

ROGUE VALLEY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Document:	Radio Frequency Model Plan
Section & #:	Model Operational Guidelines #3.20
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Developed / Updated By:	Chief Hussey
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Purpose

To establish a model plan for radio frequency use at expanded incidents.

Procedure

Primary dispatch frequencies in Jackson and Josephine Counties are monitored and recorded by their dispatch centers.

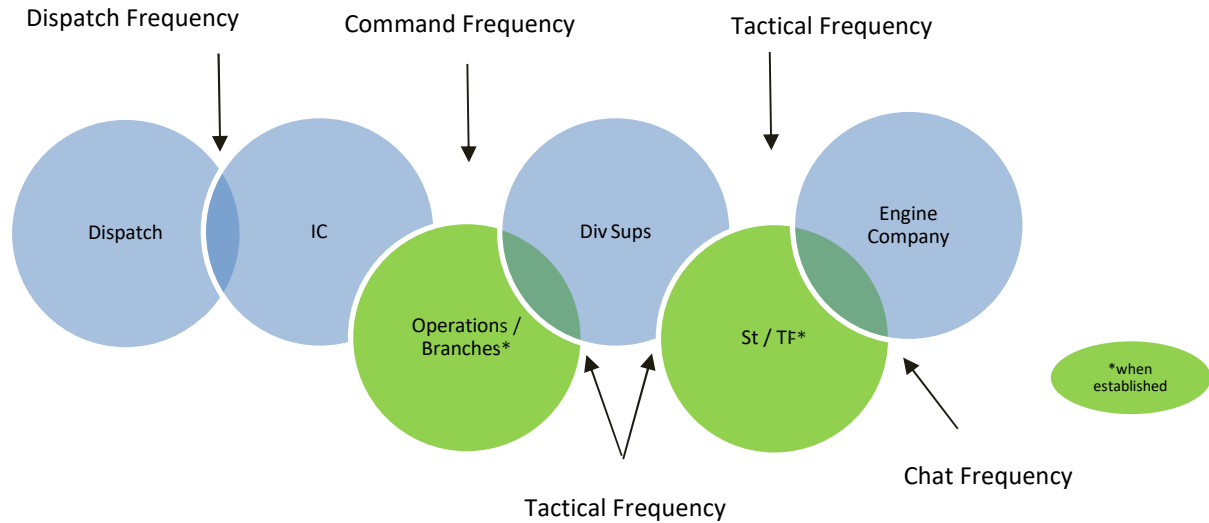
The first arriving unit at an incident will provide an initial radio report of conditions and then initiate the appropriate radio frequency plan based on the complexity of the incident.

General Rules

- Agencies with a dispatch monitored command frequency may switch while responding to the incident. The arrival report will be given on the command frequency.
- Agencies with a non-dispatch monitored command frequency will provide the initial report on the dispatch frequency and then switch to the designated command frequency. Additional arriving units should go on scene on the dispatch frequency then switch to the command frequency for assignment.
- Most first and second alarm incidents may not require any further radio frequencies than use of the designated command channel and the dispatch frequency. (Reminder, most command frequencies are not monitored by dispatch and updates and additional resource requests will need to be made on the dispatch frequency.)
- As the complexity of an incident grows, the need to coordinate frequency assignments becomes critical to maintaining adequate span of control.

- No one person should be asked to monitor more than two frequencies at a time if at all possible.

2 FREQUENCY RULE



Radio Frequency Summary

Dispatch Frequency: The dispatch frequency is the primary frequency used to dispatch an agency on a daily basis. This is the primary monitored and recorded frequency where field units and / or command can reach dispatch to update alarm info, request additional resources, etc. Typically responding units will stay on this channel until they have arrived on scene.

Officers in charge should consider a frequency switch for all incidents that have a multi-unit response or radio traffic that will impair other dispatch traffic. This should be done as early as possible to avoid conflicts with other dispatch traffic.

Command Frequency: The command frequency is selected by the first arriving unit or incident commander. Incident commanders will direct incident activities and communicate with on scene resources and staff positions on this frequency. As the command structure grows tactical frequencies will be assigned as needed.

In an expanded structure, the IC communicates with Section Chiefs or direct reports. The Operations Section Chief / Branch Directors will be required to monitor the command frequency but may switch between the tactical channels as needed on a second radio. If a division or group needs their supervisor, they will communicate on the supervisor's primary frequency.

Tactical Frequencies: Tactical frequencies are for Branches, Divisions, or Groups to communicate within their assignment. A separate tactical frequency should be assigned for each division or group. Supervisors transmit on the command frequency to reach the OPs Chief. This will require supervisors to monitor two frequencies. Under the Model Frequency Plan, the RVFCA continues to support six tactical frequencies in the two county areas. Additional federal interoperability tactical frequencies are available.

Chat Frequency: Frequencies for Strike Teams and Task Forces to communicate within their ST/TF. A separate chat frequency can be assigned for each ST/TF. The ST/TF leader communicates with the Division Group Supervisor on the tactical frequency. This requires them to monitor both the tactical and the chat frequency. The recommended frequencies for chat are V-Tac 10-14 (if a local team state team activation 10-13 may not be available).