



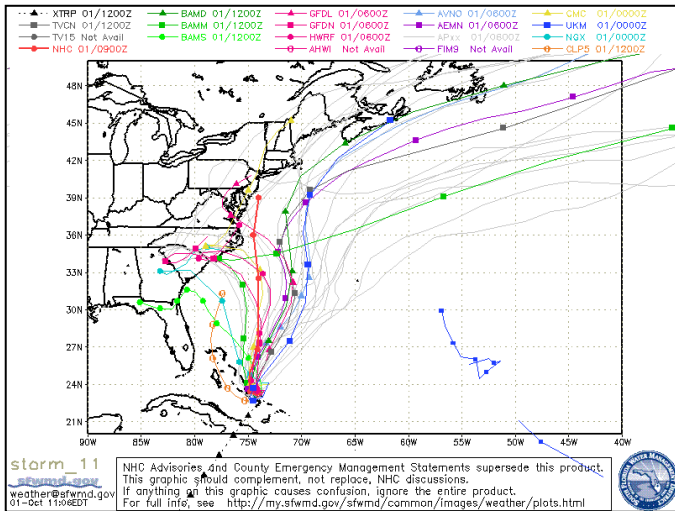
The Salvation Army

Southern Territory Emergency Disaster Services Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network

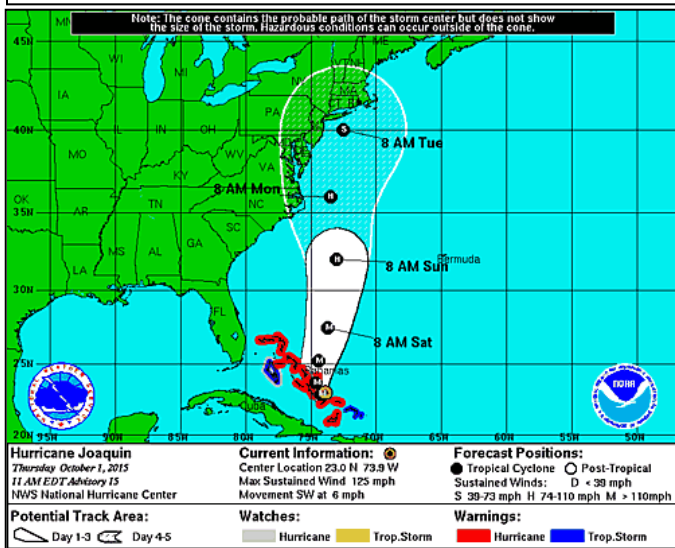


Thursday – 01 October 2015

Amateur Radio Responds To The Threat Of Hurricane Joaquin



Tracking models from the South Florida Water Management District at 0912 (EDT) on 01 October 2015



National HQ (10/01/15) – During the early morning hours of Thursday, 01 October, Hurricane Joaquin grew rapidly from a modest Category 1 Hurricane to a major Category 3 Hurricane and was a Category 4 Hurricane with sustained 130 mph winds by Thursday afternoon.

Although currently just north of the Bahamas at the time this is written, there is still considerable disagreement among the tracking models as to where Joaquin will go over the next several days. Tracking models vary from a landfall as far south as the Florida / Georgia state line to remaining out over the open Atlantic Ocean with no landfall. However, as of 1100 (Eastern) on 01 October, the National Hurricane Center forecast track suggests a landfall somewhere between the central North Carolina coastline sometime late Sunday or early Monday to remaining just off the east coast of Southern New England by Tuesday or Wednesday.

The Southern Territory conducted a Territorial Coordination Call for Joaquin on Thursday to facilitate coordination of the preparation activities of the nine Divisions in the Southern Territory along with National Headquarters and the Eastern Territory. In his latest update, Territorial Disaster Coordinator Jeff Jellerts said, "This storm remains extremely worrisome. While the current forecast track takes the storm further east and shows eventual weakening, a landfall in NC, VA, or MD cannot be ruled out. More significantly, extreme flooding remains a serious concern even without a direct landfall or landfall with a relatively weak storm."

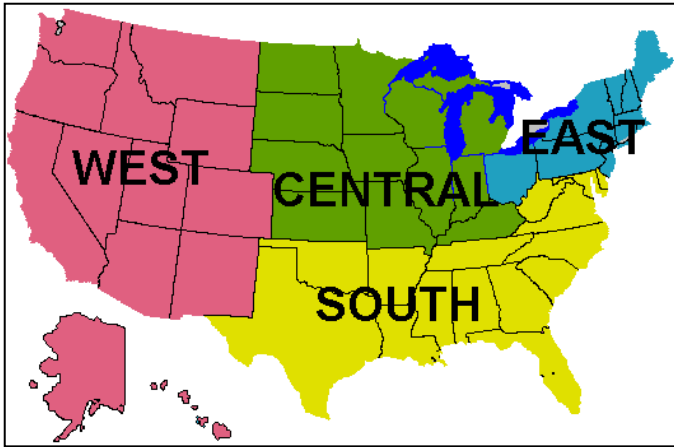
SATERN currently remains at a Delta I (normal operations) status for the International SATERN SSB Net and both the Southern Territory SATERN SSB and Digi-Nets, but that could change if future conditions warrant it. In addition several SATERN stations, including WB5ALM at the EDS Center for the Alabama-Louisiana-Mississippi Division and the Southern Territory have been monitoring the Hurricane Watch Net.

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) has been activated at Level 5 – Catastrophic Response Mode. Since Wednesday, 30 September, HWN has been on 14.325 MHz while propagation lasts and then moving to 7.268 MHz in the evening. The first day of operations ended at 0045 AM (ET) / 0445 Z Thursday morning. They resumed at 0700 (ET) on Thursday on 14.325 MHz. The primary purpose of the Hurricane Watch Net is to collect on-scene measured observed weather and damage reports and report that information to FEMA and the National Hurricane Center. Reporting stations are asked to not report information that is obtained from local media. HWN also provides backup communications to official agencies as Emergency Operations Centers and NGO officials in the affected areas.

Hurricane Watch Net Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, "Please honor our request that you should not check in to the net unless specifically requested to do so. We will attempt to handle all communications within the capabilities of our own members, and only when required assistance is needed will we ask for your help."

**Register As A SATERN Volunteer On The National Disaster Website
Go To Disaster.SalvationArmyUSA.org**

The Salvation Army Prepares For “Extremely Dangerous” Hurricane Joaquin



Jackson, MS (10/01/2015) – According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC), Hurricane Joaquin became “an extremely dangerous Category 4 hurricane” at 2:00 PM (Eastern), Thursday, October 01, 2015. NHC forecasts that the Bahama Islands will “experience hurricane force winds ... storm surge ... and heavy rain through tonight [Thursday].”

After that, the forecast path for Joaquin is much less predictable with computer models showing it making landfall anywhere from the Florida / Georgia state line to remaining in the Atlantic and making no landfall. However, the consensus is that it will continue to move north along the U.S. East Coast bringing serious rainfall of twelve inches or more to many locations that are already saturated by heavy rainfall earlier this week.

The Salvation Army is preparing for all possibilities – from landfall and high winds to torrential rains that bring flash and river flooding along the East Coast in both the Southern and Eastern Territories. Staff members at National Headquarters and the Eastern and Southern Territories are coordinating their efforts to prepare to respond to whatever Joaquin brings to the U.S. East Coast.

In the Southern Territory, the North-South Carolina (NSC) Division is preparing a fleet of Canteens (mobile kitchens) and putting local disaster teams on standby. The NSC Division has 20 Canteens – 13 in North Carolina and 7 in South Carolina.

Divisional and local Emergency Disaster Services staff and personnel are closely monitoring the progress of Joaquin. “At this point, all mobile feeding units and Corps across the division are on alert as the potential for flooding is monitored and assessed,” said Mike Patterson, Divisional Emergency Disaster Services Director for NSC Division. “The Salvation Army is collaborating with emergency management groups at local, county, and state levels to be prepared if relief efforts are necessary.”



A NSC Division Canteen being prepared for Joaquin duty.

The National Capital-Virginia (NCV) Division has 14 Canteens on standby. Although the Virginia State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) has not been activated yet, the local EOC in Norfolk, VA, has been activated and The Salvation Army has sent a Liaison. The primary concern at this time for the NCV Division is also serious flooding due to the expected torrential rains.

To the north, the Eastern Territory expects that up to 7 of its’ 11 Divisions could potentially be impacted by Joaquin. Throughout the Territory, Canteens are being stocked, EDS Teams put on standby and at least two fuel depots are being filled. In addition, some assets along the coast are being moved further inland.

SATERN continues to remain at a Delta I (normal operations) status. However, SATERN operators are being encouraged to register with The Salvation Army National Emergency Disaster Services website at Disaster.SalvationArmyUSA.org so that they are available to their local Salvation Army units and their Division in the event they are needed. SATERN operators are also encouraged to check in with their local Salvation Army unit and offer to volunteer in whatever capacity they might be needed.

The Salvation Army is encouraging all residents to review their family communication plan and prepare an emergency kit. Helpful information is available on the National Emergency Disaster Services website or at www.ready.gov/hurricanes.

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Are You Ready For Hurricane Joaquin?

As various amateur radio organizations such as SATERN, the ARRL, the Hurricane Watch Net, the National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC and others respond to or prepare for Hurricane Joaquin, individual SATERN operators – particularly those in areas that might be impacted by Joaquin - should also be preparing.

The most important preparation is for each amateur radio operator to insure that they and their family are properly prepared. It is well known that people responding to disasters need to know that their own families are taken care of if they are going to be able to respond properly themselves. This means having a Family Disaster Plan including a Family Communication Plan, and a Family Disaster Kit in place. Detailed recommendations for what is needed for both a Family Disaster Plan and Kit are available in the August 18, 2015 article "Are You Ready For Hurricane Season?" in the News section of the national Emergency Disaster Services website at Disaster.SalvationArmyUSA.org. Another excellent source of information can be found in an article by John Covington, W4CC, on the North Carolina ARRL Section ARES website at www.ncarrl/area/prepare.html.

Amateur radio operators should also be prepared to respond – either to the scene, if called to do so, or from their own home base station - in the event emergency communications are needed. There are many things that can and should be done to be prepared for this possibility – even if the amateur radio operator doesn't live in the potential impact area.

One of the most important things to be done is to be officially involved with The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services and SATERN. That means doing several things, including:

- # Register as a Salvation Army and SATERN volunteer on the National Emergency Disaster Services website at Disaster.SalvationArmyUSA.org. Just click on the "Join Our Volunteer Team" button and fill out the series of questions presented. SATERN operators who signed up through www.SATERN.org many years ago were not automatically transferred and need to register and update their information on the National EDS website.
- # Register with the local Salvation Army as a volunteer for Emergency Disaster Services and SATERN. Volunteer for more than just emergency communications. Many local Salvation Army leaders have no idea of what SATERN is or that they may need SATERN someday. Amateur radio operators with good technical skills – especially computer networking skills – may want to consider offering those skills as part of their contribution.

However, good general-service volunteers are both badly needed and hard to recruit. Volunteering for something that the local leader needs, even if it has nothing to do with emergency communications, is a way to get "a foot in the door" and to begin building a relationship of trust that can eventually lead to that discussion about the need for communication services that go beyond the personal cell phone.

- # Register as a member of the Southern Territory Yahoo Group at <https://groups.yahoo.com> to keep updated on the latest news from SATERN and The Salvation Army.

It is important to ensure that equipment and antennas are working properly. The best way to do this is to regularly operate on and / or check into nets on the frequency bands that are most likely to be used. This both tests the equipment and regularly practices personal net operation skills. Regular monitoring of SATERN nets is always encouraged. A list of SATERN nets can be found on www.SATERN.org. Other nets worthy participating in include the Maritime Mobile Net which meets daily on 14.300 MHz, and the Hurricane Watch Net which is currently activated on 14.325 MHz during the day and 7.268 in the evening. There are also many regional, state and local ARRL National Traffic System (NTS) nets available to amateur radio operators. The point is to participate frequently to keep equipment and skills prepared.

Finally, amateur radio operators who want to be deployed to a disaster area need to do to three things.

1. First and foremost, be registered as an official Salvation Army EDS / SATERN volunteer (see above).
2. Have your credentials (ID Badge). Check with your local Salvation Army unit for what is required.
3. Have a radio go-kit available.

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The Salvation Army Supports Security For Papal Visit In Philadelphia



Philadelphia, PA (09/27/2015) - The Salvation Army Disaster Services was honored to participate in Pope Francis' historic visit to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families on September 26-27, 2015.

The Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) program of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (EPA) Division provided food, drink and other necessities at sites across the City of Philadelphia to nearly 10,000 law enforcement, first responders and municipal workers during the Papal visit to Philadelphia. There were 127 staff, officers, and volunteers who participated in the 24-7 operation from Thursday, September 24 through Monday, September 28.

They came from Philadelphia, Eastern and Central PA and other Salvation Army Divisions and Territories. Volunteers staffed Canteens (mobile kitchens) at 7 fixed locations

throughout the center city, old city and the art museum areas that had been cordoned off to incoming vehicle traffic.

Over the course of the 4 day operation, volunteers handed out a total of 93,000 meals including pre-packaged lunches and hot dinners courtesy of Wawa. They also traveled throughout the secured areas delivering meals to emergency personnel at more than 50 sites.

"This is a great opportunity for The Salvation Army to serve the community during this historic event," shared Lt. Colonel Stephen Banfield, Divisional Commander for the EPA Division.

MARS Invites SATERN / ARES / RACES To Participate In Quarterly Exercise

ARRL (09/28/2015) - A disastrous coronal mass ejection (CME) will be the focus of a national Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) communication exercise on November 8-10, 2015, and MARS is hoping to collaborate with SATERN, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) groups. The exercise is a quarterly contingency HF exercise in support of the US Department of Defense (DoD).

"The exercise scenario will simulate a CME event and focus on actions that radio operators should take prior to and following a CME event," explained Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY. "One thing we want to continue to work on is the interface with the greater Amateur Radio community."

CMEs are huge explosions of gas, plasma, and electromagnetic radiation from the Sun, which are responsible for geomagnetic storms. Solar flares can accompany CMEs, but they are not the same thing. A CME can take anywhere from 1 day to 3 days to reach Earth. CMEs occur all the time, but most bypass Earth with minor effects. A major CME that hits Earth directly could damage or destroy satellites as well as terrestrial communication and electrical power infrastructure. English said the November exercise would simulate a radio blackout as well as infrastructure damage. "During the exercise, we will simulate the blackout with a 3 hour pause, and then we will bring stations back on air and begin handling requests for information," he told ARRL.

Training objectives for this exercise will include understanding what a CME is and how much forecast lead time can be expected; the effects associated with a CME, and what precautions radio operators take to protect their equipment, prior to a severe CME.

After the simulated CME, operators will assess its effects and begin reporting that information. This will involve "interoperation with Amateur Radio operators and groups to assist in assessment."

Amateur Radio operators in SATERN, ARES, and RACES are encouraged to participate in this exercise.

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