

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM PLAN FLORIDA OPERATIONAL AREA SEVEN

- ▶ Approved 10/12/1999
- ▶ Modified 3/5/2001 Change of Primary LP1 station from WMGF 107.7 FM to WPOZ 88.3
- ▶ Modified 3/27/03 adding CAE (Amber) code to AUTOMATIC RELAY effective 6/1/2003
- ▶ as of 6/1/2003 WLRQ will no longer be classified as a LP-1 station
- ▶ Modified 12/01/2005 to add additional monitoring options, modified TRW (Tropical Storm Warning) - Timed Relay (15 min); added TSA (Tsunami Watch) – Automatic relay, TSW (Tsunami Warning) - Automatic Relay; and general clarity to the plan
- ▶ Modified 3/06/07 Added support for Cable systems requesting alerts for counties adjacent to Area 7
- ▶ Modified 11/06/08 Changed monitoring options for receiving WPOZ

Operational Area Seven consists of the following Central Florida Counties: Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia. In addition, Area Seven also supports the following Central Florida Counties: Polk and Marion.

Acceptance of or participation in this plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Stations relaying EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have rebroadcast authority. The concept of the management of each broadcast station to exercise discretion regarding the broadcast of EAS emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC rules and Regulations. This document augments but does not replace Part 11 of the Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations.

This document, as revised on 3/27/03 at a meeting of Operational Area 7, becomes part of the State of Florida EAS Plan effective 3/27/03.

Points of Contact

The eight County Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) or the County 911 Communication Centers (when the County EOC's are not activated) will be the primary contacts to activate the Emergency Alert System. 911 centers will be the secondary contacts. It is noted that these contacts can be expanded for future use as needs grow.

Each County Emergency Operations Center has equipment installed to interface with the State Division of Emergency Management as well as accessing NOAA via the State's Emergency Satellite Communications (ESATCOM) System.

Cooperative Emergency Information Feed

During times of emergency, equipment at some County EOC's is capable of being manned and operated full time in order to provide a cooperative feed to the broadcast community. When activated, personnel will be solicited from the general broadcast community to provide the feed. Unless otherwise specified in advance, all transmissions will be generic in nature relative to station ID's and names since this will be a cooperative feed. Any EAS alerts sent from the County EOC's during emergencies will be coordinated with the operator of the cooperative feed equipment before the transmission of these alerts. During emergency situations, programming under current Federal Communications Commission regulations concerning transmission of Emergency Civil Defense information.

Role of NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio is a unifying link in the entire EAS plan. It is a pathway from which Federal, State, and Local alerts can be directed. In the event of disruption of normal communications channels to the participating broadcast stations in this plan, emergency information or protective action instructions can be disseminated using this communications system.

Operational Area Seven is served by four (4) different NOAA Weather Radio feeds (162.400 in Daytona Beach, 162.475 in Orlando, 162.500 in Sumterville and 162.550 in Melbourne.) Three (3) of which originate from the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne. Alerts for counties except Brevard and Flagler are simulcast on both the 162.400 and 162.475 MHZ frequencies. Alerts for Brevard County are sent via the 162.550 MHZ frequency. Alerts for Flagler County are sent via the 162.400 MHZ frequency. The fourth and newest NOAA Weather Radio feed is from the Ruskin Office (162.500 Sumterville) which disseminates alerts for Lake, Marion and Sumter Counties. WPOZ will monitor 162.400 MHZ, 162.475 MHZ and at it's option, 162.500 MHZ, for NOAA Weather Radio information.

Because of an agreement with the National Weather Service in Melbourne, Florida, WPOZ is initiating all weather activations for all Operational Area 7 counties. Stations that optionally monitor NOAA weather radio will receive duplicate alerts. Therefore, NOAA weather radio is not a primary, or, an optional EAS monitoring assignment in Florida Operational Area 7.

LP-1 and LP-2 Station Assignments

Several Broadcast Radio stations will play a very important role in the EAS Plan. Their functions in the EAS Plan are listed as follows:

- 1) WPOZ 88.3 FM (broadcasts with the trade name, "Z88.3") and WDBO 580 AM in Orlando will be the Primary Broadcast Stations (LP-1) for Operational Area 7* with WPOZ being the local Primary Entry Point.

* Facilities located in Flagler and eastern Volusia counties can pick up a rebroadcast of WPOZ 88.3 on WHYZ 91.1 FM*. Facilities located in Lake and Sumter counties can pick up a rebroadcast of WPOZ 88.3 on WMYZ on 88.7 FM. The following list of translator stations also rebroadcast WPOZ:

W212BF – Translator, 90.3 FM, Tavares

W240BV – Translator, 95.9 FM, Mount Dora / Eustis

W245AZ – Translator, 96.9 FM, Leesburg

W250BH – Translator, 97.9 FM Melbourne / Palm Bay

W259AS -Translator, 99.7 FM Lady Lake / The Villages

W274AX – Translator, 102.7 FM, Groveland

(WPOZ / WMYZ / WHYZ and translators have back up UPS power with a standby generator except for 96.9 Leesburg and 97.9 Melbourne/Palm Bay. which at this writing, have UPS backup only.)

- 2) WWKA-FM 92.3 FM (trade name, "K-92 FM") and WFLF-AM 540 AM, (trade name, "540 WFLA") will be Local Primary- 2 stations for Operational Area 7. In addition, WFLF-AM is designated by FEMA as the Primary Entry Point station for National activations in the State of Florida and it is recommended that WFLF-AM be monitored as the LP2 if at all possible.

EAS Monitoring Requirements

The minimum monitoring assignments for all Broadcast Radio, Television, and Cable Television Stations will be to monitor one (1) LP-1 station and monitor one (1) LP-2 station. Cable systems and Multiple System Operators (MSO), with headends located inside EAS Area 7 and subscribers located outside EAS Area 7, may notify the EAS Area 7 Chairman to request the additional counties, adjacent to Area 7, be added to the LP Stations' FIPS Code list.

WPOZ FM (LP-1) will monitor WFLF-AM, WWKA-FM, WDBO-AM, NOAA Weather Radio, and the State of Florida Emergency Management SATCOM feed (ESATCOM).

WDBO-AM (LP-1) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WFLF-AM, and WWKA-FM. In the event WPOZ-FM cannot activate, then WDBO-AM will monitor and relay alerts

* 91.1 WHYZ Palm Coast is slated to begin operations in January 2009, until then, broadcast facilities must monitor 88.3 WPOZ.

from NOAA Weather Radio and the State of Florida ESATCOM system automatically within 60 seconds of a detected carrier failure of WPOZ.

WWKA-FM (LP-2) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WFLF-AM, and WDBO-AM.

WFLF-AM (LP-2) will monitor WPOZ-FM, WDBO-AM, and WWKA-FM. FEMA provided equipment for National activations is located at the transmitter site.

WPOZ-FM will monitor WFLF-AM and relay National EAS activations to the State of Florida via the ESATCOM system, as instructed by officials at the State Warning Point in Tallahassee.

Government EAS alert encoding

The primary method by State Emergency Management or by County Emergency Management Offices to send EAS alerts to LP1 stations will be via ESATCOM.

Weekly and Required Monthly Tests

Weekly tests of the EAS shall be conducted on a random basis. Monthly tests shall be scheduled and initiated by WPOZ-FM for Operational Area 7. (For a current schedule, see postings on <http://www.sbe42.org>). By agreement with the State of Florida (letter on file), Operational Area 7 will follow the posted schedule which may not coincide with the state of Florida schedule for RMT's. Any tests sent by the State of Florida via the ESATCOM system will be logged by WPOZ-FM

Authentication

If necessary, the receiving station may initiate a return telephone call to the Emergency Management agencies listed in this document to verify the request for EAS activation if the request was received via telephone.

Backup Communications

County Emergency Management offices can dispatch, upon need or request, volunteer radio operators to Broadcast Radio, Television Stations, and Cable Providers covered in this planning document. These volunteers can serve to maintain communication with the broadcast community if normal communications channels are disrupted.

EAS Filter Codes

The EAS Event Codes for Operational Area Seven are defined below, along with the recommended configuration for programming filters. Codes are identified as “Automatic Relay” (meaning immediate override and retransmission is requested), “Timed Relay” (meaning a station should carry these alerts as appropriate based on their format), “Optional” (meaning the station can elect to carry or discard these alerts), or “Log Only” (meaning a transmission that is designated for logging only).

The codes listed in this plan were derived from the State of Florida Emergency Alert System Operational Plan, dated February 1997 and adopted by the Federal Communications Commission on April 2, 1997. New codes were adopted as of February 2002.

Operational Area 7 EAS codes and configuration for decoders

This is not the complete list of EAS codes. Only those that Operational Area 7 recognize as applicable to our area. For a complete list of codes, visit the FCC web site and download the FCC REPORT AND ORDER dated 2/26/02

National Codes These are absolutely required by FCC rules to be broadcast immediately and are often hardcoded to do so in most equipment:

EAN Emergency Action Notification - Automatic Relay
EAT Emergency Action Termination - Automatic Relay
NIC National Information Center - Timed Relay (15 min)
NPT National Periodic Test - Timed Relay (15 min)
RMT Required Monthly Test - Timed Relay (60 min)
RWT Required Weekly Test - Log Only

State & Local Codes - **Bold** are the ones to be programmed in your unit for on-air relay for all the Area 7 counties that your facility covers. The codes underlined and noted as “Automatic Relay” should be programmed to immediately interrupt and broadcast without any operator intervention.

ADR Administrative Message – Log only ; Used for relaying of information to participating stations, such as, but not limited to, the status of activations, cancellation of AMBER alerts, etc.

CAE Child Abduction Emergency - Automatic Relay (effective 6/1/03)

CDW Civil Danger Warning - Optional

CEM Civil Emergency Message - Automatic Relay

CFW Coastal Flood Warning - Optional

CFA Coastal Flood Watch - Optional

EVI Evacuation Immediate - Automatic Relay

FRW Fire Warning - Optional

FFW Flash Flood Warning - Optional
FFA Flash Flood Watch - Optional
HMW Hazardous Materials Warning - Optional
HWW High Wind Warning - Optional
HWA High Wind Watch - Optional
HUW Hurricane Warning - Timed Relay (15 min)
HUA Hurricane Watch - Optional
LEW Law Enforcement Warning - Optional
LAE Local Area Emergency - Optional
NMN Network Message Notification - Optional
TOE 911 Telephone Outage Emergency. - Timed Relay (15 min)
NUW Nuclear Power Plant Emergency - Optional
RHW Radiological Hazard Warning - Optional
SVR Severe Thunderstorm Warning - Optional
SVA Severe Thunderstorm Watch - Optional
SPW Shelter In Place Warning - Optional
SMW Special Marine Warning - Optional
TOR Tornado Warning - Automatic Relay
TOA Tornado Watch - Optional
TRW Tropical Storm Warning - Timed Relay (15 min) Change from Optional on revision, December 1, 2005
TRA Tropical Storm Watch – Optional
TSA Tsunami Watch – Automatic Relay (New on revision, December 2005.)
TSW Tsunami Warning - Automatic Relay (New on revision, December 2005.)

LP1 & LP2 Points of Contact

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