

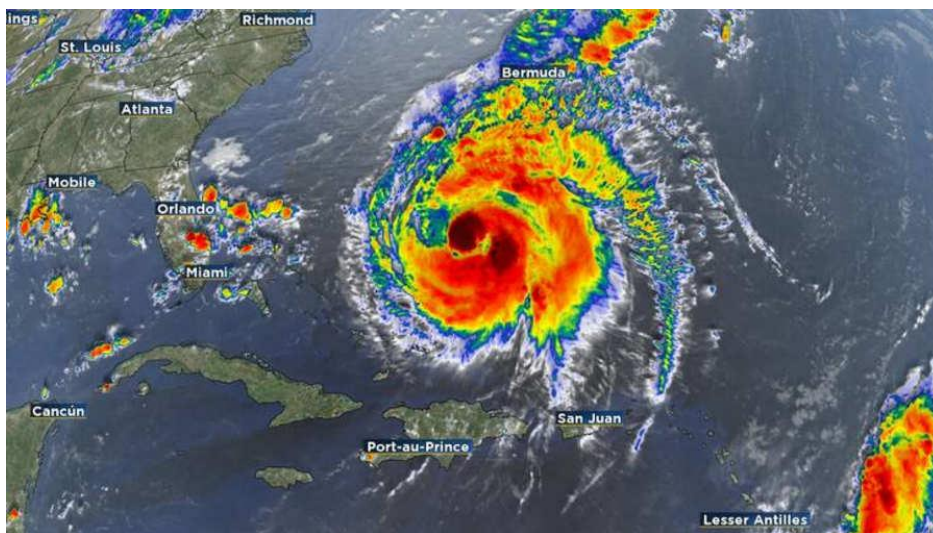


Eastern Healthcare Preparedness Coalition



2026 Hurricane Communication and Information Sharing Exercise (COMMEX) #010 **Exercise Plan**

Event Date:
June 25th 2026



Major Hurricane Impact for North Carolina

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HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. The information gathered in this SITMAN should be shared as you see fit. This document should be used as a guide for exercise. Reproduction of this document, in whole or in part, is allowed, however please keep within your agency.
2. For more information, please consult the following points of contact (POCs):

Exercise Director

Name	Matt McMahon
Title	Disaster / Communication Specialist
Agency	Eastern Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
Street Address	224 Industrial Blvd
City, State ZIP	Greenville, NC 27834
(Office)	252-847-0564
(Cell)	252-214-5968
E-mail	matthew.mcmahon@ecuhealth.org

Agency POCs

Name	Stephanie Seals
Title	Healthcare Preparedness Coordinator
Agency	Eastern Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
Street Address	224 Industrial Blvd
City, State ZIP	Greenville NC, 27834
(Office)	252-847-3002
E-mail	Stephanie.seals@ecuhealth.org

Name	Charlie Ingle
Title	Eastern NC AUXCOMM Coordinator
Agency	NC AUXCOMM / NCEM
Street Address	3802B Highway 58 North
City, State ZIP	Kinston, NC 28502
(Cell)	252-524-2056
E-mail	inglec16@gmail.com

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Exercise Website Information

[MAIN EXERCISE APP/WEBPAGE LINK](#)



INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The exercise is designed to give public safety, healthcare and auxiliary communication groups an opportunity to work from their home base/agency or field mobilize resources in preparation of a major hurricane impact. Players will be exposed to current communication challenges, plans, and capabilities for, not only a local response, but a response to a large-scale critical incident in North Carolina. This exercise is not meant to evaluate any one particular agency or group. Instead, it is designed to show functional strengths and gaps to assist with preparedness for the 2026 Hurricane season.

Exercise Goal and Objectives

This exercise is designed to achieve the following goal(s):

- Exercise the communications policies, procedures, plans, available assets, and capabilities used by local, regional and state agencies in response to a land falling hurricane in North Carolina.

The Exercise will focus on the following objectives:

- Engaging stakeholders on interoperable communication system(s), to leverage the use of the interoperable channels and talk groups available.
- Identify redundant interoperable communication capabilities in the event of major disruptions to the primary communication system(s).
- Encourage agencies to develop, test and evaluate their PACE plans for voice and data.
- Demonstrate the ability of participating public safety and AUXC personnel to rapidly and effectively establish interoperable communications prior to, and following a hurricane impact.
- Identify, test and evaluate backup satellite telephone communications
- Identify and demonstrate the use of the communications plan(s) and associated capabilities that will be used in response to major disaster and preplanned events.
- Enhance the overall readiness of the region and state in preparation for the 2026 Hurricane season.
- Exercise ESAR-VHP (EHPC requirement)
- Evaluate the status of the VIPER SIEC Template update with agencies across the state.

Hospitals:

LIST WILL BE COMPILED POST EX	

State Agencies:

LIST WILL BE COMPILED POST EX	

Federal Agencies:

LIST WILL BE COMPILED POST EX	

NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations):

LIST WILL BE COMPILED POST EX	
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Auxiliary Communications / SHARES:

List will be provided in Appendix

Roles and Responsibilities

Players

Players respond to the situation presented based on current knowledge of response procedures, plans, cross-jurisdictional agreements, and communications capabilities. Players wishing to mobilize to a known target in their jurisdiction are asked to pre-coordinate that with the exercise director to ensure a safe exercise environment. Players remotely mobilized downrange will follow the same pathway as remote players. Remote virtual players will operate from their home base during the allotted remote testing timeframe. All Players are encouraged to participate fully and to think through the potential ramifications of the scenario to their agency.

Observers

Observers do not participate in exercise play during the moderated discussion period. Throughout this time, Observers should instead take written notes of the jurisdictional, training, and technological interoperability gaps noted during exercise play. There are no formal observers scheduled with the Exercise Planning Team as of this writing.

Remote Facilitators

Remote Facilitators provides situation updates and keeps the exercise moving. The Remote Facilitator also keeps exercise play focused, provides additional information as needed, and ensures questions are resolved as they develop.

Exercise Control

Exercise Control will provide overall exercise direction and address challenges as they arise. Again, this exercise is a hybrid from normal industry standards. Multiple Exercise Control points will be utilized for this exercise. All exercise control points will be coordinated through direct conference bridges by audio/video and radio.

COMU Position Task Books (PTBs)

Due to the complexity of this exercise, position task books will only be signed for in-person players that have their own SIEC credentialed evaluator. Virtual players have the ability for PTB credit if the task is evaluated by an SIEC credentialing manual approved evaluator. EHPC Exercise Staff will not be signing off PTB tasks or designating who/what evaluators meet the credentialing manual requirement. Please refer to the NC COMU Credentialing Manual for further information. As a reminder, the main goal of this exercise is to ensure Hurricane season preparedness for North Carolina.

Participants are not authorized to deploy for this exercise unless you received specific instructions to do so. Any personnel working MCVs away from their Home Base must coordinate this by June 22nd 2026 by 17:00est with the Exercise Director.

Assumptions and Artificialities

Several assumptions and artificialities are necessary to complete the exercise in the time available. During this exercise, the following apply:

- The tasks, and the order that they are presented, are plausible.
- There are no trick questions or hidden agendas.
- Some necessary artificiality exists in order to approximate communications within the confines of the exercise environment.
- Treat the tasks as if it were occurring in the real world. Specifically, players need to describe their actions using currently existing communications assets, jurisdictional agreements, and procedures.

Exercise Rules

There is no single accepted solution.

This is an open, safe, stress-free environment.

- Varying viewpoints, even respectful disagreements, are expected and encouraged.
- Respond based on your knowledge of current communication capabilities, plans, and in-place assets. Do not assume future capabilities or “wish lists.”
- Players should make the best decision based on the circumstances presented in the exercise play.
- If a communications resource is needed, but would not be a real world capability, note the gap.
- Avoid using workarounds if they would not be part of your established communications system.
- Decisions are not precedent setting and may not necessarily reflect your organization’s final position on a given issue. Treat this as an opportunity to discuss and present multiple options and possible solutions.

Process

All personnel will be required to attend the initial exercise virtual briefing (Link will be sent out the morning of the exercise). This briefing will be pre-recorded and available on the EHPC website and mobile smartphone app. The briefing will provide the needed exercise information and safety information. All personnel will be required to listen to the entire briefing and report the information letter designator in required documentation. Example- at some point during the briefing a phonetic letter will be provided such as “Information HOTEL”. One requirement will be to provide the briefing letter on the MSEL to ensure you listened to the briefing information.

Step 1: Watch Briefing in its entirety:

Step 2: Begin MSEL (Task List) with first task link based on your discipline lane. (If you become separated from the forms, there is a master link document that can be found on the Exercise Webpage). You can simply click on the link of the task you were on and continue.

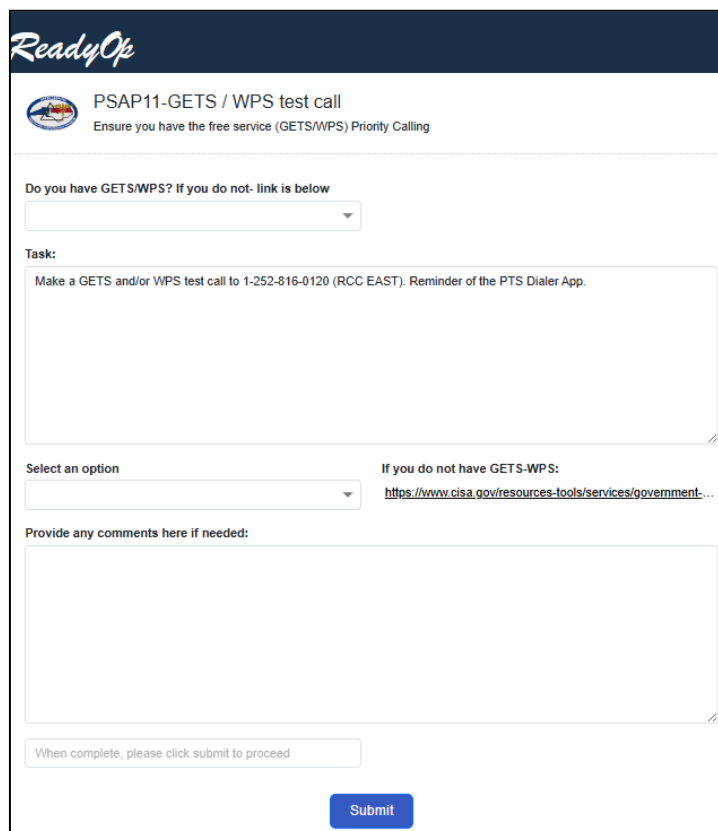
Exercise webpage:

<https://easternhealthcareprepare.subspla.sh/vqy58t5>

Helpful hints to make your efforts easier

- Refer to the exercise webpage for any additional information needed
- Ensure you watch the whole briefing
- Document your ICS214 as you normally would during an operational period and be ready to submit at the conclusion of the exercise. This is required for full credit.

Below: This is an example of ReadyOp Task (Form). Simply answer the questions or task at hand then click submit at the bottom of the page. You will automatically be directed to the next task. Do not close your browser. If you are separated from this automated process, you can use the MASTER LINK document on the webpage to directly proceed from where you left off. Try to keep a mental note of what task you are on as you progress through the exercise.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "ReadyOp" with the sub-header "PSAP11-GETS / WPS test call". Below the title is a small icon of a person on a phone and the text "Ensure you have the free service (GETS/WPS) Priority Calling". The form contains the following elements:

- A dropdown menu with the text "Do you have GETS/WPS? If you do not- link is below".
- A "Task:" section with a text box containing the instruction: "Make a GETS and/or WPS test call to 1-252-816-0120 (RCC EAST). Reminder of the PTS Dialer App."
- A "Select an option" dropdown menu.
- A link: "If you do not have GETS-WPS: <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/services/government...>
- A text box for "Provide any comments here if needed:".
- A footer note: "When complete, please click submit to proceed".
- A blue "Submit" button.

This exercise is designed to be aided by the use of a computer. In the event you lose that ability or are unable to progress, there is a PDF you can print out that has all the tasks in sequential order. It will be somewhat limited due to missing the interactive portions. These PDFs can be found in the Exercise Documents section of the COMMEX webpage, separated by lanes.

Initial Briefing Information

Initial Briefing link will be sent out via email the morning of the exercise before 08:30EST. In the event a player does not receive the Initial Briefing, check the spam and junk folder in your email. Another option is you can download the Briefing directly from the webpage link after 08:30est on June 17th 2025. <https://easternhealthcareprepare.subspla.sh/vqy58t5>

Hotwash information

Following the completion of the exercise, all participants will need to complete the last task that includes a hotwash and feedback form on the exercise.

Exercise Control Contact Information based on participation type

The following facilitator/Evaluators contact info is below. Feel free to reach out for issues.

PUBLIC SAFETY, PSAP, USCG, HOSPITALS, ITSL, OTHER-SPECIALITY LANES	
Facilitator	Matt McMahon
Phone number	252-847-0564
Radio Talkgroup	VIPER - State Event HOTEL 4 (Callsign RCCEast)
Email	commexpublicsafety@gmail.com

AMATEUR RADIO / AUXCOMM / SHARES LANE	
Facilitator	Charlie Ingle
Phone number	252-524-2056
Radio Talkgroup	VIPER – DPREAST TG15 (Callsign RCCEast)
Operations Email (AUXC)	commexauxcomm@gmail.com

Please consult the MSEL for specific contact points based on your lane of participation

General email for questions/concerns during the exercise: commexpublicsafety@gmail.com

Schedule

Times will be adjusted as needed.

June 25th 2026

0900-0920 Initial Exercise Briefing STARTEX when complete

12:00-12:30 Working lunch (Independent / on own)

12:30-15:00 Exercise play continues

15:00 Paperwork submission/Complete survey

ENDEX

Appendix A Exercise Planning Team

EPT Member	Agency	Lane(s)

Appendix B Useful quick reference items

DPR Crosswalk Chart

The following chart shows the relationship between the original 9 zone layout with the new 3 zone layout with the new talkgroup name compared to the old name. This chart will come in handy for the use of these talkgroups during the transitional period when responders might need to communicate with others who have not updated the programming of their radios.

NEW NAME	OLD NAME	Alt OLD NAME	NEW NAME	OLD NAME	Alt OLD NAME	NEW NAME	OLD NAME	Alt OLD NAME
DPREAST1	DPR1TG1	DPR 1-1	DPRCENT1	DPR4TG1	DPR 4-1	DPRWEST1	DPR7TG1	DPR 7-1
DPREAST2	DPR1TG2	DPR 1-2	DPRCENT2	DPR4TG2	DPR 4-2	DPRWEST2	DPR7TG2	DPR 7-2
DPREAST3	DPR1TG3	DPR 1-3	DPRCENT3	DPR4TG3	DPR 4-3	DPRWEST3	DPR7TG3	DPR 7-3
DPREAST4	DPR1TG4	DPR 1-4	DPRCENT4	DPR4TG4	DPR 4-4	DPRWEST4	DPR7TG4	DPR 7-4
DPREAST5	DPR1TG5	DPR 1-5	DPRCENT5	DPR4TG5	DPR 4-5	DPRWEST5	DPR7TG5	DPR 7-5
DPREAST6	DPR2TG1	DPR 2-1	DPRCENT6	DPR5TG1	DPR 5-1	DPRWEST6	DPR8TG1	DPR 8-1
DPREAST7	DPR2TG2	DPR 2-2	DPRCENT7	DPR5TG2	DPR 5-2	DPRWEST7	DPR8TG2	DPR 8-2
DPREAST8	DPR2TG3	DPR 2-3	DPRCENT8	DPR5TG3	DPR 5-3	DPRWEST8	DPR8TG3	DPR 8-3
DPREAST9	DPR2TG4	DPR 2-4	DPRCENT9	DPR5TG4	DPR 5-4	DPRWEST9	DPR8TG4	DPR 8-4
DPREAST10	DPR2TG5	DPR 2-5	DPRCENT10	DPR5TG5	DPR 5-5	DPRWEST10	DPR8TG5	DPR 8-5
DPREAST11	DPR3TG1	DPR 3-1	DPRCENT11	DPR6TG1	DPR 6-1	DPRWEST11	DPR9TG1	DPR 9-1
DPREAST12	DPR3TG2	DPR 3-2	DPRCENT12	DPR6TG2	DPR 6-2	DPRWEST12	DPR9TG2	DPR 9-2
DPREAST13	DPR3TG3	DPR 3-3	DPRCENT13	DPR6TG3	DPR 6-3	DPRWEST13	DPR9TG3	DPR 9-3
DPREAST14	DPR3TG4	DPR 3-4	DPRCENT14	DPR6TG4	DPR 6-4	DPRWEST14	DPR9TG4	DPR 9-4
DPREAST15	DPR3TG5	DPR 3-5	DPRCENT15	DPR6TG5	DPR 6-5	DPRWEST15	DPR9TG5	DPR 9-5

Appendix C Links for more information

EHPC APP- COMMEX 2024 Document Webpage (web view):

<https://subsplash.com/easternhealthcareprepare/media/ms/+xkh5nfj>

EHPC App Information:

<https://subsplash.com/easternhealthcareprepare/app>

NIFOG 2.0 (Also an app)

[https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIFOG%20Ver%202.0 508%20version FINAL 9 2 3 2021 %28signed%29.pdf](https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIFOG%20Ver%202.0%20508%20version%20FINAL%209%202021%20signed%20.pdf)

AUXFOG (Auxiliary Communications)

[https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/AUXFOG%20June%202016%20-%20508%20Reviewed%20-%20Final%20%282-16-17%29 0.pdf](https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/AUXFOG%20June%202016%20-%20508%20Reviewed%20-%20Final%20%282-16-17%29%20.pdf)

NC WEBEOC

<https://www.ncsparta.gov/eoc7/>

North Carolina Multi-Hazard Threat Database

<https://www.ncmhtd.com/oems/>

DHS-CISA GETS/WPS

<https://www.cisa.gov/about-pts>

DHS-CISA SHARES HF Information:

<https://www.cisa.gov/shared-resources-shares-high-frequency-hf-radio-program>

Appendix D Exercise ICS205 (All lanes except AUXC)



STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM 100

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ICS 205)

1. Incident Name: 2026 Hurricane COMEX (All lanes except AUXCOMM)				2. Date/Time Prepared: Date: 6-17-26 Time: 08:00				3. Operational Period: Date From: 6-25-26 Date To: 6-25-26 Time From: 08:00 Time To: 20:00			
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/NA C	Mode (A, D, or M)	Remarks	
		COMMAND	HOTEL 4 / VIPER	RCCE					D	PRIMARY RCCE OPERATIONS	
		TACTICAL	LIMA 4 / VIPER	RCCE					D	RCCE OPERATIONS	
		TACTICAL	DPREAST15/ VIPER	RCCE					D	RCCE OPERATIONS	
		TACTICAL	EHPC DISASTER - VMK79100 / VIPER	HCC					D	EHPC (HCC) HAILING	
		AIR TO GROUND	AIR OPS 1 / VIPER	A2G					D	AIR TO AIR AND AIR TO GROUND OPERATIONS	
		AIR TO GROUND DIRECT	7AG88D / 8TAC92D / UTAC41D / VTAC11	A2G	Refer to NIFOG for Frequency Information				A/D	AIR TO GROUND BASED ON BAND AVAILABLE	
		TACTICAL	VTAC36	HIGH BIRD					A	REGIONAL HIGH BIRD RELAY	
Special Remarks: ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BEGIN AND END WITH "THIS IS AN EXERCISE". CALLSIGN OF RCCE (REGIONAL COORDINATION CENTER EAST) IS "RCC-EAST". USE YOUR CALLSIGN AS NORMAL. IF UNSURE- USE PLAIN ENGLISH. ANY TYPE OF REAL WORLD EMERGENCY WILL HALT THE EXERCISE. USE "REAL WORLD EMERGENCY" FOLLOWED BY LOCATION, IDENTIFICATION AND PROBLEM. VIPER HOTEL 4 IS CONSIDERED THE MAIN OPERATIONAL TALKGROUP FOR THIS EXERCISE AND OTHERS SECONDARY FOR VARIOUS INJECTS. ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE (RCC EAST) 252-816-0123 IF NEEDED. AUXCOMM LANE HAS SEPARATE ICS205 FOR THEIR ASSIGNED RESOURCES.											
6. Prepared by (Communications Unit Leader): Name: MCMAHON - EHPC Signature: MM											
ICS 205			IAP Page			Date/Time: 062526 0800					

Appendix E ICS205 (AUXC Only)



STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM 100 INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ICS 205)

1. Incident Name: 2026 Hurricane COMDEX (AUXCOMM LANE ONLY)		2. Date/Time Prepared: Date: 6-25-26 Time: 08:00		3. Operational Period: Date From: 6-25-26 Time From: 08:00		Date To: 6-25-26 Time To: 20:00				
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/NA C	Mode (A, D, or M)	Remarks
		COMMAND	HF PRIMARY	N4EBO	VARIOUS	NA	VARIOUS	NA	A	PRIMARY VOICE HF
		TACTICAL	MULTI - SHARES	NNB4NC	VARIOUS	P3/P4	VARIOUS	P3/P4	D	SHARES HF RMS DATA
		TACTICAL	CLUSTER - EHPC	N4EBO	LINK SYS	VARIOUS	LINK SYS	VARIOUS	D	EHPC CLUSTER DMR
		TACTICAL	DOWN EAST 440	N4EBO	LINK SYS	VARIOUS	LINK SYS	VARIOUS	A	DOWN EAST UHF LINK
Special Remarks: CALLSIGN TO RCCEAST IS N4EBO. SHARES CALLSIGN IS NNB4NC. SHARES RMS LOCATED AT RCCE AND CAN BE FOUND IN WL2K STATION LIST. HF VOICE CHANNEL USED WILL BE DEPENDENT ON BAND CONDITIONS. ANTICIPATE 40/60/80. EHPC CLUSTER DMR IS LINKED TO ECHOLINK AND TGIF. ACU GATEWAY AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL PATCHING. ALL RADIO TRAFFIC SHOULD BE PROCEEDED AND ENDED WITH "THIS IS AN EXERCISE".										
6. Prepared by (Communications Unit Leader): Name: MCMAHON - EHPC								Signature: MM		
ICS 205		IAP Page _____		Date/Time: 062526 0800						

Appendix F PACE Flow Reference

P: **Voice-** Phone: 252-520-4923

252-520-4932 Comms room direct

Data- F 252-520-4927

A: **Voice-**Viper- EBO (for EHPC exercise Delta 2)

Data- Web EOC

Bridge for public safety event channel or overwatch

C: **Voice-**Sat com- EBO

Shares Voice- NCS 886 SBAO-Day, SAGO-Night (not monitored unless requested/activated for event)

EHPC exercise Shares voice SFAO

Data- Winlink- NCS 886

E: **Voice*-**UHF- via Down East/Coastal linked system

UHF- EHPC Cluster on EHPC DMR NETWORK

UHF- into Columbia repeater KX4NC(443.3000) on

Demand link to Greenville (147.0900 W4GDF)

HF- TBA or default THEN day 7232 KHz, night 3923KHz

CALLSIG: N4EBO

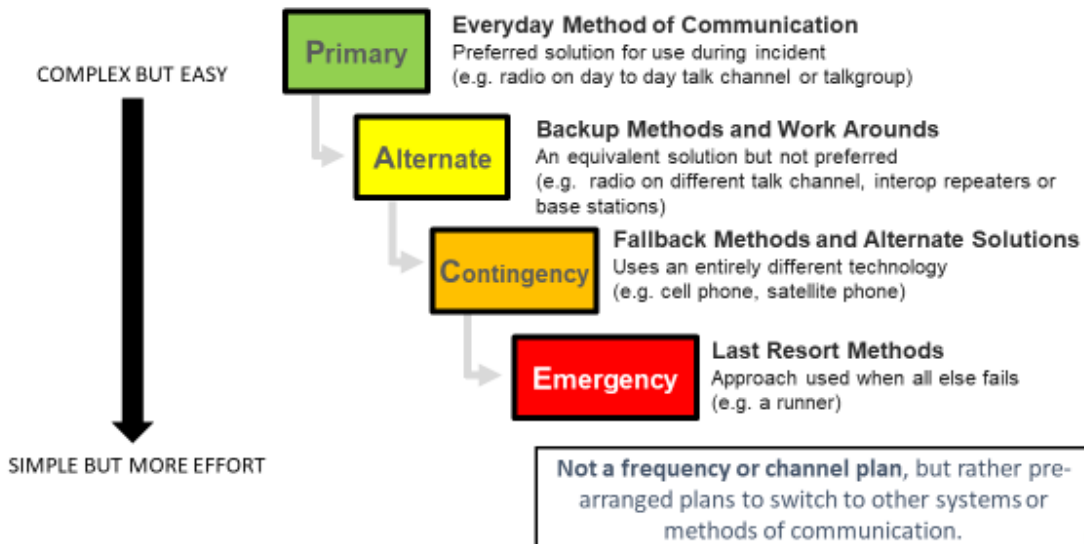
P- Primary

A- Alternate

C- Contingency

E- Emergency

Communication **PACE** Planning



EHPC WEBSITE



EXERCISE INFORMATION PAGE