



Standard Operating Guidelines

Mutual Aid Communications

February 2018

Version 3.0



By signing below, the signatory has read the following Standard Operating Procedures and agrees to its contents.

Approved by:

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Executive Overview

During large-scale events, both planned and unplanned, the need for support from allied agencies is a common practice. The need to communicate between the host agency and the supporting agencies is generally supported through the use of a pre-planned group of radio channels/frequencies/talkgroups. This interoperability is commonly referred to mutual aid communications.

Public safety personnel across the state of Michigan are supported by a variety of land mobile radio (LMR) systems in a various frequency bands. This separation by radio systems and frequency bands is overcome by technology standards, cross band patching systems and prior planning by public safety officials.

Michigan Public Safety officials strongly recommend that these preplanned channels/frequencies/talkgroups be programmed in each radio, so that in the event that interoperable or mutual aid communications is required, the user's radio will be capable of accessing the necessary channels/frequencies/talkgroups. This has to be done in correlation with Incident Command System best practices to help ensure the proper span of control, safety and communications between all resources that may be involved at an incident or special event.



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1 MUTUAL AID COMMUNICATIONS

During large-scale events, both planned and unplanned, the need for support from allied agencies is a common practice. The need to communicate between the host agency and the supporting agencies is generally supported through the use of a pre-planned group of radio channels/frequencies/talkgroups. This interoperability is commonly referred to mutual aid communications.

Public safety personnel across the state of Michigan are supported by a variety of land mobile radio (LMR) systems in a various frequency bands. This separation by radio systems and frequency bands is overcome by technology standards, cross band patching systems and prior planning by public safety officials.

Michigan public safety officials strongly recommend that these preplanned channels/frequencies/talkgroups be programmed in each radio, so that in the event that interoperable or mutual aid communications is required, the user's radio will be capable of accessing the necessary channels/frequencies/talkgroups.

Incident Commanders within an established incident or event using an incident management or command system must ensure that interoperable communications best practices are implemented and followed to ensure the safety of all personnel and the efficient use of resources. This in turn assists with tracking and accountability and further more helps manage span of control.

1.1 MODES

Radio communications systems may operate in several modes. Various modes may be employed at incidents depending on the nature and size of the incident as well as the number of public safety personnel responding and on-scene. The following modes may be utilized at incidents.

Simplex, Talk-Around, Direct - (Radio to Radio)

Most mutual aid channels are simplex channels. Simplex, direct, and talk-around channels are synonymous, these are identified by a (D) at the end of the channel name. These channels are radio-to-radio, are not repeated, and do not use system resources. For example, at a traffic crash scene, construction site, or fire ground, simplex will work very well where there is not a great distance or significant obstacles between users.



Conventional Repeater/Duplex Channels – (Radio to TOWER/REPEATER to Radio)

Some mutual aid channels are equipped with fixed infrastructure repeaters which permit wider area coverage than simplex channels. These channels and related infrastructure may be state wide, such as (e.g.) 8CALL90, regional such as 8TAC91, 8TAC92, and 8TAC93, or based on the needs of adjacent agencies in the VHF and UHF frequency bands.

While these channels may provide extended coverage they also have operational limits if a large number of units attempt to utilize them at an incident. These channels are best used when there is a need for coordination over a large area that cannot be accomplished using a direct/simplex channel.

Mutual Aid Talk Groups

Most trunked radio systems have dedicated mutual aid/interoperability talk groups. On the MPSCS these may be found in the G, H, and I (Law enforcement) Zones. These talk groups may be activated by area by the MPSCS Network Control Center (517-333-5050) upon request by a public safety agency. MPSCS subsystems and other trunking systems also have designated mutual aid and interoperability talk groups which are not included in this publication. While mutual aid talk groups may provide wide area coverage, incidents requiring large numbers of responders in a relatively concentrated area may place burdens on trunked radio systems which result in system busy signals and disrupted communications. These talk groups are best utilized where wider area communications are required.

Mutual Aid Communications Guidelines

During a mutual aid event or incident, the initiating agency will request additional services from allied agencies. The hosting Incident Commander (IC), Communications Unit Leader (COML), Communications Unit Technician (COMT) or designee will identify the most efficient common channels/frequencies/talkgroups for interoperable communications. These channels/frequencies/talkgroups will be used for responding unit communications, staging and assignment. Once on the scene, the IC, COML, or designee will assign working channels as part of an incident communications plan.



General Rules of Use

- **Use of NPSTC standard channel names** - All agencies capable of operating on the NPSTC Interoperability channels shall utilize the standard NPSTC channel naming convention when programming radios and referring to the channels. Where regional, statewide, or multi-state protocols may differ from the NPSTC channel naming or operational parameters, agencies shall program the NPSTC channel names and parameters and the regional, statewide, or multistate channel names and parameters so that radios users may utilize either channel parameters as required. NPSTC standard channel names are identified by '*' in Appendix B.
- **National Incident Management System** – Use the Incident Command System (ICS) compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) when using any regional interoperability resource.
- **Plain Language** – All interoperable communications during multi-agency, multi-discipline incidents will be in plain language. Avoid using radio codes, acronyms, and abbreviations as they may cause confusion between agencies. Ensure that all verbal requests for assistance or backup specify the reason for the request.
- **Unit Identification** – Announce your home agency prior to announcing your unit identifier during interoperable communication situations.
- **Called Party First** – When calling another unit, announce that units call sign followed by your call sign. This method reduces the need to repeat messages (example: "Unit 45 from Unit 48 on Channel 1")
- **Develop the Initial Communications Plan based on the incident organization** – The initial incident communications plan should be based on the following:
 - Nature of the incident
 - Number and disciplines of responders
 - operational area of the incident
 - Potential for the incident to escalate
 - Nature of interoperability required:
 - - frequency bands (VHF, UHF, 700/800 MHz)
 - -Infrastructure available
- **Communications Problem Identification and Resolution** - During activation, report system or communications related problems to the COMT or COML/designee assigned to the incident/event who will follow established agency procedures to resolve the problem.



Mutual Aid Communications Channels/Frequencies/Talkgroups

Overcoming the separation of public safety agencies by disparate radio systems and frequency bands has been pre-planned using technology, cross band patching systems and standardized interoperable communications (mutual aid) channels across the state of Michigan and the Nation. The common channels/frequencies/talkgroups planned for use in Michigan are reflected in the table in **Appendix B**.

2 GATEWAYS

Often times, in events where multiple agencies from multiple jurisdictions respond to a mutual aid request, it is not uncommon to need a gateway to establish a “patch” or “bridge” between legacy communications technologies, allowing responders to utilize their existing radios.

Gateways may be fixed (as in a dispatch Center) or mobile (deployable) are a valuable tool; however, great care should be taken when setting one up with limited knowledge of existing communications resources.

Fixed gateways such as console patching capability may be utilized as an immediate interoperability resource to provide interoperability between responders on disparate systems. Responders and dispatcher center personnel should be aware of the capabilities and limitations of console patching.

Gateways are a valuable tool; however, great care should be taken when setting one up in a remote area with unknown existing communications.

Therefore, it is highly recommended that gateways only be used under the guidance and planning of an onsite qualified COML.

3 AVIATION

Aircraft operated for public safety operational support in Michigan typically are equipped with radio equipment that permits them to operate on various VHF, UHF, 700 MHz, and 800 MHz mutual aid channels as well as MPSCS talk groups. When requesting aviation assets to respond to an incident it is best to designate a mode/channel with the request for the aircraft to contact the appropriate incident responder at the incident.



4 PRIORITIZATION AND USE OF INTEROPERABILITY ASSETS

In response to events or incidents which cross over political jurisdictions, there will potentially be competing demands and priorities for interoperable communications assets.

Until such time as Incident Command/Unified Command is established, the lead agency designee (i.e., communications supervisor/command personnel), in cooperation with assisting agencies, will have the authority to designate the use of interoperable assets. Once Incident Command/Unified Command has been established, Command Staff or COML (when designated) will direct the further coordination and delegation of the interoperable communications assets assigned to the event or incident.

Agencies should judiciously activate needed interoperable assets to effectively respond to the event and/or incident and minimize any negative impact on surrounding agencies or jurisdictions. Specifically, interoperable communications should be attempted with the following order of operations in mind (subject to variability based on the agencies involved and the nature of the event/incident):

1. Leverage face-to-face communications wherever appropriate. For example, co-location of all Command and General Staff at the incident command post (ICP) provides the best direct communications and reduces the demand on interoperability resources.
2. Employ local communications assets until such time as either those assets become taxed or inadequate based on the nature and/or scope of the incident.
3. If response agencies are users of a shared system, utilize that shared system to establish interoperable communications.
4. If response agencies operate on disparate systems, utilize shared or mutual aid channels/talkgroups to establish interoperable communications.
5. If response agencies do not share systems or channels/talkgroups, utilize a gateway solution to establish interoperable communications.
6. Where interoperable communications cannot otherwise be established between responding agencies, utilize swap or cache radios to establish operable communications for responders.
7. If no other method of interoperability can be established, relay communications through staff members.



Priority Level for Two or More Incidents

When the same resources are requested for two or more incidents, resource assignments should be based on the priority levels listed below:

1. Disasters, large scale incidents, or extreme emergencies requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
2. Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property.
3. Incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies.
4. Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
5. Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for agency use.
6. Drills, tests and exercises.

Multiple Simultaneous Incidents with the Same Priority Level

In the event of multiple simultaneous incidents within the same priority level, the resources should be allocated with the following priorities in mind:

1. Incidents with the greatest level of exigency (e.g., greater threat to life or property, more immediate need) have priority over less exigent incidents.
2. Agencies with single/limited interoperable options have priority use of those options over agencies with multiple interoperable options.
3. When at all possible, agencies already using an interoperable asset during an event should not be redirected to another resource.

EXAMPLES

POLICE PURSUIT

STRUCTURE FIRE

MULTIVEHICLE CRASH

POTENTIAL TERRORISM INCIDENT



Appendix A Glossary

Item/Acronym	Definition
Channel	Channel or Mode selection on the selector knob, generally ranging from 1-16.
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Incident Communications Technician
Console Patching	Ability to connect channels via dispatch consoles
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
IC	Incident Commander
ICP	Incident Command Post
ID	Identification
LMR	Land Mobile Radio, two-way radio
MHz	Abbreviation for megahertz. 5 MHz = 5,000,000 Hz or 5,000 kHz.
Mode	Refers to type of operation: simplex, duplex repeater, trunked, etc.
Mutual Aid	Personnel, equipment, or services provided to another jurisdiction
NIMS	National Incident Management System
POC	Point of Contact
SOG	Standard Operating Guideline
VHF	Very High Frequency – For public safety LMR, usually refers to VHF High Band with a range of 136 to 164 MHz
Zone	A group of channels usually ranging from 1-16. Also known as a Bank.



Appendix B Mutual Aid Channels

Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
7CALL50*	Calling Channel	700 MHz
7CALL50D*	Calling Channel Direct Mode	700 MHz
7CALL70*	Calling Channel	700 MHz
7CALL70D*	Calling Channel Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FIRE63*	Fire	700 MHz
7FIRE63D*	Fire Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FIRE64D*	Fire Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FIRE83*	Fire	700 MHz
7FIRE83D*	Fire Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FIRE84D*	Fire Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FTAC1D	Fire Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FTAC2D	Fire Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7FTAC3D	Fire Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7GTAC4D	General Government Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7GTAC5D	General Government Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LAW61*	Law Enforcement	700 MHz
7LAW61D*	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LAW62D*	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LAW81*	Law Enforcement	700 MHz
7LAW81D*	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz



Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
7LAW82D*	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LTAC6D	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LTAC7D	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7LTAC8D	Law Enforcement Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MED65*	EMS	700 MHz
7MED65D*	EMS Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MED66D*	EMS Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MED86*	EMS	700 MHz
7MED86D*	EMS Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MED87D*	EMS Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MOB59*	EMS	700 MHz
7MOB59D*	EMS Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MOB79*	Mobile Repeater	700 MHz
7MOB79D*	Mobile Direct Mode	700 MHz
7MTAC9D	Medical Tactical Direct Mode	700 MHz
7NTAC10D	National Tactical/Itinerant Direct Mode	700 MHz
7NTAC11D	National Tactical/Itinerant Direct Mode	700 MHz
7NTAC12D	National Tactical/Itinerant Direct Mode	700 MHz
7TAC55*	General Public Safety	700 MHz
7TAC55D*	General Public Safety Direct Mode	700 MHz



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Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
7TAC56D*	General Public Safety Direct Mode	700 MHz
7TAC75*	General Public Safety	700 MHz
7TAC75D*	General Public Safety Direct Mode	700 MHz
7TAC76D*	General Public Safety Direct Mode	700 MHz
8CALL90*	Hailing/Calling Channel	800 MHz
8CALL90D*	Hailing/Calling-Direct Mode	800 MHz
8TAC91*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	800 MHz
8TAC91D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	800 MHz
8TAC92*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	800 MHz
8TAC92D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	800 MHz
8TAC93*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	800 MHz
8TAC93D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	800 MHz
8TAC94*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	800 MHz
8TAC94D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	800 MHz
AIRLZ1	MI Statewide Air Landing Zone Ops	800MHz
AIRLZ2	MI Statewide Air Landing Zone Ops	800MHz
EMMD1	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 1	800/MPSCS
EMMD2	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 2	800/MPSCS



Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
EMMD3	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 3	800/MPSCS
EMMD5	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 5	800/MPSCS
EMMD6	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 6	800/MPSCS
EMMD7	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 7	800/MPSCS
EMMD8	MI Statewide Emergency Management Region 8	800/MPSCS
FG-BLACK	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FG-BLUE	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FG-GOLD	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FG-GRAY	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FG-RED	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FG-WHITE	MABAS Fire ground	VHF
FMDTAC1	DNR Fire Tactical	VHF
FMDTAC2	DNR Fire Tactical	VHF
FMDTAC3	DNR Fire Tactical	VHF
HERN/VMED28*	Statewide Hospital to Ambulance	VHF
IFERN	MABAS Response Coordination	VHF
IFERN 2	MABAS Response Coordination	VHF
IR 1	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 2	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 3	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	VHF



Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
IR 4	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 5	(NC1D) IR – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 6	(IR 1D) IR – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 7	(IR 2D) IR – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 8	(IR 3D) IR – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 9	(IR 4D) IR – Federal Interoperability	VHF
IR 10	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 11	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 12	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 13	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 14	Incident Response – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 15	(NC2D) IR – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 16	(IR 10D) IR – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 17	(IR 11D) IR – Federal Interoperability	UHF
IR 18	(IR 12D) IR – Federal Interoperability	UHF
LEIC	Law Enforcement Inter-City	VHF
MABAS 1	MABAS Tactical Talk Groups	800/MPSCS
MABAS 2	MABAS Tactical Talk Groups	800/MPSCS
MABAS 3	MABAS Tactical Talk Groups	800/MPSCS



Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
MABAS 4	MABAS Tactical Talk Groups	800/MPSCS
MABAS 5	MABAS Tactical Talk Groups	800/MPSCS
MABASDSP	MABAS Dispatch	800/MPSCS
MEPSS	MI Statewide Law Enforcement Interoperable	VHF
NC1	Federal Incident Calling Channel	VHF
NC2	Federal Incident Calling Channel	UHF
SARNFM*	Search & Rescue Interoperable	VHF
STATW1	MI Statewide Region 1	800/MPSCS
STATW2	MI Statewide Region 2	800/MPSCS
STATW3	MI Statewide Region 3	800/MPSCS
STATW5	MI Statewide Region 5	800/MPSCS
STATW6	MI Statewide Region 6	800/MPSCS
STATW7	MI Statewide Region 7	800/MPSCS
STATW8	MI Statewide Region 8	800/MPSCS
SWFIRE	Statewide Fire Mutual Aid Channel	VHF
UCALL40*	Hailing Channel	UHF
UCALL40D*	Hailing-Direct Mode	UHF
UTAC41*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	UHF
UTAC41D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	UHF
UTAC42*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	UHF



Channel Name	Primary Use	Frequency Band
UTAC42D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	UHF
UTAC43D*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	UHF
VCALL10*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	VHF
VFIRE21 *	Tactical Channel All Disciplines Direct Mode	VHF
VFIRE22 *	Fire Mutual Aid	VHF
VFIRE23 *	Fire Mutual Aid	VHF
VFIRE24 *	Fire Mutual Aid	VHF
VFIRE25 *	Fire Mutual Aid	VHF
VFIRE26 *	Fire Mutual Aid	VHF
VLAW31*	Law Enforcement Mutual Aid	VHF
VLAW32*	Law Enforcement Mutual Aid	VHF
VMEDTAC	EMS Mutual Aid	VHF
VTAC11*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC12*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC13*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC14*	Tactical Channel All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC36*	Tactical Repeater All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC37*	Tactical Repeater All Disciplines	VHF
VTAC38*	Tactical Repeater All Disciplines	VHF



Channel Name		Primary Use	Frequency Band
ZONE G	EVENT 1	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 2	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 3	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 4	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 5	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 6	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 7	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 8	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 9	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 10	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 11	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 12	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 13	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 14	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE G	EVENT 15	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 16	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 17	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 18	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 19	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 20	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS



Channel Name		Primary Use	Frequency Band
ZONE H	EVENT 21	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 22	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 23	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 24	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 25	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 26	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 27	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 28	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 29	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE H	EVENT 30	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 31	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 32	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 33	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 34	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 35	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 36	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 37	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS



Channel Name		Primary Use	Frequency Band
ZONE I	EVENT 38	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 39	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 40	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 41	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 42	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 43	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 44	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 45	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE I	EVENT 46	LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 47	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 48	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 49	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 50	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 51	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 52	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS



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Channel Name		Primary Use	Frequency Band
ZONE J	EVENT 53	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 54	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 55	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 56	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 57	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 58	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 59	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 60	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 61	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS
ZONE J	EVENT 62	Special Event Talk Groups (Activated by NCC)	800/MPSCS



Marine Channels

Channel Number*	Ship Transmit MHz	Ship Receive MHz	Use
6	156.300	156.300	Intership Safety
9	156.450	156.450	Boater Calling - Commercial and Non-Commercial
13	156.650	156.650	Intership Navigation Safety (Bridge-to-bridge). Ships >20m length maintain a listening watch on this channel in US waters.
16	156.800	156.800	International Distress, Safety and Calling. Ships required to carry radio, USCG, and most coast stations maintain a listening watch on this channel
17	156.850	156.850	State & Local Government Maritime Control
21A	157.050	157.050	USCG only
22A			USCG liaison and Maritime Safety Information Broadcasts; first make contact with USCG on channel 16
23A	157.150	157.150	USCG only
69	156.475	156.475	Non-commercial. Working channel for voluntary boats
72	156.625	156.625	Non-commercial. Working channel for voluntary boats
79A	156.975	156.975	Working channel for working ships –messages must be about business or the needs of the ship
80A	157.025	157.025	Working channel for working ships –messages must be about business or the needs of the ship
81A	157.075	157.075	USCG only- environmental protection operations – not available to commercial and non-commercial vessels for normal use
83A	157.175	157.175	USCG only
*“A” indicates simplex use of the ship station transmit frequency of an international duplex channel. Used in U.S. waters only.			