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Nevada Interoperability Communications Overview

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Purpose of This Presentation

- Provide an Overview of the ongoing interoperability projects in Nevada

- Provide an Overview of Interoperability in Nevada

- Provide Information on what Interoperability tools are available for all radio users in Nevada

- Provide Information on how to access Nevada Interoperability Tools

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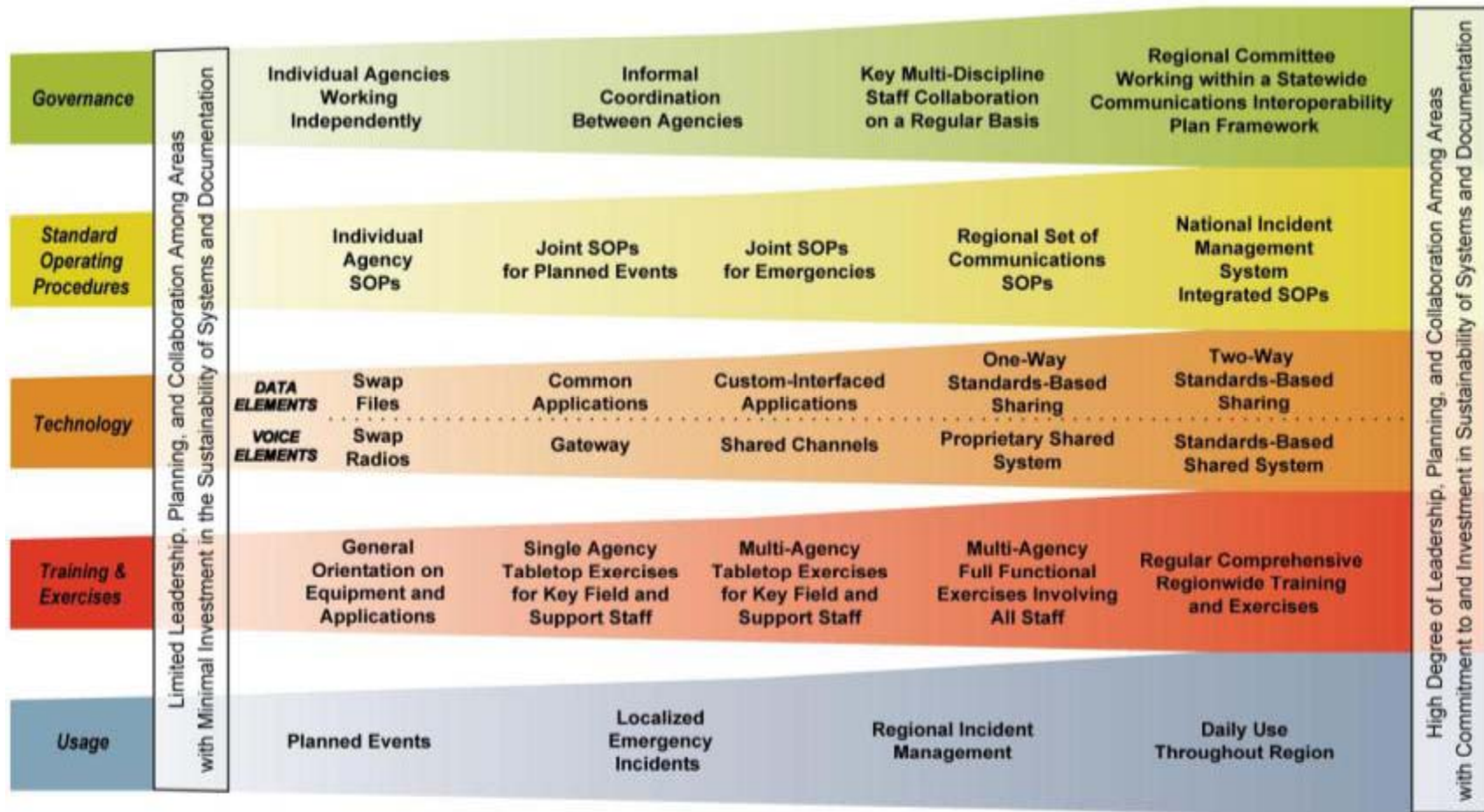
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Presentation Overview

- Purpose of this Presentation

- Interoperability Defined

- Interoperability in Nevada

- Relationship between SCIP, TICP, SOP, MOU and FOG

- Role of Regional TICPs

- Status of Tasks Currently in Progress

- What Interoperability means to you

- Access to Interoperability Connections

- References and Points of Contact

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Interoperability Defined

- SAFECOM Interoperability Definition:
  - The ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed and as authorized.
    - Allows police and firefighter leaders responding to a routine incident to coordinate their agencies efforts.
    - Allows emergency response agency leaders to affectively coordinate response to catastrophic accidents or disasters.
    - Allows emergency response agency leaders to maximize resources in planning for major predictable events such as the Hot August Nights, Burning Man, or for disaster relief and recovery efforts.

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The SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum

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Types of Interoperability

- Shared Radio Systems – Multiple agencies and / or disciplines share a common radio system

- Gateway / Interconnects – Also know as switches

- Crossband Repeaters – Connect Disparate Frequency Bands

- Console Patches - Automatic and Manual

- Shared Channels (Conventional Systems) and Shared Talkgroups (Trunked Systems)

- Radio Caches

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Interoperability in Nevada

- Many Disparate Systems

  - Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) is Harris EDACS 800 MHz Trunked system

  - Washoe County Regional Communication System (WCRCS) is Harris EDACS 800 MHz Trunked system

  - Las Vegas Metropolitan Police (LVMPD) is Harris OpenSky 700 MHz Trunked system

  - Southern Nevada Area Communications Council (SNACC) is Motorola SmartZone 800 MHz System

  - Rural counties are primarily on VHF

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Interoperability in Nevada (Continued)

- Today there are many different proprietary systems in use throughout the State to meet users needs today

  – Until recently proprietary systems were all that was available

- Agencies use different frequency bands

  – Example: Rural Sheriff – VHF, NHP – 800 MHz

- Ability to respond to large scale incident is limited by existing communication resources

  – Rural Nevada - Typically only one VHF frequency

    - Can be patched to other agencies with technician intervention

  – Urban Counties– Talk Groups, Calling and Tactical crossband repeater channels

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Interoperability Capabilities in Nevada

- Planned and Existing capabilities take advantage of where users are today

  – Utilize Existing Infrastructure

  – Augment Existing Operational Capabilities

- Gateway / Interconnects

  – IP Switches

- Tactical Crossband Repeater Network

- Radio Caches

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Relationship of Governance Documents

- SCIP – Provides Common Vision

- TICP – Describes available interoperability resources

- SOP – Provides agency specific details on how to use Interoperability resources.

- MOU – Formal agreement to share resources

- FOG – Field Operations Guide to provide User level "back pocket" quick reference guide

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Nevada SCIP Goals

1. Interconnectivity between 4 large systems

2. Interconnectivity from those systems to anticipated mutual aid partners

3. Build procedures and expertise necessary to use the connections

4. Importance of leveraging existing systems and infrastructure investment

5. SCIP provides vision that aligns with Federal guidance and funding opportunities

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Nevada SCIP Objectives

Selected Governance Objectives

- Revise, Update and Promulgate an interagency Radio Frequency Plan

- Educate Key Policy Makers regarding current state of Nevada's public safety communications

- Increase general publics awareness of urgent need for interoperability

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Nevada SCIP Objectives

Selected SOP Objectives

- Regional working groups will develop, test and exercise SOPs for interoperability

- Regional working groups will define, test and exercise formal statewide policies & procedures

- Develop, test and exercise SOPs for use of mobile and fixed radio systems

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Nevada SCIP Objectives

Selected Technology Objectives

- Purchase and maintain caches of portable radios

- Configure talk groups on proprietary systems to be used for interoperability

- Support and encourage a statewide tactical crossband repeater network between disparate bands

- Support and encourage a statewide IP based network to interconnect communication centers and their associated radio systems

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Nevada SCIP Objectives

Selected Technology Objectives (Continued)

- Utilize the NCSC and regional working groups as cross-discipline, collaborators for long-term communications system planning and promote sharing of systems and infrastructure

- Purchase and maintain three AC3S 250 mobile command modules

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Nevada SCIP Objectives

Selected Training and Exercise Objectives

- Develop training programs for all public safety personnel based on NIMS-based SOPs

- Train, certify and deploy qualified Communications Unit Leaders

- Carry out regional interagency, cross-discipline interoperability exercises based on DHS HSEEP

- Develop a credentialing process to facilitate interoperability operations

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What is a TICP?

TICP - Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan

- Describes the interoperability resources available

- Specifies the agency responsible for each resource

- Summarizes the rules of use and operational procedures – how to activate and deactivate

- Provides information about governance and points of contact

- Serves as a planning tool to help emergency responders exercise interoperable communications

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Nevada's Regional TICPs

- A TICP was developed for each "Region"

  – Regions roughly correspond to NHP & NDOT regions

- Boundaries for region are "blurry" due to interoperability needs across boundaries

- Applicable to All Responders & Incidents

  – Specifies governance, roles and policies

  – Describes assets and resources

  – Defines general rules of use

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Developing the Regional TICPs

- Developed by Regional committees that included stakeholders from variety of disciplines and agencies

  - Federal

  - State

  - Local

  - Private Sector

- General oversight and direction provided by NCSC

- Annual Update Process

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Northeast Nevada RTICP Resources

- Includes all or part of Elko, Humboldt, Pershing, Lander, Eureka and White Pine Counties

- 2 Shared Radio Systems
  - NSRS and Elko County Sheriff

- 6 Intra-System Shared Talkgroups

- Multiple Interoperable Frequencies / Channels

- Pending Interconnects
  - Fixed and Mobile Gateways
  - Nevada Tactical Crossband Repeater Network
  - Console Patches

- 6 Radio Caches

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Northwest Nevada RTICP Resources

- Includes all or part of Washoe, Storey, Carson City, Douglas, Lyon, Churchill and Mineral Counties
- 3 Shared Radio Systems
  - Trunked: NSRS and WCRCS
  - Conventional: Storey, Douglas, Lyon and Carson City Counties
- Multiple Shared Talkgroups / Frequencies / Channels
- 4 Mobile Gateways and 6 Mobile Command Units
- 4 800 MHz and 3 VHF Radio Caches
- Pending Interconnects
  - Quad County Interconnect
  - Nevada Tactical Crossband Repeaters
  - IP Gateways

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Las Vegas Urban Area & Southern RTICP Resources

- Includes all or part of Clark, Lincoln, Nye, and Esmeralda Counties

- 4 Shared Trunked Radio Systems
  - NSRS, SNACC, METRO, and Federal System

- Shared Conventional Radio Systems – (Nye County)

- Shared Talkgroups / Frequencies / Channels
  - Existing Crossband repeaters in Clark County

- 11 Mobile Gateways

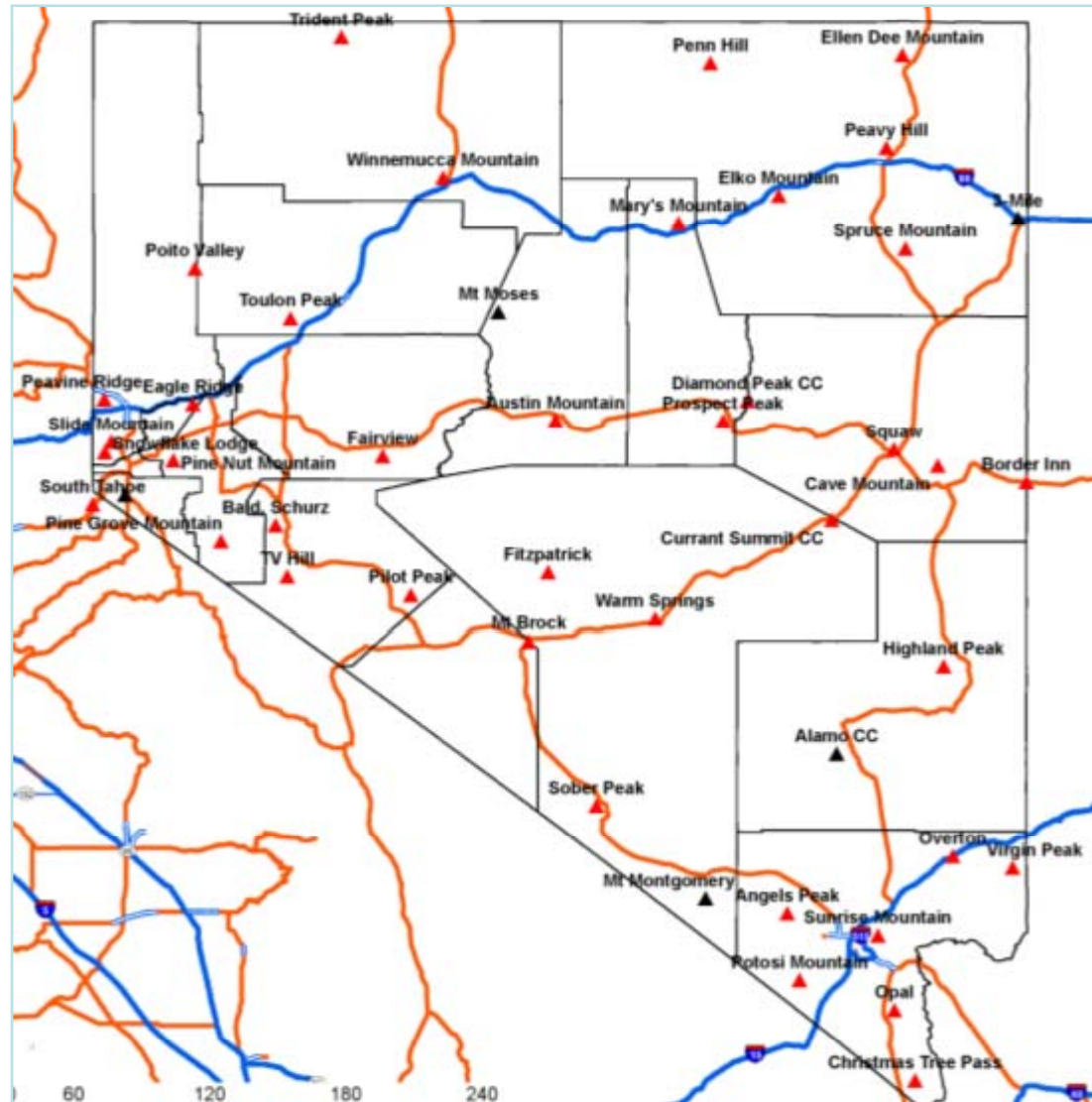- 11 Radio Caches

- 17 Mobile Command Units

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Status of Projects Underway as of 2009

- SOP Project
  - Produced Nevada SOP Manual and Interoperability Training and Presentations
  - Outcome: Provide a common SOP template

- Update Regional TICPs
  - Outcome: Document interop resources and procedures

- Nevada Tactical Crossband Repeaters
  - Outcome: Provide interoperability between 800 MHz and VHF

- IP Gateways
  - Outcome: Interconnect major trunked shared radio systems

- Nevada Rural and Hospitals Project
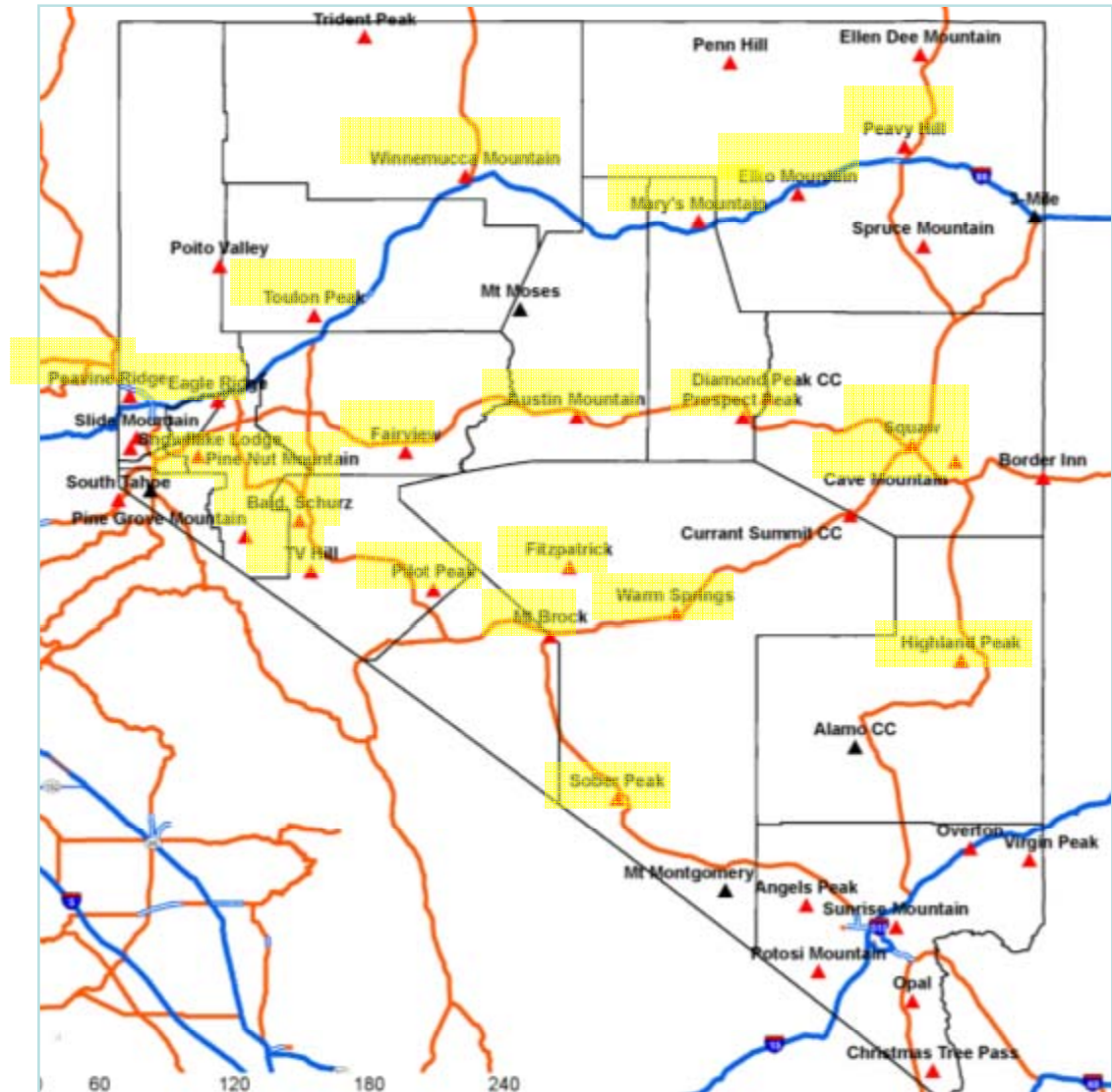 - Outcome: Develop Interconnect plan

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Nevada Tactical Crossband Repeaters

- Tie 800 MHz to VHF Narrowband

- Three 800 MHz and Three VHF Channels per site

  – One Calling and two Tactical channels

- Selected Sites (38) extending to all 17 Counties and Tribal Areas

  – Focus on Main Travel Corridors

- Equipment for 25 sites has been purchased

- Contract for Installation has been Signed

- Frequency Licensing Project Approved by BOE

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Nevada Tactical Crossband Repeaters

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Initial Tactical Crossband Repeater Sites

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What "Interoperability Connection" Means

- There is a communications connection available for a multijurisdictional / multiagency response

- Goal is to provide "always on" connection capabilities

- Use of Interoperability capability must conform to Regional TICP, State and Federal guidelines and regulations

- Method of connection to establish Interoperability will depend on location in State, available resources and type of incident with standardized SOPs

- Role of Nevada Field Operations Guide

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Access to Interoperability Connections

- Learn and train on the Connectivity available to you

- Review the Rules of Use identified in RTICP

- Make sure MOUs are in place

- Develop Interoperability SOP using Nevada SOP Manual

- Incorporate Interoperability connections into daily use between agencies

- Use Point of Contacts in this presentation to find out more information

- Key is continued education and practice

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Your NCSC is Ready to Help!

- The NCSC is looking for feedback on how they can help local jurisdictions

- If you would like to be a member of the NCSC, please contact the NCSC Chairman

- The NCSC would specifically like feedback on:

  - Regional TICP

  - Any "local" Interoperability solutions

  - Any Interoperability SOPs that have been developed

  - Additional Interoperability needs, including training

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References and Points of Contact

- Nevada Communication Steering Committee
  - Chair – Sheriff Dale Lotspeich
  - Nevada Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, Nevada Office of Homeland Security
    - Dennis Cobb
    - Email: dccobb@mac.com
    - Phone: 712.812.0000
  - NCSC Website:

    www.homelandsecurity.nv.gov/NCSC.htm

  - NCSC Document Download Site

    www.homelandsecurity.nv.gov/NCSC_docs.htm

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Nevada SCIP and Regional TICP POC's

- Nevada Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Version 3.0, Nov 2007

  Download: www.homelandsecurity.nv.gov/NCSC_docs.htm

- *Nevada Northeast Regional TICP*

  – *POC: Sheriff Dale Lotspeich*, Elko County Sheriff

- *Nevada Northwest Regional TICP*

  – *POC: Captain Jake Conely*, Sparks Fire

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Regional TICP POC's (Continued)

- *Las Vegas Urban Area and Southern Nevada Regional TICP*

  – *POC: Dr. Jim O'Brien, Clark County Office of Emergency Management*

  www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/administrative_services/oem

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Links to Federal Sites

- Formal Agreement and SOP Template Suite

  – Available on the National Interoperability Information exchange website at www.niix.org

- SAFECOM website

  www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/tools/templatesuite

  – Includes guidance documents for the creation of Charters, MOU's, and SOPs.

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Acronyms Used Throughout Presentation

- DHS – Federal Department of Homeland Security

- LVMPD – Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

- MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

- NCSC – Nevada Communications Steering Committee

- DEM – Nevada Department of Emergency Management

- NDOT – Nevada Department of Transportation

- NHP – Nevada Highway Patrol

- FOG – Field Operations Guide

- HSC – Nevada Homeland Security Commission

- OHS – Nevada Office of Homeland Security

- TICP – Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan

- SNACC – Southern Nevada Area Communications Council

- SOP – Standard Operating Procedures

- SCIP – State Communications Interoperability Plan

- UASI – Urban Area Security Initiative

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