

Interim Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Plan for Humboldt Operational Area (Effective 1/16/2020)

This Plan describes procedures for planned and unplanned events. A more comprehensive plan and operations manual are under development.

1. Sub-Operational Areas

Humboldt County is divided into four Sub-Operational Areas, each with an assigned default simplex frequency and simplex Net Control Station (NCS). For simplicity, these are also identified as “local nets.”

Northern Humboldt (NH) 146.430

Eel River Valley (ERV) 146.580

Eureka Area (EKA) 146.460

Southern Humboldt (SH) 146.790

2. Repeaters

Far West Repeater Linked System:

Humboldt Hill 146.700- 106.3

Horse Mountain 147.000+ 103.5

Mount Pierce 146.760- 103.5

Pratt Mountain 146.610- 103.5

W6ZZK Eureka, 145.470+ 103.5 (HARC)

KE6SLS Eureka, 444.400+ 103.5 (Private, Open)

KA6ROM Fortuna, 147.090+ 103.5 (RARC)

Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club operates the following repeaters:

146.790- 103.5 Garberville (linked to Shelter Cove)

146.940- 103.5 Shelter Cove (linked to Garberville)

147.330+ 103.5 Grasshopper Peak

3. Designated Emergency Net Control Stations (ENCS)

Operators with training and/or experience to conduct Nets under this Plan:

W6IES Peter

KM6DFQ Jackson (NH)

KE6SLS Jaye

KG6LHW Anthony (NH)

KE6HEC Don

K6PIJ Steve (ERV)

KM6TE Jack (SH)

WA6NBG Don (EKA)

4. Public Safety Power Shutoff

To limit use of the Far West Repeater System (FWRA) link, we'll conduct *one brief daily net on the FWRA at 12:00 noon*. ENCS (W6IES, KE6SLS, W6NBG) will deliver official announcements and then call local NCS to see if they are listening and available. Local simplex nets can be called as needed, and other repeaters may have emergency power. Emergency traffic can be communicated at any time. We

can also conduct the regularly scheduled weekly nets during the PSPS, subject to limiting FWRA use.

5. Unplanned Event (communications disruption due to earthquake or other cause)

Actual operations will be flexible due to the unpredictable status of hams and stations during an event. The first ENCS that is able to get on the air will call a net on FWRA and ask for Emergency traffic. The ENCS will call by alphabet to determine who is capable of operating. ENCS should record the call sign, name, location, and status of each responding station. If there are ENCS in the four areas of the County who can conduct simplex nets, these should be assigned at this time. Times for future nets should be established and announced. The ENCS can then ask for *brief* reports of damage to infrastructure. If hams want to share experiences, a Health and Welfare or other such net can be assigned to a non-FWRA repeater.

6. It is critical that at all times ENCS and net participants deliver only official announcements, without embellishment or modification. Nets should be brief and concise, and ENCS should keep a log of announcements, check-ins and traffic handled. Use of the FWRA should be limited to conserve battery life. To this end, simplex and other repeaters should be used as much as possible, with local ENCSs communicating to the County ENCS using FWRA when necessary.

7. This plan assumes that amateur radio *has not* been activated by County Office of Emergency Services. We are operating under our own initiative.