



2026 BEACON EXERCISE – Operational Area Objectives

Building Emergency Area Communications Operations & Networks

Operational Area: [County Name]

1.	Module 0 – Pre-Exercise	Module 1 – Community Impact	Module 2 – Mutual Aid	Module 3 – Situation Status Update	Module 4 – Hotwash / Demobilize
2.	08:00 – 10:00 Pacific	10:00 – 12:00 Pacific	12:00 – 14:00 Pacific	14:00 – 16:00 Pacific	16:00 – 17:00 Pacific
3.	Beginning of exercise/Incident	2 – 4 hrs. post incident	24-hrs. post incident	36 – 72 hrs. post incident	End of exercise
4.	Objectives				
5 • C o u n t y E O C *	1. Activate the EOC at the appropriate level in accordance with established procedures by 08:30. 2. Ensure all personnel sign in using ICS-211, receive an ICS-214 Activity Log, and don assigned ICS vest prior to 09:00. 3. Develop and simulate one Alert & Warning message to OA partners by 09:00. 4. Outline an initial EOC briefing and identify operational objectives by 09:00. 5. Begin EOC Briefing by 9:00	1. Assess and prioritize field reports as they are received. 2. Develop at least four EMMA or RRS messages to deliver to ACS for transmission by 12:00. 3. Develop at least five written SMART objectives for the EOC Action Plan (EAP) by 12:00. 4. Establish and document a Planning “P” meeting schedule by 11:00.	1. Review at least two incoming EMMA or RRS messages and develop appropriate response actions for ACS transmission via Winlink by 14:00. 2. Conduct an operations briefing including Command and General Staff by 14:00. 3. Produce a draft EAP outline for the next operational period by 14:00.	1. Assess and prioritize field report updates. 2. Coordinate with ACS to send at least two regional resource status to regional partners updates by 15:00. 3. Coordinate with ACS to send at least two resource status updates to local OA partners by 15:00. 4. Prepare press release message by 16:00.	1. Conduct a formal hotwash within 60 minutes of exercise completion. 2. Ensure 100% of EOC staff complete and submit ICS-214 logs prior to departure. 3. Identify and document at least three corrective actions for the Improvement Plan. 4. Those seeking EOC credentialing through CSTI, ensure their supervisor



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					completes a Position Performance Rating Form EOC-225 prior to departure.

6. Prepared by:

Position/Title:

Date/Time:

Signature:

5 . A u x i l i a r y C o m m u	1. Arrive, sign in (ICS-211), receive vest and ICS-214, and attend briefing by 09:00. 2. Conduct an internal team briefing and assign operator roles within 30 minutes of arrival. 3. Develop and distribute an ICS-205 Communications Plan prior to start of exercise.	1. Establish or participate in a directed net with county OA partners. 2. Receive and log field reports from county OA partners. 3. Log all priority messages and deliver to AUXM. 4. AUXM delivers formal/priority messages to Planning Section. 5. Transmit at least one EOC status update to	1A. Establish a spontaneous directed HF voice net with regional/state partners within 30 minutes of module start. 1B. <u>If HF antenna is inoperable</u>, coordinate with offsite local HF operator(s) and transmit at least two EMMA or RRS messages within 60 minutes. 2. Respond to at least two EMMA or RRS	1. Transmit at least two EMMA or RRS updates to regional or state partners by 16:00. 2. Transmit at least two EOC Situation Status updates via SMS and radio by 16:00. 3. Transmit at least one EOC status update to OA partners by SMS and radio in module 3.	1. Participate in an internal hot wash within 30 minutes of demobilization. 2. Submit ICS-214 logs and communications logs prior to departure. 3. Identify and document at least three improvement actions.
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n i c a t i o n S e r v i c e s (A C S) a t t h e	4. Review job assignments and confirm chain of command prior to Module 1.	OA Partners via SMS and radio during module 1. 6. Confirm operational status with supervisor following each inject.	messages approved by EOC staff by 14:00. 3. Transmit at least one EOC status update to OA partners by SMS and radio in module 2.		



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C o u n t y E O C					
6. Prepared by:			Position/Title:		
Date/Time:			Signature:		
5. OA /Co unt y Par tne rs	1. Activate internal PACE communications plan and confirm availability 30 minutes prior to Module 1 (09:30). 2. Conduct an internal briefing and assign communications roles. 3. Verify operational readiness of 100% of primary	1. Develop and transmit one field report to their team leader or supervisor by 10:00. 2. Following inject, Partners confirm operational status update with supervisor or EOC within 30 minutes. 3A. Team Leaders or Supervisors forward	1. Provide at least one operational status update to their supervisor or team leader by 14:00. 2. Team Leaders or Supervisors forward team members field report status updates to local or County EOC.	1. Partners submit a staff/volunteer availability status update to local or County EOC 2. Partners transmit situation status update report reflecting changing operational conditions to local or county EOC. 3. Transmit at least one status update to OA partners by SMS or radio in module 3.	1. Conduct a post-exercise discussion by 17:00. 2. Submit a participant



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	communications systems.	team members field reports to <u>local or County EOC</u> . 3B. <u>Local EOC</u> forward field reports to County EOC. 4. <u>Unaffiliated Partners</u> transmit one field report to County EOC via SMS or radio (<u>one method only</u>) by 10:00.	3. Log messages to support the common operating picture. 4. Following inject, confirm operational status with supervisor or EOC within 30 minutes. 5. Transmit at least one status update to OA partners by SMS or radio in module 2.		feedback form by May 22, 2026. 3. Inventory and restore communications equipment to ready status within 24 hours.

6. Prepared by: _____

Position/Title: _____

Date/Time: _____

Signature: _____

Purpose. The OAO provides strategic direction during the exercise and serves as the foundation for evaluation and after-action review.



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Preparation. Objectives should be developed prior to the exercise and reviewed internally to ensure alignment with organizational capabilities and desired outcomes. Controllers and Evaluators should maintain a current copy for reference during exercise observation and documentation.

Distribution. The OAO should be reproduced and be part of the operational area documents given to all participants.

Notes:

- The OAO should not be altered during the exercise solely to allow completion of objectives.
- Adjustments to module period timing are permitted for:
 - o Module 0 (Preparation) start time
 - o Module 4 (Hotwash/Demobilization) end time
- The County EOC assignments may be assigned to Operational Area partners who agree to act in the role of the county-level EOC for the exercise.
- Operational Area (OA)/County Partners may include but limited to: CERT, ACS, American Red Cross, Food Bank, Government support agencies, Faith Based Organizations, Community Based Organizations, or other Non-Governmental Organizations.
- EOC credentialing through California Specialized Training Institute, [Position Performance Rating Form EOC-225 \[LINK\]](#).

1	Module	The numerical module designation and module title
2	Operational Period	Enter the start time (using the 24-hour clock) and end for each module local time.
3	Simulated time frame	The estimated time duration during a real response compared to actual module time blocked out.
4	Objectives	Enter clear, concise statements of the objectives for managing the response. Ideally, these objectives will be listed based on collaboration with an organization’s membership and their support network. These objectives are separated for each group for the exercise as well as for each module. Objectives should follow the SMART model or a similar approach: <u>Specific</u> – Is the wording precise and unambiguous? <u>Measurable</u> – How will achievements be measured? <u>Action-oriented</u> – Is an action verb used to describe expected accomplishments? <u>Realistic</u> – Is the outcome achievable with given available resources? <u>Time-sensitive</u> – What is the timeframe?
5	Groups • County EOC • ACS @ EOC	County EOC: Assigned to the organization designated as the county-level EOC. This entity serves as the single point of contact for coordination and mutual aid requests during exercise operations.



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	• OA Partners	ACS @ EOC: Assigned to the organization serving as Auxiliary Communications support within the EOC. OA Partners: Assigned to Operational Area partners. Organizations may: • Perform their normal functional role; or • Act as a proxy if the primary organization is not participating
6	Prepared by	Enter the name, ICS position/title, and signature of the person preparing the form. Enter date (month/day/year) and time prepared (24-hour clock).