

NCS Procedure

RadioOps RDF Tracker • Version 1.2.0

v1.2.0 APPLICATION UPDATE

- This procedure is aligned with the RadioOps RDF Tracker v1.2.0 production release.
- Production map: <https://radioops.org>
- Start Operation creates the unique Live Operation ID. End Operation closes the operation and preserves its archive.
- Save Map records the current operation state. Load Map is a replacement operation: clear/current state is replaced by the selected saved state.
- Clear Map Display is an NCS function. Team slots are server-controlled and NCS can force-release a slot when necessary.
- The server remains authoritative when clients reconnect or present stale operation information. Normal synchronization is approximately every 3 seconds.
- Before directing teams, confirm the active operation, team identities/slots, target frequency, starting locations, and current map state. After loading a saved map, verify that the displayed state is the saved state, not a mixture of old and saved data.
- At operation end, retain the resulting archive according to the training/records procedure.

Current Training Procedure

1. NCS Setup

- Monitor the designated repeater/frequency for interference. ●■ Determine whether interference is constant or temporary.
- Establish the operating frequency/repeater. ●■ Establish the operating area. ●■ Have the map, team information, and call list ready. ●■ Identify the participating field teams. ●■ Call each team and verify communications.

2. Opening the Operation

- Verify communications with each field team. ●■ Assign team identifiers. ●■ Confirm each team's starting location. ●■ Explain the immediate objective. ●■ Confirm that each team understands its assignment. ●■ Begin the operation.

3. Managing Field Teams

- Know where each team is operating. ●■ Keep transmissions organized. ●■ Ask for bearings when needed. ●■ Monitor information entered into the mapping system. ●■ Send teams where they are needed. ●■ Keep teams informed of changes that affect their assignment.

4. Mapping

- Each team plots its own bearings when entering the data. ●■ The NCS monitors the developing map. ●■ Compare bearings from multiple teams. ●■ Recognize when a location is becoming credible. ●■ Decide when another bearing is needed. ●■ Direct teams as needed to improve the location estimate. ●■ Save the operation map periodically during the operation.

5. Interference Management

- Recognize when interference is affecting communications. ●■ Determine whether the interference matches the conditions identified during setup. ●■ Follow the predetermined response. ●■ Notify all field teams of any frequency or repeater change. ●■ Confirm communications after the change. ●■ Resume the operation.

6. NCS Discipline

- Keep transmissions short. ●■ Avoid unnecessarily tying up the frequency. ●■ Avoid making teams repeat information unnecessarily. ●■ Maintain the operational picture. ●■ Keep the operation moving.

7. Saving the Operation

- Save the operation map periodically during the operation. ●■ Save the operation after significant changes or developments. ●■ Confirm the final map reflects the completed operation. ●■ Save the final operation. ●■ Retain the saved operation for future reference or training.

8. Closing the Operation

●■ Confirm the final location/result. ●■ Account for all field teams. ●■ Confirm that all teams have completed their assignments. ●■ End the operation cleanly.