Fire Dispatch Frequencies

On the Sunshine Coast, when a tree falls on the power lines, the fire department always gets called first to investigate. During a wind storm, listening to their radio communications gives a lot of information as to the severity of the issue. Here are some of the frequencies they use.

Initial Dispatch Call

The first thing that happens is that Dispatch calls the appropriate Fire Department on a frequency of **149.290 MHz**. They seem to be using two distinct notes at the beginning of the transmission to direct the call to the appropriate fire department.

After the notes finish playing, Dispatch will say their message twice, which will include the address and a description of the issue.

Fire Department Response

After the initial dispatch call, the fire department will call dispatch back on their own frequency to acknowledge the call and ask for more information if needed.

Here's the list of frequencies and tones used:

Area	Frequency (MHz)	Tone (Hz)
Gibsons	154.980	107.2
Roberts Creek	154.070	114.8
Sechelt	155.565	131.8
Halfmoon Bay	154.980	146.2
Pender Harbour	154.070	162.2
Egmont	154.980	100.0

You'll notice that there are really only three distinct frequencies shared between six areas. The tones are what's preventing the wrong area from hearing the wrong conversations (that and their distance).

Tac

The tactical simplex frequencies are used by the fire personnel to coordinate their efforts. Most of them are the same frequencies with different tones.

Here's the list of Tac 2 frequencies:

Area	Frequency (MHz)	Tone (Hz)
Gibsons	153.860	127.3
Roberts Creek	153.860	127.3
Sechelt	155.565	127.3

Area	Frequency (MHz)	Tone (Hz)
Halfmoon Bay	153.860	127.3
Pender Harbour	153.860	127.3
Egmont	153.860	127.3

And the list of Tac 3 frequencies:

Area	Frequency (MHz)	Tone (Hz)
Gibsons	154.070	167.9
Roberts Creek	154.070	167.9
Sechelt	154.070	167.9
Halfmoon Bay	154.070	167.9
Pender Harbour	154.070	167.9
Egmont	154.070	114.8

Scanning

On my radio, I scan between three frequencies to listen to the Roberts Creek Fire Department:

- 149.290 MHz to hear the dispatch call.
- 154.070 MHz with a tone squelch of 114.8 Hz to hear the fire department's reply.
- 154.070 MHz with a tone squelch of 167.9 Hz to hear the fire department's discussions on Tac 3 (they don't seem to be using Tac 2).

I tried simply using 154.070 MHz without the tone, but I could hear Pender Harbour from time to time.

If you live in a different area, let me know which frequencies you find useful in the comments.