

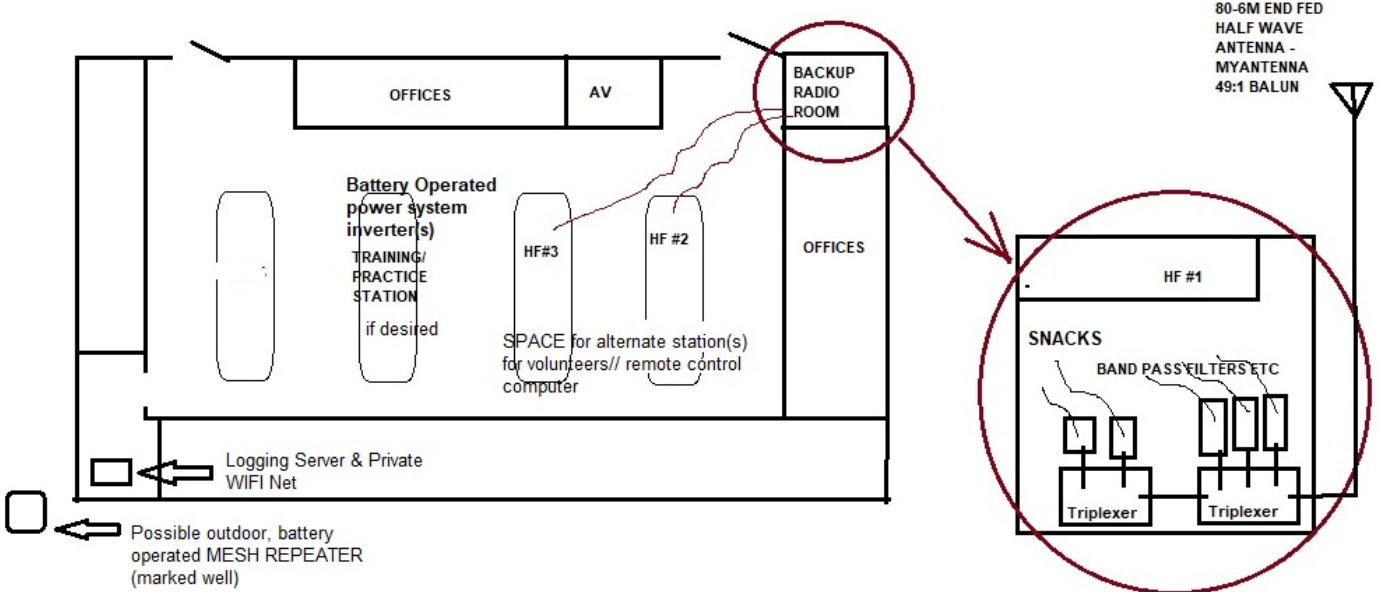
# INCIDENT BRIEFING (ICS 201) (ARES)

<b>1. Incident Name:</b> Winter Field Day 2025	<b>2. Incident Number:</b> <b>001-2025</b>	<b>3. Date/Time Initiated:</b> Date: Jan 24 Time: 1PM (setup)
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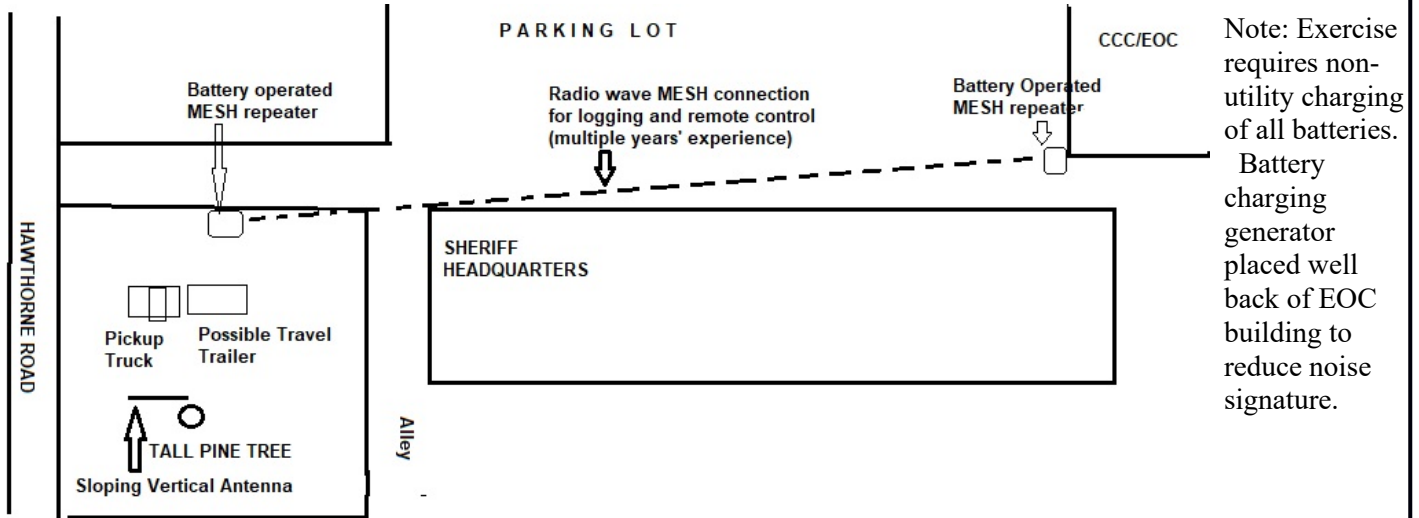
**4. Map/Sketch** (include sketch, showing the total area of operations, the incident site/area, impacted and threatened areas, overflight results, trajectories, impacted shorelines, or other graphics depicting situational status and resource assignment):

Event to be held at (1) **Alachua County EOC backup radio room and conference room.**

Three radio stations in EOC simulating disaster base camp radio installations:



(2) **Remote/Remote Controllable Radio Station in grassy parking lot** (either in truck cab or travel trailer) -- remotely controlled to allow additional frequency/channel agility without interference. (Group has used this grassy field multiple times previously without difficulty)



**MAJOR CHALLENGES IN COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE:**

- (1) Very limited HF coaxial cable (only ONE) out of EOC requires advanced high-power filter-based multiplexer to allow multiple stations simultaneously
- (2) Wireless remote control & logging for remote station in grassy field.(using PRIVATE MESH network, not connected to EOC/CCC networking) - **No Internet Usage simulation.**

**EXERCISE RULES FOR REVIEW:** <https://winterfieldday.org/downloads/2025-rules.pdf>  
**Volunteers PLEASE READ! PHONE CONTACTS: 1 Point. CW or DATA: 2 Points**

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**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.

**Winter Field Day @ Alachua County EOC: NF4AC EOC Club Call Sign**

Note that there are at least TWO groups holding Winter Field Day in Alachua County. This information is for the ARES/NF4AC group. The Gainesville Amateur Radio Society will hold their excellent Field Day in Waldo, Florida. Further details on that effort: <http://gars.club/>

[CLICK HERE FOR SIGN UP FORM FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS](#)

The Sign Up Form also serves as our **OPERATOR SCHEDULE**

Jan 25-26 Sat/Sun 11 AM Sat - 4:59 PM Sun <b>(note expanded hours)</b>	<b>EXCHANGE: NF4AC 3I NFL (I stands for "indoor")</b>	<b>Onsite setup</b> begins: (not allowed prior to 11AM Fri) FRI 1 PM (Field & MESH ) SAT 8AM EOC
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*SCORE depends both on **CONTACTS times "multipliers" -- which relate to objectives achieved.***

*Winter Field Day allows **NO INTERNET** (for transmission/reception)*

*Use **WINLINK (legal)** to invite contacts but must use one of counted transmitters.*

*No Repeaters. No Digipeaters. **FLEXIBILITY** is rewarded in scoring system.*

3 Total Transmitters <i>Attempting uniformity of all 7300s but you can always bring your preferred radio</i>	There are <b>no "freebie" VHF transceivers.</b>  N3FJP logging	Incident Commander will attempt to guide you to hot bands for contacts or techniques
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**SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

TRIP HAZARDS	We will have COAX going from multiplexer system to the transceiver tables. Cover with rugs etc where possible. AVOID TRIP.
SLEEP	GET SOME SLEEP. Bring padding, earplugs, eye shades. Conference rooms and other floor areas available for sleeping. Keep noise down!!!
RESTROOM	EOC Restroom includes Showers. Bring towel(s) / shampoo etc.
SECURITY	Lock vehicles in parking lot. NO FIREARMS except former LEO etc.

**6. Prepared by:** Name: g. gibby \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title: planning \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_

**ICS 201, Page 1** \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: 12/30/2024 \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Current and Planned Objectives: A. Safety for All. B. Have fun and learn! C. Hone your skills at all things RADIO COMMUNICATIONS! <b>BECOME MORE EFFICIENT AND MORE FLEXIBLE</b> -- -----Winter Field Day 2025 rewards the ability to operate VOICE, DATA, CW as efficiently as possible, and on multiple BANDS.		
8. Current and Planned Actions, Strategies, and Tactics:		
Time:	Actions:	
In Advance Jan 2 2025	Advance Training: TECH NITE January 2 2025 7 PM <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89530741792">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89530741792</a> Review of REMOTE STATION CONTROL techniques. Review of PSK31 contact and LOGGING	
In Advance Jan 8 2025	NFARC/ARES January Meeting Wed Jan 8 <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89530741792">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89530741792</a> and in person @ Queen of Peace Church - 7 PM (6:30 chit chat) -- review tentative plans, accept and approve amendments to Incident Action Plan	
YOUR RADIO	<u>We welcome you to bring your own radio with your own computer and other systems.</u> However we require that you have it tested and set up to WORK with our N3FJP logging, and our callsign (NF4AC) <b>B E F O R E the day of the Winter Field Day.</b> <b>Opportunities for that are each Wednesday at the EOC @ 11AM-1 PM January 8, 15, 22.</b> <b>This is simple courtesy for Earl and others who set up our networking. It isn't "fair" to hit them with a new radio/computer Saturday at Winter Field Day!</b>	
FRI JAN 24 1PM	Set up (1) Grassy Field Antennas, and (2) Mesh Networking / Logging systems throughout the facility. Because the EOC just might get "used" if there were to be an incident that evening, we won't setup our radios in the Conference room on Friday	
SAT JAN 25 8AM	Winter Field Day times have CHANGED and exercise operation begins much earlier at 11 AM. Therefore we will start setup at 8AM for all the stations in the Conference Room and battery-based inverter systems. Your computer must already be configured for our WIFI router and your N3FJP should already be configured to connect to our logging systems.  The Truck/and/or Trailer will move into place in the Grassy Field and connect to the Antennas and networking there, primarily using batteries; one generator possibly for HVAC/fridge	
EXPECTED MODES AND BANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The worldwide CQ 160M CW contest is held the same weekend. Exchange is: (USA/VE: RST + state/province; DX: RST+ CQ Zone).</li> <li>• <b>VOICE</b> -- expect plenty of VOICE OPS. LSB on 160/80/40; USB on all above</li> <li>• <b>DATA</b> -- PSK31 (using FLDGI) is by far the primary mode. Our systems will allow EASY logging into N3FJP.</li> <li>• <b>CW</b> -- Canned text in N3FJP on the CW station will be preset and allow for very speedy contacts. We do NOT expect to be using JS8 or RTTY and therefore do NOT need the Satellite NTP server.</li> <li>• <b>CW</b> -- Bring your preferred key or keyer set to work with an ICOM7300 (1/4" stereo</li> </ul>	

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	<p>plug) and preferably WINKEYER set to work with your computer already set to log into our system Suggestions: <a href="https://www.nf4rc.club/how-to-docs/cw-resources/2024-wfd-cw-contact-suggestions/">https://www.nf4rc.club/how-to-docs/cw-resources/2024-wfd-cw-contact-suggestions/</a> Learning how to use N3FJP to send parts of the QSO will make you far faster.</p>
STRATEGIES	<p>Incident Commander will be observing progress, listening to WEB SDRs and other resources to try and guide us to obtaining the maximum number of CONTACTS. We ARE a training group -- therefore expect gentle advice from whomever is "in charge" on your shift and you can also turn to them for HELP!</p>
FOOD	<p>Bring snack-type items to place in radio room or on our own table right outside. Expect us to arrange for crock-pot type sustenance or call-outs for pizza etc.</p>
VHF SAT EVENING	<p>We cannot pre-arrange VHF simplex contacts. However, we CAN obtain emails of persons possibly interesting in making 6m or 2m simplex contacts, and then send them (using radio WINLINK) an email schedule of our planned VHF times. Register here: <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlkG1yJRNUhMqm9WVbF641nyl0D-HR96F5I-XURpC5l9fIFQ/viewform?usp=header">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlkG1yJRNUhMqm9WVbF641nyl0D-HR96F5I-XURpC5l9fIFQ/viewform?usp=header</a></p> <p>We can pull up the 6-meter PVC ELBOW antenna and use the remote station for 6 meter contacts. Use EOC station for 2 meter</p>
SUN JAN 26	<p>4:59PM <b>WFD Concludes.</b> Cleanup / Teardown</p>
SUN JAN 26 6 PM	<p>Expect some sort of celebratory meal - details to be announced</p>
Sunday/ Monday	<p>WINTER FIELD DAY SUBMISSION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Documentation Unit (Planning Section) files contest results with WFD electronically</p>
<p><b>6. Prepared by:</b> Name: _____ Position/Title: _____ Signature: _____</p>	
ICS 201, Page 2	Date/Time: _____

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**9. Current Organization** (fill in additional organization as appropriate):  
 Very simple organization. We will attempt to maintain an on-site Incident Commander to help prevent chaos and keep people going to "most productive" bands.

### VOLUNTEER INCIDENT COMMANDERS

Time Period	Challenges	Volunteer Incident Command
Saturday Morning - 11 AM	Getting everything setup	Gordon KX4Z
11 AM - 8 PM	First operating period; whiteboard statistics	TBD
8 PM into the dark night	Second operating period: whiteboard statistics	TBD
Sunday Morning 0600 - 1659 LOC	2nd morning: whiteboard statistics	TBD
Sunday 1700	Finishing up: teardown	TBD

### OTHER VERY SIGNIFICANT VOLUNTEERS

Networking	Earl McDow / Susan Halbert	
Snacks etc		
Logistics		
Travel Trailer	Gordon Gibby	
Generator (for charging batteries)		

**6. Prepared by:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>10. Resource Summary:</b>					
Resource	Owner	Transport	ETA	Arrived	Notes (location/assignment/status)
HF Station #1	EOC 7300	N/A	SAT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EOC computer. Additional display (only needed for logging during PSK)
HF Station #2	Huckstep	Huckstep	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Huckstep computer if he can untangle its virus scanners o/w EOC computer
HF Station #3	Huckstep/ Gibby	Huckstep/ Gibby	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use EOC Go-Box Radio ; Gibby HP Elite-book computer Extra monitor (only for PSK)
2 meter FM	(EOC)	(EOC)	(EOC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use existing EOC 2 meter radios
Remote Radio	Gibby	Gibby	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use Gibby go-box with tuner set to "auto-tune" -- Use "2-meter" vol. computer and USB camera to allow intermittent view tion of all meters.
REMOTE CONTROL COMPUTER				<input type="checkbox"/>	Use the remaining volunteer computer (has good function keys)
50 foot coax to HF Station #2	Gibby provided	Gibby provided		<input type="checkbox"/>	50 foot coax to HF Station #2
75-100 foot coax to HF Station #3	Huckstep?	Huckstep?		<input type="checkbox"/>	75-100 foot coax to HF Station #3
Logging (server)	Earl	Earl		<input type="checkbox"/>	Logging Computer (server)
Private WIFI system	Earl	Earl		<input type="checkbox"/>	Private WIFI system - Part 15
Incident Commander Laptop	EOC computers	Already there	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incident Commander Laptop (web sdr etc) AND EXTERNAL DISPLAY
NOTE: Based on WFD rule: " <i>The use of spotting clusters, the RBN, APRS, and Winlink to solicit contacts will be allowed during the contest,</i> " we understand the IC can use the Internet. <b>We specifically got approval for the winlink cell phone texting</b>					
Generator for charging batt.	TBD	TBD	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Place well back of EOC. We can use mine if someone can tow.
Industrial 12V charger	Gordon	TBD	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Delivered by person doing generator?
Travel Trailer	Gordon	Gordon	SAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	OCFD 65 ft / 6m PVC elbow antenna; propane heat; backup genny
<b>6. Prepared by:</b> Name: _____ Position/Title: _____ Signature: _____					
<b>ICS 201, Page 4</b>			Date/Time: _____		

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## APPENDIX -- PSK31 SUGGESTIONS

MOST of our station setups, both inside the EOC and in the proposed Remote Trailer, can operate both VOICE and PSK31. (A more limited number of our stations can do high speed CW.) PSK31 has been the normal predominant digital mode during Winter Field Day in the past. This could change, but we prepare primarily for PSK31.

Just like most data techniques, you'll need to set your modulation level to avoid over- or under- modulating.

PSK31 operation on FLDGI is different from operating FT8 in WSJT-X.

- Where FT8 easily allows two stations at different points in the passband to hold a QSO (hence you have a green RX slot and a red TX slot) -- in PSK31 you will generally be zero-beated on the other station because the responding station clicked on the CQ station's line in the browser, or their signal in the waterfall to zero beat.
- Where FT8 auto-sequences through a contact, in FLDGI PSK31, you'll be the one stepping through the phases of a QSO -- we have "canned text" buttons that make this quite simple.
  - Four buttons on the left handle MOST situations in a RUN-CQ effort.
  - A few buttons just to the right of those, handle most of a HUNT & POUNCE effort.
  - A LOG button is provided for both types of efforts, that logs the contact and clears out the boxes.

The TechNite Talk that goes over a lot of this can be found at: <https://www.nf4rc.club/how-to-docs/tech-nite-compendium/psk31-2025-winter-field-day-remote-operations/>

Some key features of FLDGI / PSK31 are shown below:

The screenshot shows the fldigi software interface for PSK31. Key features and annotations include:

- WFD QSO Exchange boxes:** A red box highlights the 'Call' and 'Class' fields in the top right.
- TUNE button:** An arrow points to the 'TUNE' button with the note: "TUNE button temporarily sends a solid TONE at your chosen audio freq."
- Browser Pane:** A text box on the left explains: "BROWSER PANE Will decode and show all signals in bandpass. Clicking on a line will move your Receive Pane to that frequency."
- Receive Pane:** A large green area labeled "RECEIVE PANE (also shows transmitted text in RED)".
- Transmit Pane:** A large blue area labeled "TRANSMIT PANE type here to transmit using keyboard".
- Waterfall:** A frequency display at the bottom with a red double cross-hair. A note says: "WATERFALL -- you can move your transmit freq by moving the red double cross-hairs."
- Modulation Level:** A control at the bottom right with a value of -12.0. A note says: "These controls set output audio modulation level."
- Squelch Control:** A note on the right says: "SQUELCH CONTROL - if set too high, you won't decode anything!!"
- Mode:** The bottom left shows "BPSK31= PSK31".
- Visual indication of received audio signal level:** A note points to a small bar graph at the bottom center.

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BAND	POSSIBLE FREQUENCY GATHERING SPOTS	COMMENTS
160M (1.8MHz)	1.838	There may be CW traffic from CQ Contest
80M (3.5 MHz)	3.580	
40M (7 MHz)	7.070	
20M (14 MHz)	14.070	
15M (21 MHz)	21.070 and 21.080	Seems to be confusion on best frequencies
10M (28 MHz)	28.120	I would check 28.070 and 28.080 also
6 M (50 MHz)	50.290 MHz	

### POSSIBLE CANNED TEXT

These canned texts are optimised for good copy conditions. When running CQ, most respondents will have already copied your exchange, so it is sent only once. F3 provides a way to answer someone who needs it repeated. The normal Running CQ process is F1 --> click/type in respondent callsign --> F2 --> click/type class & section --> F4 to confirm and look for next contact.

The normal Hunt and Pounce provides less canned text. F5 interjects your callsign once to answer a CQ. If you are then called, the caller will generally give you their exchange also, so F6 allows you to QSL and send them your exchange.

F8 is used in both Running CQ and in Hunt and Pounce to both log the contact and clear the fields. There are other buttons on the screen that do this also.

<< FOR RUNNING CQ >>				<< FOR HUNT & POUNCE >>			BOTH
F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8
<b>RUN CQ</b>	<b>ANS EXCH</b>	<b>EXCH ONLY</b>	<b>QSL QRZ?</b>	<b>POUNCE</b>	<b>QSL EXCH</b>	<b>AGN?</b>	<b>LOG/CLR</b>
CQ WFD NF4AC WFD K	<CALL> de NF4AC 3I NFL K	3I 3I NFL NFL	QSL TU QRZ WFD NF4AC WFD K	NF4AC	QSL TU 3I 3I NFL NFL K	AGN?	(logs contact and clears boxes)



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## **APPENDIX -- Microwave System & Logging 2025 Winter Field Day**

N3FJP Registration Numbers:

**WINTER FIELD DAY**

NF4AC Winter Field Day Contest Log Registration: 48140

**ARRL SUMMER FIELD DAY**

NF4AC Field Day Contest Log Registration #: **33532** (Main F group)

NF4RC Field Day Contest Log Registration #: **35249** (GOTA Station Callsign)

WIFI PASSWORD:

NOTE: Part 15 MESH

INFORMATION ON CONNECTING WSJT-X AND FLDGI TO N3FJP FIELD DAY LOGGING SOFTWARE: <https://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/2021/N3FJPLoggingConnectionInstructions.pdf>

A networking how-to document from the 2020 Field Day can be viewed here:

<https://qsl.net/nf4rc/2020/HowToNetworking.pdf> This includes discussion of firewall rules so that ping and telnet can be used if needed.