

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Local Area Plan August 4, 2014

Emergency Alert System (EAS) Procedures for the
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ZONE

EAS LOCAL AREA



Includes the Following Borough and Communities:

**Kenai Peninsula Borough
City of Homer & Vicinity
City of Seward & Vicinity
City of Kenai & Vicinity
City of Soldotna & Vicinity
City of Seldovia
Kachemak City
Nanwalek
Port Graham
Halibut Cove
Tyonek
Hope
Moose Pass
Cooper Landing**

I. INTRODUCTION

This Emergency Alert System (EAS) Local Area Plan was developed by the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Local Area Emergency Communications Committee in cooperation with local broadcast and cable operators and the National Weather Service.

The Plan outlines the methods used to disseminate emergency information and warning to the general public in the KPB EAS Local Area or any portion thereof, within the broadcast coverage and cable system service areas, at the request of local, State and Federal officials.

This local EAS plan may be activated in response to common local emergency situations such as power outages, floods, civil disorders, earthquakes, heavy snows, toxic chemical leaks or any occurrence which poses a danger to life or property.

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 or cable operator from exercising his independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation.

Broadcast stations and cable systems originating emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each broadcast station and cable system to exercise discretion regarding the transmission of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules and Regulations.

II. AUTHORITY

Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154 (i) and (o), 303 (r), 524(g) and 606; and 47 C.F.R. Part 11, FCC Rules and Regulations; Part 73, Subpart G, of the Federal Communication Commission Rules and Regulations as it pertains to the local operational use of the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

LOCAL NOTE: Emergency Managers may direct access to area broadcasters via the EAS for serious emergencies. Some broadcasters have EAS decoders set to Automatic Mode when there may be no one there to screen local emergency messages and determine whether it should be broadcast. They depend on emergency managers to send an EAS Alert only for serious emergencies.

Local broadcasters participate in the EAS voluntarily, and are not required to accommodate local EAS Alerts. Maintaining a good relationship with local broadcasters is vital for successful emergency messaging in a crisis.

III. KEY EAS SOURCES

A. Local Primary Source (LP-1)

Location	KSRM RADIO KENAI 40960 K-BEACH RD. KENAI, AK 99611
EAS Codes in Encoder/Decoder	See Annex D
EAS Monitoring Assignments	KFQD-AM / KTVA-TV / KAKM-TV / NWS
Contact	MATT WILSON, GENERAL MANAGER
Telephone	907-283-8700
Unlisted Telephone	
Hours of Operation	0600 – 1700 MONDAY – FRIDAY 0800 – 1300 SATURDAY
Communications Facilities	AM & FM BROADCASTING

B. Local Primary Source (LP-2)

Location	
EAS Codes in Encoder/Decoder	
EAS Monitoring Assignments	
Contact	
Telephone	
Unlisted Telephone	
Hours of Operation	
Communications Facilities	

IV. Role of NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio is a major link to provide a pathway from Federal, State and Local alerts. In the event of a disruption of service of normal broadcast channels participating in the Kenai Peninsula Borough, emergency information and instructions can be disseminated via NOAA Weather Radio. The NOAA Weather Radio broadcast originates from the National Weather Service Anchorage Forecast Office, using two wire voice grade communications support with Telecommunication Service Priority, as it pertains to emergency communication circuits for NOAA Weather Radio dissemination in accordance with the FCC.

Homer and vicinity:

Diamond Ridge 162.400 MHz, WXJ 24 - NWS

Bede Mountain 162.450 MHz, WNG 528 –USCG

Seward and vicinity:

Seward 162.550 MHz, KEC 81 – NWS

Rugged Island 162.425 MHz, WNG 526 – USCG

Kenai and vicinity:

Soldotna 162.475 MHz WWG 39 – NWS

Ninilchik and vicinity:

Ninilchik 162.55 MHz, KZZ 97 – NWS

Hope * and Tyonek **:

Anchorage 162.55 MHz, KEC 43 – NWS

*Hope is in the reception area of the Anchorage Forecast Office only.

**Tyonek is in the FIPS code 002122 monitoring and will not provide automatic alerts on NWR receivers, monitoring Anchorage FIPS code 002020 will activate automatic alerts on NWR receivers.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

The following procedures should be used to implement EAS alerts.

A. *Procedures for Designated Officials*

1. *Activation Request*

Request activation of EAS through [NWS](#) via phone or other available means. NWS may call back the requesting agency to verify authenticity of request.

Note: When "severe weather" warnings are issued by the NWS, the NWS can notify the LP-1 directly.

2. *Contact Format*

Designated officials use the following format when contacting the key EAS sources:

"This is (Name/Title) of (Organization). I request that the Emergency Alert System be activated for the Local Area because of (Description of emergency)."

3. *Details of Transmission*

Upon authentication designated officials and EAS source personnel determine transmission details (i.e., live/recorded, immediate/delayed). Officials should provide emergency program material including a description of the emergency, actions being taken by local government, and instructions to the public.

4. *Lines of Communication*

Keep line of communication open if necessary.

5. *Specific Area Activation*

For a unique emergency not involving the entire region, local authorities may request activation of the EAS through the broadcast station and cable system serving only the affected area.

B. *Procedures for Broadcast and Cable System Personnel*

1. *LP-1 Response to EAS Alert*

Upon receipt of a request to activate the local EAS from appropriate authority the LP-1 (or LP-2) may proceed as follows:

a. ANNOUNCEMENT

Broadcast the following announcement:

"WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW."

b. TRANSMISSION OF EAS CODES

Transmit the EAS header codes and Attention Signal.

c. ANNOUNCEMENT

Transmit the following announcement and material:

"WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM FOR THE _____ LOCAL AREA BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS WILL FOLLOW."

*** Follow with emergency program ***

d. TERMINATION

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."

e. END-OF-MESSAGE CODE

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 an audio emergency message. This is acceptable so that EAS coded messages can be unobtrusively relayed through areas unaffected by the emergency.

2. *Procedures for Monitoring Stations and Cable Systems*

All other broadcast stations and cable systems are monitoring key sources via EAS monitor receiver/decoders and 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 as in step 1 above by transmitting the emergency message from the LP-1 or LP-2.

3. *Responsibility to Provide Confirmed Information*

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.

4. *Resume Normal Programming*

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.

VI. TESTS

Tests of these EAS procedures shall be conducted on a random or scheduled basis from a point which would originate the common emergency message.

VII. Approvals (see Annex C)

VIII. ANNEXES

ANNEX A.....List of designated officials and phone numbers
ANNEX B..... Approvals
ANNEX C..... List of EAS codes transmitted by key EAS sources
ANNEX D.....List of broadcast stations and cable systems

OPERATOR PLEASE POST

ANNEX A

Designated Officials For the KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH (KPB) EAS Plan

Director, KPB Office of Emergency Management or Designee
Manager, Soldotna Public Safety Communication Center (907)262-4453 or by cell (907)394-2417 as of October 2013
City Police Chiefs (Please coordinate with OEM for activation to reduce duplication of efforts and conflicting messages)
NWS
Commander, E Detachment, Alaska State Troopers

ANNEX B

This AREA WIDE KPBB EAS Local Area plan was developed and approved by the KPBB EAS Local Emergency Communications Committee.

The plan is coordinated with and distributed to all designated officials listed in Annex A and all broadcast stations and cable systems listed in Annex E.

Matt Wilson, Broadcast EAS Local Area Chair

Date

Cable EAS Local Area Chair

Date

National Weather Service

Date

Scott Walden, Director KPBB OEM

Date

ANNEX C

EAS Codes Transmitted by EAS Key Sources

Key EAS Source (County FIPS #)	ORG - Originator	EEE - Event
02122 Local Code	CIV/WXR	CEM Civil Emergency Message
02122 Local Code	CIV/ WXR	EVI Evacuation Immediate
02122 Local Code	CIV/ WXR	HMW Hazardous Materials Warning
02122 Local Code	CIV/ WXR	SPW Shelter in Place
02122 Weather Code	WXR	BZW Blizzard Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	FFW Flash Flood Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	FLW Flood Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	HWW High Wind Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	SVR Severe Thunderstorm Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	TOR Tornado Warning
02122 Weather Code	WXR	WSW Winter Storm Warning
02000 State Code	CIV	CAE Child Abduction Emergency
02000 State Code	CIV	RMT Required Monthly Test
020000 State Code	CIV	ADR Administrative Message
00000 National Code	EAN	EAN Emergency Action Notification
00000 National Code	EAT	EAT Emergency Action Termination

02000 State Code

VOW

Volcano Warning

ANNEX D

Participating Broadcast Stations and Cable Systems

KSRM 920 AM
KWHQ 100.1 FM
KKIS 96.5 FM
KSLD 1140 AM
KDLL 91.9 FM
KBBI 890 AM
KKNI 105.3 FM