

**FCC EAS PLAN**

**FOR**

**Siskiyou County**

**California**

August 4, 1998  
FCC Approved 3/23/99  
Revised February 3, 2004

# **EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) - FCC LOCAL AREA PLAN**

## **Siskiyou County, California**

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### **Emergency Alert System (EAS) -**

The EAS is a warning system to provide the public with immediate messages that affect life and property. An EAS warning may be for a few blocks or widespread - large parts of a city, sections of specified areas (such as a county or parts of adjoining counties; ) or a part or all of a region; or several states or the entire nation.

The EAS is a way to provide emergency information quickly by radio, television and cable licensees to the public. Radio, television and cable entities cooperate on a voluntary organized basis to provide Local and State warnings, while Federal warnings are mandatory.

### **Types of Warnings -**

In California, the EAS is used for warnings of an immediate action, such as funnel clouds or tornadoes actually occurring, evacuations of areas due to an incident (such as a hazardous spill) or a tsunami, or other event requiring immediate action.

Watches and statements of the National Weather Service (NWS) do not require such immediate action. In California (by agreement\*) the EAS may not carry these messages, even though FCC rules provide for them. (\*It's an option of the State and Local Area Communications Committees to determine the events for which the EAS will be used.)

However, the NWS may use its Weather Radio Specific Message Encoder (WRSAME) for the alerts for NWS watches and statements on 162 MHz National Weather Radio (NWR) channels. In that way the public can hear them on radio monitoring equipment even though they are not on the EAS system. For weather radio units consult local commercial firms. The State OES EDIS system - a different UHF radio system - also carries the NWS watches and statements.

### **Local Area EAS Plan -**

A Local Area EAS Plan is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated document for the organization and implementation of the EAS for areas into which a state may be divided. The number of areas depends on state size and geography as well as radio and television coverage. (A remote area may receive signals from an adjoining state more consistently and stronger than from stations in the state it is within. Such areas may be assigned to the EAS plan of the adjoining state by agreement between the states.)

The Local Area plan provides the organized guideline for broadcasters and cable TV operators, and how they and local government officials use the EAS to provide information to the public. Procedures, and this plan, include the National Weather Service (NWS).

Responsibility with administering the Local Area Plan rests with the members of a Local Area Emergency Communications Committee (LECC). The LECC Chair and Vice Chair are appointed by the State Emergency Communications Committee Chair (SECC). The SECC and State Vice Chair are appointed by the FCC.

Local Emergency Area Plans are signed by the Local Area Chair and Vice Chair for Cable, a National Weather Service (NWS) representative, the State Chair (SECC) and the Federal Communications Commission.

# EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) - FCC LOCAL AREA PLAN SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

## Statement

This is the Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan for the Siskiyou County FCC Local Area. This plan is a part of the State of California Emergency Alert System Plan, which replaced Emergency Broadcast System plans and procedures.

This Plan consists of a cover page, an introduction and Communications Operation Orders COO#1-COO#7. Amendments, when signed by the LECC, SECC and approved by the FCC, are incorporated herein by reference thereto.

The operational date of this plan is the date it is approved and signed by the SECC Chair. When it is approved and signed by the approving authority, the LECC Chair shall cause a copy to be distributed to all stations and cable entities. Copies for public information shall not contain "hot-line" numbers or confidential codes.

## Broadcasters and Cable Stations

The Siskiyou FCC Local Area includes all broadcasters and cable television companies in and serving this county.

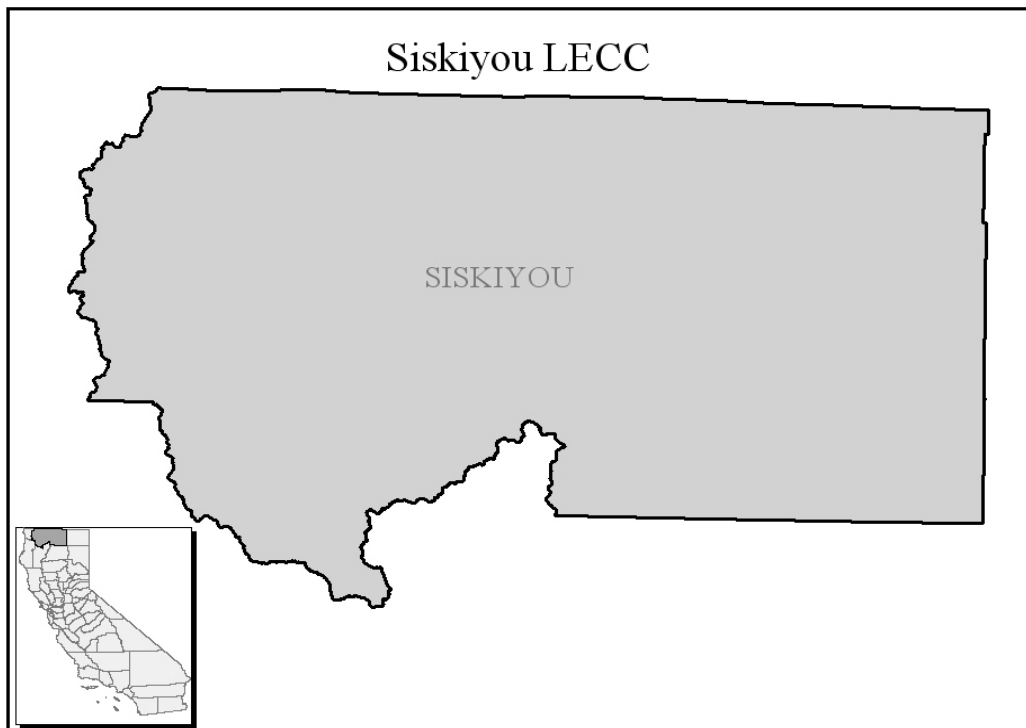
**FIPS CODE                      COUNTY**

**06093                              Siskiyou**

**1= northwest              2= north central              3= northeast**  
**4= west central            5= central                      6= east central**  
**7= south west              8= south central              9= southeast**

(Precedes county code: for example, Siskiyou NW would be: 106093)

Adjoining Counties whose broadcasts serve this area:



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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER #1**

**MONITOR PLAN**

1.1 The LP1 station is KSYC AM 1490 kHz and FM 103.9 MHz. (Yreka)  
The LP1 station will monitor:

- |          |                         |                    |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| a. KTMT  | 93.7 MHz                | Medford, Oregon    |
| b. KWHO  | 102.3 MHz               | Mt Shasta, CA      |
| c. NWR   | 162.475 MHz             | Mt Ashland, Oregon |
| d. CLERS | 155.700 MHz             | Antelope Mtn, CA   |
| e. EDIS  | Via OASIS RES Satellite |                    |

1.2 The LP2 station is  
The LP2 station will monitor:

- |          |                         |                      |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| a. KSYC  | 1490 kHz -or- 103.9 MHz | Yreka, CA            |
| b. NWR   | 162.475 MHz             | Mt Ashland, Oregon   |
| c. CLERS | 155.700 MHz             | Antelope Mtn, CA NWS |

1.3 All LP stations and CATV control points must monitor two of the following:

- |         |                         |               |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------|
| a. KSYC | 1490 KHz -or- 103.9 MHz | Yreka, CA     |
| b.      | (an LP-2)               |               |
| c. KWHO | 102.3 MHz               | Mt Shasta, CA |

1.4 In addition, but not in lieu of, any other station listed in 1.1 and 1.2 above are recommended monitoring.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 2**

**EAS EVENT CODES**

2.1 National Event Codes for messages required to be carried by all stations and entities

EAN	Emergency Action Notification Message
EAT	Emergency Action Termination Message
RWT	Required Weekly Test

2.2 Local Event Codes for messages to be carried by all participants in this FCC local Area.

CAE	Child Abduction Emergency
CEM	Civil Emergency Message
EVI	Evacuation Immediate
FFW	Flash Flood Warning
SVR	Severe Thunderstorm Warning
TOR	Tornado Warning
RMT	Required Monthly Test

2.3 Local Event Codes for messages that are recommended (voluntary) to be carried:

AVW	Avalanche Warning
AVA	Avalanche Watch
CDW	Civil Danger Warning
FFA	Flash Flood Watch
FLA	Flood Watch
FLW	Flood Warning
FRW	Fire Warning
HMW	Hazardous Materials Warning
HWW	High Wind Warning
LEW	Law Enforcement Warning
RHW	Radiological Hazard Warning
SPW	Shelter In Place Warning
SVA	Severe Thunderstorm Watch
TOA	Tornado Watch
TOE	911 Telephone Outage Emergency
VOW	Volcano Warning
WSA	Winter Storm Watch
WSW	Winter Storm Warning

2.4 EAS administrative and test message codes, as listed below, are NOT to be relayed.

ADR	Administrative Message
DMO	Practice/Demonstration Warning

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COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 3

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

*Contains confidential data*

- 3.1 All National Weather Service WARNING messages and EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED messages will be transmitted over the national weather radio (NWR).
- 3.2 LP1 and LP2 stations are required to monitor the NWR frequency serving their area of responsibility. All LP station and CATV control points are urged to also monitor their NWR transmitter to provide a redundant path.
- 3.3 The NWR transmitter carries three (3) digital headers, the NWR receiver alert tone, the EAS attention alert tones, the audio message, and the three (3) digital End-Of-Message (EOM) transmissions. No verbal message to exceed 115 seconds in length. However, the broadcasters in this Local Area expect them to be confined to 45 seconds or less. (EAS terminals will not record any EAS activation longer than 120 seconds. EAS receiving terminals will not record any activation message from any source that does not receive the EOM inside 120 seconds.)
- 3.4 In the event the NWR transmitter is off the air, the NWS office shall telephone the

**Confidential Information**

- a. Identify yourself. State the reason you are activating the Emergency Alert System. Be prepared to authenticate in accordance with COO Number 7 where appropriate. The broadcast station shall be prepared to immediately record your message. You may be asked for a level; say "Level level level level level."
- b. On receiving the "go-ahead", say: **"5, 4, 3, 2, 1. This is the National Weather Service office in \_\_\_\_\_ We are activating the Emergency Alert System for a (nature of the warning)."**

Read the message. (It must not exceed 115 seconds) (and end it with:) *"This concludes this Emergency Alert System message from the National Weather Service."*

Remain silent until the broadcaster tells you it has been received okay.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 4**

**FOR LP1 AND LP2 STATIONS TO ACTIVATE  
EAS AND TRANSMIT A LOCAL BROADCAST**

4.1 From the EAS terminal.

- a. If the Event Code coincides with one shown on the COO Number 2 you will put it on the air as soon as possible using the prescribed EAS terminal instructions.
- b. You may broadcast any other event Code message at your discretion.

4.2 From a telephone call.

- a. You receive a telephone call from a person or agency authorized to initiate the Emergency Alert System. (Authentication procedure - where required - is in COO-7. Radio or teleprinter transmissions from the NWS, another EAS station, local, or state government do not require authentication.)
- b. Start recorder to record message.  
Tell the telephone caller to "countdown and go."  
Caller's out-cue is "This concludes this broadcast from the (Agency) in (location)."
- c. Program your EAS terminal with the appropriate FIPS delivery and Event Codes.
- d. Cue up message (if on external recorder) for broadcast.  
Fade out the program in progress and announce:  
**"We interrupt this program to activate the Emergency Alert System for the San Luis Obispo County area. Important instructions will follow."**
- e. Activate your EAS terminal.  
Read or play the message.  
Then announce:  
**"This concludes the Emergency Alert System bulletin. All broadcast stations and cable systems may now resume normal operations."**
- f. Resume normal broadcasting. Do **not** editorialize or comment on the incident as it may be construed as an official announcement. Repeat the highlights of the warning every 5-10 minutes, if possible, during the period of warning.
- g. Log it. Assure the FCC, Washington D.C. is notified in writing in accord with their request to be informed.

4.3 Any broadcast station may activate the EAS and read the message, upon receipt of any "ACTIVATION REQUESTED" bulletin from the National Weather Service without delay or additional notification, authorization or permission.

4.4 All news and program personnel shall be familiar with the necessity to place programming on the air with the least delay. Periodic training should be conducted.

4.5 On-air personnel shall not ad-lib, interpret, abbreviate or alter any test or broadcast. Tests shall not be sung, set to music, include music, echo and/or other electronic alteration or production aids.

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 5**

**FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO  
ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.**

- 5.1 Agencies and/or officials, specified in 5.5, are authorized to activate the Emergency Alert System by following these steps:
- a. **Write out** (do not dictate) **the WARNING message** to be broadcast by all AM, FM, TV and Cable TV stations in this plan. This is the message **you** will read, as **you** will be the announcer when it is broadcast. (See 5.2 below.)
  - b. Contact the LP 1 Station at **xxx-xxx-xxxx**.
- 5.2 Authorized officials must use the following format to activate the EAS: "**This is** (Name/Title) of (Organization). **I request that the Emergency Alert System be activated for the Siskiyou County Area because of a** (description of the emergency)."
- 5.3 Authorized officials and LP1 or LP2 personnel will determine the transmission details (i.e., live or recorded, immediate or delayed).
- 5.4 EAS message originators shall limit their messages to 1 Minute.
- 5.5 The following local officials are authorized to activate the EAS for this Local Area

**Siskiyou County Sheriff-Coroner  
Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services  
California Highway Patrol, Yreka Area Commander**



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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 6**

**REQUIRED MONTHLY TEST**

The Coordinated Monthly Test (Event Code RMT) within every Local Area is required to be carried by all broadcast stations and CATV firms. It may be carried simultaneously with the originating LP1 station, or delayed by no more than 15 minutes. [FCC Part 11.61(a) (1)].

- 6.1 The Required Monthly Test in this FCC Local Area is conducted as follows.
- a. Daytime: 12:05 PM third day of January, March, May, July, September, November
  - b. Nighttime: 5:30 PM third day of February, April, October, December  
9:05 PM third day of June and August
- 6.2.1 The nighttime Required Monthly Test will originate from LP1 Station on the third day of the month as stated above for retransmission by all broadcast stations and CATV companies within the time limit prescribed by the FCC.
- 6.2.2 The daytime RMT will originate from the LP1 Station on the third day of the month as stated above for retransmission by all broadcast stations and CATV companies within the time limit prescribed by the FCC.
- 6.3 The Required Monthly Test will take about 45 seconds. The message may vary slightly in length and the content will be dependent on the subject chosen for the time of year and prevalent threats or potential hazards.
- 6.4 The State Emergency Operations Center or an alternate will transmit a monthly test that may be carried by any station in addition to the station's weekly test or in lieu of it's weekly test, but never in place of a Local Area's Required Monthly Test.
- 6.4.1 The monthly State EAS test is conducted on the first Tuesday of every month unless otherwise notified. It is transmitted statewide at about 10:20 a.m. and may be rebroadcast at anytime within 60 minutes thereafter. It will use the ADM or DMO Event Code --- not an "RMT".

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**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS ORDER # 7**

**AUTHENTICATION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

- 7.0 No authentication codes are used in this Local Area Plan at this date. However, there is a provision with the National Weather Service for authentication by call back. See COO#3.
- 7.1 **An authenticator code is NOT required** for use by those authorized to activate the Emergency Alert System by telephone, FAX or other unsecured transmissions.
- 7.2 The CLERS, EDIS, weather wire or other hard copy media likewise do **NOT** require authentication.

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**SIGNATURES OF CONCURRENCE AND APPROVAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Martin, Chair  
Siskiyou FCC  
Local Emergency Communications Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
L.R. "Grizz" Adams, Sheriff-Coroner Office  
Siskiyou FCC  
Local Emergency Communications Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Williams, Meteorologist in Charge  
National Weather Service. Medford

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Gabbert, Chairman  
State Emergency Communications Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State of California  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date