

SMOKE CHECK REPORT INTAKE – INSTRUCTIONS – FORMAT TANGO 4i

- **PRINT OUT SUFFICIENT COPIES OF FORMAT TANGO 4 (SMOKE CHECK REPORT INTAKE FORM) TO TAKE YOUR ALL OF YOUR REPORTS. [EACH REPORT IS NOW ON A SEPARATE PAGE. PRIOR NEIGHBORHOOD FORMAT WITH MULTIPLE REPORTS ON A SINGLE PAGE WAS DIFFICULT FOR TRIANGULATION STN] . THUS, PRIOR AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD FORMAT TANGO 4 MIKE IS DEACTIVATED AND IS NO LONGER TO BE USED. THERE IS NOW ONE SMOKE CHECK INTAKE REPORT FORM FOR BOTH HAMS AND NON HAMS [USE ONLY FORMAT TANGO 4].**
- **THE TRIANGULATION HAM NET STATION IS TO POST HAM REPORTS (AND NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMARY REPORTS) TO HAM SHINGLETOWN MAP (FMT ROMEO 9A) AND FMT KILO.**
- **EACH TRIANGULATION AREA / NEIGHBORHD NET STATION IS TO POST ITS AREA REPORTS TO ITS AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD MAP (E.G., FORMAT ROMEO 21 – VILLAGE). Considered Pre-Marking True North on your Map for each Tactical to save time during emergency.**
- **GIVE DEGRESS WITH 3 DIGITS. [E.G., 000 DEGREES=NORTH; 060 DEG ; 090 DEG; 180 DEG; 270 DEG]**
- **EACH AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD MUST HAVE ITS OWN TRIANGULATION STATIONS. THE HAM NET TRIANGULATION STATION CAN'T PHYSICALLY DO BOTH THE HAM NET TRIANGULATION AND HIS/HER OWN AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD TRIANGULATION**
- **RECOMMEND THAT EACH TRIANGULATION STATION HAVE 2 PERSONS IN SAME ROOM, ONE CAN TAKE THE REPORTS OVER RADIO, WHILE THE SECOND TEAM MEMBER POSTS THE BEARINGS, ETC..., TO THE MAP AS REPORTS ARE RECEIVED. THIS SAVES TIME AND STRESS.**

SAMPLE REPORTS (NOTE: EACH COLUMN ON FORMAT TANGO 4 MUST HAVE A RESPONSE).

- **HAM REPORTING INTO HAM NET FROM HIS/HER HOME QTH:**

Ham NCS : ... “taking Reports” “first station go”

HAM Station : “PDS ”

HAM NCS : “PDS GO ”

HAM Station : “K6PDS, REPORT FORMAT TANGO 4
DIVISION 3 NORTH; AREA VILLAGE; STNS REPORTING 2 (E.G., HUSBAND AND WIFE AT HOME);
QTH BRAVO; NO SMOKE FIRE OR EMBERS VISIBLE; SMOKE ODOR NONE PRESENT;
WIND OUT OF EAST, BEARING 094 DEGREES TRUE; WIND SPEED 5 MPH; VISIBILITY HAZE NONE PRESENT;
END REPORT - OUT”

HAM NCS : “Roger, K6PDS, NET CONTROL Report number 1” [pause]

HAM NCS : “Next”...

AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTING IS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

• **AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD STATION (HAM OR NON HAM) REPORTING INTO HIS/HER AREA / NEIGHBORHOOD LEAD:**

Lead : “VILLAGE LEAD taking Reports” “first station go”

Station: “TANGO 7” (EXAMPLE - THIS IS YOUR AREA TACTICAL)

Lead : “Tango 7 go”

Station: “TANGO 7, REPORT FORMAT Tango 4 , 2 STATIONS REPORTING (E.G., HUSBAND AND WIFE);
QTH BRAVO; NO SMOKE FIRE OR EMBERS VISIBLE; SMOKE ODOR, NONE PRESENT;
WIND OUT OF EAST, BEARING 094 DEGREES TRUE; WIND SPEED 5 MPH; VISIBILITY HAZE, NONE PRESENT;
END REPORT - OUT”

Lead : “Roger, TANGO 7, VILLAGE LEAD Report number 1” [pause]

Lead : “Next”...

• **AREA LEAD REPORTING AREA SUMMARY RESULTS TO AREA COORD. (WHO IS TO RELAY SUCH REPORT INTO HAM NET):**

VILLAGE Lead : TONE ON CHI “ VILLAGE COORDINATOR, VILLAGE LEAD WITH REPORT CH 1”

AREA COORDINATOR: : “VILLAGE LEAD GO ”

VILLAGE Lead : “REPORT FORMAT TANGO 4” DIVISION 3 NORTH AREA VILLAGE STATIONS REPORTING 14”
“QTH NOVEMBER ALL” (NOTE: IF THIS WAS LIMITED TO THE NW¼ STATE “NW ¼” AND THEN GIVE
A SEPARATE REPORT AFTER THIS ONE FOR EACH QUARTER PORTION OF YOUR AREA].
THE REPORT IS TO BE A REPRESENTATIONAL AVERAGE FOR YOUR AREA / OR THE PORTIONS OF
YOUR AREA THAT YOU ARE REPORTING ON.

“NO SMOKE FIRE OR EMBERS VISIBLE; SMOKE ODOR, NONE PRESENT;
WIND OUT OF EAST, BEARING 094 DEGREES TRUE; WIND SPEED 5 MPH; VISIBILITY HAZE, NONE PRESENT;
END REPORT – OUT “

AREA COORDINATOR : ROGER VILLAGE LEAD, COORDINATOR REPORT # 1 [PAUSE}

AREA COORDINATOR : ANY OTHER AREA REPORTS OR INTER-AREA RELAYS? ...

AVERAGING WIND DIRECTION

(THIS IS THE DIRECTION FROM WHICH THE WIND IS BLOWING.
AND - AVERAGING WIND SPEED)

IF YOU ARE STATIONARY:

1. CONDUCT A **2 MINUTE** OBSERVATION INTERVAL.
2. REPORT **AVERAGE DIRECTION** OF THE WIND DURING OBSERVATION INTERVAL.
3. REPORT YOUR OBSERVATION AS TRUE NORTH OR MAGNETIC.
4. IF THE WIND FLUCTUATES **60 DEGREES OR MORE** DURING THAT 2 MINUTE OBSERVATION INTERVAL, REPORT AS **"VARIABLE WIND"** giving the directions and average – See Examples below.
5. WIND **SPEED** – REPORT **AVERAGE WIND SPEED** DURING OBSERVATION INTERVAL.

EXAMPLES: (See***)

Variable wind from 180E to 240E
True North at 10 MPH recorded as:

- Wind is **OUT OF**:
 - /AZ 210 [OR /AZ SSW]
 - (AVERAGE Degrees: 210)
 - Magn ___ T_x_
 - /VAR _180 240_

The MPH would be recorded AFTER "/MPH".

Wind is consistent from 180 degrees True
North at 10 MPH, recorded as

- Wind is **OUT OF**:
 - /AZ 180 [OR /AZ S]
 - (AVERAGE Degrees: 180)
 - Magn ___ T_x_
 - /VAR _____

The MPH would be recorded AFTER "/MPH".

IF YOU ARE MOBILE (DRIVING) - provide:

1. State "QWT" & Your QTH (Road you'r driving on) & Rd Marker or Cross Street.
2. Your /ODT (OBJECTS DIRECTION OF TRAVEL).
3. YOUR OBSERVATIONS (E.G., SMOKE, FIRE, ETC...).

Example: "K6___ QWT, East Bound Highway 44, marker 10.77
"smoke column, ENE approx 5 miles, end report, OUT"
or NOTHING OBSERVED, ETC...).

Note: your observations will necessarily be more limited .

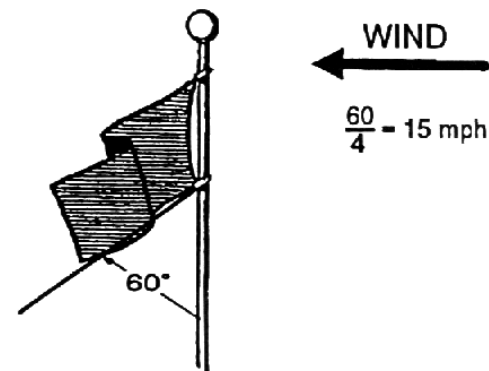
Drive safely, obey traffic laws. Stop in safe location to provide report of what you observed from the prior location at which you made the observations

IF YOU KNOW OF A FIRE OR SMOKE - CALL 911

NOTE: FORMAT TANGO 4 IS A FORMAL SMOKE CHECK.

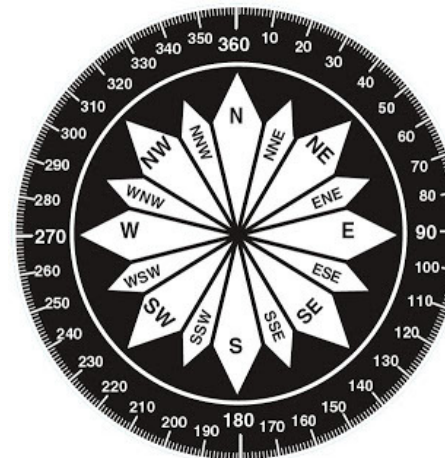
THIS IS NOT THE QWA ABBREVIATED PROCEDURE !

Estimating Wind Speed – Also see Beaufort Wind Chart, next page



*** Examples based upon - NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OBSERVING HANDBOOK NO. 8 AVIATION WEATHER OBSERVATIONS for Supplementary Aviation Weather Reporting Stations (SAWRS) MANUAL OBSERVATIONS OCTOBER 1996 (w/ MODIFICATIONS FOR SER REPTING PURPOSES).

16 Point Compass



[USE MPH WHEN REPORTING]			Estimating Winds Speeds – Beaufort Wind Chart (Partial)		
mph	Terminology	Description			
<1	Calm	Still, calm air, smoke will rise vertically. Water is mirror-like.			
1-3 mph	Light Air	Rising smoke drifts, wind vane is inactive. Small ripples appear on water surface.			
4-7 mph	Light Breeze	Leaves rustle, can feel wind on your face, wind vanes begin to move. Small wavelets develop, crests are glassy.			
8-12 mph	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs move, light weight flags extend. Large wavelets, crests start to break, some whitecaps.			
13-18 mph	Moderate Breeze	Small branches move, raises dust, leaves and paper. Small waves develop, becoming longer, whitecaps.			
19-24 mph	Fresh Breeze	Small trees sway. White crested wavelets (whitecaps) form, some spray.			
25-31 mph	Strong Breeze	Large tree branches move, telephone wires begin to "whistle", umbrellas are difficult to keep under control. Larger waves form, whitecaps prevalent, spray.			
32-38 mph	Moderate or Near Gale	Large trees sway, becoming difficult to walk. Larger waves develop, white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown.			
39-46 mph	Gale or Fresh Gale	Twigs and small branches are broken from trees, walking is difficult. Moderately large waves with blown foam.			
47-54 mph	Strong Gale	Slight damage occurs to buildings, shingles are blown off of roofs. ...			
55-63 mph	Whole Gale or Storm	Trees are broken or uprooted, building damage is considerable. ...			
64-72 mph	Violent Storm	Extensive widespread damage....			
73+ mph	Hurricane	Extreme destruction, devastation. ...			

CONVERTING MAGNETIC NORTH TO / FROM TRUE NORTH		
DECLINATION - SHINGLETOWN AREA		
[See Format Romeo 7 For Lat/Long Conversions]		
MAGNETIC FIELD BEARING	ADD 14 DEG	= TRUE MAP NORTH BEARING
TRUE MAP NORTH BEARING	SUBTRACT 14 DEG	= MAGNETIC FIELD BEARING

INSTRUCTIONS [CAUTION THIS IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR 911]. GOAL: ASSIST IN LOCATING FIRE AT UNKNOWN LOCATION.

• **TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS FROM YOUR QTH, DO A 360 DEGREE SCAN VIEWING GROUND TO SKY – REPORT ALL COLUMN CATEGORIES.**

[Night: shine bright light into trees to estimate the General Smoke/Haze Conditions (i.e., gen. smoke in the atmosphere)(100 to 200 yrds distant)

THIS REQUIRES HAM RADIO OPERATORS TO MONITOR THE RELEVANT PLAN FREQUENCIES. USE - FORMAT NOVEMBER, BLOCK 1 and **SCAN THE PLAN**. Base stations should have sufficient equipment to perform Nets using Repeaters AND SIMPLEX operations (e.g., 50 watt or more) in event of repeater failure (and power backup for power outages). The need for Area Relays should be expected and practiced. USE FORMAT TANGO 4A FOR MOBILE FIELD SMOKE SEARCHES.

• **ALWAYS CALL 911 FIRST! (NOTE: IF THIS IS AN EMERGENCY, YOU SMELL SMOKE, SEE FIRE, ETC CALL 911 FIRST).**

• EXAMPLE FOR USE OF THIS FORMAT: YOU SMELL SMOKE, BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE THE POTENTIAL FOREST FIRE IS – BUT YOU HAVE ALREADY CALLED 911.

• If you are the 1ST PERSON REPORTING ON FREQUENCY, THEN SET UP DIRECTED NET (USE **FORMAT K1**).

• PURPOSE – GATHER SMOKE CHECK REPORT INFORMATION TO ASSIST FIRE DEPARTMENT IN LOCATING FIRE (ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT). YOU WANT OBSERVATIONS FROM ANY STATION'S CURRENT LOCATION – DO NOT GO OUT LOOKING FOR PROBLEMS.

• REQUEST REPORTS FROM STATIONS ON FREQUENCY (THAT INCLUDES STATIONS WHICH DON'T SMELL SMOKE AS THAT INFORMATION MAY BE VERY IMPORTANT). MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL CALL TO 911 WITH RELEVANT RESULTS OF THIS PROCEDURE.

••• **REPORT EXAMPLE ON VOICE** **INITIAL REPORTS ARE IN PLAIN ENGLISH FOR EACH COLUMN ! !**

“ SMOKE REPORT K6ABC FORMAT TANGO 4 QTH Hwy 44 MI MARKER xx” , “SMOKE CLOUD VISIBLE, NORTH OF MY LOCATION approx 2 MILES” “SMOKE ODOR STRONG” “WIND IS OUT OF NORTH ” “WIND SPEED figures 10 MPH” “General Atmospheric Smoke/Haze Conditions, North, Heavy” “OUT” . Net control responds “ROGER”.

•• NOTE: PLEASE GO SLOWLY AS NET CONTROL MUST RECORD YOUR INFORMATION ACCURATELY SO THAT IT MAY BE PROPERLY POSTED TO MAPS FOR ANALYSIS AND REPORTING. NCS WILL ASK FOR “SMOKE REPORTS”.

••• **RELAY EXAMPLE**: SUB SUB CODES (/A, /B , etc...) used for relay between AREA NET CONTROLS / RELAY STNS).

THUS: “I have relay of smoke check report –

QRV?” Other station “QRV” – [NOTE: Instead of “QRV?” “QRV” , you can say “are you ready?” response “I am ready”].

THEN START RELAY - - “FORMAT TANGO 4 REPORT NUMBER ___ [or, say “I have [x] reports to relay”] [continue]

EXAMPLE: “ QXi S ” OR “SMOKE REPORT RELAY FORMAT TANGO 4”

“ /A /RPT 1 K6PDS : /B QTH HWY 44 /MK 3300 : /C /AZ N /ML 2 : /O /HVY : /W /AZ N 310 T /MPH10 : /V /GA /AZ N /HVY . ”

[PAUSE for fill request BEFORE NEXT REPORT]

“ /A /RPT 2 W6XYZ : /B DIV 3 N VILLAGE QTH B : /N : /O /NP : /W /AZ 355 T /MPH 7 : /V /NP . ”

End, no more. [your call sign] ” Note: “ : ” is said as “colon”; “ . ” Is said as “period”


OTHER STATION replies - “SMOKE CHECK RELAY ACKNOWLEDGED” or “ROGER”

• ABOVE INFORMATION IS NEXT REVIEWED BY TRIANGULATION STNS AND NET CONTROL, AND POSTED TO AN AREA MAP [USE FMT ROMEO 9A] (OTHER POTENTIALS ARE: GOOGLE EARTH – COMPUTER AND/OR USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPO - PAPER). LEARN BOTH IN EVENT COMPUTER OPERATIONS NOT POSSIBLE.

• **NET CONTROL THEN calls 911 and advises operator that you are a HAM OPERATOR with this SUPPLEMENTAL SMOKE REPORT NET INFORMATION AND ADVISE THEM OF THE CONCLUSION AS TO THE POTENTIAL SOURCE LOCATION FOR THE SMOKE/FIRE.** GIVE THE CAL FIRE OPERATOR YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER, NAME AND CALL SIGN SO THEY CAN CONTACT YOU IF NEEDED. CONSIDER DRIVING (OBEYING ALL TRAFFIC LAWS) TO LOCAL CAL FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HAND DELIVER THE MAPPED INFORMATION. You may need to have another station operator perform such task based on situation. CAL FIRE DOES NOT WANT A GROUP OF HAMS CALLING. THERE IS TO BE ONE PERSON CALLING (MOST PROBABLY THAT WHOULD BE NET CONTROL). [REPORTING CRITERIA Based upon TCW Cal. Fire Battalion Chief]. ANALYSIS WILL NEED TO BE DONE TO DETERMINE IF SMOKE / FIRE ATTRIBUTABLE TO EXISTING REPORTED FIRE, OR A NEW INCIDENT. COMPASS USE IS GREATLY ENCOURAGED. “AREA TACTIAL” IS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD / AREA REPORTING EG.. “VILLAGE T1”

Version: 20170506 UPDATE 20190810 SER NETS


SYMBOLS FOR MAPPING

+	FOR AREA WHERE WINDS ARE VARIABLE.
O	FOR AREA WHERE NO WIND (AND PUT SMOKE ODOR IN CENTER OF SYMBOL).
SMOKE ODOR CODES:	
"/NP" = NONE PRESENT	"/LT" = LIGHT
"/MOD" = MODERATE	"/HVY" = HEAVY - STRONG
V	Open END toward source of WIND . Then connect via line to the reporting station. Insert in the open "V" end the smoke odor and wind mph e.g., "/MOD 5" = "smoke odor MODERATE, wind speed 5 mph". SEE EXAMPLE ON RIGHT SIDE.
—	Solid line between wind source, smoke source, flame source and reporting station.
•	"SPOT"= light or dark area in the general smoke/ haze which may indicate a fire source.
	Point of closed triangle POINTED TOWARD VISUAL sighting of SMOKE / FIRE with estimated miles in center of triangle. PUT "S" IN CENTER FOR SMOKE PUT "F" IN CENTER FOR FIRE. Put estimated miles in center-e.g., "3" for miles. Thus, as in example on right side, in center, of triangle: "F 3" = fire 3 miles

SMOKE / FIRE REPORTING NET

[STN REPORTS NEED TO BE SPECIFIC AND AND AS EXACT AS POSSIBLE]
 See www.ShastDefense.com under Shasta Emergency Radio for updates

EXAMPLES:




This End Facing Into Wind.

Write in this area of the "V" the Wind Speed and smoke odor level e.g., **" /MOD 5 "** = **"smoke odor Moderate" and Wind Speed "5mph"**


SMOKE ODOR LEVEL - MODERATE
WIND SPEED - 5 MPH

/MOD 5




This end on Reporting Location (i.e., YOUR EXACT LOCATION)

• **Spot (may indicate fire source)**



This end toward **fire or smoke** = Fire 3 miles

F 3



General Smoke / Haze Conditions

Swirl line Where VISUAL General SMOKE / HAZE CONDITIONS EXIST.

LEVELS:
 Non Present (/NP)
 Light (/LT)
 Moderate (/MOD)
 Heavy - Strong (/HVY)