Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Operation/Emergency Plan for
The State of Louisiana

Amateur Radio Relay League – Louisiana Section
August 1, 2012

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PREFACE

We are fortunate to live in such a wonderful state. Louisiana, sometimes known as the "Sportsman's Paradise" and the "Bayou State", has something for almost everyone. North to south and east to west, we are about as diverse as a state could be.

We have large cities and small rural communities. We have rolling hills and marshes. We have salt domes and oil fields. We have pine forests and heavily industrialized areas. As you cross the state, you will find differences in geography, culture, religion, and more. From Mardi Gras in New Orleans to the Mayhaw Festival in Marion; from the Peach Festival in Ruston to the Crawfish Festival in Breaux Bridge; from the Sugar Cane Festival to all the others, we enjoy living and doing, for ourselves and each other. We have many differences, yet we are all Louisianans who know how to pull together when necessary.

All parts of the state have been, and continue to be, vulnerable to natural and technological disasters. In just the past few years, we have experienced hurricanes, ice storms, floods, tornados, hail, flash floods, chemical fires, train derailments and more. It has been proven that during almost any disaster, communications is the key to an efficient operation and recovery.

In emergency situations, if those up front can't call for support, or if an incident command can't find out what is happening, you have chaos. The purpose of the following document is to identify the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as a key part of providing emergency and disaster related communications, and to provide a basis and framework under which the ARES groups in the state will operate.

ASSUMPTIONS

An emergency is defined as a situation or an impending situation that by its nature or magnitude, affects the health, safety, welfare and property of a community, and requires a controlled and coordinated response.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is part of the Field Services Organization of the American Radio Relay League. ARES members represent a large portion of the more than six hundred thousand amateur radio operators in the United States.

Amateur radio operators are allocated a portion of the radio spectrum for experimentation and public service. Amateur radio has a long history of service in natural and man-made disasters. Unlike most radio services, amateur operators have thousands of frequencies open to them, and numerous methods to use them. This flexibility can be indispensable in an emergency. Their technical qualifications and strict operating standards complement this flexibility.

Amateur radio operators may be called to render public service when a competent official recognizes that an emergency condition exists and request that such service be rendered. When emergency assistance is requested by a government official, liability is assumed by the jurisdiction of the requesting official.

ARES can supply communication services where no established links exist or supplement the existing infrastructure if overloaded or disabled. Amateur radio networks may be organized to accommodate needs such as:

a. Back-up or supplemental communications where a public safety radio system, cellular or telephone service may be lost, out of range, or overloaded

b. A direct link with the National Weather Service, i.e., SKYWARN

c. Observations of local conditions (weather, traffic, etc) relayed back to incident command.

d. A communications network within an evacuated area.

e. A communications network from an evacuated area to incident command.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. It is recognized that the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is sponsored by, and is an integral part of, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). All ARES members and leadership are expected to abide by the rules and procedures set forth by the ARRL.

1.2. This document shall provide the basis and framework upon which district and parish ARES groups may build their plans around.

1.3 While some of the ARRL's rules are specific in nature, and should always be followed, it is the intent of this document to take the diversity of the State into account and therefore provide the maximum flexibility possible to district and parish leadership officials.

1.4 Under Federal regulations, amateur radio public service communications are furnished without compensation.

1.5 ARES is composed of FCC-licensed amateur radio operators who have voluntarily registered their capabilities and equipment for public service communications duty. For "rank and file" ARES members, ARRL membership is not required (but is recommended). Other than your amateur radio license, the only requirement for ARES membership is the desire to use your abilities to serve the public interest during emergency situations.

1.6 ARES leadership officials are required to maintain membership in the ARRL.

1.7 Operation under the Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Command System (NIMS) is the goal for all ARES groups when working local and State Emergency Managers and with other served agencies. ARRL Emergency Communications training and FEMA sponsored training is encouraged, especially for ARES leadership field appointees.

2. PURPOSE

2.1. The purpose of this plan is to provide a written guide containing the minimum information that would be needed in daily operation or in an emergency. Each emergency is different and maximum flexibility to provide adequate communications must be maintained.

2.2. The primary responsibility of ARES, within the State of Louisiana, is to furnish communications in the event of a disaster, emergency or drill, when regular communications fail, are inadequate, or are non-existent, or when it is deemed that the safety of the general public or other emergency responders may be enhanced by activation of amateur radio operations. Under ICS, the Incident Commander may direct deployment.

3. ORGANIZATION

3.1. ARES groups in the State of Louisiana shall function under the following chain of command.

3.1.1. The Section Manager (SM), being duly elected by majority of ARRL members in the state, is recognized as the ultimate authority in any ARRL, ARES, or National Traffic System (NTS) matters within the state.

3.1.2. The SM shall have the authority to appoint a Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), who shall administer the state's ARES plan, and oversee coordination of all ARES activities in the state.

3.1.3. The SM shall have the authority to appoint Assistant Section Emergency Coordinators (ASEC) who shall assist the SEC in their duties. The SEC shall forward to the SM their recommendations for the position of ASEC.

3.1.4.3.The SM, under advisement of the SEC, shall appoint District Emergency Coordinators (DECs) who shall assist and coordinate the parish level EC's within their District.

3.1.5 The SM, under advisement of the SEC shall appoint Assistant District Emergency Coordinators to assist the DEC's in their duties. The DEC's shall forward to the SEC their recommendations for the position of ADEC.

3.1.6. The SM under advisement of the SEC shall appoint and parish level Emergency Coordinators (ECs). DECs shall forward to the SEC their

recommendations for the position of EC for each parish within their district having enough interest and participation to support a program.

3.1.74. ECs may appoint Assistant ECs (AECs) as necessary. AECs are not an official ARRL Field Organization appointments and, therefore, do not require SEC or SM approval. An EC should, however, discuss his appointment of AECs with his DEC.

3.1.85. All ARES leadership officials serve at the discretion of the SM, and as such, may be promoted or dismissed at any time. Their terms shall run concurrent with that of the SM, a two-year term starting the first of April on even years.

3.1.96. The duties for each of these positions are shown in the *Emergency Coordinator's Manual*, publication FSD-9, available from ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

3.2. In each parish, a primary responsibility of the EC is to insure that there is a written ARES Emergency/Operations plan for his parish. An EC may seek assistance from his DEC, SEC, other ECs who have existing plans, and the *Emergency Coordinator's Manual*. ECs should provide copies of their plans to ALL active ARES members in their program, and should provide copies, and any subsequent updates, to their DEC, SEC and SM.

3.3. It is assumed that most emergencies and disasters occur at the local level. Taking our diversity into account, it is believed that those at the local level know most of the contacts and are better informed and equipped to make decisions on how things should be run at the parish level. In order to maintain continuity throughout the state, the SEC together with the Section Manager may recommend changes to local plans; however, the local EC should be given the maximum latitude possible in making his program functional.

3.4. ARES is a volunteer service and its members are under no obligation to participate and there is no guaranteed response level. Members are asked to provide assistance based on their interests, abilities, and personal commitments. Should we experience a disaster, many of our own members may be victims and they must ensure the safety of their loved ones and their own property. Leadership officials at each level will endeavor to the best of their ability to fulfill the needs of agencies served under this plan.

3.5. In any group, there is the possibility of personality conflicts. The EC, or his appointed staff, shall decide how assignments are made and who shall fill these assignments. We are all in this together and it is our hope that disagreements can be solved by discussion and willingness to be open-minded.

3.6. Each EC shall provide a parish activity report each month to the SEC. The SEC shall in turn provide a report to the Section Manager and the ARRL. In addition, each EC shall submit an "Annual Report", prior to January 31. A copy of this report shall be forwarded to the SEC.

3.7. It is recommended that ECs incorporate appendices in their plans, with the following information:

3.7.1 List of current ARES leadership, with contact information such as Phone, Pager, Email, etc., at the Parish, District, and State level. (See Appendix I for example).

3.7.2 Current membership list for their parish, including contact information, training, deployment availability and capabilities..

3.7.3 List of possible served agencies, including point of contact, preferably two deep, with phone or other contact information.

3.7.4 List of HF and VHF traffic and emergency nets and frequencies accessible by ARES members in your parish utilizing ICS Form 217.

3.7.5 List of required/recommended equipment for ARES members to have when activated or deployed.

3.7.6 Any other appendices deemed necessary. NOTE: Appendices can easily be updated on a regular basis without having to totally rewrite your plan.

3.7.7 All plans and appendices shall include an "issued on ..." date or a "last modified on..." date. Some ECs may find it easier to include a "revision history" showing which parts were changed and the dates those changes were made.

4. OPERATIONAL GROUPS

4.1. ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Previously known as the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps, the name says it all. All coordinated efforts of amateur radio operation in the name of public safety, or in support of emergency or public service agencies falls under the jurisdiction of ARES.

4.2. RACES – Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

A service administered by the local emergency management office, with guidance by FEMA. Originally designed to operate during civil emergencies or war, should the President evoke the War Powers Act, all amateur radio functions are required to cease with the exception of RACES. Although technically a separate entity, which is joined by registering your services with the parish Office of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP), we recommend the parish EC work closely enough with the local Emergency Manager to allow ARES and RACES to function as one unit. Formation of a RACES group must be initiated by the Parish Emergency Manager through the State RACES Officer at the State OHSEP in Baton Rouge.

4.3. SKYWARN A program organized and sponsored by the National Weather Service,

Primarily made up of amateur radio operators. Various NWS offices will provide regular

training classes and participants become registered as “Storm Spotters” who serve as the eyes and ears of the NWS. By forwarding eyewitness observations and exact locations of specific atmospheric events to the NWS, these spotters enable the NWS to issue watches and warnings sooner, which, in turn, saves lives. Although not required, it is highly recommended that all ARES members attend these free training sessions, and participate in this program. The Parish EC should strive to work with the Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) at the NWS office covering their parish to coordinate training and participation.

5. OPERATIONS

5.1. It is recognized that the Governor’sLouisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is the lead state agency dealing with natural and technological disasters and emergencies. The SEC, or his appointee, shall maintain open dialog with this agency. In accord with other provisions within this plan, we shall strive to provide communications between OHSEP and other agencies, both at the state and local level, as requested.

5.2. Amateur radio operators, by virtue of their special abilities and equipment, are often well suited to set up and maintain networks of communicators to support various emergency management and public service agencies.

5.3. In their local plans, ECs should establish nets, or liaisons with existing nets, to enable emergency messages and traffic to be moved in an expedient manner. Any member of the local ARES group who suspects a communication emergency exists should monitor the assigned net frequency for activity.

5.4. It is recommended that the local parish plan include references to the following:

5.4.1. In any emergency situation, the local EC and AECs, and if deemed necessary, the DEC, ADEC, and SEC, and ASEC should be notified by radio, telephone, pager, or any other means necessary.

5.4.2. In the event that the EC and AECs are unavailable, any trained member of the parish ARES group/organization may call the local emergency net into session and serve as the Net Control Station (NCS) until properly relieved.

5.4.3. During emergency operations, announcements will be made on amateur frequencies by the EC or the appointed NCS.

5.4.4. Upon awareness or notification that an emergency situation exists, ARES members will monitor the ARES net frequency designated in their local plan. In the event that all repeaters are down, simplex communications should be established. Relays may be necessary; however, the designated NCS shall remain in control of the frequency.

5.4.5. When the emergency net has been called into formal session, stations should not transmit until invited to do so by the NCS. The only exception is stations with emergency or priority traffic.

5.4.6. In coordination with parish Emergency Management officials, a location should be designated as the focal point for all emergency communications. When feasible, this should be the Parish OHSEP. It is recommended that this location have full emergency power capability. Provisions for relief operators should be made to allow for continuous operation.

5.4.7. Field units are cautioned to keep safety in mind. Under no circumstances are you to put yourself in jeopardy. Remain alert and aware of the situation.

5.4.8. When necessary, the Emergency Manager will appoint a Public Information Officer (PIO). This person is responsible for all contact with the media. In an emergency, situations can change quickly. A misquote or incorrect statement could undermine the whole program. Let the appointed PIO do his job.

6. COORDINATION

6.1. ECs should maintain relations with contiguous parishes. Leadership officials should know each other and meet regularly, sharing information from their plans, since they may be tasked with assisting each other during emergency situations. This shall hold true for DECs and ADECs as well.

6.2. The SEC and the Section Traffic Manager (STM) shall maintain relations and coordinate liaison between ARES and NTS activities. As described in the ARRL's *Public Service Communications Manual*, the National Traffic System is dedicated to communications during emergencies on behalf of ARES.

6.3. In the event of wide area emergencies, the Louisiana SM and SEC should consult with their counterparts in neighboring Sections. Coordination details for wide area disasters are described in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) jointly agreed upon in September 2009 by the AR, LA, MS, and TN Sections. All Louisiana ARES members should be familiar with this MOU.

6.4 ECs are encouraged to pursue MOUs with their local served agencies. However, before any MOU is officially agreed upon by an EC and a local agency, the MOU must first be approved by the SEC, SM, and Headquarters. A MOU with the local Red Cross Chapter is not necessary as this is covered by the ARRL/ARC National MOU. Local Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) should, however, be developed with the local chapter to promote an understanding of local operating procedures.

7. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

7.1 All ARES members are strongly encouraged to pursue training opportunities

whenever possible. On-the-air training opportunities include participating in one or more of the following activities.

7.1.1 Local ARES nets
7.1.2 Local emergency drills and public service events
7.1.3 ARRL Field Day in June
7.1.4 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (annual date varies)
7.1.5 Louisiana ARES Net (LAN)
7.1.6 Louisiana Traffic Net (LTN)
7.1.7 Louisiana CW Net (LCW)
7.1.8 Louisiana Slow Net (LSN)

7.2 In addition to on-the-air training, there are many opportunities for ARES members to pursue emergency communications training through self-study and formal courses. ARES members are encouraged to take the ARRL's on-line emergency communications course. NIMS and FEMA courses such as 100, 200, 700, and 800 are strongly encouraged and may be required for ARES activity by your EOC.

8 DIGITAL MESSAGING

8.1 Any FCC authorized digital mode may be used to exchange messages. Each mode may have unique properties that give it an advantage in a particular situation.

8.2 The HF Digital National Traffic System is encouraged for NTS type messages without email addresses.

8.3 Winlink 2000 is encouraged for destinations with email addresses. This may include HF and VHF with RMS Express, Paclink, and Airmail utilization.

8.4 Pactor and Winmor are the preferred modes for point-to-point HF digital communications using RMS Express and Airmail. The simplex point-to-point frequencies will be 3596.0 and 7080.0 LSB Mark (3595.9 and 7079.9 center) for utilization inside the state.

8.5 APRSLink is a limited capacity option for those areas with active APRS IGates.

8.6 Modes such as RTTY, PSK31 and others which do not have error correcting or error checking can be used but are not encouraged due to their ability to receive errors without realizing the transmitted message has changed.

8.7 Each ARES member should utilize RMS Express ~~and~~ Airmail with Winlink 2000 and Peer to Peer for training on a regular basis and Emergency Communications.This includes receiving messages for third party delivery as well as sending messages.

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Reviewed/Modified:
January 30, 2006,

April 15, 2006,
June 4, 2006,
July 21, 2008
August 26, 2008
September 19, 2010
August 1, 2012

The following Appendices contain State information. Parish plans should include information specific to each individual parish.

APPENDIX I

Section Manager
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Assistant Section Manager
Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator
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Bunkie, LA 71322
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Section Emergency Coordinator
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Baton Rouge, LA, 70809-5234
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Section Traffic Manager
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KB5YEG@ARRL.net

ARRL
Steve Ewald
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Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
Roger Farbe
Communication Specialist
RACES / ARES Liaison
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Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness
7667 Independence Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone: 225-358-5252
Fax: 225-925-7501

ARES District Emergency Coordinators

Information on Louisiana ARES leadership, section net times and frequencies, and many other Louisiana Section Details can be found at: www.laarrl.org

REGION 1 - SOUTH EAST DISTRICT		
DEC	**Lyle Brown, KD5EWD**	Kd5ewd@arrl.net
REGION 2 - CAPITOL DISTRICT		
DEC	**Robert Hobbs, N5ULA**	n5nxl@bellsouth.net
ADEC	**Kirk Brown, KN1B**	KN1B@bellsouth.net
ADEC	**Doug Dedon, W5RR**	dwdedon@yahoo.com
ADEC	**Richard Teague, K5BTP**	K5BTP@lsu.edu
REGION 3 - BAYOU DISTRICT		
DEC	**Vacant**	
REGION 4 - ACADIA DISTRICT		
DEC	**Jaclyn L Price, KA5LMZ**	jelprice@atvci.net
REGION 5 - SOUTH WEST DISTRICT		
DEC	**Ronald K Phelps, KC5FGO**	kc5fgo@arrl.net
ADEC	**Burt Sammis, AF5AA**	**af5aa@camtel.net**
ADEC	**Doug Phelps,WB5QZA**	**cajungeese@yahoo.com**
REGION 6 - CENTRAL DISTRICT		
DEC	**James E Molan, KD5IGG**	kd5igg@bellsouth.net
ADEC	**Scott B Wren, KD5DFL**	kd5dfl@cox-internet.com
ADEC	**Jessie C Tilghman, W5JZQ**	w5jzq@arrl.net
REGION 7 - NORTH WEST DISTRICT		
DEC	**Robert A Turner, KG5YK**	robertkg5yk@hotmail.com
ADEC	**John Mussey, N5FJ**	n5fj@arrl.net
REGION 8 - NORTH EAST DISTRICT		
DEC	**William M (Mack) Redmond, KA5JNL**	ka5jnl2@bayou.com
REGION 9 - NORTH LAKE DISTRICT		
DEC	**Keith Barnes, W5KB**	kab384@me.com
ADEC	**Earl E Creel, N5ZD**	n5zd@i-55.com
ADEC	**Bob Priez, WB5FBS**	Wb5fbs@arrl.net

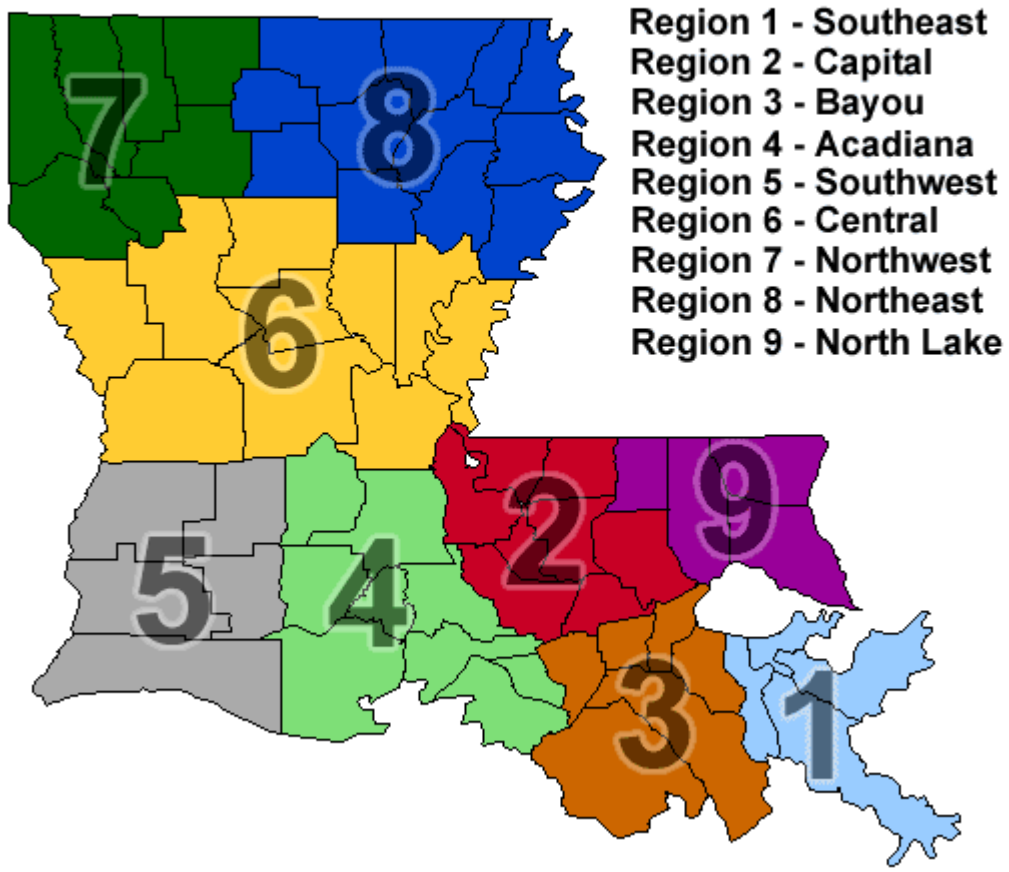
ARES Emergency Coordinators

REGION 1 - SOUTH EAST DISTRICT			
JEFF	Jefferson	Herb Robin, N5AUC	n5auc@arrl.net
ORLN	Orleans	Joel M Colman, NO5FD	joel@colman.us
PLQM	Plaquemines	Richard Beline, KA5EZQ	rbeline_sr@excite.com
STBR	St. Bernard	VACANT	
REGION 2 - CAPITOL DISTRICT			
ASCN	Ascension	VACANT	
EBTR	E. Baton Rouge	Robert Hobbs, N5ULA	n5ula@arrl.net
EFIC	E. Feliciana	David Delatte, AE5HH	
IBVL	Iberville	VACANT	
LVGN	Livingston	Douglas Dedon, W5RR	dwdedon@yahoo.com
PTPC	Pointe Coupee	Kirk Brown, KN1B	kn1b@bellsouth.net
WBTR	W. Baton Rouge	VACANT	
EFLC	W. Feliciana	VACANT	
REGION 3 - BAYOU DISTRICT			
ASMP	Assumption	VACANT	
LAFX	Lafourche	Brett Williams, KB5YZB	kB5yzb@arrl.net
STCH	St. Charles	Gery Gaubert, KE5JZV	ke5jzv@arrl.net
STJM	St. James	John N LeBlanc, KE5JZM	ke5jzm@lucher.com
STJN	St. John	VACANT	
TRBN	Terrebonne	John Welch, AD5YP	ad5yp@arrl.net
REGION 4 - ACADIA DISTRICT			
ACAD	Acadia	VACANT	
EVNG	Evangeline	Jody A Fontenot, KB5RXZ	kb5rxz@arrl.net
IBRA	Iberia	VACANT	
LAFT	Lafayette	Ed Roy, WA5TNK	edroy@edroy.com
STLN	St. Landry	VACANT	
STMT	St. Martin	VACANT	
STMY	St. Mary	Jackie Price, KA5LMZ	jelprice@atvci.net
VMRL	Vermilion	VACANT	
REGION 5 - SOUTH WEST DISTRICT			
ALLN	Allen	Earl Morrow, W5ELM	w5elm@yahoo.com

BEAU	Beauregard	Marvin R. Rush, W5MRR	w5mrr1959@gmail.com
CALC	Calcasieu	Bradley Bordelon, KE5VLB	ke5vlb@arrl.net
CAMN	Cameron	Burt Sammis, AF5AA	af5aa@camtel.net
JFDV	Jeff Davis	David Le Jeune, WN5V	lejeuned@centurytel.net
REGION 6 - CENTRAL DISTRICT DEC			
AVLS	Avoyelles	Harold E Laughlin, KD5JZC	kd5jzc@arrl.net
CATL	Catahoula	Jimmy Lewis, AB5YS	jimmylewis@bellsouth.net
CNCD	Concordia	Everette Thompson, N5AVN	n5avn@arrl.net
GRNT	Grant	Charles E Standlee, AC5PW	ac5pw@arrl.net
LASL	LaSalle	Carol Welch, WB5ISL	welch1@earthlink.net
NTCH	Natchitoches	VACANT	
RAPD	Rapides	Scott Wren, KD5DFL	kd5dfl@cox-internet.com
SABN	Sabine	Cecil G. Harper, W5CQG	wd5cqg@ndemand.com
VRNN	Vernon	Avery Wright, KD4GBA	kd4gba@arrl.net
WINN	Winn	VACANT	
REGION 7 - NORTH WEST DISTRICT			
BNVL	Bienville	Wayne Hatfield, KD5JJP	kd5jjp@hotmail.com
BSSR	Bossier	James (Buddy) Rawls, KG5ZY	kg5zy@bellsouth.net
CADO	Caddo	James (Buddy) Rawls, KG5ZY	kg5zy@bellsouth.net
CLBN	Claiborne	Wayne Hatfield, KD5JJP	kd5jjp@hotmail.com
DSTO	DeSoto	David L Armstrong, AA5HY	aa5hy@arrl.net
RDRV	Red River	Jerry L Glover, KD5IUZ	jerrylglover@bellsouth.net
WBST	Webster	VACANT	
REGION 8 - NORTH EAST DISTRICT			
CALD	Caldwell	VACANT	
ECRL	E. Carroll	Ted Pearson, KF5IMD	kf5imd@arrl.net
FRNK	Franklin	VACANT	
JAXN	Jackson	VACANT	
LNCN	Lincoln	Jerry Darnell, AD5AQ	ad5aq@arrl.net
MDSN	Madison	VACANT	
MRHS	Morehouse	VACANT	
OUCT	Ouachita	VACANT	
RICH	Richland	VACANT	

TNSA	Tensas	Jimmy Lewis, AB5YS	jimmylewis@bellsouth.net
UNON	Union	Kevin G Thomas, W5KGT	w5kgt@hotmail.com
WCRL	W. Carroll	Ted Pearson, KF5IMD	kf5imd@arrl.net
REGION 9 - NORTH LAKE DISTRICT			
WASH	Washington	Earl Creel, N5ZD	n5zdecreel@gmail.com
STHL	St. Helena	VACANT	
STTM	St. Tammany	Michael Decossas, KB5OZE	mike@decossas.com
TNGP	Tangipahoa	Robert Priez, WB5FBS	wb5fbs@arrl.net

Louisiana ARES Districts



APPENDIX II

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN THE

ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE SECTIONS

IN THE DELTA DIVISION

OF

THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

8 August 2011

Purpose: Recognizing that the south-central region of the United States is subject to large scale disaster events and that Amateur Radio operators are frequently asked to assist with emergency communications during such events, this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared to establish a framework for cooperation between the Arkansas (AR), Louisiana (LA), Mississippi (MS) and Tennessee (TN) Sections in the Delta Division of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

During natural and man-made disaster events, amateur radio operators in an impacted area often cannot participate in emergency operations at the Section level because they must attend to family and local problem areas. Thus, the availability of emergency coordinators, experienced net control stations, traffic handlers, etc., can be at a premium in a given Section.

In order to mitigate this potential problem and take advantage of the expertise of nearby amateurs not in the impacted area, the AR, LA, MS and TN Sections agree through signature of their respective Section Managers (SMs) to the following:

(a) The SM of the Section that is anticipated to be the first and most impacted by the disaster event will be the SM Coordinator (Incident Commander) for the event. The selection of the SM Coordinator shall be by mutual agreement of the four Section Managers. The SM Coordinator will organize and staff an HF Emergency/Tactical phone net (see note 3 and Addendum). The coordination of this net will by the designated Delta Emergency Net Manager (see note 3). **Net frequencies shall be 7275 kHz (daytime) and 3890 kHz (nighttime).** The SM Coordinator will inform ARRL Headquarters (see note 1) of the Emergency/Tactical net's activation. The actual start time of the net shall be determined by mutual consent of the four Section Managers based upon available

information. In the event that the SM Coordinator becomes unavailable, the applicable Section Emergency Coordinator will assume coordination.

(b) If the emergency traffic within a given section is very heavy during the disaster event, the SM Coordinator may request that an HF phone net in that section also be activated to handle the overload with appropriate liaison between the nets (see Addendum for section emergency operation frequencies). It is understood that Command and Control nets are considered local in nature and shall be established by the appropriate EC, DEC, SEC or SM as established by local procedure.

(c) In wide area storm events (such as hurricanes or ice storms), organizing and staffing the Emergency/Tactical net must start well in advance of the storm's arrival. Since many disasters can occur with little or no warning, each section will establish and periodically update rosters of net control station volunteers, rapid response teams and individual deployment volunteers. Intersection deployment of teams or individual volunteers shall be strictly controlled by Delta Division SMs or SECs, if so delegated by an SM.

(d) The SM Coordinator shall contact the Net Managers of RN5 and DRN5 to make arrangements for handling Health and Welfare (H/W) traffic, if deemed necessary, and to ensure that an NTS Liaison will monitor the Emergency/Tactical Net to move H/W traffic off frequency for handling as necessary. The managers of independent traffic nets may also be contacted for assistance, if the anticipated traffic load warrants. The SM Coordinator may declare a moratorium on **inbound** H/W traffic contingent upon capability to deliver messages in a timely manner to the addresses in the impacted area. When conditions improve such that messages can be delivered, the moratorium shall be lifted.

(e) Operational decisions made by the SM Coordinator relating to Amateur participation in the emergency event shall be made in consultation with other SMs as necessary.

(f) The SMs of the remaining lesser impacted Sections shall coordinate with their SECs and STMs to render assistance as needed.

(g) This MOU shall survive changes in Delta Division SMs and shall remain in affect until modified by consent and signature of the current SMs of the AR, LA, MS and TN Sections.

Dale E. Temple, W5RXU
Section Manager
Arkansas

K5GLS
Gary L. Stratton, Sr., K5GLS
Section Manager
Louisiana

W5XX
Malcolm P. Keown, W5XX
Section Manager
Mississippi

W4BDB
Glen D. Clayton, W4BDB
Section Manager
Tennessee

1. The recommended contact persons at ARRL HQ are Mike Corey at (860) 594-0222 and/or Steve Ewald at (860) 594-0265.
2. Traffic handlers (NTS or independent) not directly involved in emergency communications are encouraged to solicit H/W traffic by visiting shelters in the affected areas of their Section.
3. Delta Emergency Net Manager is Richard Webb, NF5B. Richard is located in Eads, TN, and his phone number is 901-465-9921

Addendum: Sample Net Control Preamble
(Read only once at initial net activation and at the beginning of each subsequent day's activities)
Updated February 20, 2012

Calling the Delta Division Emergency Net (repeat) This net has been activated to provide emergency communications in response to (name of disaster event at/in location of event). This net respectfully requests the frequency be kept clear for net business and traffic. This is (call sign) in (QTH) net control for the next two-hours.

Stations with emergency traffic call now with callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Stations with emergency traffic may break the net with EMERGENCY followed by call sign

This is a directed net for liaison stations from emergency response agencies, stations with high priority traffic, or stations in the affected area with information. Please transmit only when requested to do so. After checking into the net, inform NCS if you need to leave the net.

(pause)

This net will handle emergency and priority traffic only. All health and welfare and routine traffic should be routed via the National Traffic System. Note Only outbound Health/Welfare traffic will be handled if there is a moratorium on inbound traffic. During periods when the Net not busy, please keep the frequency clear.

Alternate NCS call now.

Stations with emergency traffic call now with callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Station with priority traffic call now with callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Station with weather related traffic or information call now with callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

NTS Liaison Station call now with net, callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays) (if no Liaison is on frequency, refer queries to active section or H/W nets)

Stations from State, city, county, or parish EOCs call now with location, callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

National Weather Service Stations call now with location, callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Red Cross or Salvation Army Stations call now with agency, callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Stations from other Emergency Response Agencies call now with agency callsign and traffic list (if no response, ask for any relays)

Stations in the affected storm event area with information or inquiries call now with callsign (if no response, ask for any relays)

Stations that have checked in may call net with designator and traffic list.

(continue to monitor frequency after all traffic has been passed) (periodically announce net and call for traffic)

This is (call sign) net control for the Delta Division Emergency Net. This net will handle emergency and priority traffic only. All health and welfare and routine traffic should be routed via the National Traffic System.

Stations wishing to check in from NTS, EOCs, NWS, SA , ARC or other emergency response agencies call now with agency, callsign, and traffic list. (if no response, ask for any relays) (repeat every 5 min)

SHORT FORM NET PROTOCOL FOR NET CONTROL SHIFT CHANGE

This is (your call) located in (your location). I will be your Delta ARES Emergency Net control operator for the next two hours or until relieved.

This net will handle emergency and priority traffic only. This is a directed net. Please do not transmit unless directed to do so by net control. This is not a general check in net. If you do not have emergency, priority or significant weather related information, please simply monitor the net and offer relay assistance if needed. If you have immediate emergency traffic use the pro words "BREAK-BREAK" and your traffic will be handled immediately.

We will now take check-ins:

- This is (your call) and the Delta ARES Emergency Net
- Is there any station with emergency, priority or weather related traffic or information?
- Are there check-ins from emergency response agency stations?
- Are there stations in the affected emergency event area with information or inquiries?

NCS Notes:

1. The four bulleted lines above should be read every 5 minutes as time and traffic load permit. There will be periods of silence on the frequency, but this is necessary to keep the frequency open for emergency and priority traffic.
2. Be sure to keep a list of your check-ins so that you can pass this information on to the next NCS. He can then call the roll to see who is still on frequency.
3. If non-emergency stations begin to attempt to check in, please thank them and reply: "This is not a general check in net. If you do not have emergency, priority or significant weather related information, please simply monitor the net and offer relay assistance if needed." Once this occurs a few times others will get the hint.
4. Operating frequencies are 7275 daytime and 3890 nighttime. Frequency changes will be made at the discretion of the Net Control Station depending upon propagation conditions. It is advisable to have other stations check propagation on the proposed frequency before actually making the change.
5. The Net Manager who called you initially to set up the schedule for NCS is coordinating the net schedule. He/she will give you his/her contact information upon initial contact. Please coordinate any schedule changes with him/her.

Section Emergency Operating Frequencies:

ARKANSAS – 3987.5 (SSB), 7260 (SSB), 3570 (CW), 146.52 (VHF), AND 3626.9, 7.1012 (DIGITAL)

LOUISIANA – 3910 (SSB), 7285 (SSB), 3573 (CW), 3595.9 AND 7079.9 (DIGITAL)

MISSISSIPPI – 3862 (SSB), 7238 (SSB), 3570 (CW)

TENNESSEE – 3980 (SSB), 7238 (SSB), 3562 (CW)

APPENDIX III INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN			Incident Name : Varies Date Prepared : August 1, 2012		Operational Period 2012-2013		
#	Function	Channel Name / Trunked Radio System Talkgroup	Assignment	Frequency N or W	Tone / NAC	Mode A, D or M	Remarks
1	Tactical	LA ARES Emergency Net – Primary/Night	All Parishes With Emergency Traffic	RX – 3910 TX – 3910	N/A	A	Monitored by GOHSEP
2	Tactical	LA ARES Emergency Net – Secondary/Day	All Parishes With Emergency Traffic	RX – 7285 TX – 7285	N/A	A	Monitored by GOHSEP
3	Tactical	7290 Traffic Net-Primary/Day	All Parishes with H/W traffic	RX – 7290 TX – 7290	N/A	A	Net operates 10 AM – 12 Noon
4	Tactical	Digital Traffic – Primary/Night	All parishes with digital traffic	RX – 3595.9 TX – 3595.9 Center Freq	N/A	D	15 and 45 minutes after the hour
5	Tactical	Digital Traffic – Secondary/Day	All parishes with digital traffic	RX – 7079.9 TX – 7079.9 Center Freq	N/A	D	15 and 45 minutes after the hour
6	Tactical	CW Traffic – Primary/Night	All parishes with CW traffic	RX – 3573 TX – 3573	N/A	A	Watch/Guard Freq
7	Tactical	CW Traffic – Primary/Day	All parishes with CW traffic	RX – 7111 TX – 7111	N/A	A	Watch/Guard Freq
8	Tactical	CW Traffic – Secondary/Night	All parishes with CW traffic	RX – 3579 TX – 3579	N/A	A	Watch/Guard Freq
9	Tactical	CW Traffic – Secondary/Day	All parishes with CW traffic	RX – 7057 TX – 7057	N/A	A	Watch/Guard Freq
10	Tactical	VHF Packet	TELPAC/Winlink	RX – 145.010 TX – 145.010		D	Monitored by GOHSEP
11	Tactical	APRS	APRS	RX – 144.390 TX – 144.390		D	Monitored by GOHSEP
12	Tactical	Simplex	Simplex	RX – 146.520 TX – 146.520	N/A	D	May Not Be Monitored
13	Tactical	K5ARC Gonzales	VHF to GOHSEPP	RX – 147.225 TX –147.825	107.2	A	Monitored by GOHSEP
14	Tactical	W5DOW Baton Rouge	VHF to GOHSEPP	RX – 147.345 TX – 147.945	100.0	A	Monitored by GOHSEP

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN	Incident Name : Varies Date Prepared : August 1,2012	Operational Period 2012 - 2013

#	Function	Channel Name / Trunked Radio System Talkgroup	Assignment	Frequency N or W	Tone / NAC	Mode A, D or M	Remarks
15	Tactical	N5NXL Baton Rouge	UHF to GOHSEPP	RX –444.350 TX –449.350	136.5	A	Monitored by GOHSEP
16	Tactical	Delta Div	Daytime	RX – 7275 TX – 7275	N/A	A	Activation as Needed
17	Tactical	Delta Div	Nightime	RX – 3890 TX – 3890	N/A	A	Activation as Needed
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			
				RX – TX –			

The convention calls for frequency lists to show four digits after the decimal place, followed by either an "N" or a "W," depending on whether the frequency is narrowband or wideband. Mode refers to either "A" or "D," indicating analog or digital (e.g., Project 25) or "M," indicating mixed mode. All channels are shown as if programmed in a control station, mobile, or portable radio. Repeater and base stations must be programmed with the RX and TX reversed.

Prepared By: **JM COLEMAN** **Incident Location :**

County : **State:** **LA** **W Latitude** **N Longitude**