

Fire Ground Blue, White, Red, Black, Gold, Gray.....etc, what are these for?

What are the channels like FG Blue, White, Black, Gold, Gray, NATSAR, WEM CAR, VTAC11 etc... for? - These are called simplex channels or incident management channels. These channels allow radios to talk to each other directly rather than having to talk through a repeater site and then to another radio. Doing this frees up the repeater channels for radio traffic that is covering a large area. Additionally, it can provide for better communications especially with portable radios since the portable radio does not have to push the signal to a tower site. Simplex channels are very limited in their range but can be very effective for incident management.

Generally, dispatch does not hear these channels. Only those radios that are within a few miles of the radio that is transmitting will hear the message.