Overview of
Sacramento Valley Section ARES

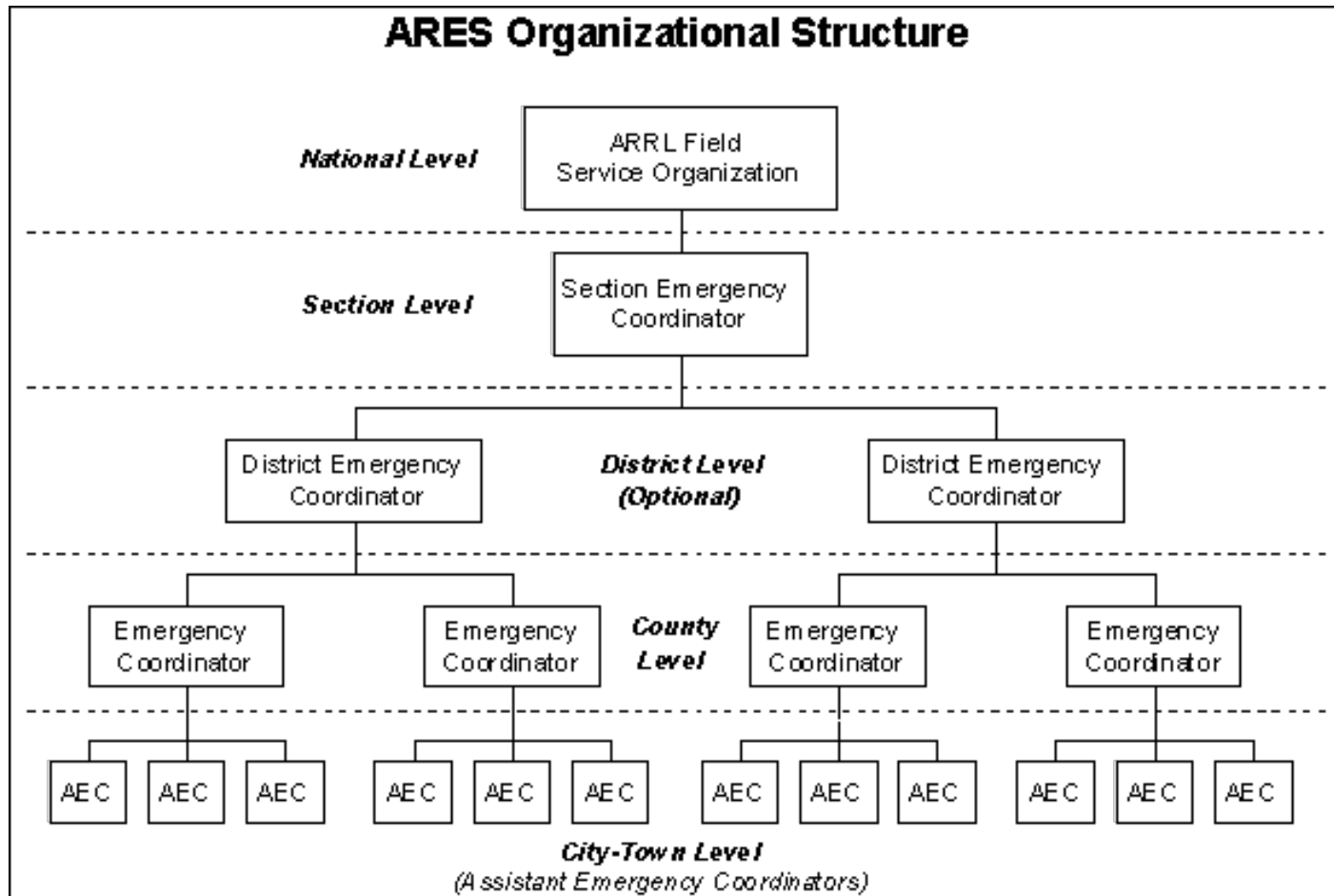## Response to the Carr Fire

July – August 2018

About KG6SJT

- Currently Section Emergency Manager
  - Developer for the Winlink Forms Team
- Previously
  - District 3 Emergency Coordinator (5 counties)
  - Yolo County Emergency Coordinator
- Taught for the Travis Unified School District for 34 years
  - Coordinated the TUSD safety plans
- Software developer for Apple and PostScript developer for Adobe Systems
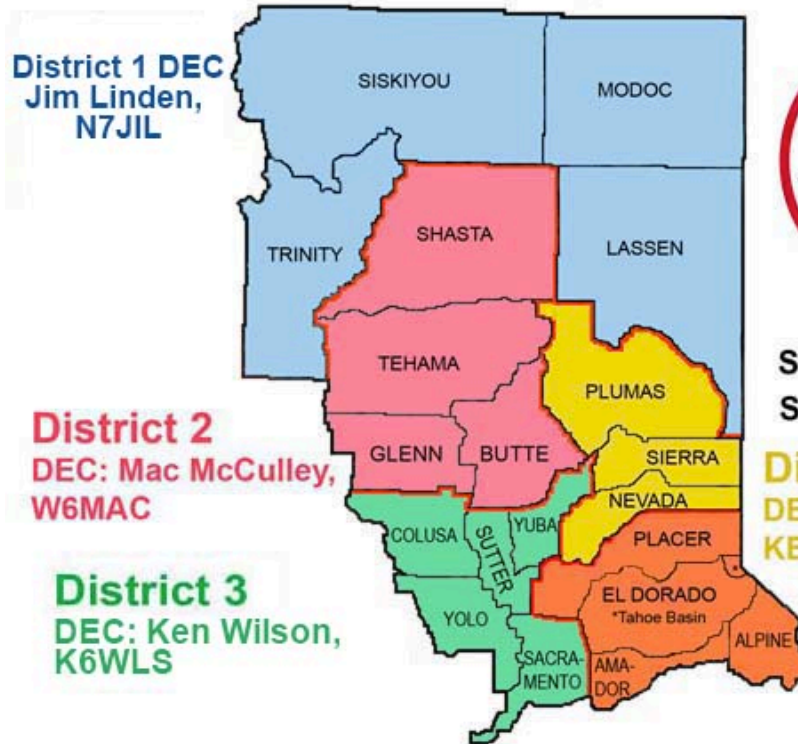
Amateur Radio Emergency - ARES

- Provide emergency communications to:
  - NGOs such as Red Cross
  - Public Service Events
    - Bike Rides, Running Races, Horse Endurance events

- Coordinate with County Emergency Management
  - EOC, Public Health, Hospitals, Fire Stations

Structure of ARES

ARES Organizational Structure

National Level — ARRL Field Service Organization

Section Level — Section Emergency Coordinator

District Level (Optional) — District Emergency Coordinator | District Emergency Coordinator

County Level — Emergency Coordinator | Emergency Coordinator | Emergency Coordinator | Emergency Coordinator

City-Town Level (Assistant Emergency Coordinators) — AEC AEC AEC | AEC AEC AEC | AEC AEC AEC | AEC AEC AEC

Sacramento Valley Section
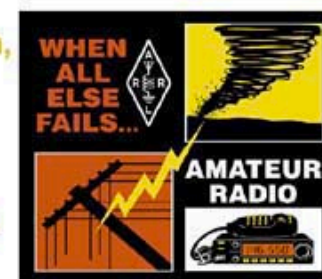
Carr Fire 2018

Carr Fire 2018

- Carr Fire started July 23 due to a flat tire
- July 26, the fire jumped the Sacramento River, making its way into the city of Redding, causing the evacuation of 38,000 people
- As SEC, I emailed all ECs and phoned the EC in Shasta who lives in Redding
- Initially Red Cross did not request ARES assistance

Carr Fire 2018

- July 27 Red Cross asked Michael Joseph KK6GZB who was at the Disaster Operations Center (DOC) if ARES operators were at the shelters.

- Shelter Managers had stated they would call if needed... *HOW*? became the question

- When informed that Shelters hadn't requested ARES, Red Cross contacted the shelters and said they **will** get operators

Red Cross Shelters

- DOC instructed managers that all Shelters have ARES: power was failing, telephones lines were failing and cell phone towers were failing

- ECs were contacted and operators were sent to the 5 initial shelters using mutual assistance

Michael, KK6GZB
At Red Cross station

Initial ARES Shelter Staffing

- Foothill High school near Redding
- Shasta College
- Simpson University
- Crosspoints Community Church
- Trinity High School – Weaverville
- ARC Shadow (traveling to Weaverville)

Red Cross Shelters

- Not always ideal conditions at shelters...

ARES station
in Weaverville.
Initially OUTSIDE

Shelter Communications

- Due to the distance from the shelters to Red Cross DOC in Sacramento, the hope was to use the CARLA radio system of linked repeaters

- Voice comms failed when a major CARLA node was destroyed by the fire

- Winlink became the "go to" mode for data
  - Packet, Telnet, and HF

So What did ARES Provide?

- Backup communications when cell and landlines failed
- Sent daily shelter reports and requests to the Red Cross DOC
  - Shelter client numbers in and outside
  - Food served counts
  - Current shelter staffing levels
  - Messages from shelters to DOC
  - Daily Operational Rosters

Red Cross Shelter Communications

Forms used: ICS-205

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN — ICS205 Vers 9

1. Incident Name: CARR Fire DR# 6719

2. Date / Time Prepared: 2018-7-28 16:02:50

3. Operational Period:
Date From: 28 July 2018 — Date To: 29 July 2018
Time From: 09:00 — Time To: 21:00

4. Basic Radio Channel Use:

Zone Grp.	Ch #	Function	Channel Name / Trunked Radio System Talkgroup	Assignment	RX Freq N or W	RX Tone/NAC	TX Freq N or W	TX Tone/NAC	Mode (A, D, or M)	Remarks
	1	NET CONTROL	CMD 1	SHASTA COLLEGE ARC	146.640	88.5	146.040	CSQ	A	W6STA REPEATER SHASTA ARES
	2	ARC NET	CMD 2	CARLA SYSTEM	146.115	173.8	146.040	CSQ	A	CARLA SYSTEM
	3	UHF NET CONTROL	CMD 3	UHF NET CONTROL	442.075	114.8	442.575	167.9	A	SHASTA REPEATER
	3	SHASTA COLLEGE ARC	DATA	ARC SHELTER	146.050	CSQ	146.050	146.05	A	BCARES WINLINK TERMINAL
									-	
									-	
									-	
									-	

5. Special Instructions

GOOD UNTIL 07:00

Print

6. Approved by (CUL) Name: THEODORE COCHRAN — **IAP Page:** 4 — **Date/Time:** 2018-7-28 16:35:36 — **Express Sender** N6TBC

ICS-213

General Message (ICS 213)		
1. Incident Name: Carr fire Msg #: KJ6KIZ-2		
2. To (Name/Position): Greg Kruckewitt ARES Section EC		
3. From (Name/Position): Michael Madddalena ARES EC		
4. Subject: weaverville high school shelter update7/29	5. Date: 2018-7-29	6. Time: 06:11

7. Message:

I have winlink up through KF6OBI-10 via RDG,KBERR. We lost power some time this morning between 0430-0500. I also meet a member of the local ham radio club and Trinity county ARES his call is KB6YTD Robert.

8. Approved by: Michael Maddalena   Position / Title: ARES EC

9. Reply:

Thank you Michael. Is Robert going to be able to help you out at the shelter? Are there other members of the Trinity group that can take some shifts when you have to leave?
If you get a chance, could you get Red Cross to fill out a shelter Status Report?

ARC 213

American Red Cross - GENERAL MESSAGE	Vers 16

Message ID: LNONH6NI823G
Date: 2018/08/05 15:01
From: KF6VAN
To: KA6ARC; KG6SJT
Cc: KC6SGT
Source: KF6VAN
Subject: //WL2K ARC ICS213-POWER OUTAGE TRINITY SHELTER-DR#

DR #:
Msg #: KF6VAN-9

INCIDENT NAME: CARR
TO: KA6ARC, KC6SGT,KG6SJT
FROM: KF6VAN

SUBJECT: POWER OUTAGE TRINITY SHELTER
DATE/TIME: 2018-8-5 08:00

MESSAGE:

THE TRINITY SHELTER HAS BEEN WITHOUT POWER SINCE 8/4/2018 AT 1945 HOURS.

APPROVED BY: DAVID GROSSMAN
POSITION & TITLE: NET CONTROL

Reply

Thank you Dave.
Will your trailer have a generator for power if the power outage continues?

Replied By	Greg	Position/Title	SV SEC	Date/Time	2018-8-5 10:49

Red Cross Winlink Text Templates

Red Cross was able to create custom Winlink forms for their immediate information needs

To: KA6ARC
Subj:Daily Shelter Report from <Callsign>, <DateTime>
Msg:
Near 1640 hrs. Please go to your shelter managers and get the following information for a report Operations needs to turn in:

Daily Shelter report

Shelter Name:

Date:

Time:

1) Total number of Meals (Dinner, Breakfest, Lunch):

2) Total number of new registrations:

3) Total number of Snacks:

4) Total number of Comfort Kits:

5) Total number of "Cleanups":

6) Name and Number for day/night manager for next day:

6) Number of People sleeping outside of Shelter:

7) Number of Staff Eating both Night and Day Shift:

8) Name and Number for day/night manager for next day:

What Worked…

- ARES Call Out for members in affected counties

- Requests for mutual assistance

- Alternate communication paths found

- Coordination with Red Cross worked

- Red Cross was able to make custom Winlink forms for their immediate information needs

What needs to be Improved

- ARES needs to develop a larger pool of trained members
- Contact information for Surrounding County SEC and ECs
- Train more ARES members on Winlink
- Each county needs to develop ICS-205 with frequency options for their area and neighboring counties
- Red Cross Shelter managers need to be trained to call out ARES and work with ARES

Contact Information

- ARES web site includes training materials

    www.sacvalleyares.org

- Greg Kruckewitt KG6SJT
  kg6sjt@gmail.com
  530-219-0611