Nevada County ARES Summary
Great California Shakeout Earthquake Exercise

Nevada ARES participated in the Great California Shakeout Earthquake Drill with an alert sent out and a net that began at 10:16AM.

We had a total of 10 check-ins which was pretty good for a weekday since about 1/2 of the members work.

We accomplished the goals of the drill:
1) Test response to mid-week event
2) Determine (again) best means of notifying members
3) Re-test text messaging using sacvalleyares.org <http://sacvalleyares.org>
4) Checked-in to Yolo ARES net using packet

The drill was successful as far as it went.

Lessons learned:

1. We need to train more members using packet; there is some interest. Maybe next time, do a 100% battery only, portable antenna, no mobile.
2. We discovered that if we use the email to text message option on www.sacvalleyares.org, Verizon customers had the message truncated at less than 140 characters.
   A bit of research today reveled that if Verizon users use the email-to-text address of:
   phone#@vtext.com, there is a 140 character limit
   phone#@vzwpix.com, you get a 1000 Character limit

   The sacvalleyares.org web site has now added the option for more characters, and the note regarding the options for the email-to-text-gateways for Verizon.

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