

Subject: 406 MHz Training Beacon Registration and Exercise Scheduling
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 8:54:15 AM Mountain Daylight Time
From: Desmarais, John W.

Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, image006.png, image008.png, image010.png

Good morning Commanders and Staff. As you know, CAP has recently fielded another round of 406 MHz training beacons to each wing in order to support more realistic training, especially for those training with airborne Becker and Rhotheta direction finding units. Just like prior 406 MHz training beacons fielded, these beacons have been setup with the test protocol so that they will not inadvertently activate other rescue resources normally, but there is always a chance of problems occurring as we cannot fully prevent the satellites from recording and downloading data completely. In order to avoid any potential problems, we wanted to clarify that it is each wing's responsibility to register the 406 MHz training beacons in their possession and to provide proper notification in accordance with NOAA's requirements. NOAA's guidance and documentation required can be found at:

<http://www.sarsat.noaa.gov/Beacon%20Testing%20Policy.html>

Registration and notification is not a hard process, but CAP personnel must schedule training with these beacons like all other system users. Please review the U.S. SARSAT Program Steering Group [Beacon Test Policy](#), and be sure to schedule your training with these beacons accordingly with the Air Force Program POC, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, at: AFRCC.Console@us.af.mil with sufficient lead time for them to approve. The form required to schedule a test is located at:

http://www.sarsat.noaa.gov/Beacon%20Test%20Request%20Form%20Revised_August2016.pdf.

Please note that all training exercises using a 406 MHz training beacon are expected to be coordinated at least 48 hours in advance with the SARSAT US Mission Control Center (USMCC). Whoever is coordinating the training for your events must submit the test form noted above via email to our program POC, the USAF - AFRCC. There is not an exception for CAP, and we are actually specifically mentioned in the policy, so it is critical that CAP members follow this guidance.

NOTE: NOAA has requested that we notify them at least two business days ahead of time.

As a reminder, the above guidance can also be found online at:

https://www.capmembers.com/emergency_services/operations_support/education_and_training/406-mhz-training-beacon-requirements/

We have also received a few questions about replacement batteries down the line. We have asked the vendor to provide options for us, and as soon as we have more details, we'll get let you know.

Thanks in advance for your attention to this. If you have any further questions, just let me know.

Moose

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