

MULTI-AGENCY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (MARCS)

Statewide Interoperability Talk Groups (MPP-15.0)

- **XMCALL 1 thru 4**
MARCS “Hailing Channel”, Zones 1-4 (see map titled “MARCS Zones”) Allows any user to call for help from anywhere in the state. These talkgroups are monitored 24/7 by all OSHP Posts within the physical limits of each Zone. The talkgroups are also monitored 24/7 by ODNR’s Columbus Central Dispatch. (It is preferred the call be directed to the zone the call originates from, but is not required.)
- **XMCOMM 1 thru 4**
MARCS users generic talkgroups for any user to be able to talk to any other user. These talkgroups are NOT monitored by MARCS base locations. Generally, a dispatcher would direct you to “go to XMCOMM 1 to talk to Officer A,” etc. (While each XMCOMM has statewide capability, the theoretical purpose is for “direct” communications in each geographic Zone.)
- **XECOMM 7 thru 28**
MARCS users generic “emergency” talk groups. To be used to talk to any other user when involved in a MARCS-coordinated emergency. At a multi-agency scene, Command/ Communications/Control would steer responders to these talkgroups, based on functional work groups. (E.g. A MARCS-equipped CCC would direct “All incoming traffic units go to XECOMM 9”, “all incoming rescue units go to XECOMM 11”, “all incoming hot zone units go to XECOMM12”, etc.) XECOMM 7-19 MARCS Helpdesk via XHELPDESK Talkgroup or by phone at 866-646-2727. XECOMM 21-28 utilized for Homeland Security Regions 1-8 (HS Region 1 – use XECOMM21).
XECOMM 20 is used for Homeland Security HAILING
- **XSCOMM 1 thru 16**
MARCS users generic “emergency” talk groups for communication with the MARCS Tower on Wheels (TOW). To be used to talk to any other user when involved in a MARCS/State-coordinated emergency *only* when the TOW is deployed. As with the ECOMMs, units would be “steered” to these talkgroups by state personnel.
- **XSO01 thru XSO88**
Each Sheriff in the state is equipped with a MARCS base radio. These radios are placed in the communication center of the sheriff’s choice. By calling the alpha-based two digit county number (e.g. “GPD Car 321 to SO 59”), you will be communicating with the Sheriff’s Communication Center. Also, the OSHP post in a county monitors that county’s SO talkgroup and those SO talkgroups of adjacent counties.
- **XSO Regions**
These talkgroups correspond with the geographic regions established by BSSA and MARCS during the planning for the MARCS radio installations at each SO. They follow established ODNR boundaries – see attached map titled “Sheriff Offices”. Calling on an SO regional talkgroup will result in all SO’s within that region being hailed. ODNR’s central dispatch center in Columbus also monitors these talkgroups.
- **XLECOMM 1 through XLECOMM16**
MARCS non-state agency users generic “event/emergency” talk groups – offers the ability to talk to any other non-state user when involved in an planned event or emergency. (Prior to using, caller must announce intent to use and determine if objections exist. These XLECOMM talkgroups are specifically for “local” event/emergency situations, and are only imbedded in non-state agency equipment.)
- **XHELPDSK**
This talkgroup is constantly monitored by the Ohio Office of Information Technology/MARCS-dedicated helpdesk, located at the State of Ohio Computer Center in Columbus. The Helpdesk primary purpose is to assist MARCS equipment users with problems encountered with the MARCS voice or data systems statewide. It can also be used as the initial point of contact for MARCS command staff. Helpdesk may also be reached 24/7 @ 1-866-OH-MARCS (1-866-646-2727).
- **National Interoperability Channels (i.e. 8CALL90,7CALL,7LAW)**
These are the Nationwide Public Safety Interoperable channels. All of these channels are available for emergency communications. These channels should not be used for daily operations.
- **XSFM-HQ, SFM-OPS 1-5, OFCA1-2, OSFA-1**
These are mutual aid talkgroups created by the State Fire Marshall and Ohio fire chiefs, respectively for mutual aid purposes during emergencies. Although these are not regularly monitored, they will be assigned by the Incident Commander on site during emergencies and monitored at that time.
- **XMEDVAC1, XMEDFLT, XCAREFLT**
These are talkgroups established for contacting “air ambulances” in Ohio. XMEDFLT (MedFlight Columbus) is monitored by their respective Communications Centers. XMEDVAC1 (MedEvac-Cleveland) and XCAREFLT (CareFlight-Dayton) are not monitored on a daily basis, therefore, it is recommended contact be made via land line with each respective air ambulance. 8TAC92D and 8TAC94D NPSPAC recommended by the helicopter entities as a direct radio air to ground talkpath.
XMARCS 1 thru 14
These are talkgroups established for additional interoperability between MARCS users. They may be used for state or local emergency coordination if desired.
 - **XMARCRPT1 and 2** – These are standalone repeater pairs that are usually patched to a MARCS talkgroup via the BSSA trucks or the MARCS owned portable repeaters (Battle Packs).
- **XPRSUIT 1 thru 8**
Pursuit talkgroups provide the means for first responders to engage in multi-agency/multi-jurisdictional pursuits. These are available at any time without restriction during a pursuit (programmed into Law Enforcement only radios).
- **Customer-Specific Talkgroups**
MARCS will work with each customer to design unique talkgroups to be used by the customer for normal internal traffic. The number of talkgroups allowed is determined by agency scope, size and service delivery.
Inter-Agency Talkgroups
MARCS firmly advocates and aggressively pursues multi-agency sharing of agency specific talkgroups. MARCS encourages agencies to share agency-specific talkgroups, in order to promote user-friendly end-user applications. These become especially important and beneficial in emergency situations, when stress levels are high and first responders do not have time to “get out the book” and search for little or never used “special” talkgroups. To this end, MARCS encourages users to discuss inter-agency sharing of agency specific talkgroups and the routine use of same!