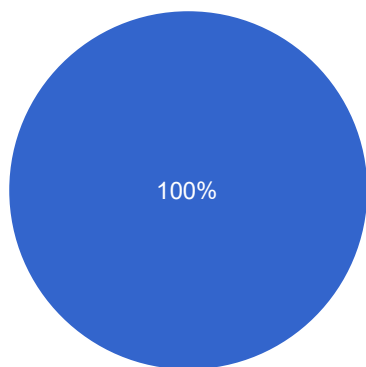
5 responses



### Were you able to check into the Resource Net?

 Copy

5 responses

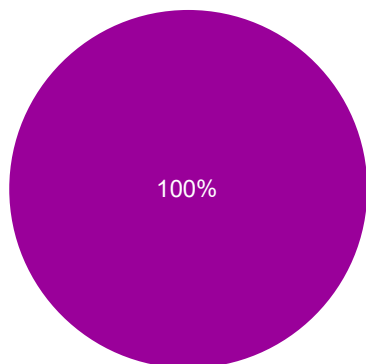


- Yes
- No

### How well could you hear the Resource Net?

 Copy

5 responses

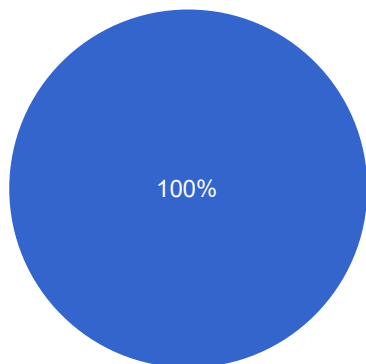


- 1 - Unreadable
- 2 - Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable.
- 3 -- Readable with considerable difficulty
- 4 - Readable with practically no difficulty
- 5 - Perfectly readable

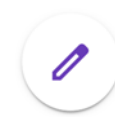
### Did read a tactical message or announcement from ECC to the AROs on your subnet during the exercise?

 Copy

5 responses



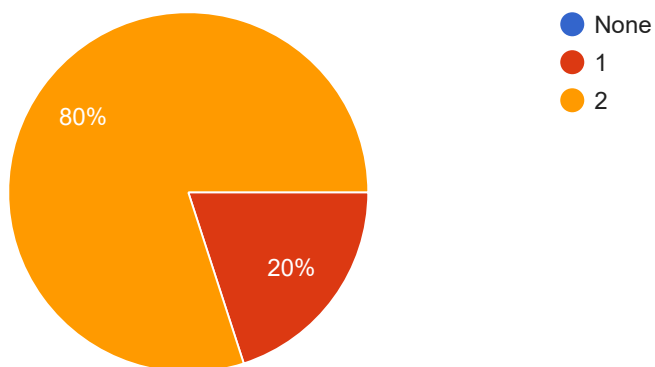
- Yes
- No



How many Form 8s or ICS 213s from ECC did you read to the AROs on your subnet during the exercise?



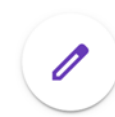
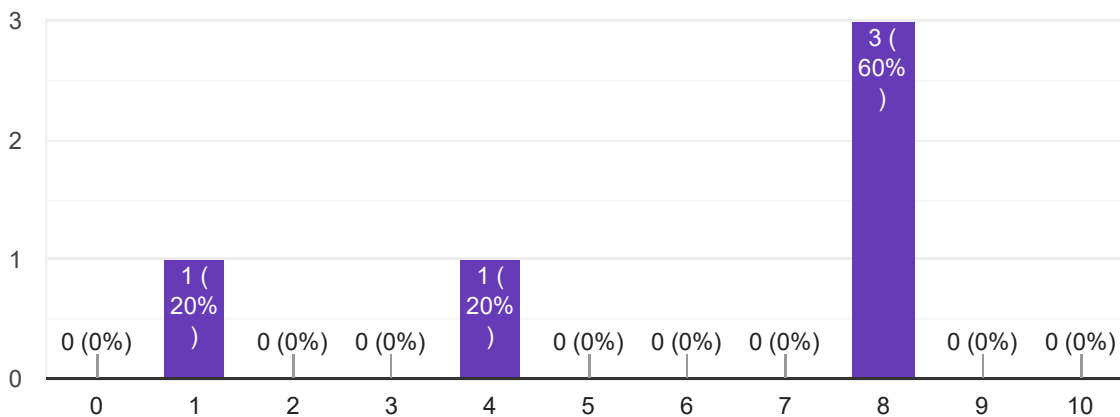
5 responses



Approximately how many Form 8s did you receive from the AROs in your region during the exercise?



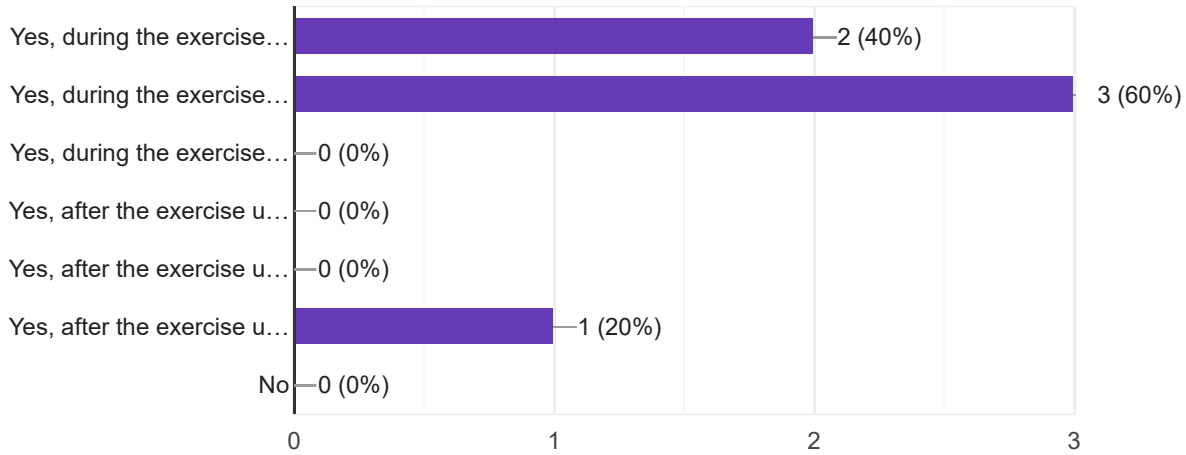
5 responses



Did you send message(s) to the ECC using Winlink? (Check all that apply.)



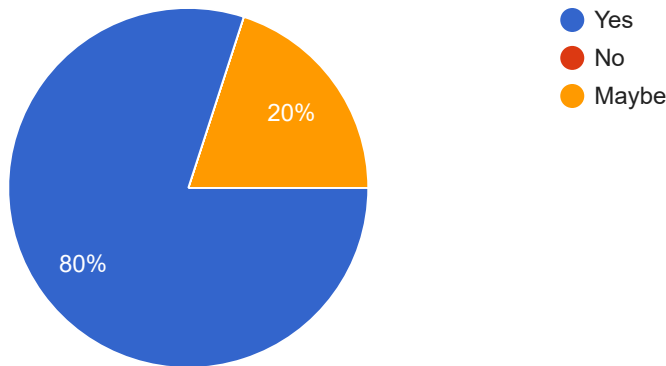
5 responses



Would you like to participate again as an SNC in the future?



5 responses



How could the SNC instructions provided for this exercise be improved?

5 responses

They were excellent - the course was helpful as well, as there were issues that arose that I did not know in advance

I don't know. But i would like to digest this question and answer later, i have a couple of ideas.

They were very good. Not sure I could improve them.

Create an ICS-205 as a separate page, Comms Plan

very clear

