



State of Montana

2015 Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan



*Produced by the Montana State
Emergency Response
Commission EAS Subcommittee*

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Emergency Alert System is one of the primary sources of information to the media during an emergency or disaster. This plan was prepared by the Montana State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Emergency Alert System (EAS) Sub-Committee. It provides specific procedures for the broadcast of warnings and emergency information to the general public throughout Montana, or any portion thereof. This EAS plan may be activated by designated local, tribal, state, or federal officials in response to such emergencies as blizzards, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, floods, or civil emergencies like chemical accidents, earthquakes, fires, nuclear attack, or any other events which pose a danger to life or property.

This plan supersedes the 2008 State EAS Plan as well as local EAS Plans implemented by various counties and broadcast areas throughout Montana. 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 originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. FCC Rules and Regulations provide 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.

Plan Review: The plan will be reviewed by the Montana EAS Sub-Committee every three years in the summer/fall prior to the Montana SERC Meeting. Recommendations and changes will be coordinated by the EAS Sub-Committee and interested parties.

1.1. Summary of EAS Activation Process for Non-Weather Related Emergency Messages

- Incident Commander or Designated Official identifies a risk to life or property that warrants immediate notification of the general public.
- Incident Commander or Designated Official creates a message for dissemination (see template in Appendix E).
- Message is either relayed to appropriate National Weather Service (NWS) office (Appendix B) or through IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert Warning System).
- If sent through the NWS, they will authenticate the message by calling back and confirming message with dispatch or Designated Official (see Appendix A for authentication contact numbers).
- If sent through the NWS, they will activate EAS by entering message into a product with the relevant event code, and broadcast the message over the appropriate NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) transmitter(s).
- Broadcasters receive authenticated message with tones from NWS or IPAWS transmission. These tones trigger EAS decoders at broadcast stations which may be set to broadcast the alerts automatically. NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers automatically alarm.

1.2 Summary of EAS Activation Process for Weather Related Emergency Messages

- NWS identifies risk to life and property that justifies immediate notification of the general public.
- NWS issues appropriate warning, activates EAS, and broadcasts message over NOAA Weather Radio.
- Broadcasters receive authenticated message from NWS and automatically broadcast message over radio and television networks. NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers automatically alarm.

2. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The listening and viewing habits of the general public are inherent factors of considerations to the positive effectiveness of the Montana EAS. The instinctive reaction of the average person is to turn on his/her radio or television set in time of emergency. However, continued public education is required to increase public awareness of the Montana EAS network as an established medium for receipt and/or distribution of emergency information to the general public at the local, tribal, state and national levels.

2.1 Definitions

Designated Government Officials: The person or persons designated as government signatory to this procedure to request activation of the EAS and to make emergency announcements (see Appendix A).

Emergency: A situation posing an extraordinary threat to the safety of life and property. Examples are, but not limited to, natural situations such as tornadoes, flash floods, icing conditions, heavy snows, widespread fires; and manmade situations such as discharge of toxic gases, widespread power failures, industrial explosions, civil disorders, and nuclear incidents.

Local Primary (LP): The local area broadcast station which provides the National, State, and Local EAS message to the other broadcast stations and cable systems within its local area.

National Primary (NP): Broadcast station that provides the Presidential or other national EAS activations and programming, including broadcast stations involved with the PEP system and EAN Networks.

Non-Participating National (NN): Broadcast station or cable system that has selected not to participate in the national-level EAS and removes its carrier from the air if national-level activation occurs.

Participating National (PN): Broadcast stations and cable systems which monitor either national, state, or local EAS message inputs and directly feed National EAS messages to the public.

Primary Entry Point: Key broadcast stations throughout the U.S. which together can provide national emergency information in the event that the primary national alerting methods are inoperable.

State Primary (SP): The primary broadcast station which transmits the National EAS messages.

3. AUTHORITY

Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 11 – gives the authority for and regulates the operation of the Emergency Alert System.

3.1 Designated Officials:

The following officials are the only “Designated Officials” who may authenticate activation of the EAS under this plan (phone numbers located in Appendix A):

- Incident Commanders through local emergency dispatch (primary means of authentication for local activation is through dispatch)
- County/Tribal DES Coordinators (secondary means of authentication for local activation)
- Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) for AMBER Alerts and Missing Endangered Person Advisories (MEPAs)
- State Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Duty Officer (for statewide EAS activation other than AMBER Alerts and MEPAs)
- National Weather Service (NWS) for weather-related events

3.2 Emergency Messages:

- Designated Officials should issue Emergency/EAS Messages when they believe there is a risk to life and property that warrants immediate notification of the general public.
- Emergency Messages are messages that may override all TV and Radio broadcasting and alert/activate NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers.
- The list of available non-weather related EAS messages include more descriptive, event-specific message types. See **Appendix D** for a list along with their basic definitions.

3.3 Administrative Message (ADR):

- Administrative Messages (ADR) should be used by Designated Officials to provide updated information about an event in progress, an event that has expired or concluded early, pre-event preparation or mitigation activities, post-event recovery operations, or other administrative matters pertaining to the Emergency Alert System.
- The ADR will also be used for Missing Endangered Person Advisories initiated through Montana DOJ at the request of local law enforcement.
- Administrative Messages will be sent to TV and Radio stations but should NOT override TV and Radio broadcasting and should NOT activate NOAA weather radios.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

There are different levels of activation of the EAS System with authority given to Federal, State, Local, Tribal Agencies, including the National Weather Service.

Federal: A Presidential EAS message is the only required national EAS message to be broadcast. These come into the state of Montana through Primary Entry Point stations, through National Public Radio (NPR) and through the Premier Stations with national syndication in the state.

State: The State of Montana is working on the capabilities to transmit messages for a statewide alert. At this time, that would be done by working with the National Weather Service.

Local/Tribal: Local/Tribal alerts are transmitted in one of two ways.

1. Through the National Weather Service
2. Using IPAWS for approved jurisdictions.

4.1 Transmission Methods

National Weather Service (NWS): The National Weather Service has sole authority to issue alerts for hazardous weather watches and warnings through the NOAA Weather Radio system. The NWS also has the ability to send non-weather emergency messages into the EAS system.

IPAWS: The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is a joint program through FEMA, the FCC and NOAA (parent agency of the National Weather Service). IPAWS is a method for local, tribal and state agencies to send out messages in a multitude of methods, including EAS. In Montana, agencies wishing to request use of the IPAWS system need to coordinate with Montana Disaster and Emergency Services (DES). Utilizing IPAWS requires the agency to apply to become an approved alerting authority, taking training, and having a certified software package. Further information is available online at: <https://www.fema.gov/integrated-public-alert-warning-system> as well as through the Montana EAS Sub-Committee.

4.2. Procedures for Designated Officials

- Designated officials will request activation of the EAS through either IPAWS or the National Weather Service (NWS) office that services the impacted county/counties via phone or other available communications. (Appendix A lists NWS office areas of responsibility, their backup offices and necessary phone numbers). A fax or email with the broadcast information is desirable if possible. If the servicing office for your area cannot be reached, contact the backup NWS office.
- For statewide EAS activation, the state DES duty officer will contact the NWS at Great Falls, and they will forward the EAS request to all other NWS offices throughout the state as necessary.
- For AMBER Alerts and MEPAs, Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) will be the initiating agency after being contacted by local law enforcement. DOJ will contact NWS Great Falls for statewide or regional activations, and the NWS in Great Falls will enter those alerts. The event codes CAEMT and ADRMT will be used for the AMBER Alerts and MEPAs respectively.

- Designated officials will use the following format when contacting the NWS:
 - **“THIS IS (NAME/TITLE) OF (ORGANIZATION). I REQUEST THAT THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM BE ACTIVATED FOR (COUNTY(S)) BECAUSE OF (DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY).”**
- Designated Officials should provide emergency program material including a description of the emergency, actions being taken by local government, and instructions to the public. **Reference Appendix D for sample format.** Total time allotted for the message should be less than two broadcast minutes. Authentication procedures are defined in Section 6.
- Upon authentication, NWS officials will transmit the message provided by designated officials.

4.3. Procedures for the National Weather Service

- After discussion of the event type to be used with the requesting official, the NWS will authenticate all requests for EAS activation according to procedures outlined in Section 6.
- When directed to do so by Designated Officials, the NWS will broadcast EAS coded messages for all the appropriate counties in the operational area and transmit the message over the NOAA weather radio transmitter(s).

4.4. Procedures for Broadcast and Cable System Personnel

- Upon receipt of a request to activate the local EAS from the NOAA broadcast, the LP-1 (or alternate LP-2) may proceed as follows:
- Broadcast the following announcement: **“WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW.”**
- Transmit the EAS header codes and Attention Signal.
- Transmit the following announcement: **“WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM FOR (insert county list or areal description here) BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS WILL FOLLOW.”**
Follow with emergency program...should be no more than 2 minutes in length.
- To terminate the EAS message (immediately or later), make the following announcement: **“THIS CONCLUDES EAS PROGRAMMING. ALL BROADCAST STATIONS AND CABLE SYSTEMS MAY NOW RESUME NORMAL OPERATIONS.”**
- Transmit the EAS End of Message (EOM) code. Important Note: For State and local emergencies, broadcasters and cable operators have the option of transmitting only the EAS header and EOM codes without the Attention Signal and emergency message. This is acceptable so that EAS coded messages can be quickly relayed through areas unaffected by the emergency. All other broadcast stations and cable systems that are monitoring their EAS receiver/decoders will be alerted by the header codes and attention signal. Each station and cable system upon receipt of the signal will, at the discretion of management, perform the same procedures listed above by retransmitting the emergency message from the LP-1 or LP-2.
- All broadcast and cable system stations are requested to rebroadcast the following EAS coded messages. For descriptions of message types, see Appendix F.

To avoid unnecessary escalation of public confusion, all stations and cable systems must be cautious in providing news and information pertaining to the emergency. All messages must be based on definite and confirmed facts. The public must not be left to decide what is or is not fact.

- Upon completion of the above transmission procedures, resume normal programming. Appropriate notations should be made in the station and cable system records. A very brief summary may be sent to the FCC for information purposes only.

4.5 Montana EAS Message Types

Message Title	EAS CODE/PIL
Administrative Message/Missing Endangered Persons Advisory	ADR
Avalanche Warning*	AVW
Blizzard Warning*	BZW
Child Abduction Emergency (AMBER Alert)	CAE
Civil Danger Warning	CDW
Civil Emergency Message	CEM
Earthquake Warning	EQW
Evacuation Immediate	EVI
Flash Flood Watch*	FFA
Flash Flood Warning*	FFW
Fire Warning	FRW
Hazardous Materials Warning	HMW
Local Area Emergency	LAE
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW
Radiological Hazard Warning	RHW
Shelter in Place Warning	SPW
Severe Thunderstorm Watch*	SVA
Severe Thunderstorm Warning*	SVR
Tornado Watch*	TOA
911 Telephone Outage Emergency	TOE
Tornado Warning*	TOR
Volcano Warning	VOW

*NWS products

The NWS will relay Avalanche Warnings (AVW) from the relevant Avalanche Centers across the region on days of especially high avalanche danger. Normally these will not be sent with tones to activate EAS, but the option exists for life-threatening situations.

5. BACKUP PROCEDURES IF NOAA WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTERS ARE DOWN

In the event NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) transmitters are not operational, EAS alerts should be relayed by phone from the NWS to the relevant LP1 stations (Appendix B). The LP1 stations will then relay the warning information to those stations that monitor them. The broadcaster should contact the NWS to authenticate such a verbal request by calling the NWS station (Appendix A). This additional authentication step is only necessary in this backup situation, when normal dissemination of warnings is prevented by NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) transmitter outage.

6. AUTHENTICATION

The NWS will verify the authenticity of any EAS activation request initiated outside the NWS, by calling back and receiving confirmation from one of the Designated Officials. This will normally be the county dispatch or Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the county, or the Duty Officer for the State in the case of state-wide activation.

AMBER Alerts and Missing Endangered Person Advisories are requested by local law enforcement through the Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) help desk. MT DOJ will contact NWS Great Falls to verify receipt of the AMBER alert.

This list of contacts will be kept at the NWS offices, with updates provided to the NWS when available by State DES and DOJ. Broadcasters who receive the EAS activation signal from the NWR transmission will not need further authorization. However, broadcasters should authenticate any request over the phone (in a situation where NWR transmitters are inoperative) by calling back the NWS at the listed numbers (Appendix A).

7. REQUIRED WEEKLY AND MONTHLY TESTS AND OTHER EAS TESTS

7.1 Required Weekly Tests (RWT) shall be scheduled. These tests are not forwarded or rebroadcast.

The weekly test ensures that station to station links are up and running. Each station is required to originate and log their weekly test. Each station is also required to monitor and log receipt of weekly tests from both of their monitoring assignments. The print out should be attached to your station log for that day. A weekly test should be sent at various times of the day or night and should be sent on various days of the week including weekends.

The National Weather Service conducts these tests each Wednesday between 11 am and noon unless there is a threat of hazardous weather. If hazardous weather is expected or occurring, the RWT will be postponed until the next available non-hazardous weather day.

If a station does not receive a weekly test, contact your monitoring source to report it. It is the responsibility of stations on both ends (transmitting and receiving) to ensure the tests are received successfully.

7.2 Required Monthly Test (RMT) of these EAS procedures shall be conducted on a random or scheduled basis by the broadcasters from a point that would originate the common emergency message. The National Weather Service will originate the Required Monthly Test (RMT), but an NPR or LP1 station can also originate a test message.

- Routine RMT Schedule: Odd months (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov.) – 8:30 a.m. to sunset and even months (Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) – Sunset to 8:30a.m.

7.3 EAS Testing may be done periodically for various reasons. These tests will be coordinated with the Montana EAS Sub-Committee, and require approval from the FCC. Appendix E documents the process for requesting an EAS test.

8. REPORTING CHANGES OR PROBLEMS WITH EAS

Contact your local NWS office (Appendix A) or the [Montana Broadcaster's Association](#) regarding any problems with EAS. If it is not something that can be fixed locally, they will contact the State of Montana EAS Sub-Committee who will work to find a prompt solution.

APPENDIX A: Contacts for Authentication of EAS Messages

(phone numbers for PSAP and DES are kept internal to those agencies)

Primary Contact Numbers for Authentication:

- PSAP/County Dispatch numbers for local activations
- DOJ Help Desk for all AMBER Alert and Missing Endangered Person activations, statewide or regionally (406-444-2800, available 24/7)
- State DES Duty Officer for all other statewide activations (406-324-4777)

DES Directory

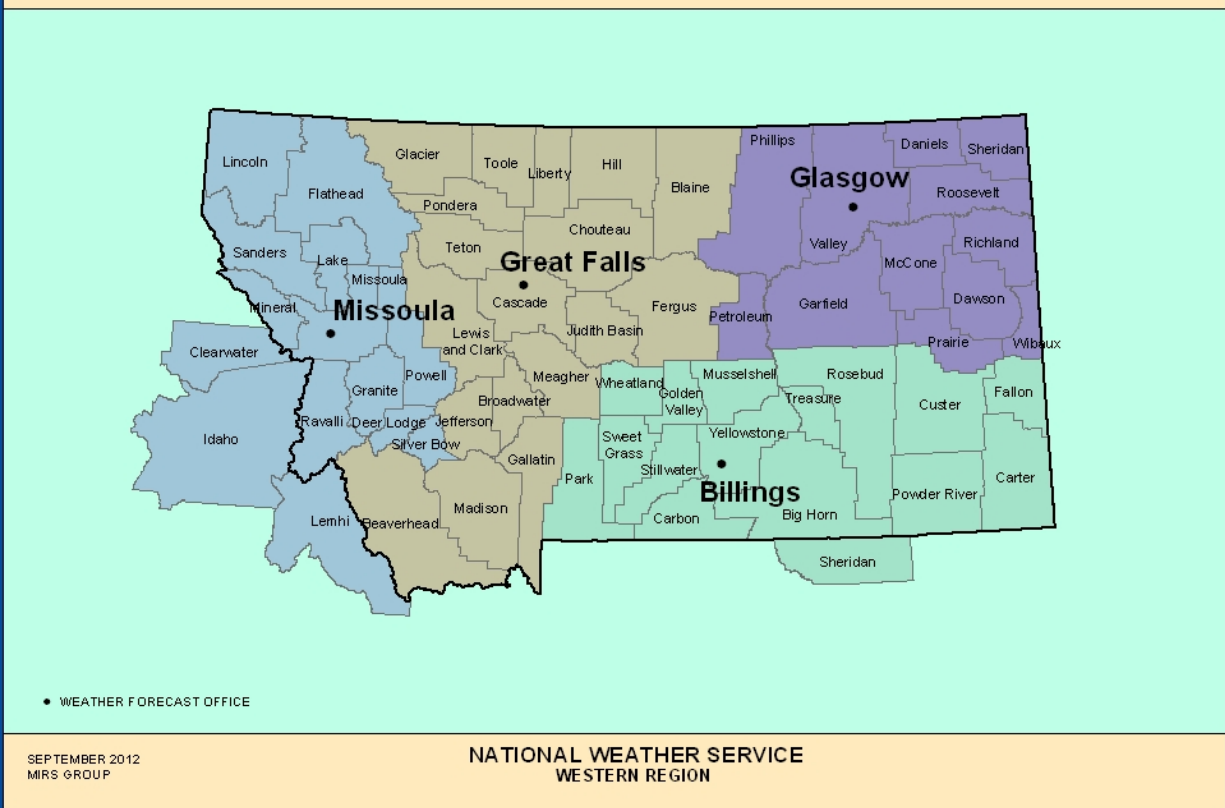
- These numbers are a secondary means of authentication and for communication. County coordinators may be part-time and more difficult to reach. Updates to this directory will be provided by State DES.

NOAA/National Weather Service Offices

- The following are the contacts for the various NWS offices serving Montana. The map that follows shows the counties that each office has warning responsibilities for.

OFFICE/BACKUP OFFICE	PHONE	FAX
Missoula (Backup office is Great Falls): National Weather Service Forecast Office PO BOX 9350 Missoula, MT 59807-9350	1-800-676-6975 (406) 329-4718 (406) 329-4716	(406) 329-4842
Great Falls (Backup office is Missoula): National Weather Service Forecast Office 5324 Tri-Hill Frontage Road Great Falls, MT 59404-4933	(406) 453-9642 (406) 453-8429	(406) 453-3812
Billings (Backup office is Glasgow): National Weather Service Forecast Office 2170 Overland Ave Billings, MT 59102-6455	(406) 652-2314 (406) 652-1916	(406) 652-3214
Glasgow (Backup office is Billings): National Weather Service Forecast Office 101 Airport Road Glasgow, MT 59230-2843	(406) 228-9622 (ops) (406) 228-4042 (ops) (406) 228-2850 (admin)	(406) 228-9627

MONTANA COUNTY WARNING FORECAST AREAS



NWS Backup Capabilities: All NWS offices have primary and secondary backup capabilities for other NWS offices. If you are unable to contact your primary NWS office, contact the appropriate backup office. If unable to contact the backup office, contact ANY of the NWS offices (starting with Great Falls if possible)-all offices are able to disseminate EAS messages throughout the state. The National Warning System (NAWAS) phone may also be used if the National Weather Service offices are unable to answer their regular phones.

APPENDIX B: Broadcast Stations Covered by the Montana EAS Plan

For a complete directory of Montana broadcasters see the following website sponsored by the Montana Broadcasters Association: <http://www.mtbroadcasters.org/>

RED INDICATES AN NPR STATION OR TRANSLATOR.

BLUE INDICATES A PRIMARY ENTRY POINT (PEP) STATION.

ORANGE INDICATES A PREMIER STATION.

MONTANA BROADCAST STATIONS AND THEIR MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS FOR EAN					
CALL LETTERS	LP	CITY OF LICENSE	MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS	3rd MONITOR IF POSSIBLE	NOTES
KANA 580 AM		Anaconda	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KGLM-FM 97.7 FM		Anaconda	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KJFT 90.3 FM		Arlee	KERR-AM/NWS	KUFM-FM	
KFLN 960 AM		Baker	KFYR-AM/KUSM-TV		MT PBS via TV Translator K24DD-D
KJJM 100.5 FM	LP-1	Baker	KFYR-AM/KUSM-TV		MT PBS via TV Translator K24DD-D
KBAS-LP 98.3 FM		Basin	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KCMM 99.1 FM		Belgrade	KGLT-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KGCM 90.9 FM		Belgrade	KGLT-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KISN 96.7 FM		Belgrade	KGLT-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KGFJ 88.1 FM		Belt	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KBZM 104.7 FM		Big Sky	K240CI-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KYPB 89.3 FM		Big Timber	KYPB-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KIBG 100.7 FM		Bigfork	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KBLG 910 AM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KBLW 90.1 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KBUL 970 AM	LP-2	Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	N/A	
KCTR-FM 102.9 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KEMC 91.7 FM	LP-1	Billings	NPR/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KEWF 98.5 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KFHW-LP 101.1 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KGHL 790 AM		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KHMT-TV CH 22/4		Billings	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	

KJCR 1240 AM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KKBR 97.1 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KLMT 89.3 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KLRV 90.9 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KMHK 103.7 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KRKX 94.1 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KRPM 107.5 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KRZN 96.3 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KSVI-TV CH 18/6		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KTVQ-TV CH 10/2		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KULR-TV CH 11/8		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KURL 93.3 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KYSX 105.1 FM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KYYA 730 AM		Billings	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	
KEME-LP 106.3 FM		Boulder	KUFM-FM /NWS	KMBR-FM	KUFM-FM via TV translator K27CD-D
K42BZ-TV CH 42/42		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KBMC 102.1 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KBOZ 1090 AM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KBOZ-FM 99.9 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KBZK-TV CH 13/7		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KGLT 91.9 FM	LP-1	Bozeman	NPR /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KLBZ 89.3 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KMEA-LP 92.7 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KMMS 1450 AM	LP-2	Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KMMS-FM 95.1 FM		Bozeman	PREMIER /NWS	N/A	
KOBB 1230 AM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KOBB-FM 93.7 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KOFK-LP 98.3 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KUSM-TV CH 8/9		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KZBN 90.3 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KZMY 103.5 FM		Bozeman	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KBWG-LP 107.5 FM		Browning	KZIN-FM/NWS	KSEN-AM	May require a special receive antenna

					May require a special receive antenna
KNPY 88.1 FM		Browning	KZIN-FM/NWS	KSEN-AM	
KAAR 92.5 FM		Butte	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KAPC 91.3 FM	LP-2	Butte	NPR/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KBOW 550 AM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KFRD 88.9 FM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KJLF 90.5 FM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KMBR 95.5 FM	LP-1	Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KMSM-FM 107.1 FM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KOPR 94.1 FM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KQOV-LP 98.5 FM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KTVM-TV CH 6/6		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KWYB-TV CH 19/18		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KXLF-TV CH 5/4		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KXTL 1370 AM		Butte	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KEAC-LP 106.1 FM		Cardwell	KAPC-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KIKF 104.9 FM		Cascade	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KRYK 101.3 FM		Chinook	KUFM-FM/NWS	K219FF-FM	KUSM-TV via TV translator K24KU-D
KUDI 88.7 FM		Choteau	KQDI-FM/NWS	KUSM-TV	
KMCJ 99.5 FM		Colstrip	KYPC-FM/NWS		
KNPC 89.1 FM		Colstrip	KYPC-FM/NWS		
KYPC 89.9 FM		Colstrip	NPR/NWS		
KHNC 95.9 FM		Columbia Falls	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KRVO 103.1 FM		Columbia Falls	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KMTJ 90.5 FM		Columbus	K203AI-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KTZZ 93.7 FM		Conrad	KUFM-FM/NWS		KUSM-TV via TV translator K24KU-D
KHDV 107.9 FM		Darby	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KBCK 1400 AM		Deer Lodge	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KQRV 96.9 FM		Deer Lodge	KMBR-FM/NWS	KAPC-FM	
KBEV-FM 98.3 FM		Dillon	K219CS-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KDBM 1490 AM		Dillon	K219CS-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KDWG 90.9 FM		Dillon	K219CS-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	

KVVR 97.9 FM		Dutton	KQDI-FM/NWS		
KBMI-FM 104.1 FM		East Helena	KYPH-FM/KCAP-AM/NWS	KCAP-AM	
KKGR 680 AM		East Helena	KYPH-FM/KCAP-AM/NWS	KCAP-AM	
KYPH 89.1 FM		East Helena	KYPH-FM/KCAP-AM/NWS	KCAP-AM	
KMPT 930 AM		East Missoula	KUFM-FM/KGVO-AM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KWEP-LP 103.7 FM		Elk Park	KBOW-AM/KMBR-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	
KEUR-LP 107.7 FM		Eureka	KBBZ-FM/NWS	K02AO-D	
KZXT 93.5 FM		Eureka	KBBZ-FM/NWS	K02AO-D	
KQJZ 1340 AM		Evergreen	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KINX 102.7 FM		Fairfield	KQDI-FM/NWS	KMON-AM	
KDTR 103.3 FM		Florence	KUFM-FM/KGVO-AM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KIKC 1250 AM		Forsyth	K216DC-FM/NWS	KATL-AM	
KIKC-FM 101.3 FM	LP-1	Forsyth	K216DC-FM/NWS	KATL-AM	
KGVA 88.1 FM		Fort Belknap	KXEI-FM/NWS	KPQX-FM	
KVMO 95.9 FM		Fort Benton	KQDI-FM/NWS	KGPR-FM	
KSCY 106.9 FM		Four Corners	KGLT-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KLAN 93.5 FM	LP-1	Glasgow	K220DN-FM/NWS	KVCK-FM	
KLTZ 1240 AM		Glasgow	K220DN-FM/NWS	KVCK-FM	
KDZN-FM 96.5 FM		Glendive	K203AS-FM/NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KGLE 590 AM	LP-1	Glendive	K203AS-FM/NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KXGN 1400 AM		Glendive	K203AS-FM/NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KXGN-TV CH 5/5		Glendive	K203AS-FM/NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KAAC 98.9 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KAHF 91.5 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KBGF-TV CH50		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KEIN 1310 AM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KFBB-TV CH 8/5		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KFRW 91.9 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KGFA 90.7 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KGFC 88.9 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KGPR 89.9 FM	LP-1	Great Falls	KQDI-FM/NWS	N/A	
KLFM 92.9 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KLSK 100.3 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KMON 560 AM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KMON-FM 94.5 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	

KQDI 1450 AM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KQDI-FM 106.1 FM	LP-2	Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KRTV-TV CH 7/3		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KSMR-LP 97.1 FM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KTGF-TV CH 45/16		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KUGF-TV CH 21/21		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KXGF 1400 AM		Great Falls	KGPR-FM/NWS	KQDI-FM	
KBAZ 96.3 FM		Hamilton	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KHKM 98.7 FM		Hamilton	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KLYQ 1240 AM		Hamilton	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KMZO 90.3 FM		Hamilton	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KUFN 91.9 FM		Hamilton	KUFN-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KHDN 1230 AM		Hardin	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KRWS-LP 100.7 FM		Hardin	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KNMC 90.1 FM		Havre	K219FF/NWS	KXEI-FM	
KNPH 89.3 FM		Havre	K219FF/NWS	KXEI-FM	
KOJM 610 AM		Havre	K219FF/NWS	KXEI-FM	
KPQX 92.5 FM	LP-1	Havre	K219FF/NWS	KXEI-FM	
KXEI 95.1 FM	LP-2	Havre	K219FF-FM/NWS	KUSM-TV	KUSM-TV via K40DG-D
KBLL 1240 AM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KBLL-FM 99.5 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KCAP 950 AM	LP-1	Helena	PREMIER/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KCCH-LP 97.7 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KHBB-TV CH 21/21		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KHFG-LP 101.9 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KHLV 90.1 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KIMO 107.3 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KKRK 106.5 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KMTF-TV CH 29/10		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KMTX 950 AM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KMTX-FM 105.3 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KMXM 101.9 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KNEH-LP 97.3 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KTVH-TV CH 12/12		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	

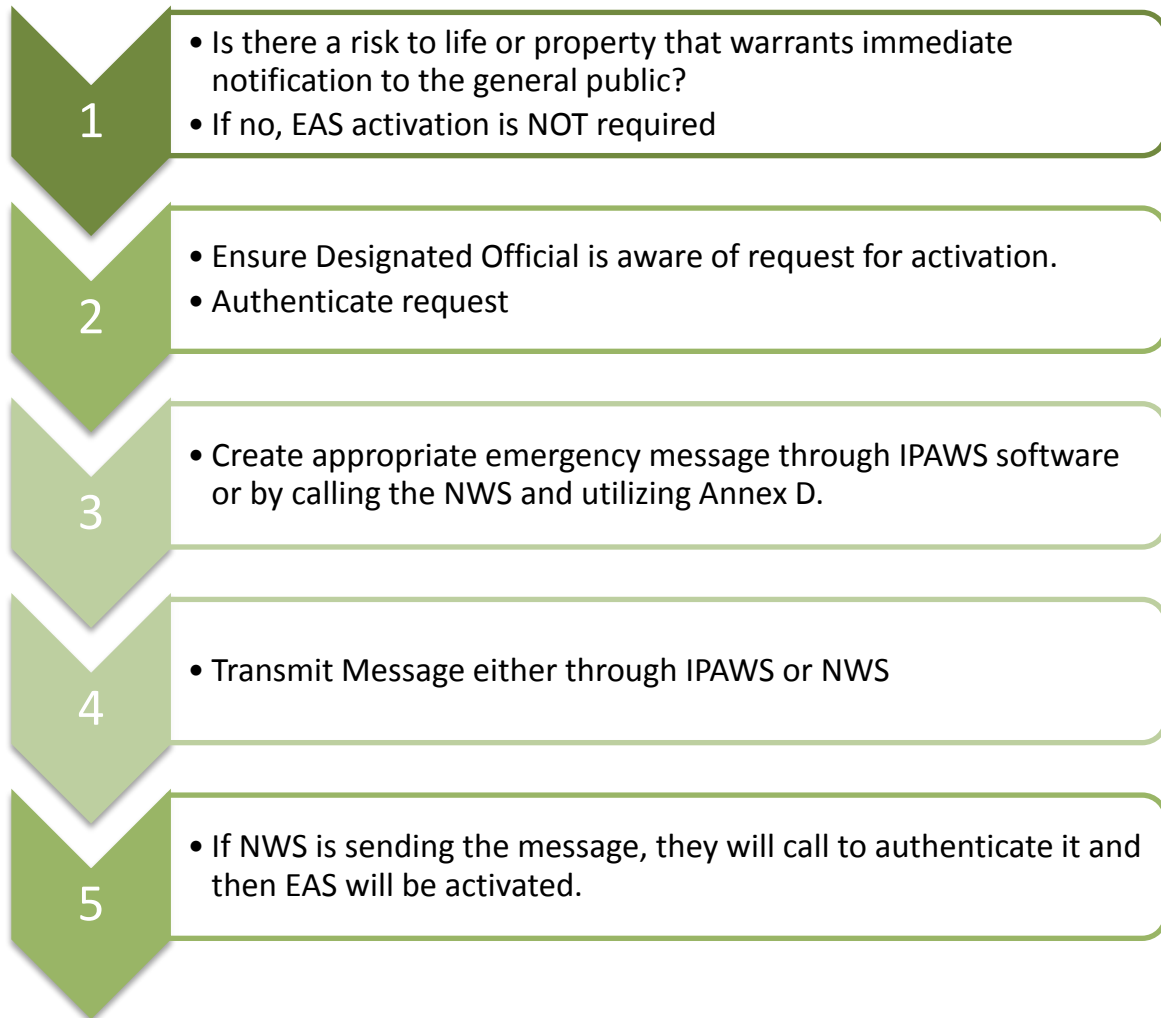
KUHM 91.7 FM	LP-2	Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KVCM 103.1 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KXLH-TV CH 9/9		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KZMT 101.1 FM		Helena	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHM-FM	
KEAJ-LP 100.3 FM		Jefferson Cnty DES	KUFM-FM/NWS	KMBR-FM	KUFM-FM via TV translator K27CD-D
KWMY 105.9 FM		Joliet	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
K18AJ-TV CH 39/18		Kalispell	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KALS 97.1 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KANB-LP 102.3		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KBBZ 98.5 FM	LP-2	Kalispell	PREMIER/NWS	KERR-AM	
KCFW-TV CH 9/9		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KDBR 106.3 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KGEZ 600 AM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KLKM 88.7 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KOFI 1180 AM	LP-1	Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KSPL 90.9 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KUKL 89.9 FM		Kalispell	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KUKL-TV CH 46/46		Kalispell	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KXLI-LP 101.9 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KZMN 103.9 FM		Kalispell	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KOLK 94.3 FM		Lakeside	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KBSR 1490 AM		Laurel	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KRSQ 101.9 FM		Laurel	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KLCM 95.9 FM		Lewistown	KXLO-AM/NWS	K203AE-FM	
KLEU 91.1 FM	LP-1	Lewistown	PREMIER/NWS	K203AE-FM	
KXLO 1230 AM		Lewistown	PREMIER/NWS	K203AE-FM	
KZLM 107.9 FM		Lewistown	KXLO-AM/NWS	K203AE-FM	
KJRZ-LP 105.3 FM		Libby	KUFL-FM/NWS	KTNY-FM	
KLCB 1230 AM		Libby	KUFL-FM/NWS	KTNY-FM	
KTNY 101.7 FM	LP-1	Libby	PREMIER/NWS	KUFL-FM	
KUFL 90.5 FM		Libby	NPR/NWS	KTNY-FM	
KVRZ 88.9 FM		Libby	KUFL-FM/NWS	KTNY-FM	
KOZB 97.5 FM		Livingston	KBMC-FM/NWS	KPRK-AM	
KPRK 1340 AM	LP-1	Livingston	KYPM-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KXLB 100.7 FM		Livingston	KYPM-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KYPM 89.9 FM		Livingston	KYPM-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KPLN 106.7 FM		Lockwood	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	

KYLW 1450 AM		Lockwood	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KYWH 88.9 FM		Lockwood	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KDXT 97.9 FM		Lolo	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KMMR 100.1 FM	LP-1	Malta	KLAN-FM/NWS	KFBB-TV	KFBB-TV VIA K07IC-D
KKQX 105.7 FM		Manhattan	KGLT-FM/NWS	KMMS-FM	
KATL 770 AM		Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KMTA 1050 AM		Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KNPM 91.5 FM		Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KQQM 88.3 FM		Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KYPR 90.7 FM	LP-1	Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KYUS-TV CH 3/3		Miles City	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KYUS-FM 92.3 FM		Miles City	KYPR-FM/NWS	KYUS-TV	
KBGA 89.9 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KECI-TV CH 13/13		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KGGL 93.3 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KGRZ 1450 AM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KGVO 1290 AM	LP-2	Missoula	PREMIER/NWS	KUFM-FM	
KGVO-FM 101.5 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KJCG 88.3 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KMSO 102.5 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KMZL 91.1 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KPAX-TV CH 7/8		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KTMF-TV CH 23/23		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KUFM 89.1 FM		Missoula	NPR/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KUFM-TV CH 11/11	LP-1	Missoula	NPR/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KWLY-LP 104.9 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KYJK 105.9 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KYLT 1340 AM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KYSS-FM 94.9 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KZOQ-FM 100.1 FM		Missoula	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KOYT 98.5 FM		Montana City	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHN-FM	
KWLG-LP 106.3 FM		Montana City	KCAP-AM/NWS	KUHN-FM	
KQRK 99.7 FM		Pablo	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KBIL 89.7 FM		Park City	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KBXI 92.5 FM		Park City	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	

KXDR 106.7 FM		Pinesdale	KUFM-FM/NWS	KGVO-AM	
KPLG 91.5 FM		Plains	K219FF-FM/NWS		STATION OPERATED OUT OF HAVRE
KWHP-LP 104.5 FM		Plains	KUFM-FM/NWS	KPLG-FM	KUFM-FM via TV translator K48LG-D
KZNP 90.5 FM		Plains	KUFM-FM/NWS	KPLG-FM	KUFM-FM via TV translator K48LG-D
KATQ 1070 AM		Plentywood	KFYR-AM/NWS	KNPS-FM	
KATQ-FM 100.1 FM	LP-1	Plentywood	KFYR-AM/NWS	KNPS-FM	
KERR 750 AM	LP-1	Polson	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KMBM 90.7 FM		Polson	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KPJH 89.5 FM		Polson	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KPLR-LP 96.9 FM		Poplar	KYPW-FM/NWS		
KPGH 88.3 FM		Pryor	KEMC-FM/NWS		
KMXE-FM 99.3 FM		Red Lodge	K206BA-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KHEW 88.5 FM		Rocky Boy Reservation	KXEI-FM/NWS		
KKMT 92.3 FM		Ronan	KERR-AM/NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KLMB 88.1 FM		Roundup	KEMC-FM/NWS	KBUL-AM	
KTGC-LP 101.3 FM		Saint Regis	KENR-FM/NWS		
KZJZ 99.1 FM		Saint Regis	KENR-FM/NWS		
KCGM 95.7 FM		Scobey	K219FF-FM/NWS	KNPS-FM	
KNPS 91.7 FM	LP-1	Scobey	K219FF-FM/NWS		STATION OPERATED OUT OF HAVRE
KFAS-LP 95.7 FM		Shelby	K212BC-FM/NWS	KUSM-TV	VIA TRANSLAT OR K40DG- D
KSEN 1150 AM	LP-1	Shelby	K212BC-FM/NWS	KUSM-TV	VIA TRANSLAT OR K40DG- D

KZIN-FM 96.7 FM		Shelby	K212BC-FM /NWS	KUSM-TV	VIA TRANSLAT OR K40DG- D
KGCX 93.1 FM		Sidney	KYYZ-FM/NWS	KGLE-AM	
KTHC 95.1 FM		Sidney	KYYZ-FM/NWS	KGLE-AM	
KFLF 91.3 FM		Sommers	KERR-AM /NWS	KBBZ-FM	
KYPF 89.5 FM		Stanford	NPR /NWS		
KKVU 104.5 FM		Stevensville	KUFM-FM /NWS	KGVO-AM	
KENR 107.5 FM		Superior	KUFM-FM /NWS	KGVO-AM	STATION OPERATED FROM MISSOULA
KMTZ 107.7 FM		Three Forks	KGLT-FM /NWS	KMMS-FM	
KDGZ-LP 98.3 FM		Townsend	KUFM-FM /NWS	KYPH-FM	KUFM-FM via TV translator K07EJ-D
KWGF 101.7 FM		Vaughn	KGPR-FM /NWS	KQDI-FM	
KXEH 88.7 FM		Victor	KUFM-FM /NWS	KGVO-AM	
KWYS 920 AM		West Yellowstone	KYBR-FM /NWS		
KJJR 880 AM		Whitefish	PREMIER /NWS	KERR-AM	
KSAM 1240 AM		Whitefish	PREMIER /NWS	KERR-AM	
KWOL-FM 105.1 FM		Whitefish	PREMIER /NWS	KERR-AM	
KESW-LP 106.5 FM		Whitehall	KMBR-FM /NWS	KAPC-FM	
KQLR 89.7 FM		Whitehall	KMBR-FM /NWS	KAPC-FM	
KEYZ-AM	LP-1	Williston, ND	KFYR-AM /NWS	KTHC-FM	
KVCK 1450 AM		Wolf Point	KYPW-FM /NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KVCK-FM 92.7 FM	LP-1	Wolf Point	KYPW-FM /NWS	KYYZ-FM	
KYPW 88.3 FM		Wolf Point	NPR /NWS		
KCHH 95.5 FM		Worden	KEMC-FM /NWS	KBUL-AM	

APPENDIX C: Incident Commander/Designated Official Decision Tree



APPENDIX D: EAS Activation Form /EAS Message Types

If your county/community is not IPAWS capable, complete this form and submit to your local NWS office (Appendix A) by fax, email or dictated over the phone. This message will override TV and Radio Station Broadcasting. Keep message to no more than 2 minutes of airtime. The message types are listed on the next three pages.

Date/Time	
Name of Agency and Requesting Official	
Type of Emergency	
Specific Affected County/City etc.	
Anticipated Duration of Emergency	
Phone Number of Requesting Official or PSAP	
Name of Person Completing Request	
Exact Message for Broadcast (should include nature of emergency, what area is affected, specific instructions to the public, where to obtain more information, etc.)	

Non-weather Related Emergency Message Types

Administrative Message (ADR) A non-emergency message that provides updated information about an event in progress, an event that has expired or concluded early, pre-event preparation or mitigation activities, post-event recovery operations, or other administrative matters pertaining to the Emergency Alert System. This message type will also be used for Missing Endangered Person Advisories in Montana.

Avalanche Warning (AVW) A warning of current or imminent avalanche activity when avalanche danger is considered high or extreme. Authorized officials may recommend or order protective actions according to state law or local ordinance when natural or human-triggered avalanches are likely to affect roadways, structures, or backcountry activities.

Child Abduction Emergency (CAE) An emergency message, based on established criteria about a missing child believed to be abducted. Montana Department of Justice, the state agency investigating the abduction, will describe the missing child, provide a description of the suspect or vehicle, and ask the public to notify the requesting agency if they have any information on the whereabouts of the child or suspect. This message type is used for AMBER Alerts in Montana.

Civil Danger Warning (CDW) A warning of an event that presents a danger to a significant civilian population. The CDW, which usually warns of a specific hazard and gives specific protective action, has a higher priority than the Local Area Emergency (LAE). Examples include contaminated water supply and imminent or in-progress military or terrorist attack. Public protective actions could include evacuation, shelter in place, or other actions (such as boiling contaminated water or seeking medical treatment).

Civil Emergency Message (CEM) An emergency message regarding an in-progress or imminent significant threat(s) to public safety and/or property. The CEM is a higher priority message than the Local Area Emergency (LAE), but the hazard is less specific than the Civil Danger Warning (CDW). For example, the CEM could be used to describe a change in the Homeland Security Alert System level in response to a terrorist threat.

Earthquake Warning (EQW) A warning of current or imminent earthquake activity. Authorized officials may recommend or order protective actions according to state law or local ordinance.

Evacuation Immediate (EVI) A warning where immediate evacuation is recommended or ordered according to state law or local ordinance. As an example, authorized officials may recommend the evacuation of affected areas due to an approaching tropical cyclone. In the event a flammable or explosive gas is released, authorized officials may recommend evacuation of designated areas where casualties or property damage from a vapor cloud explosion or fire may occur.

Fire Warning (FRW) A warning of a spreading wildfire or structural fire that threatens a populated area. Evacuation of areas in the fire's path may be recommended by authorized officials according to state law or local ordinance.

Hazardous Materials Warning (HMW) A warning of the release of a non-radioactive hazardous material (such as a flammable gas, toxic chemical or biological agent) that may recommend evacuation (for an explosion, fire or oil spill hazard) or shelter in place (for a toxic fume hazard).

Law Enforcement Warning (LEW) A warning of a bomb explosion, riot, or other criminal event (e.g. a jailbreak). An authorized law enforcement agency may blockade roads, waterways, or facilities, evacuate or deny access to affected areas, and arrest violators or suspicious persons. This EAS code would also be used for a "Blue Alert" as supported by Montana Code Annotated 44-2-801. A "Blue Alert" is meant to speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously injure local, state, or federal law enforcement officers.

Local Area Emergency (LAE) An emergency message that defines an event that by itself does not pose a significant threat to public safety and/or property. However, the event could escalate, contribute to other more serious events, or disrupt critical public safety services. Instructions, other than public protective actions, may be provided by authorized officials. Examples include: a disruption in water, electric or natural gas service, road closures due to excessive snowfall, or a potential terrorist threat where the public is asked to remain alert.

911 Telephone Outage Emergency (TOE) An emergency message that defines a local or state 911 telephone network outage by geographic area or telephone exchange. Authorized officials may provide alternative phone numbers in which to reach 911 or dispatch personnel.

Radiological Hazard Warning (RHW) A warning of the loss, discovery, or release of a radiological hazard. Examples include: the theft of a radioactive isotope used for medical, seismic, or other purposes; the discovery of radioactive materials; a transportation (aircraft, truck or rail, etc.) accident which may involve nuclear weapons, nuclear fuel, or radioactive wastes. Authorized officials may recommend protective actions to be taken if a radioactive hazard is discovered.

Shelter in Place Warning (SPW) A warning of an event where the public is recommended to shelter in place (go inside, close doors and windows, turn off air conditioning or heating systems, and turn on the radio or TV for more information). An example is the release of hazardous materials where toxic fumes or radioactivity may affect designated areas.

Volcano Warning (VOW) A warning of current or imminent volcanic activity. Authorized officials may recommend or order protective actions according to state law or local ordinance.

Weather Related EAS Messages

Blizzard Warning (BZW) Sustained or frequent gusts of 35 mph or more. Visibility reduced to less than one-quarter mile due to falling and/or blowing snow for 3 hours or more.

Flash Flood Watch (FFA). The possibility exists for meteorological, soil, and/or hydrologic conditions to lead to flash flooding or a dam or levee may fail and threaten lives or property, but the threat is not deemed to be imminent.

Flash Flood Warning (FFW) Flash flood warnings are issued when flooding is imminent. This product will be reserved for those short-term events which require immediate action to protect lives and property, such as dangerous small stream flooding or urban flooding and dam or levee failures.

High Wind Warning (HWW) Sustained winds of 40 mph or higher and/or gusts of 58 mph or greater, expected over the warned area.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch (SVA) Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms with wind gusts of 58 mph or higher, and/or hail of one inch (penny) or larger.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning (SVW) Issued when there is radar indication and/or reliable spotter reports of wind gusts of 58 mph or higher, and/or hail or one inch or larger. Warnings imply an imminent threat to life or property.

Tornado Watch (TOA) Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms with tornadoes possible.

Tornado Warning (TOW) Issued when a tornado has been spotted by a reliable source or is indicated by radar. There is an imminent danger to life and property for those in the path of the storm.

APPENDIX E: Requesting Permission to do an EAS Test

Federal Communication Commission (FCC) rules are detailed in 47 CFR Part 11; therein, guidance is provided on Tests of EAS procedures (Section 11.61) and Prohibition on False EAS transmissions (Section 11.45). The FCC states these rules are designed to prevent public misunderstanding or, far worse, public panic in connection with EAS activations that do not signal the onset of an actual emergency.

State and local emergency authorities in many areas have concluded that they require use of “live” or real Event Codes for certain tests. The FCC’s Public Safety and Homeland Security (PSHS) Bureau has told the NWS that EAS Participants participating in EAS tests utilizing real Event Codes **must** first obtain a rule waiver, or such tests would violate the FCC’s rules. In such cases, it is imperative FCC PSHS staff be consulted by EAS Participants (or an organization representing all of them) well in advance of such planned tests.

The PSHS Bureau emphasizes that EAS Participants seeking waiver of the FCC’s EAS rules in order to conduct tests using live Event Codes must describe fully the steps they will take to mitigate risk. Such steps shall be coordinated with the Montana State Emergency Response Committee EAS Sub-Committee level, to ensure the public, media, law enforcement fire, and other members of the first responder community are fully aware of the tests and, specifically, that live Event Codes will be employed.

The following guidelines could help minimize the potential for falsely alarming the intended or unintended audience; however, adoption in any event **does not obviate the need to consult with the FCC and obtain necessary rule waivers:**

- Conduct EAS tests using real Event Codes no more than once or twice annually
- Conduct EAS tests using real Event Codes in lieu of the Routine Monthly Test/Routine Weekly Test, on the typical date and time
- Conduct the EAS test using a real Event Code when the hazard is not expected (e.g. fair weather day for the TOR code). If the hazard is forecast for the test date, or unexpectedly develops, have a contingency plan that includes postponing the test to a later date.
- Conduct an extensive public awareness campaign (including outreach and education) that intensifies in the weeks and days leading up to the test. In this campaign, utilize multimedia Public Service Announcements (PSAs) news releases; provide interviews; post announcements to e-mail list servers; highlight the test on web-sites and etc. Leverage the connections and capabilities of the EAS Sub-Committee to get the word out in advance of the test.
- Prior to the test, issue one or more public statements stating why the test will be conducted, when it will be conducted and provide a web site for the intended audience to provide feedback
- Make potentially impacted institutions, agencies and organizations such as school systems, military entities (e.g. a large base is located in the state) and international

partner agencies (e.g. test occurs in a state along an international border) aware of the test.

- Define the “intended audience” that could potentially be false alarmed by the EAS test using real Event Codes and, as best as possible, identify all potential “receiver methods” within that intended audience. The most common receivers are TVs, radios and NWR receivers. Other receiver methods could include web sites, PDAs, cell phones, programmable highway signs, shopping center marquee signs, in-vehicle navigation/emergency service systems, etc.
- Take mitigation measures, to the extent possible, against the automated receiver methods identified above that will not carry the complete text of the test message, to eliminate or minimize the potential of “false alarming” the audience. For example, for automated TV scrolls, have cable system engineers flash a highly visible “test message” on-screen simultaneous to the scroll. For other receivers such as programmable highway and marquee signs, manually override the feed either with a “test” message or by temporarily shutting it off.
- Ensure the test message will expire shortly (e.g., typically fifteen minutes) after it was issued. This is done by setting the SAME/EAS, Universal Geographic Code (UGC), and/or Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) expiration time, as appropriate for message type and origination method. This will remove the test message as quickly as possible from most automated displays that would not be mitigated.
- Ensure the actual text of the test message is determined and coordinated by the Montana EAS Sub-committee well in advance of the test date. The text should emphatically state this is indeed a “test” and explain briefly why the test is taking place and provide a web site for the intended audience to provide feedback.
- Immediately after the test message expires and for no less than two hours, issue at least one public statement stating the test is completed, why it took place, and provide the web site for the intended audience to provide feedback. Collect key findings from the test: e.g., Did you receive the test message? How did you receive the test message? What is your ZIP code? etc.
- Coordinate with local Disaster and Emergency Services officials for their organizations to conduct community evacuation drills, school emergency response drills, tabletop exercises for local emergency management response plans, testing of community siren systems, etc., coincident with any EAS test using the real Event Codes.

Obtaining a Rule Waiver

1. Consult with the Montana EAS Sub-Committee well in advance of conducting an EAS test (6 months is best).
2. Give a detailed proposal to the Montana EAS Sub-Committee that includes a letter to send to the FCC, and details on how you will do the test (include information such as websites, who you will contact, how you will notify the public etc.).
3. The Montana EAS Committee will work with you on making sure all the requirements are met and then recommend to the Montana Broadcasters Association (MBA) President that they be forwarded to the FCC.

4. Montana Broadcasters Association President will forward letter to the FCC and notify Montana EAS Sub-Committee and requesting agency when the request is approved or denied.

Include the following details in your proposal:

- A description of the test and test participants, including when the test is scheduled to occur, when it will conclude, and what notification is being provided during the test (e.g., audio voiceovers, video crawls) to make sure the public understands that the test is not, in fact, warning about an actual emergency (see 47 CFR Section 11.45); plus, a statement whether the proposed test would substitute for a Required Weekly or Required Monthly Test or constitute a "special test" (see 47 CFR Section 11.61)
- An explanation why the petitioner has concluded that use of "live" codes is necessary; i.e., what "live" code testing is expected to achieve that couldn't be achieved by standard tests involving test codes
- A statement describing how the test has been coordinated among all EAS Participants and with state and local Emergency authorities, as well as first responder organizations like police and fire agencies
- A full description of those "public information" steps that have been taken before the test occurs to notify the public about the test (specifically, that 'live' codes will be used but that no emergency is in fact occurring). FCC staff recommends that such a public information campaign should include multiple media, including EAS Participants and print media.

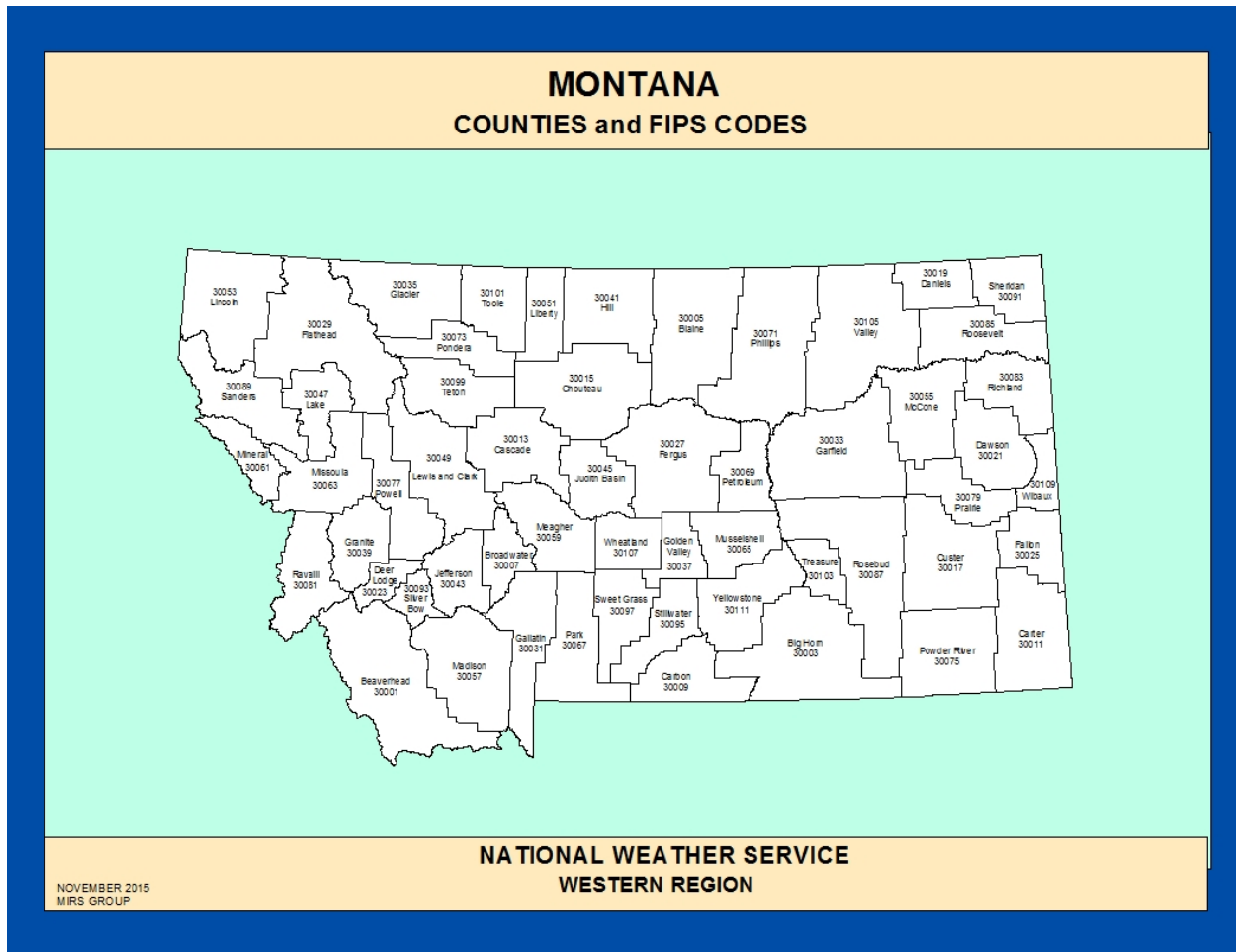
APPENDIX F: FIPS Codes

FIPS (Federal Information Processing System) identify the type of emergency and the geographic area affected by the emergency. Every county has a FIPS code, and they are in the EAS coded messages that are transmitted.

County	FIPS Code	County	FIPS Code
BEAVERHEAD	001	MUSSELSHELL	065
BIG HORN	003	PARK	067
BLAINE	005	PETROLEUM	069
BROADWATER	007	PHILLIPS	071
CARBON	009	PONDERA	073
CARTER	011	POWDER RIVER	075
CASCADE	013	POWELL	077
CHOUTEAU	015	PRAIRIE	079
CUSTER	017	RAVALLI	081
DANIELS	019	RICHLAND	083
DAWSON	021	ROOSEVELT	085
DEER LODGE	023	ROSEBUD	087
FALLON	025	SANDERS	089
FERGUS	027	SHERIDAN	091
FLATHEAD	029	SILVER BOW	093
GALLATIN	031	STILLWATER	095
GARFIELD	033	SWEET GRASS	097
GLACIER	035	TETON	099
GOLDEN VALLEY	037	TOOLE	101
GRANITE	039	TREASURE	103
HILL	041	VALLEY	105
JEFFERSON	043	WHEATLAND	107
JUDITH BASIN	045	WIBAUX	109
LAKE	047	YELLOWSTONE	111
LEWIS & CLARK	049	YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK	113
LIBERTY	051		
LINCOLN	053		
MADISON	057		
MCCONE	055		
MEAGHER	059		
MINERAL	061		
MISSOULA	063		

Sub-FIPS Codes:

On occasion, a county may find it beneficial to break down its sections into smaller areas. This prevents over-warning of an area that is not impacted by an event. It can be broken down in various ways including north/south, east/west, all points of a compass or just separating out a rural area from a more suburban/urban one. This needs to be done in coordination with your local National Weather Service office and the Montana EAS Subcommittee.

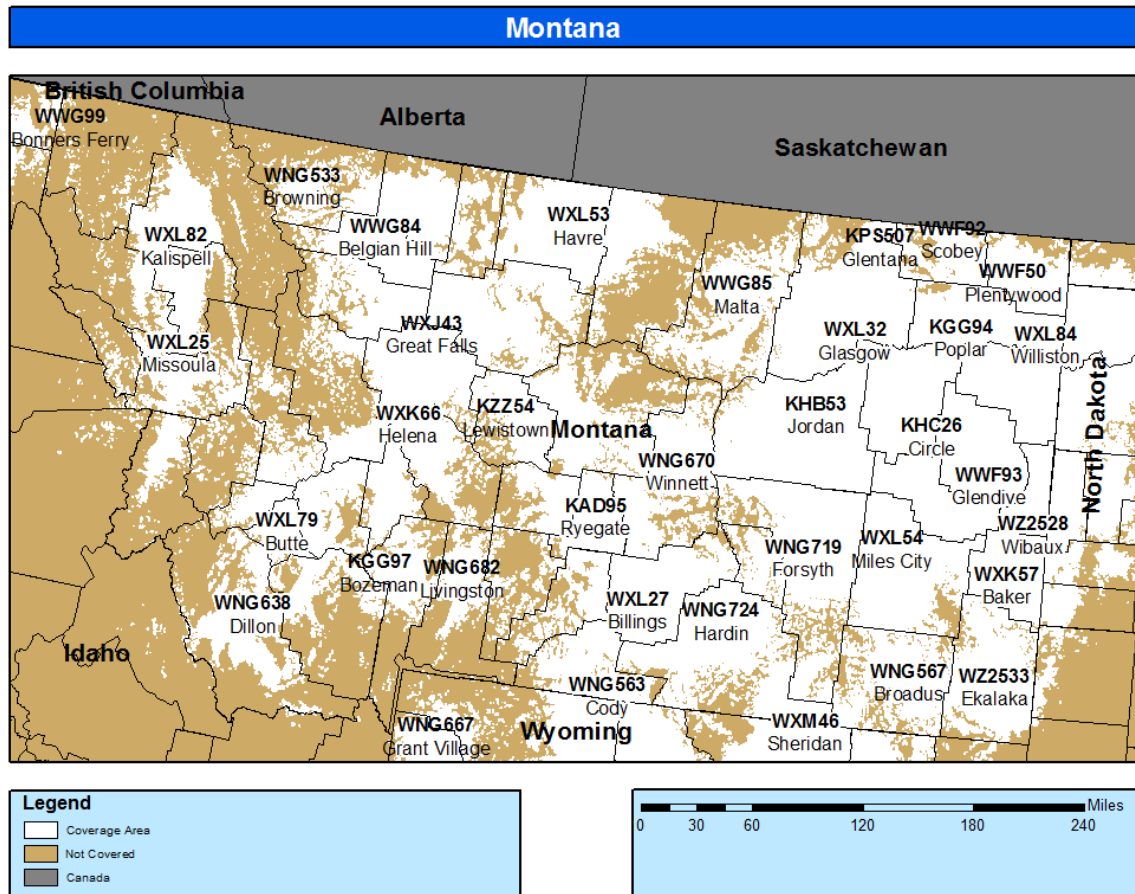


The most recent version of the map above can be downloaded at:
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mirs/public/prods/maps/cnty_fips_montana.htm

APPENDIX G: NOAA WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTERS

The following NOAA Weather Radio transmitters exist in Montana as of the time of this plan being approved. The most recent information is available at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/Maps/PHP/MT.php>



APPENDIX H: Approval

This Montana EAS Local Plan was developed and approved by:

Delila Bruno
Administrator, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Date

Donald Britton
National Weather Service, Meteorologist-in-Charge, State Liaison Office for Montana (Great Falls) Date

Dewey Bruce
Montana Broadcasters Association, President Date

This document on file and maintained by Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

