

Kansas Wildland Firefighter

**Lesson 4 – Radio
Communications**

Communications

- Effective communication guidelines:
 1. Brevity – using less words can help ensure your message is effectively communicated
 2. Clear text – Avoid the use of 10-codes or agency-specific phrases
 3. Common terminology – This is a basic principle of ICS and NIMS. Note: See Appendix A (pgs. A40 – A59) of the Fireline Handbook

Radio Systems

- Radio frequencies are the primary differences between radio systems in Kansas:
 1. VHF – Very High Frequency. Ranges from 136–174 MHz.
 2. UHF – Ultra High Frequency. Ranges from 420–470 MHz.
 3. 700/800 MHz Radio Systems – Typically a trunked system like the Kansas State Interoperability Communication System.

Radio Systems

- Understand the radio systems you are using during the incident



Photo:
Kari Greer

Radio Systems

- Pre-planning will identify what systems other agencies will be using



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Communications Model Procedure

- Wildland fire fighters use a different procedure than other emergency service areas

Photo: Kari Greer



Communications Model Procedure

- In this model, the resource calling identifies the unit being called, followed by the unit calling.



Photo: Kari Greer

Other Communication Methods

- Several Face-to-face contact meetings during the operational period are effective

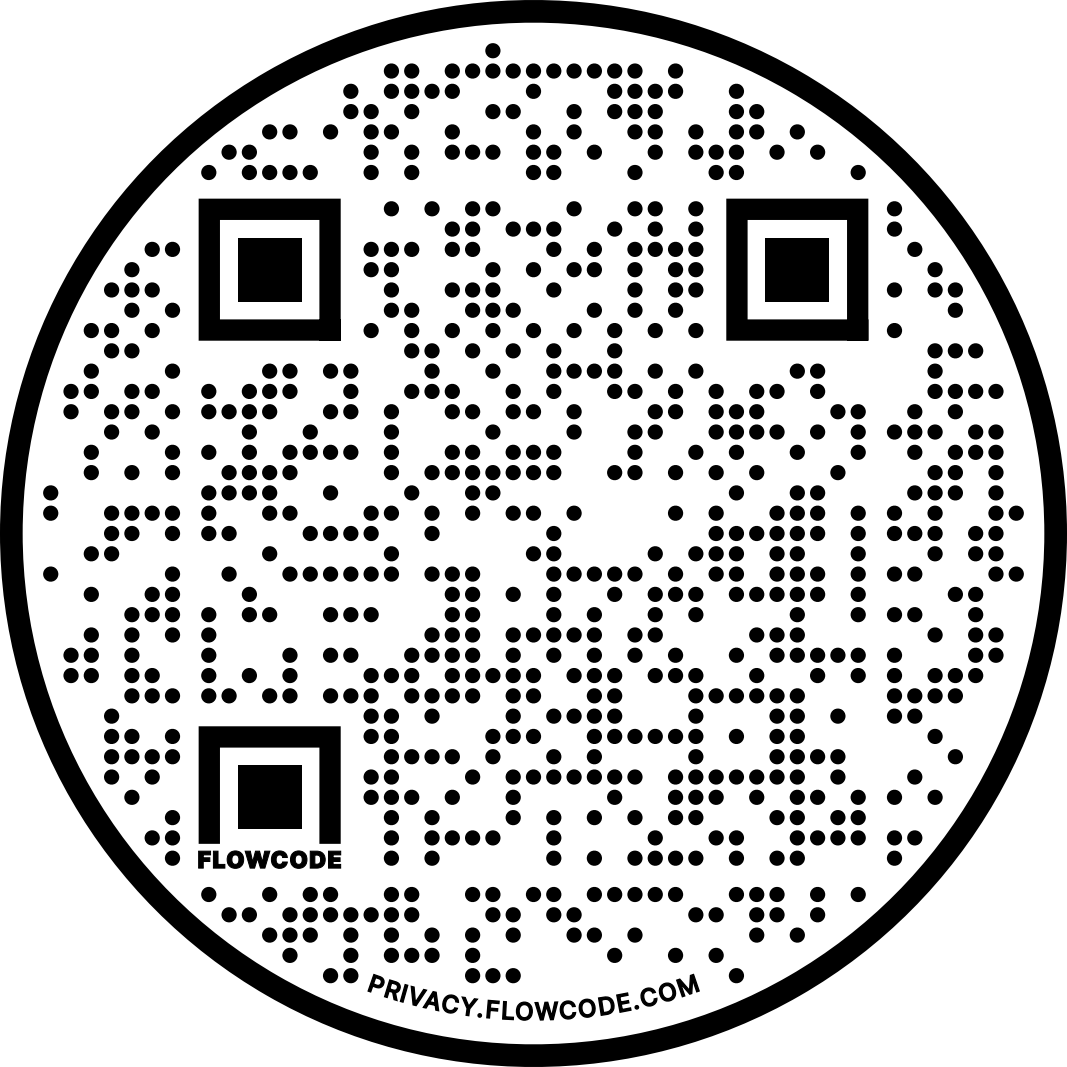


Photo: Kari Greer

Other Communication Methods

- General Message (ICS Form 213) – Used when message needs to be in written form. Also used if specific information and/or instructions are given or received
- Electronic messages – If radio messages are not possible, a phone or data signal and/or a MDT may be work for communications

Questions?



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