

INCIDENT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

1. Incident Name:
Winter Field Day 2026

2. Incident Number:
2026-1

3. Date/Time Initiated:
Date: Jan 24 Time: 0900

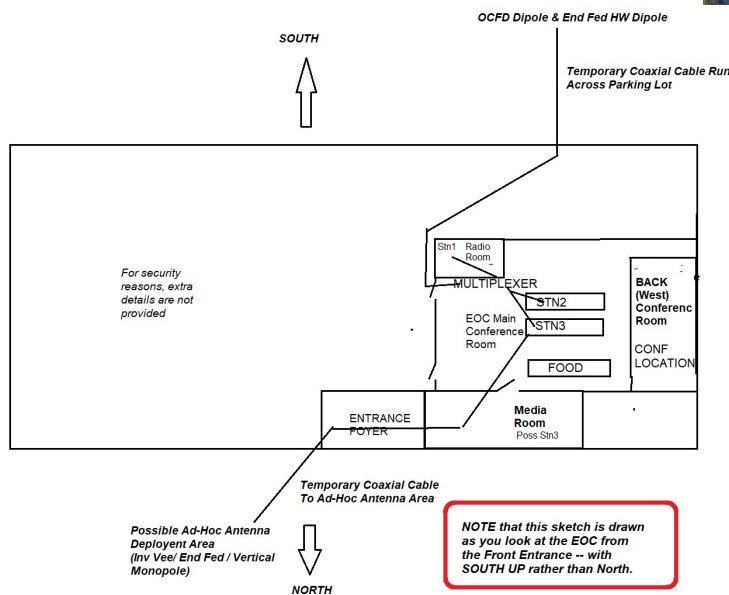
4. Map/Sketch (include sketch, showing the total area of operations, the incident site/area, impacted and threatened areas, overflight results, trajectories, impacted shorelines, or other graphics depicting situational status and resource assignment):

Alachua County Emergency Operations Center 1100 SE 27th Street, Gainesville FL

- Secure, locked facility: **only authorized persons allowed to carry weapons.**
- Enter at **FRONT ENTRANCE** by calling 352 246 6183 or other posted number specifically for Winter Field Day (do not bother the main number posted for general entry, please).
- HAM CONFERENCE** using main conference for plenary session and then back conference room for talks.
- STN1** (Radio room) and **STN 2/3** main conference room; **STN 4** in travel trailer past Sheriff's Bldg (grassy field)



Note that we will need multiple LIFEPO4 batteries to run the stations on alternative power and also at least one INVERTER (and RFI filters & extension cords) to operate all computer and monitors. See APPENDICES for additional information.



5. Situation Summary and Health and Safety Briefing (for briefings or transfer of command):
Recognize potential incident Health and Safety Hazards and develop necessary measures (remove hazard, provide personal protective equipment, warn people of the hazard) to protect responders from those hazards.

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<p>WINTER FIELD DAY / TRAINING CONFERENCE.</p> <p>Scheduled training exercise. No specific hazards. For outdoor work (e.g. antennas, transmission lines) , consider hat, sunscreen, possible hand tools.</p>		
6. Prepared by: Name: g gibby_____ Position/Title: _____Signature: _____		
ICS 201, Page 1		Date/Time: Update 1/22/2026_____

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7. Current and Planned Objectives: <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide safe experience for all. 2. TRAINING for our current members and others who wish to learn. This includes but is not limited to Alachua County staff from the EOC and other county's AUXCOMM personnel. 3. OPPORTUNITIES for our members to assist others in their learning (mentoring/elmering). 4. OPPORTUNITIES for participants to acquire signatures in their ARES or local EOC task books. 5. EXPERIENCE in actual operating conditions, and in using real radio equipment, making multiple contacts in the event sponsored by the Winter Field Day association for these purposes 6. Increased understanding and cohesiveness between participants. </div>		
8. Current and Planned Actions, Strategies, and Tactics:		
Time:	Actions:	
	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026	
7PM	Leadership Review of Plans	
	FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026	
1100	Gordon & David physically put stations in place, check lengths of power and coax etc	
	SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026	
0800-0900	Earl Sloan moves travel trailer into place, Grassy Field	
0900 - 1100	MAIN EOC CONFERENCE ROOM Arrival, Welcoming & Introduction Brief explanation of the stations and radio assets to be brought into action for the effort; Divide into teams to set up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Front Ad-Hoc Antenna Systems, with safe coax across foyer Rear Antenna Team with Antenna Multiplexer on table (by Radio Room with coax to Stations) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Technology Systems, and • Radio Stations (3 Total: 1 VHF/HF in Radio Room; 1-2 HF in the Back Conference Room west of the Main Conference Room) (Alternate Location: in Conference Room if limited number of participants in the Conference) <p>This is a great chance for participants to get hands-on experience, and acquire potential sign-offs on Task Books.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NF4AC 4I NFL</p> <p>Objective Multiplier Targets (WFD selects Objectives to test your capabilities and skills.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OM X 1: 100% Alternative Power (requires multiple LIFEPO4 batteries and inverter(s) to power computers and displays. Batteries must be recharged by generator or solar, not utility power. • OM X 3: Away From Home • OM x1: Deploy 2+ Antennas: Requires deploying TWO new antennas and making at least ONE contact on each (requires documentation of contact) • OM x 1: Winlink Email -- send and receive at least ONE email during operational period. • OM x 1: Copy Winter Field Day Special Bulletin • OM x 6: 3 Contacts each on at least SIX different bands (80/40/20/15/10/6 or 2 meters) • OM x 2: Use at least TWO modes (we normally use 3) • OM x 2: Operate 6 Continuous Hours <p>If we achieve all of the Objectives, our contact-points will be multiplied by 17.</p> <p>1000: POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE OPTION Brett Wallace teaching/tutoring on FLDGI and simplex digital comms in Back Conference Room</p>	
1100	<p>TRAINING CONFERENCE: BACK CONFERENCE ROOM Briefing on the Winter Field Day Association's Rules and suggested techniques for operating.</p> <p>Following the Briefing, participants can visit the various operating stations to observe or participate in contacts</p>	<p>OPERATIONS: RADIO ROOM & MAIN CONF ROOM STATIONS</p> <p>Alachua County ARES(R) personnel will commence operations at the stations at 1100 kick-off time. Operations at 1100 are likely to be on 40 / 20 / 15 / or 10 meter bands.</p> <p>Invite any interested visitors to jump in and operate!</p>

		NOTE: Even visitors without a ham radio license can participate with mentoring per FCC regulations.																														
1200	<p>TRAINING CONFERENCE: BACK CONFERENCE ROOM</p> <p>LUNCH SANDWICHES in Main Conference Room. (Nominal charge \$5)</p> <p>Working with FEMA ICS Forms to Get Proper Reimbursements for your County.</p> <p>After the brief the group can observe the radio operators participating in WFD.</p>	<p>OPERATIONS -- Continuing!</p> <p>LUNCH SANDWICHES in Main Conference Room. (Nominal charge \$5)</p> <p>Invite any interested visitors to jump in and operate!</p>																														
1300	<p>TRAINING CONFERENCE: BACK CONFERENCE ROOM</p> <p>Community Text Messaging with Meshtastic. Reid and Charlie will discuss Meshtastic with the group and then take them outside to demonstrate the product.</p>	<p>OPERATIONS: COPY BULLETIN TRANSMISSION</p> <p>24 January 2026</p> <table> <tr> <td>1800 UTC</td><td>1815 UTC</td><td>1830 UTC</td></tr> <tr> <td>1300 EST</td><td>1315 EST</td><td>1330 EST</td></tr> <tr> <td>CW</td><td>SSB</td><td>PSK31</td></tr> <tr> <td>Freq</td><td>Freq</td><td>Freq</td></tr> <tr> <td>None</td><td>28.590</td><td>28.120</td></tr> <tr> <td>21.050</td><td>21.390</td><td>21.070</td></tr> <tr> <td>18.0775</td><td>None</td><td>None</td></tr> <tr> <td>14.050</td><td>14.290</td><td>14.070</td></tr> <tr> <td>7.050</td><td>7.290</td><td>7.040</td></tr> <tr> <td>3.550</td><td>None</td><td>None</td></tr> </table> <p>OPERATIONS CONTINUE</p>	1800 UTC	1815 UTC	1830 UTC	1300 EST	1315 EST	1330 EST	CW	SSB	PSK31	Freq	Freq	Freq	None	28.590	28.120	21.050	21.390	21.070	18.0775	None	None	14.050	14.290	14.070	7.050	7.290	7.040	3.550	None	None
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1400	<p>TRAINING CONFERENCE: BACK CONFERENCE ROOM</p> <p>Developing a Volunteer Team of Radio Operators. Using Training, Incidents and Events to build a solid volunteer group.</p>	<p>OPERATIONS CONTINUE</p> <p>Invite any interested visitors to jump in and operate!</p>																														
1500	<p>TRAINING CONFERENCE: BACK CONFERENCE ROOM</p> <p>Join for a brief "hot wash" discussion of the day's training and fill out our</p>	<p>OPERATIONS CONTINUE</p> <p>Invite any interested visitors to jump in and operate!</p>																														

	Evaluations This will not take long and visitors are encouraged to definitely get some "time on the air" mentored as needed by our home crew before they depart!		
1600-2300	OPERATIONS CONTINUE: 20 meters is often useful all the way to 2300 to the West Coast NOTE BULLETIN TRANSMISSIONS PLEASE COPY!!! (Frequencies are the SAME as the earlier transmissions) 24 January 2026 0000 UTC 0015 UTC 0030 UTC 1900 EST 1915 EST 1930 EST CW SSB PSK31		
REST PERIOD	When the last die-hard operator heads out, be sure the antennas are disconnected, trash is picked up, chairs are straightened, door to the AV room is OPEN for ventilation, and lights are OUT. (Leave stations in place.) BATTERIES CAN ONLY BE RECHARGED USING ALTERNATIVE POWER (a) onsite 900W generator (chained for security) (b) onsite quiet 3.4kW inverter generator (chained for security) (c) offsite charging from solar power batteries @ Gibby Household		
	SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 2026		
0600-1200	Pastries & Light Breakfast available. Clean up after yourself! Operation Begins as Eastern operators wake up and return to the air!		
1200	End of formal operations -- Brief HOTWASH capture of input followed by TEAR DOWN and CLEAN UP		

Tear-Down / Clean Up activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaxial cables rolled up and returned to owners • Driveway Protectors placed back in Radio Room under West table • Ad-hoc antennas stowed • All trash cleaned up into trash cans • All food removed • All antenna switches to "disconnected" positions • All tables clean • All chairs straightened, phones straightened, seating placards in place • Lights out • Doors closed and locked
6. Prepared by: Name: _____ Position/Title: _____ Signature: _____	
ICS 201, Page 2	Date/Time: _____

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9. Current Organization (fill in additional organization as appropriate) Incident Commander: Gordon Gibby MD KX4Z Liaison: PIO: Logistics Chief (Informatics): Earl McDow Operations Chief: Finance & Accounting:		
6. Prepared by: Name: _____ Position/Title: _____ Signature: _____		
ICS 201, Page 3	Date/Time: _____	

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10. Resource Summary:					
Resource	Resource Identifier	Date/ Time Ordered	ETA	Arrived	Notes (location/assignment/status)
STN 1				<input type="checkbox"/>	Use established equipment, radio room
STN 2				<input type="checkbox"/>	Use volunteer go-box equipment
STN 3				<input type="checkbox"/>	Use EOC go-box
300-plus feet of RG8 or LMR400 coax	COAX			<input type="checkbox"/>	To be used to connect stations and antennas including antenna multiplexer
Hi Bands Multiplexer				<input type="checkbox"/>	With bandpass filters, 20/15/10
Lo Bands Multiplexer				<input type="checkbox"/>	With bandpass filters, 160/80/40
RG-316 coax				<input type="checkbox"/>	Sufficient to exit front foyer (25 feet obtained)
Lightweight coax				<input type="checkbox"/>	Sufficient to reach inverted vee or ground-mounted vertical
Carbon Fiber Mast				<input type="checkbox"/>	For Ad Hoc antennas
Ground mounted vertical with radials				<input type="checkbox"/>	For upper bands
Off center fed dipole				<input type="checkbox"/>	40 meter for use on 40/20/15/10
Antenna Analyzer				<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multiple Coaxial cable adapters				<input type="checkbox"/>	
LIFEPO4 batteries				<input type="checkbox"/>	Expect to need 3 or more 100 Ahr
ADDITIONAL CHARGERS					Possible need to recharge 3-4 LIFEPO4 Batteries! 1. Can use variable output voltage MFJ power supplies

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10. Resource Summary:		
		2. GLG has 20A charger 3. Others?
Generator or solar power to recharge batteries		<input type="checkbox"/> Charge on site using quiet generator or cease operations and charge from Gordon's solar power system??
Low Noise Inverter		<input type="checkbox"/> Required for ALL computers or use ONE and distribute power with extension cords
AC RFI filters		<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptops		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing Stn1; Add Stn 2/3
Database and WIFI system		<input type="checkbox"/> Earl McDow Logistics
CAUTION TAPE		<input type="checkbox"/>
DUCT TAPE		<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Prepared by: Name: _____ Position/Title: _____ Signature: _____		
ICS 201, Page 4		Date/Time: _____

INFORMATICS INFORMATION	
DATABASE COMPUTER NAME	
DATABASE COMPUTER IP #	
GPS TIMING IP NUMBER:	
N3FJP NF4AC WFD Registration	48140

CHEATSHEET FOR USING CANNED TEXT PSK31

<< FOR RUNNING CQ >>				<< FOR HUNT & POUNCE >>			BOTH (LOG!)
F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8
RUN CQ	ANS EXCH	EXCH ONLY	QSL QRZ?	POUNCE	QSL EXCH	AGN?	LOG/CLR
CQ WFD NF4AC WFD K	<CALL> de NF4AC 4I NFL K	4I 4I NFL NFL	QSL TU QRZ WFD NF4AC WFD K	NF4AC	QSL TU 4I 4I NFL NFL K	AGN?	(logs contact and clears boxes)

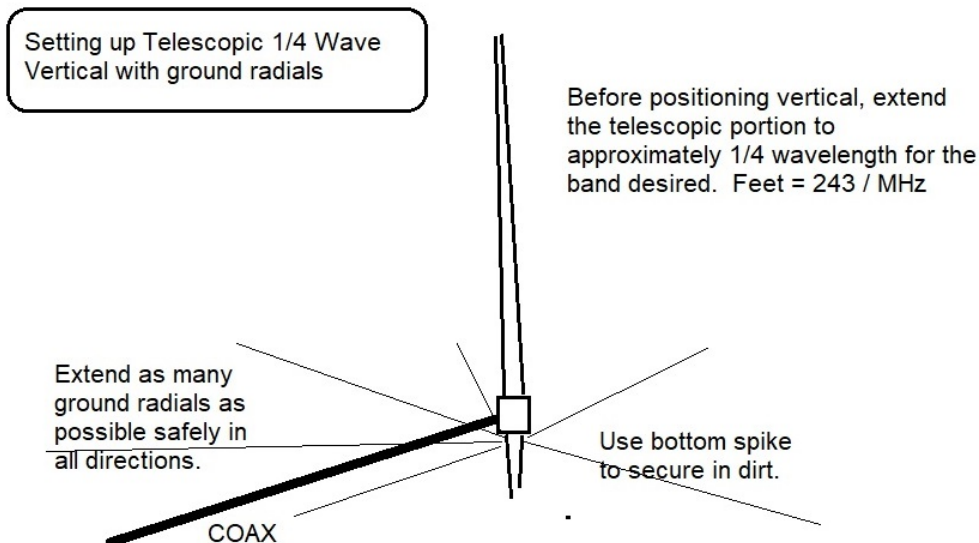
RUNNING CQ TYPICAL SEQUENCE	HUNT & POUNCE TYPICAL SEQUENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> F1 followed by <u>typing in answering station callsign</u>, F2 to answer automatically, <u>Type In their Exchange</u>, F4 to confirm and QRZ? F8 to log and clear! (Don't forget!) EXTRA: Use F3 only if they need you to send your Exchange again 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Type in the CQ station's Call</u> (and anything else you can get) F5 to ANSWER THEIR CQ <u>Finish typing in their exchange when they answer you</u> F6 to confirm and send YOUR exchange When they confirm, hit F8 and you're done! EXTRA: Use F7 only to request their exchange again if you didn't catch it.

APPENDIX: Suggested Information On Ad-Hoc Antennas

- There is almost no limit to the kinds of ad-hoc emergency antennas that can be used for radio communication. Horizontal antennas have an advantage for ionospheric skip of up to about 500 miles, whereas vertical antennas are in the forefront for long-distance, such as 2000 miles.
- Be sure to reduce possible risk to the public as much as possible. Keep wires out of walkways and avoid wires that persons might walk into or come into contact with-- position elevated wires always above head height.
- Do NOT tie ropes to others' vehicles. Use trees or shrubs or your own property.

SIMPLE QUARTER WAVE VERTICAL

In the middle of the day, when the Sun is high in the sky and there is maximum ionization of the F layer, the 20/15/ and even 10meter bands can be hot with action -- and a simple telescoping vertical can work well. At least 4 radials make it much more efficient. Making it approximately 1/4 wavelength long vertically will reduce the SWR burden considerably. **Don't try using an antenna analyzer if other transmitters are active -- you can destroy the sensitive mixer diodes in the front end of the analyzer.**

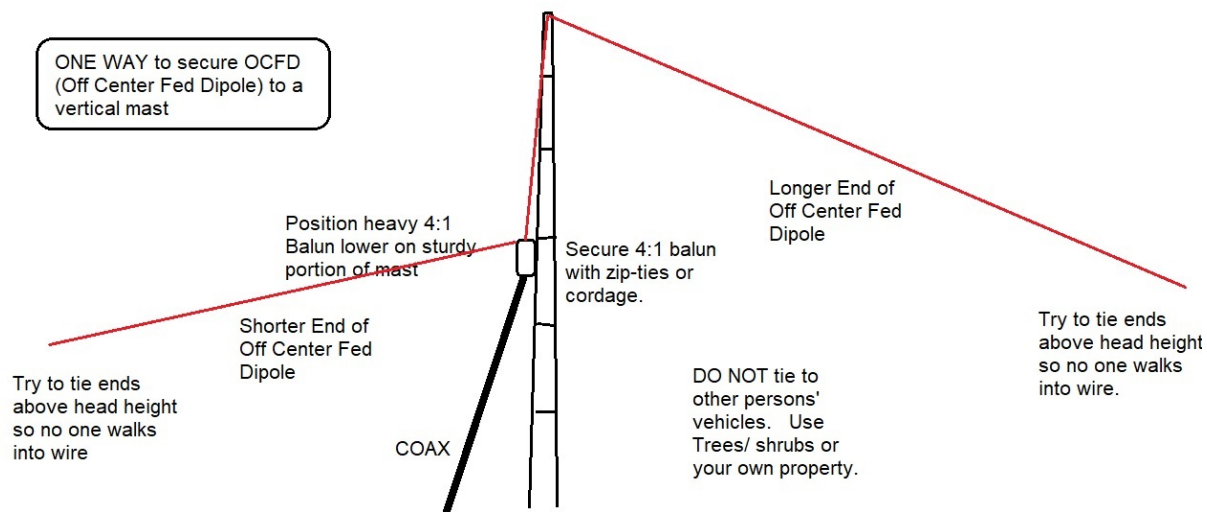


Approximate 1/4 wavelengths:

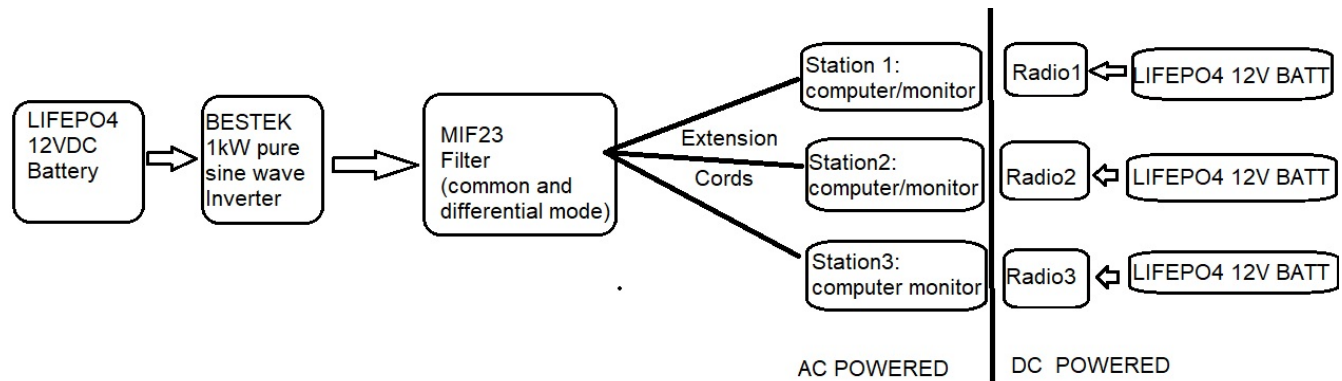
20 meters	14.1 MHz	16.6 feet
15 meters	21.1 MHz	11.1 feet
10 meters	28.2 MHz	8.3 feet

MAST-MOUNTED INVERTED V

- If you have access to a mast, there are many kinds of center-fed, off-center-fed or end-fed antennas that can be used, resonant or non-resonant.
- Again be sure that all parts of the antenna are above head height where someone might walk into them. The ENDS of resonant half-wave antennas develop significant RF voltages when transmitting and can cause RF burns in the worse-case. Avoid BARE WIRES at the ends and possible contact with curious personnel.



POWER SYSTEMS



RECHARGING OPTIONS

The Inverter, if running 3 computers/monitors, is likely to go through a 100Ahr Lifepo4 battery every 9 hours or so.

Winter Field Day Alternative Power multiplier requires that recharging be done separate from Utility Power. Our Options include:

- Bringing my older, red 900W generator that has NO ELECTRONICS, but is able to run LIFEPO4 Chargers. It is only about 40 lbs and reasonably Quiet. However, we might have to run it during the night. (I repaired it a year or two ago but would need to check its carburetor to see if it will run properly)
- Bringing my quiet inverter 3.4kW Champion which makes RF NOISE if you connect to it with a radio, but might be radio-quiet if only charging batteries. It runs slowly on "econo" mode and doesn't make much noise, goes approx 6-9 hours on one tank of fuel. I recently repaired the carburetor, and it should be good to go, electric start. We might have to run it during the night also
- Carrying LIFEPO4 batteries home to Gibby house (40mins) and simply connect them to the SOLAR POWER AC INVERTER which has oodles of power and can charge them SILENTLY overnight.

Finding Enough Chargers

In ALL of these options, I have TWO 20-Amp chargers and would borrow TWO 10Amp chargers from David Huckstep and still probably need 1-2 more chargers to keep up with all our batteries.