SKYWARN RADIO OPERATIONS

IMO SKYWARN Quadrant Two

IMO SKYWARN

- Organization of Amateur Radio operators
- Facilitates relay of reports from hams to NWS
- Staffs amateur station at NWS: WX9IWX
- Four quadrants & quadrant leaders
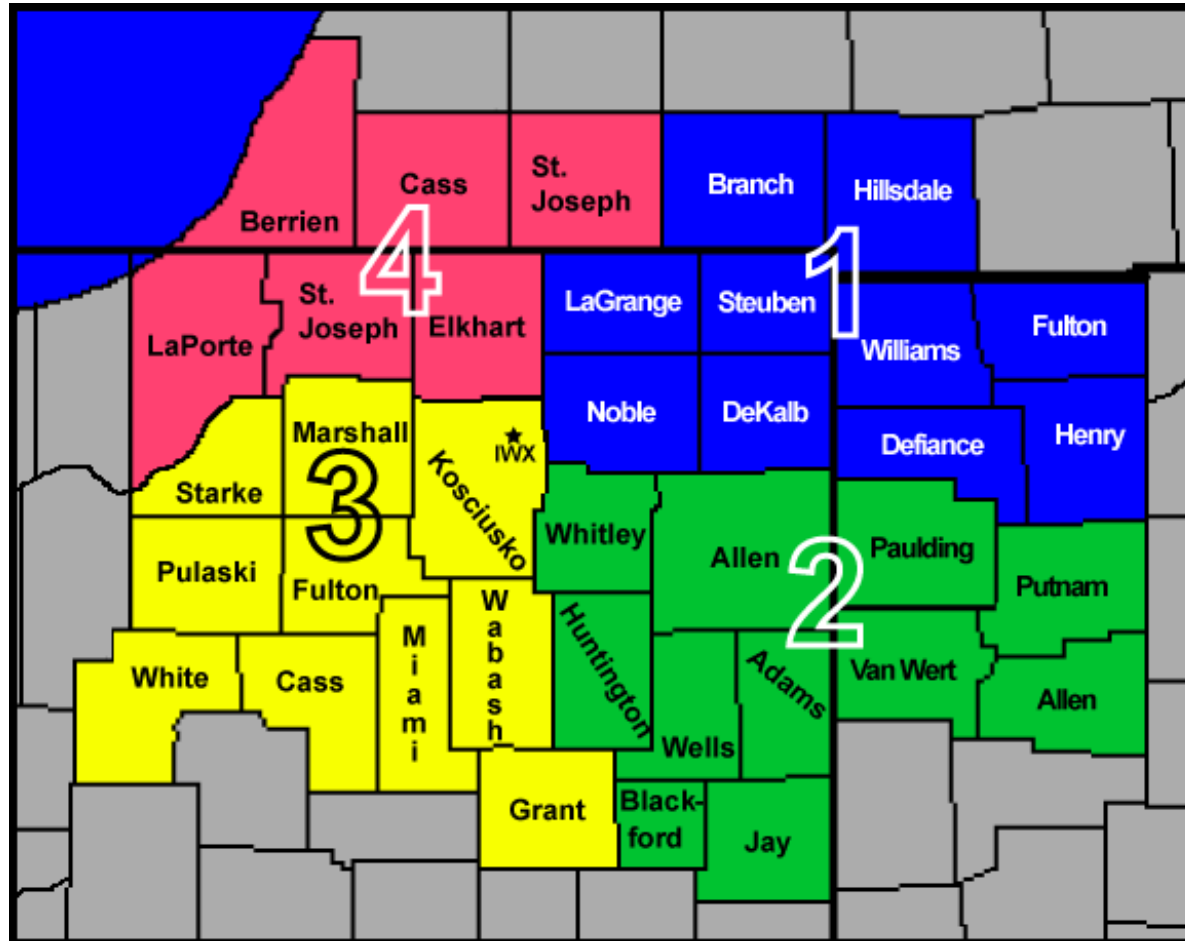- WX9IWX monitors 1 repeater in each quadrant

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Quadrant Two

Indiana

Adams
Allen
Blackford
Huntington
Jay
Wells
Whitley

Ohio

Allen
Paulding
Putnam
Van Wert

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Quadrant Two Staff

- Interim Quadrant Leader
  - Jay Farlow, W9LW
- Designated Net Control Operators
  - Rich Andrew N9HRA
  - Chad Beach W9GGA
  - Fred Gengnagel KC9EZP
  - Bernie Holm K9JDF
  - Brian Jenks W9BGJ
  - Jim Moehring KB9WWM
  - Joel Tye KB9RH
  - Woody Woodbury KC9CGN

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Standby Mode

- Alerts users severe weather possible
- Prepares repeater to receive reports
- Repeater announces "weather watch"
- Reset tone "W"
- Normal use with gaps (chat about anything you want)
- Net control operator monitors
- To call: "SKYWARN this is (call sign)."

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Directed Net

- When required by report volume
- Not needed for all warnings
- Net control uses own call sign (formerly W9INX)
- Repeater announces "weather net," reset tone becomes "N"
- Check-in only with criteria-meeting reports, emergency traffic
- Check-in with your call sign (phonetically), one or two-word report summary

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Check-In/Report Example

- Spotter: "Whiskey nine alpha bravo charlie, wind damage"
- NCS: "ABC stand by"
- NCS: "IWX?"
- WX9IWX: "IWX"
- NCS: "Standby for a wind damage report. ABC, go ahead."
- Spotter: "Whiskey nine alpha bravo charlie observed shingles blowing from a roof at one six three zero local time in Fort Wayne near the intersection of State Boulevard and Hobson Road."
- WX9IWX: "Roger, WX9IWX."
- NCS: "W9GGA, SKYWARN net control."

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Check-In/Report Example (No IWX)

- Spotter: "Whiskey nine alpha bravo charlie, wall cloud"
- NCS: "ABC stand by"
- NCS: "IWX?"
- (No response from IWX)
- NCS: "ABC, go ahead." (NCS takes report)
- Spotter: "Whiskey nine alpha bravo charlie observed a wall cloud at one six three zero local time in Fort Wayne near the intersection of State Boulevard and Hobson Road."
- NCS: "Roger, ABC. W9GGA, SKYWARN net control."

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Report Criteria

- Tornado
- Funnel cloud
- Wall cloud
- Hail of any size
- Wind damage (regardless of wind speed) or measured wind at least 50 MPH (damage expected)
- Storm-related injury or death
- Flooding

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Web Resources

- Storm Prediction Center Website
  - Convective Outlooks
  - Mesoscale Discussions
- NWS Web
  - Watch County Notifications
  - Special Weather Statements
  - Severe Weather Statements

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More Web Resources

- NWS Northern Indiana Facebook Page
  - www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.NorthernIN.gov

- NWS Northern Indiana Twitter Hash Tag - #wx4iwx

- IMO SKYWARN Website
  - www.imoskywarn.org

- IMO SKYWARN Facebook Page
  - www.facebook.com/pages/IMO-Skywarn/18423578494 7383

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Still More Web Resources

- Weather Underground (wunderground.com)
  - Most statements via email or text message
  - Pretty good radar
    - Storm tracks, Mesocyclones, Hail, Lightning
- SpotterNetwork.org
  - Online spotter training
  - Your location, reports displayed
- GR Level 3
  - Customizable radar software
  - Downloads, interprets raw data
  - www.grlevelx.com/grlevel3/ $80

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Smart Phone Resources

- RadarScope (iPhone & Android)
  - Radar data
  - GPS position
  - Spotter Network
- Storm Chaser SPC Outlook (Android)
  - Access to SPC products
- TorWarn Weather Alerts (Android)
  - Warnings, etc. based on GPS
- PDANet (Android, Jailbroken iPhone)
  - Share phone data connection with computer

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