Ensuring a safe and secure homeland for all North Dakotans

NORTH DAKOTA IPAWS PLAN- STATE ALERT AND WARNING

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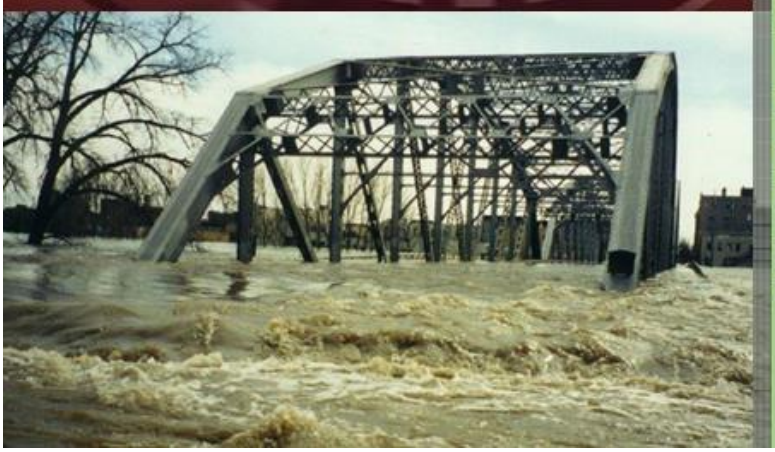
2024

North Dakota IPAWS Plan



Prepared by:

North Dakota State Emergency Communications Committee

In coordination with

North Dakota Department of Emergency Services

North Dakota Highway Patrol

North Dakota BCI

NOAA National Weather Service

North Dakota Broadcasters Association

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Key Partners	
Agency/Organization	Abbreviation
Lead Agencies	
ND Department of Emergency Services - Division of Homeland Security	NDDES-HLS
ND Department of Emergency Services- Division of State Radio	NDDES-SR
Support Agencies	
ND Aeronautics Commission	NDAC
ND Attorney General's Office-Lottery Division	NDAGO
ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation (Lead AMBER, Blue Alerts)	NDBCI
ND Highway Patrol (Lead AMBER, Silver Alerts)	NDHP
ND Department of Information Technology	NDIT
ND Department of Transportation	NDDOT
Federal Partners	
Federal Communications Commission	FCC
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NOAA
National Weather Service	NWS
Non-Government Organization (NGO) Partners	
ND Broadcasters Association	NDBA

1 Situation

1.1 Scope.

This plan is part of the North Dakota Response Mission Area Operations Plan (MAOP) and provides procedures for authorization and dissemination of alert and warning information through implementation of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) in North Dakota including AMBER, Blue and Silver Alerts. The plan documents policy and procedures agreed upon by the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) and other stakeholders and will permit authorized public safety officials to issue emergency information, instructions, and warnings to the public within their jurisdictions by activating IPAWS.

1.2 Legal Basis.

1.2.1 Federal Regulations

This plan is an adjunct to the FCC Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR), Title 47: Telecommunication, Parts 10 and 11: Wireless Emergency Alerts and Emergency Alert System, and is not meant to be a summary, in whole or in part, of those rules. Consult FCC e-CFR Rules Title 47, Parts 10 and 11 for complete rules regarding Wireless Emergency Alerts and the Emergency Alert System (EAS). Additional authoritative information for this plan is garnered from the following policies and legislations:

1.2.2 Governor Executive Order 2002-06. AMBER Alert system.

Executive Order 2002-06, issued by then Governor Hoeven, orders use of the EAS during AMBER Alert activations. The Highway Patrol, in cooperation with the NDDES (formerly known as the Division of Emergency Management), State Radio, and other state agencies, were directed by Governor John Hoeven to implement a statewide AMBER Alert system by January 1, 2003.

AMBER Alert Activation Criteria:

a) The abduction involves a child or children 17 years of age or younger.
b) Confirmation by local law enforcement of a stranger or a family abduction in which the child is believed to be in grave danger of serious bodily harm or death; and
c) Descriptive information about the child, the abductor, and/or suspect's vehicle to assist with the safe recovery of the victim and/or the apprehension of the suspect.
d) Is there enough information about the child, suspect, and/or suspect's vehicle to believe an immediate broadcast alert will help?

1.2.3 North Dakota Century Code 54-12.32. Blue Alert notice system.

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation, in cooperation with the Highway Patrol and the Division of State Radio of the Department of Emergency Services, shall prepare an operational plan to prepare for and respond to requests for activation of a Blue Alert notice.

Upon the request of a law enforcement agency that is investigating an offense against a law enforcement officer, the bureau of criminal investigation shall activate a blue alert public notice to aid in the apprehension of an individual who is a suspect in an offense if:

a) An individual has threatened a law enforcement officer with a deadly weapon, has used a deadly weapon against a law enforcement officer, has caused a law enforcement officer to suffer serious bodily injury or death, or the officer has been abducted or is missing while on duty.
b) The individual has fled the scene of the offense and a description of the individual or the individual's vehicle is available for broadcast.
c) The law enforcement agency investigating the offense has determined the individual poses a threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel; and
d) Dissemination of available information to the public may help avert further harm or assist in the apprehension of the suspect.

1.2.4 North Dakota Century Code 39-03-13.2. Silver Alert notice system.

The Superintendent of the Highway Patrol, in cooperation with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Division of State Radio of the Department of Emergency Services, shall establish a Silver Alert notice system to activate an urgent bulletin using the Emergency Alert System to air a description of a disabled adult or vulnerable elderly adult as defined in section 12.1 - 31 - 07 or a minor who has a developmental disability as defined in section 25 - 01.2 - 01, who has been reported to law enforcement as missing and to aid in the location of that individual.

1.2.5 North Dakota Century Code 37-17.1-13. Communications.

The Department of Emergency Services shall ascertain what means exist for rapid and efficient communications in times of a disaster or emergency. The department shall consider the desirability of supplementing these communications resources or of integrating them into a comprehensive state or state and federal telecommunications or other communications system or network, including military installations. In studying the character and feasibility of any system or its several parts, the department shall evaluate the possibility of multipurpose use thereof for general state and local governmental purposes. The department shall make recommendations to the governor as appropriate.

1.2.6 Federal Policies and Legislations.

- Presidential Memorandum, “Emergency Alert System Statement of Requirements”, September 15, 1995.
- Executive Order 13407, Public Alert and Warning System, June 26, 2006
- Warning, Alert, and Response Network (WARN) Act, October 13, 2006
- National Security Presidential Directive 51(NSPD-51)/Homeland Security Presidential Directive-20 (HSPD-20), “National Continuity Policy”, May 9, 2007
- National Preparedness Report, March 30, 2014
- Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Modernization Act of 2015

1.3 Situation Overview

1.3.1 History

On June 26, 2006, President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 13407 (Public Alert and Warning System) stating, "It is the policy of the United States to have an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible, and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people....and to ensure under all conditions the President can communicate with the American people." In response to this order the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

1.3.2 Integrating Public Alert and Warning Systems

IPAWS allows the President of the United States to speak to the American people under all emergency circumstances. IPAWS also enables authorized federal, state, tribal, and local officials to access multiple broadcast and other communications pathways for the purpose of creating and activating alert and warning messages related to any hazard impacting public safety and well-being over multiple communication pathways before, during, and after an emergency. The system provides an interoperability framework using Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standards. It enables those with disabilities and those

without an understanding of the English language to receive alerts and warning notification through devices currently used by vulnerable populations. This is not a mandatory system, and it does not replace existing alert methods. North Dakota incorporates IPAWS into the state's existing alert and warning structure through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), which governs the relationship between the state–level Collaborative Operating Group (COG) and FEMA. IPAWS provides North Dakota with the capability to integrate alert and warning systems with the national alert and warning infrastructure. Consequently, IPAWS increases the capability and options available to state and local officials by which life-saving information can be distributed during a crisis, providing people with the information they need to protect themselves, their families, their communities, and their property.

In North Dakota, IPAWS responsibilities have been shared by the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, National Weather Service (NWS), and the North Dakota Broadcasters Association (NDBA) since the inception of EAS in the 1990s. NWS has been the most prominent EAS user for severe weather warnings. IPAWS implements the current EAS alert and warning infrastructure and adds new capabilities involving several electronic communications systems used by the public. Some added capabilities through IPAWS include:

- Broadcast to Cellular Telephones
- Broadcast utilizing NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio (HazCollect)
- Posting of alerts and warnings to internet sites

IPAWS will also be capable of incorporating emerging and future alerting channels and communications technologies.

The State of North Dakota provides public safety officials with resources to assist them as they adopt CAP, incorporate IPAWS, and ensure their communities understand how to access, use, and respond to public alert and warning information. New alert and warning technologies, particularly alerts to personal cellphones, are only effective if the public understands the avenues over which alerts are delivered and trusts the emergency messages being sent. State public safety officials strive to ensure emergency communication plans and tools incorporate the latest technologies, can be leveraged to strengthen communication infrastructure, enhance information sharing and situational awareness, and provide the public with critical information.

1.4 Facts and Assumptions Critical to Planning

- Emergencies that pose a threat to life safety and/or property requiring state or local level alert/warning activation include, but are not limited to, evacuation and sheltering, widespread fires, hazardous materials spills, or gaseous releases, widespread or prolonged utility and/or 9-1-1 outages, terrorist or catastrophic events impacting large populations, AMBER, Blue, and Silver Alerts.
- Many communities and rural areas do not have outdoor warning systems (i.e., sirens), which provide initial alerts that prompt citizens to access additional warning information describing the nature of the emergency and required actions.
- Expedient public distribution of alert and warning information will contribute to lives saved, decreased injuries, and reduced property damage.
- Electronic communications devices have become the primary source for initial public notification of an emergency.

- During an emergency, the average person will access their AM-FM radio, television, personal computer, or wireless device for information.
- Commercial broadcasters, cable and satellite TV operators, internet providers and wireless communications providers will adhere to federal regulations and state alert and warning plans detailing policy and procedures for broadcast of emergency information to the public.
- Power outages or damage to transmission infrastructure may disrupt radio, television, cable and cellular broadcasts that carry warning messages and provide public instruction.
- Emergency situations can occur at any time; therefore, equipment and procedures to warn the public of impending emergency situations must be in place and ready to use.
- Agencies authorized to disseminate alerts and warnings using IPAWS have appropriate permissions, hardware, software, training, and the ability to access and implement the system.
- Alerts and warnings distributed via IPAWS will enable those with disabilities and those without an understanding of the English language to receive emergency notifications through personal devices they have specifically programmed for translation or interpretation.
- Some people who are directly threatened by hazards may ignore, not hear, or not understand government issued warnings.
- Awareness campaigns will increase public awareness of IPAWS implementation as an established medium for receipt of local, state and federal emergency information.

1.5 State Roles and Responsibilities

Recognizing that all disasters begin at the local level, the primary responsibility of the state will be to facilitate the implementation of IPAWS into the emergency notification network. In the case of a catastrophic local, tribal, state, or regionally defined event, the state will provide a resilient and comprehensive alert and notification capability.

NDDES-HLS will designate the COG point of contact as per the signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FEMA.

Per State-level policy, NWS shall be the alternate agency to provide statewide EAS warnings and alerts.

NDDES will form and maintain a working group, comprised of applicable statewide stakeholders, to bring together the necessary technical and operational expertise from the private sector, non-government organizations (NGOs), local jurisdictions, state, territorial and/or tribal agencies, and the federal government with the goal of defining policy and procedures leading to the implementation of IPAWS across the state. The working group includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ND Department of Emergency Services – Division of Homeland Security
- ND Department of Emergency Services – Division of State Radio
- ND Broadcasters Association
- National Weather Service (NWS) Bismarck & Grand Forks Offices
- Local emergency management
- Commercial Broadcast representatives
- Cable Broadcast representatives
- Cell Phone provider representatives

The NDDES POC will sign all in-state COG applications for alerting authorizations.

NDDES will conduct coordinated periodic tests of the system to ensure functionality of equipment and the network.

1.6 Local Roles and Responsibilities

All disasters and emergencies are locally oriented. While first responders are gearing up to respond to the initial aftereffects of an incident, it is an inherent responsibility of local officials to keep the public informed of what actions the public needs to take to protect themselves. These could include evacuation orders, location of points of distribution (for food, water, medicine, etc.), shelter in place guidance, etc. Communicating these instructions to the public is the primary purpose of IPAWS. Because local officials have a better understanding of the situation, the immediate actions that are being taken, and potential adverse impacts of the incident, it is incumbent upon these officials to rapidly and effectively communicate the current situation and protective actions to be taken to the public. To successfully accomplish this task, local jurisdictions should have a structure in place to provide rapid alert and warning. Many of the tasks leading to this structure will include:

- Submitting a request/plan to the state that identifies emergency notification providers/systems for inclusion into the IPAWS network.
- Designating in writing, in accordance with jurisdictional procedures, individuals who will be the jurisdiction's alerting authorities for issuing emergency broadcasts with IPAWS following their successful completion of IS–247A "Integrated Public Alert and Warning System **(**IPAWS)" course**.**
- Incorporating IPAWS into existing and future response plans and procedures as well as training and exercise events.

Each established COG will maintain a list of all individuals who have successfully completed FEMA's IPAWS IS-247A course and other required courses as directed by federal and state guidance. This list will contain copies of completed course certificates, individual names/contact information, and copies of memorandum/resolutions officially designating these individuals as alerting authorities. A copy of each jurisdiction's signed Rules of Behavior will also be included.

COG-level permissions are detailed in the Application for IPAWS Public Alerting Authority, and describe the geographic boundaries for alerts, the types of alerts that can be issued and the dissemination systems that can be used to distribute the alerts. COG-level permissions help to define the alerting authority area of responsibility and capabilities. Additional COG-level permissions must be obtained from NWS to submit non-weather emergency messages (NWEM) via NOAA Weather Radio.

NDDES asks that immediately after broadcast, a copy of the alert be faxed or emailed to NDDES (nddes@nd.gov) and the NDDES Operations and Planning Chief notified.

A list of North Dakota Local and Tribal Collaborative Operating Groups (COGS) with IPAWS access is below.

COG Name	**COG Type**
ND Burke County Emergency Management	Local

ND Stark County Emergency Services	Local
ND Lake Region Law Enforcement Center	Local
ND Billings County	Local
ND Red River Regional Dispatch Center (RRRDC)	Local
ND Cavalier County	Local
ND Grand Forks County Public Safety Answering Point	Local
ND Morton County	Local
ND Hettinger County Emergency Management	Local
ND Mountrail County Disaster Emergency Services & Sheriff's Office	Local
ND Bowman County	Local
ND Mercer-Oliver Emergency Management	Local
ND McKenzie County Emergency Management	Local
ND Foster County	Local
ND Richland County Emergency Management	Local
ND McLean County Emergency Management	Local
ND Central Dakota Communications Center (CenCom)	Local
ND Pembina County 911 PSAP	Local
ND Ward County Emergency Management	Local
ND LaMoure County	Local
ND Williams County Williston Emergency Management	Local
ND Dunn County Emergency Services	Local
ND Bottineau County Emergency Management	Local
ND Rolette County Emergency Management	Local
ND McHenry County Emergency Services	Local
ND Steele County	Local
ND Traill/Steele PSAP	Local
ND Logan County	Local
ND Adams County	Local
ND Towner County	Local
ND MHA Nation	Tribal
ND Pierce County Emergency Management	Local
ND Stutsman County Emergency Management/911	Local

1.7 Federal Roles and Responsibilities

FEMA is the lead federal agency for IPAWS coordination and implementation. FEMA ensures that the system is maintained and is operational to achieve the following:

- Build and maintain an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible, and comprehensive alert and warning system.
- Enable federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial alert and warning emergency communication officials to access multiple broadcast and other communications pathways for the purpose of creating and activating alert and warning messages related to hazards impacting public safety and well-being.
- Inform impacted populations before, during, and after a disaster through as many means as possible.
- Diversify and modernize the EAS.
- Create an interoperability framework by establishing or adopting standards such as CAP.
- Enable alert and warning to those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs and to those without an understanding of the English language.
- Partner with NOAA for seamless integration of message transmission through national networks
- Receive and authenticate alert messages, then simultaneously deliver to all IPAWS–compliant public alerting systems.
- Continue to engage the media, internet service providers, unique and local alerting system providers as well as future alert technology developers on the implementation of IPAWS.
- Ensure the required Emergency Management Institute (EMI) courses are available and updated periodically.

1.8 North Dakota State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC)

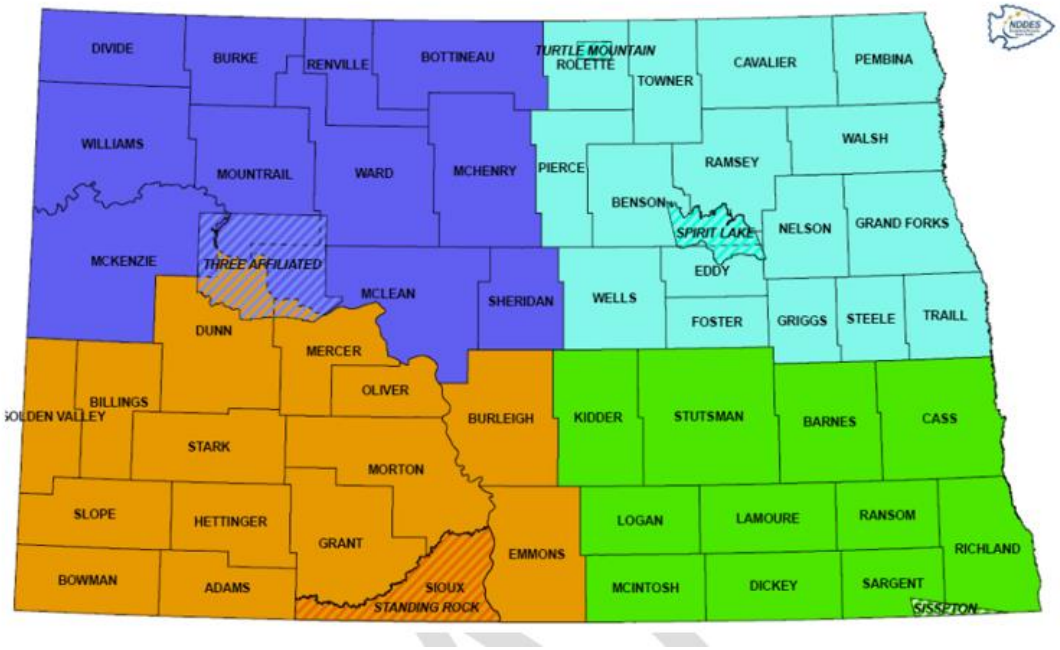
1.8.1 Responsibilities

- Establish, maintain, and authorize implementation of the North Dakota State IPAWS Plan, including, but not limited to, the following systems:
  - Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)
  - Emergency Alert System (EAS)
  - Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and
  - Non-Weather Emergency Messaging (NWEM) accessing the NOAA/National Weather Service (NWS) radio system.
- Coordinate Alert and Warning message reception and distribution capabilities among key partners, including broadcasters, cable companies, wireless providers, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDES), NOAA/NWS, the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), neighboring States and Canadian Provinces, local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and other present and future State Alert and Warning System participants.
- In compliance with the FCC Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR), Title 47, Part 11.21, since the state's EAS system is capable of initiating EAS messages formatted in the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), its EAS State Plan must include specific and detailed information describing how such messages will be aggregated and distributed to EAS Participants within the state, including the monitoring requirements associated with distributing such messages. As such, the SECC will ensure state and local warning plans are consistent with national plans, FCC regulations, and EAS and IPAWS operation.
- The FCC, in Part 11.61 (a) (1), requires the SECC to establish times and scripts for EAS Required Monthly Tests (RMTs) in cooperation with effected parties.

- The SECC will establish, maintain, and distribute EAS test schedules for the activation of EAS tests by the state's nationally designated Primary Entry Point (PEP) station, State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and statewide PSAPs.

1.8.2 Membership

Membership of the SECC shall consist of an SECC Chairperson appointed by consensus vote of standing members, Regional Chairpersons appointed to represent the Northwest, Southwest, Northeast and Southeast regions of the state, representatives from the NOAA/NWS, ND Department of Emergency Services, and the Executive Director of the North Dakota Broadcasters Association, as well as others who may be required by the SECC as full participants in the planning process.



Regional Emergency Communications Committees (RECCs) are sub-committees of the SECC.

Other interested local, state, and tribal governmental agencies, private sector businesses, or organizations may fully participate in the process without a vote. These participants may be appointed to committees by the Chair of the SECC. North Dakota SECC By-Laws and current membership can be obtained through the NDDES planning section.

1.8.3 SECC Committee Members

Bob Simmons – Simmons Multimedia USA & CA, Langdon-**SECC Chair, Northeast Region Chair**
Eric Upton – ND Department of Emergency Services, Bismarck
Beth Helfrich- ND Broadcasters Association, Bismarck
Allison Bostow - iheart media, Minot - **Northwest Region Chair**
Jake Bechtold - Radio FM Media, Fargo- **Southeast Region Chair**
Todd Mitchell – iHeartMedia, Bismarck-Mandan- **Southwest Region Chair**
Fred Strand – AT&T- Mobile Communications Representative

Tom Heier- Midcontinent Communications-Cable Representative
Jeremy Eisenzimmer- Lake Region Radio works, Devils Lake
Darin Anderson- ND State Radio Director, Bismarck
John Paul Martin – NOAA National Weather Service, Bismarck
Jim Kaiser – NOAA National Weather Service, Grand Forks

Note: Changes and/or additions to this membership list should be forwarded to NDDES for inclusion in the State Plan

1.9 Authorized Use of IPAWS

Officials within the state of North Dakota granted authority to activate statewide alerts or warnings utilizing the FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) include the following:

- The Governor or authorized representative
- ND Department of Emergency Services Director or authorized representative
- N.D. Highway Patrol Superintendent or authorized representative
- N.D. Division of Homeland Security Director or authorized representative
- N.D. Division of State Radio Director or authorized representative
- The National Weather Service Meteorologist-In-Charge, Bismarck and Grand Forks offices, or authorized representative.

IPAWS may be used to alert the public to events that pose a threat to life and/or property. Presidential messages are issued by the President of the United States. Statewide Public Alerts are issued by NDHP and NDBCI with the assistance of NDDES. Critical weather warnings (e.g. tornados, flash floods, hurricanes, blizzards or ice storms, and dust storms) are issued by NWS. IPAWS will not be used by NWS for watches or advisories.

Alerts issued by an authorized public safety agency using IPAWS using the following systems, each system has a different audience and rules for use may be disseminated to:

Dissemination System	Audience	Rules	Notes
Emergency Alerting System (EAS)	Broadcast Media	47 CFR 11 State EAS Plan	Broadcasters are not required to retransmit alerts from local authorities. An EAS alert will be delivered to a large audience.
Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)	Wireless phones in the area of the alert	47 CFR 10	
Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM)	Weather radio users	NWS policies	NWEM alerts will be sent to a National Weather Service transmitter that covers a large area. The alert may also be rebroadcast by broadcast radio and television as an EAS message, but the entities are not required to do so.
IPAWS All Hazards Alert Feed	Third-party software and service providers; usually a subscription type service	IPAWS rules	Currently, defining specific criteria for delivery due to the many varied systems using this data is unclear.

Collaborative Operating Group (COG) to COG	Other specific COGs	IPAWS rules	Used to coordinate and share information between COGs.
Other systems	Internet services, lottery terminals, road signs, sirens, etc.	Local rules	

Some alerts may be selected to broadcast to one alerting technology, while other alerts may be selected to go to numerous alerting technologies.

The primary capability of a WEA (smart cellphone messages) is to quickly announce that an event is occurring or is imminent in the geographic area in which the recipient is located. WEA messages can be provided in 90 character or 360-character format. EAS (broadcasters) and NWEM (weather radio) alerts can provide more/additional information as the characters are not as limited in those formats.

1.10 Using IPAWS in a Planned Event

The use of IPAWS in advance of a pre-planned event is a viable method to alert the public of an event and mitigate panic and risk to the public and participants. These messages would advise the public of the event, communicate there is no cause for alarm, or warn the public of any potential risks. This guideline does not override the authority of the individual jurisdiction's elected officials and emergency management staff. Any alert must still be approved by the alerting authority for the jurisdiction before being sent.

During the planning of a pre-planned event (exercise or public event), the risks associated with the event should be identified. If the planned event has a potential risk to the public or public safety, the use of IPAWS to mitigate that risk may be appropriate. These risks should be reviewed against the permitted uses and target audiences of the various IPAWS dissemination media. The alerting authority will determine if the use of IPAWS is appropriate. Guidelines for the use of IPAWS should be defined and documented in the event plan.

1.11 Signing Up to Use IPAWS

1.11.1 FEMA requirements

A federal, state, local, tribal or territorial Alerting Authority that applies for authorization to use the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is designated as a Collaborative Operating Group (COG). There are currently numerous types of COGs affiliated with IPAWS varying in size, structure and governance styles. A COG may have members from multiple jurisdictions with each individual member account administered through its software system. In order for COGs to sign up for IPAWS they must complete the following steps (details can be found at this link)

- Complete IPAWS Web-based training
- Select IPAWS compatible software
- Apply for a memorandum of agreement with FEMA
- Apply for public alerting permissions

1.11.2 State Requirements

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) is assigned as the State IPAWS Review Authority in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) IPAWS Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), requiring all local city/county/tribal license holders to apply for IPAWS alerting authority through NDDES. As such, NDDES is responsible to ensure provisions documented in the MOA and accompanying Rules of Behavior are enforced.

Geographic area of responsibility: Alerting agencies must list the area name and FIPS codes for which they are authorized to issue public warnings, typically one or more counties, on the application form. FIPS codes may be found here: http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ansi/countylookup.html

Completed applications must be submitted to the state designated Point of Contact (POC) to review for compliance with state alerting plans. Agencies requesting alerting authorization are requested to submit a County/City IPAWS Communication Plan and Concept of Operations documenting local policy authorizing alert and warning activations. The POC information is provided with the application.

The State Reviewer will review the requested alerting permissions and plans; and, if consistent with state alert and warning plans, the State Reviewer will complete the remainder of the form, sign and return it to the applicant or FEMA.

Once the State Reviewer has signed and returned the application, the submitting agency may send it to the FEMA coordinator along with a copy of staff EMI training certificates, documenting successful completion of IPAWS Independent Study course IS-247a (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System).

Once the application has been submitted to the FEMA IPAWS MOA Coordinator, the MOA will be prepared and returned to the Primary POC for signature and return by the Sponsoring Organization. It will then be routed to the FEMA IPAWS-OPEN System Owner. Once executed, a Collaborative Operating Group (COG) ID and digital certificate will be generated and implemented in IPAWS-OPEN. A copy of the executed

MOA and COG ID and digital certificate will be returned to the Primary POC.

Agencies within the state authorized to disseminate alerts and warnings utilizing the IPAWS system are referred to as Collaborative Operating Groups (COGs). A COG is a virtual organization comprised of individual members responsible for incident or disaster response. A COG may be established at a geographic level sponsored by the appropriate government agency including:

- State
- Multi-county
- Single county
- Single city

You will be notified when your public alerting permissions have been implemented in the IPAWS system and are ready for use.

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) currently uses Everbridge software, which is IPAWS compatible and accessible under the current state contract with Everbridge. However, if a

local entity selects IPAWS compatible software from a vendor of their choosing, the application process will remain the same with plans and procedures submitted to NDDES for approval before submission to FEMA for authorization.

1.11.3 Who can sign up to use IPAWS in North Dakota?

- State Government Organizations
- ND Department of Emergency Services
- ND Highway Patrol
- Local Government
- City/County Emergency Management
- City/County/Regional Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)
- Tribal Nations
- Tribal Emergency Management

1.11.4 Alerting Pathways:

- Emergency Alert System (EAS): alerts to broadcasters
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA): alerts to cellphones
- Non-Weather Emergency Message (NWEM): alerts to NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards
- Other feeds for specific alerting technologies

1.12 Criteria for Issuing IPAWS Messages

When circumstances arise and the need for a public warning becomes necessary, the decision by those authorized to disseminate an emergency or warning message will ultimately be a matter of local judgment. To assist in the decision-making process the following criteria can be applied:

- **Does a hazardous situation require the public to take immediate action?**
- **Does a hazardous situation pose a serious threat to life or property?**
- **Is there a high degree of probability a hazardous situation will occur?**

2 Mission

As part of the whole community, federal, state, local, and tribal agencies along with broadcasters, cable companies and cell phone carriers assist in the planning, preparation and readying of resources to respond to incidents in North Dakota requiring Public Alert and Warning.

3 Execution

3.1 IPAWS Operation through Broadcast Networks

3.1.1 EAS Activations and Message Relay.

In North Dakota, national and state activations have the capability to operate on the daisy-chain concept with a primary station initializing the broadcast, which in turn is received by monitoring stations for immediate public broadcast and relayed to additional outlying broadcast stations enabling widespread

broadcast of emergency warnings and alerts to the public. Likewise, local activations initialized by Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) for broadcast to monitoring local commercial and public broadcast stations will be broadcast to the public in the local impacted area. Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) is the warning protocol used by the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). (FCC 47 CFR Part 11) Effective June 30, 2012, all EAS participants must monitor the IPAWS FEMA CAP aggregator. This will initially be accomplished though Internet Protocol (IP) connection of an approved Open Platform for Emergency Networks (OPEN) CAP-capable EAS device, programming these devices to allow the device to poll the IPAWS aggregator. This change means that all warning centers authorized by NDDES and FEMA can issue warnings that will reach the public not only through broadcast, cable and certain satellite program content providers, but also through other warning systems such as Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA), Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM), Reverse 911, and a wide variety of social communications media.

3.1.2 Monitoring Requirements.

All EAS broadcast participants in North Dakota must have the capability to monitor three potential sources of EAS activation. Monitoring assignments are specified in the State Alert and Warning Plan and are determined according to FCC EAS monitoring priorities with input from ND broadcasters. If the required EAS sources cannot be received, alternate arrangements or a waiver may be obtained by written request to the FCC. In an emergency, a waiver may be issued by the FCC over the telephone with a follow-up letter to confirm temporary or permanent reassignment. (e-CFR Title 47, Part 11, Section 11.52, d-1) (Broadcaster EAS Monitoring Assignments and Designations – Appendix 6)

3.1.3 Equipment Readiness.

EAS participants are required to test their ability to receive and distribute EAS messages and to keep records of all tests. EAS participants are responsible for ensuring that encoders, decoders, and signal generating equipment used as part of the EAS are installed so monitoring and transmitting functions are available during times the station is in operation. In addition, EAS participants must determine the cause of any failure to receive the required tests or activations specified in Section 11.61(a)(1) and (a)(2) and indicate in the station's EAS log why the tests were not received. These logs must be retained for two years at the EAS participant's headquarters and must be made available for public inspection upon reasonable request. In the event the EAS equipment becomes defective, a broadcast station may operate without the equipment pending its repair or replacement for a period not to exceed 60 days. If repair or replacement of defective equipment is not completed within 60 days, participants must submit an informal request for additional time to their assigned FCC field office. The request must include an explanation of what steps have been taken to repair the equipment. (e-CFR Title 47, Part 11, Section 11.35(b) & (c)). Entries must be made in the participant's logs showing the date and time the equipment was removed and restored to service.

3.2 National Level Activation:

The authority to activate the national-level EAS rests solely with the President of the United States. The following sequence activates the national-level EAS.

- **Presidential Decision:** A Presidential Decision to activate the EAS is made, and then passed to the White House Communications Agency (WHCA) for implementation.
- **The WHCA Contacts FEMA:** Using either telephone or radio means, the WHCA contacts the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with EAS implementation instructions.
- **FEMA Relays the Order:** FEMA, using a network, relays the Emergency Action Notice (EAN) order information to the communications industry.
- *Communications Entities:* FEMA transmits the EAN to the National Primary (NP) broadcast stations using the EAS system. In North Dakota, the National Primary station is KFYR-AM 550 radio.
- *Relay:* The EAN is relayed from the NP station to the SP and statewide LP-1 stations, cable and satellite broadcast systems.
- **Federal Termination:** At the conclusion of an incident when the national-level EAS is no longer needed, a termination order is issued. At the conclusion of the EAS program, the WHCA Trip Officer issues a termination order over the program circuitry. FEMA then transmits an Emergency Action Termination (EAT) message. The termination order is then relayed along the EAS network to all EAS participants.

3.3 State Level Activation

3.3.1 General IPAWS Alerting Plan

- In North Dakota, state activations of the EAS rest with the Governor or the Governor's authorized representatives or to the State Primary (SP). SP sources include the Governor's Office, NDDES or the NWS serving as an alternate to NDDES. The primary course of action for State officials requesting activation of a statewide IPAWS alert or warning requires contact with the NDDES-HLS Watch Center Officer who will authorize the request with the North Dakota Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS) Director or authorized representative. The ND Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) has primary responsibility for issuing statewide IPAWS public alerts (AMBER, Blue, and Silver) upon the request of state law enforcement.

The following sequence activates the state-level EAS.

- **State Government Decision:** The Governor or authorized representative makes the decision to activate the EAS which is then passed to NDDES in the SEOC.
- **State EAS Verification Process:** Upon request by authorized officials, NDDES staff will:
  - Verify the source of the request.
  - Ensure the request meets criteria to mitigate threats to public safety or substantial property loss.
  - Ensure the broadcast provides immediate public information to communicate time critical actions necessary to mitigate impacts from an imminent emergency event.
  - Determine the area of broadcast activation.
  - Provide EAS activation as an integral part of state or local warning plans.
- **State EAS Activation:** The state EAS equipment is activated through Everbridge, which broadcasts an emergency alert message across the IPAWS system. The Bismarck/Grand Forks National Weather Service (NWS) serve as alternate sources of state EAS activation with subsequent alert or warning broadcast across the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio system within North Dakota.

- The NWS serves as a backup notification sender in the event NDDES is unable to disseminate the message.
- Alternately authorized state officials may activate an EAS statewide alert or warning through the designated Primary Entry Point (PEP) commercial broadcast station (KFYR-AM 550 Radio) by contacting the KFYR-AM Hot Line at 701-258-4497. The Control Room will request a telephone number where the caller can be contacted for an immediate callback. The Control Room will call back on a specialized phone equipped to transmit a live broadcast message across EAS. State officials activating the EAS system through this method are requested to notify NDDES/HLS Director or authorized representative before activation.
- **State EAS Relay:** State EAS activation is broadcast over IPAWS to monitoring State Relay (SR) stations comprised of commercial broadcast stations throughout the state who further relay the EAS message to LP-1 and LP-2 stations.
- **State EAS Termination:** Cancellation notices for warnings and Public Alerts are not disseminated through EAS. The system is only used to broadcast activation of warnings and alerts. However, programming warnings and alerts into the EAS equipment does require setting a time period of a warning or alert.

3.3.2 Statewide Public Alert Operations Plan (AMBER, Blue, Silver Alerts)

- Public Alerts request forms are found on ndresponse.gov/alert on the corresponding alert page.
- Local/Tribal Law Enforcement submits a public alert request (AMBER, Blue, Silver) to State Radio.
- Request forms are distributed by State Radio to Alerts Group via email.
    - NDBCI
    - NDHP
    - HLS
    - NDIT
- State Radio notifies the alerts team (NDBCI, NDHP, HLS Watch Officer, NDIT, State Radio Director) a Public Alerts request form has been received and to stand by for a Teams meeting.
- State Radio makes any necessary additional contacts.
- If NDHP/NDBCI indicate the requested Public Alert appears to meet criteria, State Radio initiates a Teams meeting by using the “Meet Now” function in the Public Alerts Channel.
- NDHP and or NDBCI contact local/tribal law enforcement to acquire additional details and investigation details/status.
- NDDES-HLS Watch Officer
    - Notifies NDDES-HLS Director, Response Section Chief and Public information Officer.
    - Identifies appropriate checklist and instructions.
    - Prepares to disseminate Fax/Email notification via Everbridge.
- IPAWS message development begins based upon information contained in the Public Alert request using available templates and guidance documents.
- **Decision Point- NDBCI and NDHP Determine if Public Alert Criteria have been met.**
    - If not, no alert is sent.
        - NDHP and/or NDBCI notify local/tribal law enforcement of decision. NDHP may offer additional assistance regardless of if criteria is met.
        - Notifies Watch Center and State Radio if not already communicated.
    - If Criteria has been met:

        - The Watch Center Officer notifies additional state agencies and personnel based on appropriate checklist.
        - ndresponse.gov/alert set up is completed by NDIT and checked by involved state agencies.
- Watch Center sends out the Public Alerts Media Advisory via Fax/Email through Everbridge (upon message approval by NDBCI and NDHP)
    - Social Media Posts are created and posted by NDDES-HLS PIO
    - 511 is activated by NDHP.
    - Lottery Terminal displays for the alert are activated.
    - NDDOT activates Dynamic Message Boards and other available signage.
    - The National Weather Service activates NOAA weather radios.
    - ND Aeronautics notifies ND Airports via email.
- Watch Center Officer activates the Emergency Alert System (EAS) via Everbridge
- Watch Center Officer activates the Wireless Emergency Alert System (WEA) via Everbridge at the discretion of NDHP and NDBCI
- **Decision Point- Has the subject of the Public Alert been located?**
    - If yes, begin cancellation of processes and alerting using the appropriate guidance documents, instructions, and checklists.
    - If not, NDHP and NDBCI develop a plan for continuation of alert and possible additional activations of IPAWS.

NDDES -HLS in consultation with NDBCI, NDHP, and NDDES-State Radio maintains the following:

- ND Response MAOP
- North Dakota State IPAWS Plan
- Watch Officer Public Alerts Checklists (AMBER, Blue, Silver)
- Public Alerts Message Templates (AMBER, Blue, Silver)
- WEA-EAS Message Guidance Document
- Everbridge Public Alerts Template Instructions (AMBER, Blue, Silver)
- Public Alerts Cancellation and downgrade documents

NDHP (Policy 4-3), NDBCI (Policy 414), NDIT and NDDES-State Radio (SOP #29 (AMBER), SOP #38 (Blue) and SOP #63 (Silver)) maintain their internal Standard Operating Procedures and plans.

3.4 Local Level Activation:

Authorized local officials will initiate local EAS activation utilizing the alerting authorities designated software provider. An alternate source of local activation is through the local LP-1 commercial broadcast station or through the NWS with proper verification.

- **Local Authorization:** Authorized local officials make the decision to activate the EAS to warn area populations or provide emergency public information communicating time critical actions necessary to mitigate impacts from an imminent emergency event.
- **Local EAS Activation:** Emergencies and disasters occur at the local level and timing is critical when disseminating alert and warning information to the public. Local/Tribal jurisdictions have the primary responsibility for alerting and warning populations at risk from threats or occurrences of non-weather-related emergency situations and are responsible for investing in and developing the capability to disseminate timely and accurate warning/notifications to at risk populations. Local/Tribal jurisdictions

have the option of signing onto the NDDES's existing Everbridge contract for Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) and/or Reverse 9-1-1 notification services or choosing a different vendor. Alternately, local officials with or without IPAWS authorization may contact the National Weather Service (NWS) directly to request a non-weather activation of EAS/WEA emergency messages on behalf of the requesting jurisdiction. NDDES should not be considered as a backup alert sender.

- Activation of the EAS for local emergencies will be accomplished through the designated software provider initiated by the local alerting authority and broadcast to area commercial broadcast stations, allowing the stations to re-broadcast at station management's discretion. Alternately, authorized local officials may contact the NWS for subsequent NWS broadcast of non-weather-related emergency information across the NOAA Weather Radio system in the impacted area. NDDES strongly recommends local/tribal jurisdictions develop emergency alert activation plans and train accordingly for dissemination of their own IPAWS (EAS and WEA) and reverse 911 notifications. NDDES can be considered a resource for technical assistance in planning and training efforts.
- **Local EAS Termination:** Cancellation notices for warnings and alerts are not disseminated through EAS. The system is only used to broadcast activation of warnings and alerts. However, programming of warnings and alerts into the EAS equipment does require setting an activation time period for a warning or alert.

3.5 NWS EAS Activation

The NWS has primary responsibility for issuing weather-related watches, warnings and advisories authorized by the NWS Meteorologist-in-Charge, who will activate NWS/EAS systems using established NWS procedures.

NWS warnings broadcast over the EAS will be monitored by all NP, SP, SRN, LRN, SR and LP-1 stations.

- NWS will notify the SP of weather warning activations via the National Warning System (NAWAS) hotline or, alternately, by telephone or SEOC hotline.
- NWS severe weather warnings broadcast over the EAS and received by monitoring SR, LP-1 and LP-2 stations should be retransmitted without modification.
- NWS severe weather watches are not broadcast over the EAS.
- NOAA Weather Service Coverage Map, NOAA Weather Service Station Listing, and NOAA Weather Service County Coverage Listing can be found in the reference section.

3.6 Testing

3.6.1 Monthly Proficiency Testing

Each enabled alerting authority operating under an IPAWS agreement must demonstrate their ability to compose and send a message through the IPAWS-OPEN system at regular intervals. Such demonstration must be performed monthly through generation of a successful message sent through the IPAWS-OPEN Training and Demonstration environment (IPAWS Lab Cloud). To verify alert receipt at the IPAWS TSSF, an alerting authority can use the IPAWS Message Viewer by entering the following URL in their Edge, Firefox or Chrome browser:
https://messageviewer.demo.apps.fema.gov/ALERT_SERVICES/postedmessages.php?COGID=30xxxx
(where 30xxxx is the user's Demo COG ID)

3.6.2 Live Testing

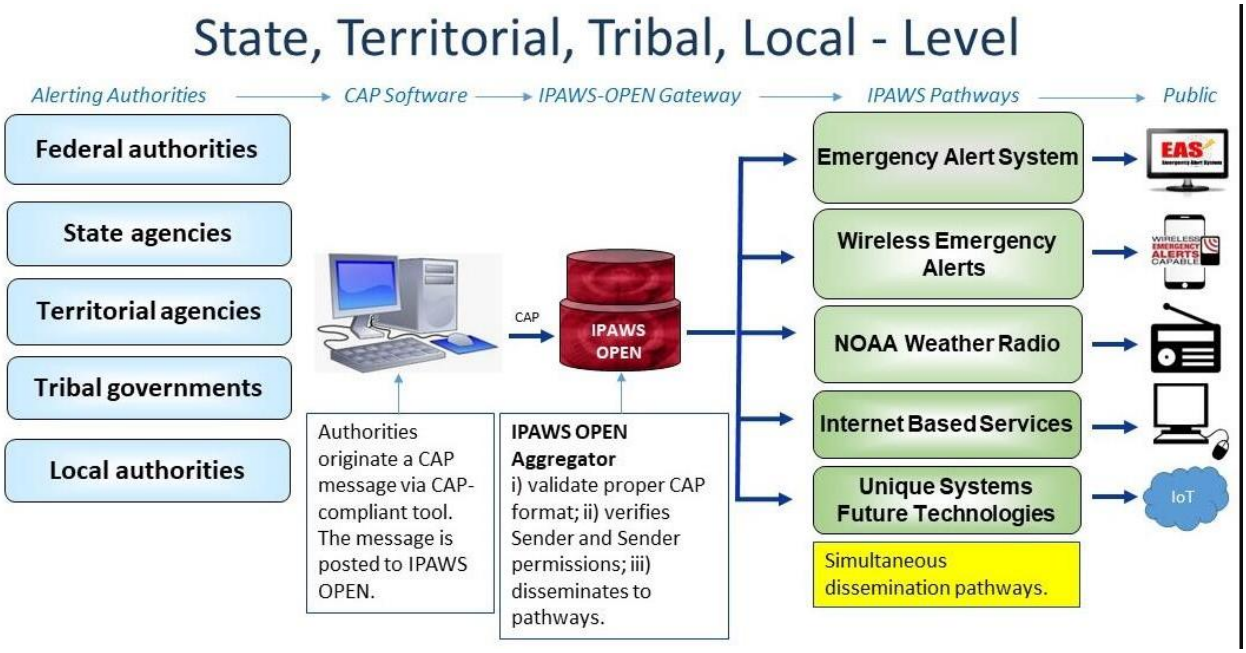
The following test codes are defined for Live IPAWS dissemination:

- The Required Weekly Test (RWT) message is logged by TV and radio stations for EAS and does not interrupt broadcasting. RWT will not be carried over NOAA Weather Radio or cellphones for WEA. A RWT is generated by the State Emergency Operations Center weekly.
- The Required Monthly Test (RMT) message will interrupt TV and radio broadcasting for EAS but will not be carried over NOAA Weather Radio or cellphones for WEA. Upon reception of an RMT, commercial radio and television stations have 60 minutes to re-transmit the alert. The RMT is scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month and performed by North Dakota State Radio, Primary entry Point station, and LP-1 stations on a rotating basis. The Required Monthly Test schedule is distributed in the fall to participants through the North Dakota Broadcasters Association List Serve.
- The practice/demonstration message (DMO) is carried over NOAA Weather Radio, and in some cases a DMO will interrupt TV and radio broadcasting for EAS (because broadcasters also monitor NOAA Weather Radio). DMO will not be carried over cellphones for WEA. (DMO is the three-letter code signifying a practice/demonstration message).

3.6.3 Exercises/additional testing

The state and/or local jurisdictions may find it necessary to conduct IPAWS-only exercises to test the connectivity of the network. Even though these exercises may involve a small portion of the response community, they should be included in the state regionally defined Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW) calendars. If an IPAWS component is to be part of a larger exercise, then it does not need to be included on a TEPW calendar. Additionally, COGs can coordinate on-site, virtual, and/or independent testing with The IPAWS Technical Support Services Facility (TSSF) (formerly known as the IPAWS Lab) The TSSF provides Public Safety officials with a controlled IPAWS testing environment where alert and warning technologies can be exercised to assess capabilities and effectiveness with IPAWS. The closed IPAWS environment is capable of demonstrating alert dissemination to all IPAWS pathways including EAS, WEA, Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM), the IPAWS All-Hazards Information Feed, and Collaborative Operating Groups (COG). The primary purpose for testing within the TSSF environment is for public safety officials to gain confidence using IPAWS in a safe/closed environment, ensuring that if an alerting authority needs to send an actual alert to the public, they will be able to do so quickly and effectively. Additional purposes include functional assessment, alert dissemination validation, training, procedural and process evaluation, and the establishment of functional requirements.

3.7 IPAWS Architecture



North Dakota EAS messages are originated by authorities using CAP compliant software and sent to the IPAWS OPEN aggregator for distribution to EAS participants as shown in the IPAWS Architecture diagram.

3.8 Multilingual Alerting

The North Dakota State Emergency Committee surveyed EAS participants in North Dakota during the fall of 2017 to determine whether any were airing EAS alerts in languages other than English. No participants reported carrying foreign-language alerts, nor do any have plans to do so.

According to the US Census Bureau 2016-2020 American Community survey only six percent of North Dakota Residents speak a language other than English at home and less than two percent reported they did not speak English "very well." As a result, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service, do not issue alerts in languages other than English.

3.9 FCC Codes

3.9.1 Originator Codes

Originator	Event Codes
EAS Participant	EAS
Civil Authorities	CIV
National Weather Service	WXR
Primary Entry Point System	PEP

EAS decoder equipment must be capable of storing at least ten preselected event and originator header codes, in addition to the five-mandatory event/originator codes for tests and national activations and store any preselected location codes for comparison with incoming header codes.

3.9.2 Authorized Event Codes

Description of Non-Weather Event codes can be found at this link. Non-Weather Event Codes available for use by North Dakota COGS are highlighted in green.

National Codes *(Required)*	**Event Code**
Emergency Action Notification (National Only)	EAN
National Information Center	NIC
National Periodic Test	NPT
Weather-Related Events	**Event Code**
Blizzard Warning	BZW
Coastal Flood Watch	CFA
Coastal Flood Warning	CFW
Dust Storm Warning	DSW
Extreme Wind Warning	EWW
Flash Flood Watch	FFA
Flash Flood Warning	FFW
Flash Flood Statement	FFS
Flood Watch	FLA
Flood Warning	FLW
Flood Statement	FLS
High Wind Watch	HWA
High Wind Warning	HWW
Hurricane Watch	HUA
Hurricane Warning	HUW
Hurricane Statement	HLS
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	SVA
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Weather Statement	SVS
Snow Squall Warning	SQW
Special Marine Warning	SMW
Special Weather Statement	SPS
Storm Surge Watch	SSA
Storm Surge Warning	SSW
Tornado Watch	TOA
Tornado Warning	TOR

Tropical Storm Watch	TRA
Tropical Storm Warning	TRW
Tsunami Watch	TSA
Tsunami Warning	TSW
Winter Storm Watch	WSA
Winter Storm Warning	WSW
Non-Weather-Related Events	**Event Code**
State and Local Codes-Optional	
Avalanche Watch	AVA
Avalanche Warning	AVW
Blue Alert	BLU
Child Abduction Emergency	CAE
Civil Danger Warning	CDW
Civil Emergency Message	CEM
Earthquake Warning	EQW
Evacuation Immediate	EVI
Fire Warning	FRW
Hazardous Materials Warning	HMW
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW
Local Area Emergency	LAE
911 Telephone Outage Emergency	TOE
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW
Radiological Hazard Warning	RHW
Shelter in Place Warning	SPW
Volcano Warning	VOW
Administrative Events	**Event Code**
Administrative Message	ADR
Required Monthly Test	RMT
Required Weekly Test	RWT

3.10 References:

- 47 CFR Part 10
- 47 CFR Part 11
- Common Alerting Protocol Version 1.2
- Common Alerting Protocol, v. 1.2 USA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Profile Version 1.0
- Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) codes

- NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION 10-1708
- NOAA Weather Service Coverage Map
- NOAA Weather Service Station Listing
- NOAA Weather Service County Coverage Listing

4 Appendix 1 North Dakota Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan

The FCC, in conjunction with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service (NWS), implements the EAS at the federal level. The President has sole responsibility for determining when the EAS will be activated at the national level and has delegated this authority to the director of FEMA. FEMA is responsible for national-level activation of the EAS, tests, and exercises. The NWS develops emergency weather information to alert the public to imminent dangerous weather conditions.

The FCC's role includes prescribing rules that establish technical standards for the EAS, procedures for EAS participants to follow in the event the EAS is activated, and EAS testing protocols. Additionally, the FCC ensures that the EAS state and local plans developed by industry conform to FCC EAS rules and regulations.

EAS instructions vary for each particular designation. Broadcast stations are designated as either participating or non-participating stations. Most broadcast stations have elected to participate in EAS. A small number of broadcast stations, however, have elected not to participate in the national level EAS and hold an FCC authorization letter to that effect. EAS transmissions of national, state and local emergencies broadcast by participating stations are intended for direct public reception (47 C.F.R. Section 11.18(e)). All stations, including non-participating stations, are required to install and test EAS equipment. Upon activation of the national level EAS, non-participating stations are required to broadcast EAS Attention Signal codes, sign-off the air with an announcement and stop operating until the “end of message” code is received. (47 C.F.R. Section 11.18(f).)

EAS Operating Handbook:

The EAS Operating Handbook aids EAS Participant personnel in handling EAS messages and tests by outlining operational procedures reflective of the requirements found in the part 11 rules (47 CFR § 11.01, et seq.). The Handbook states in summary form the actions to be taken by personnel at EAS Participant facilities upon receipt of a National-level EAS Alert, Required National, Monthly and Weekly tests, and State and Local Area alerts. A copy of the Handbook must be located at normal duty positions or EAS equipment locations. (47 CFR § 11.15.).

National Control Point Procedures:

National Control Point Procedures are written instructions issued by the FCC to national level EAS control points. The procedures are divided into sections as follows:

- National Level EAS Activation. This section contains the activation and termination instructions for Presidential messages.
- EAS Test Transmissions. This section contains the instructions for testing the EAS at the National level.
- National Information Center (NIC). This section contains instructions for distributing United States Government official information messages after completion of the National Level EAS activation and termination actions.

Station Designations:

FCC EAS station designations reflecting the EAS status of commercial and public broadcasters, cable and satellite broadcast operators, are listed in Appendix 5 of this plan.

National Primary Station (NP):

Commercial or public broadcast station within the state responsible for receiving and rebroadcasting all Presidential or other national EAS activations received by the state. In North Dakota, the NP is KFYR-AM 550 radio in Bismarck.

Non-Participating National Stations (NN):

Broadcast stations that have elected not to participate in the National level EAS and hold an authorization letter to that effect. Upon activation of the national level EAS, NN sources are required to broadcast the EAS codes, Attention Signal, the sign-off announcement in the EAS Operating Handbook and then stop operating. All NN sources are required to comply with §11.51, 11.52 and 11.61. They may transmit State or Local Area EAS messages at any time without prior notice.

Participating National Stations (PN):

Most commercial and public broadcast stations and cable operators are designated as “PN” sources and are responsible for broadcasting all levels of EAS activations to the general public.

Primary Entry Point (PEP) System:

The PEP system is a nationwide network of broadcast stations and other entities connected with government activation points. It is used to distribute the EAN, EAT, and EAS national test messages and other EAS messages. FEMA has designated 34 of the nation's largest radio broadcast stations as PEPs. The PEPs are designated to receive the Presidential alert from FEMA and distribute it to local stations. In North Dakota the PEP broadcast station is KFYR-AM 550 radio in Bismarck.

Local Primary Station (LP-1):

Broadcast stations responsible for receiving EAS messages from the NP, SP, SR or LRN for rebroadcast to LP-2 broadcast stations as well as the public. LP-1 stations relay national, state, and local EAS messages, as well as NWS alerts and warnings. All LP-1 stations will maintain the capability to monitor a minimum of four audio inputs to include SR, SRN, LRN, and NWS sources.

Local Relay Network (LRN):

Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) or Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) authorized to disseminate local alerts and warning information, allowing area commercial and public broadcast stations

to re-broadcast if they so choose. Local officials authorized to activate alerts through EAS may coordinate activation through the NWS if the local PSAP is not equipped with and authorized to activate alerts through the IPAWS system.

State Primary Station (SP):

Primary source of State EAS activations, which can originate with the Governor or designated representatives, using the SRN for message distribution. The SP monitors the PEP/NP for Presidential or other national EAS activations, as well as National Weather Service alerts and warnings. In North Dakota the SP is the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOP) or alternately the Bismarck NWS.

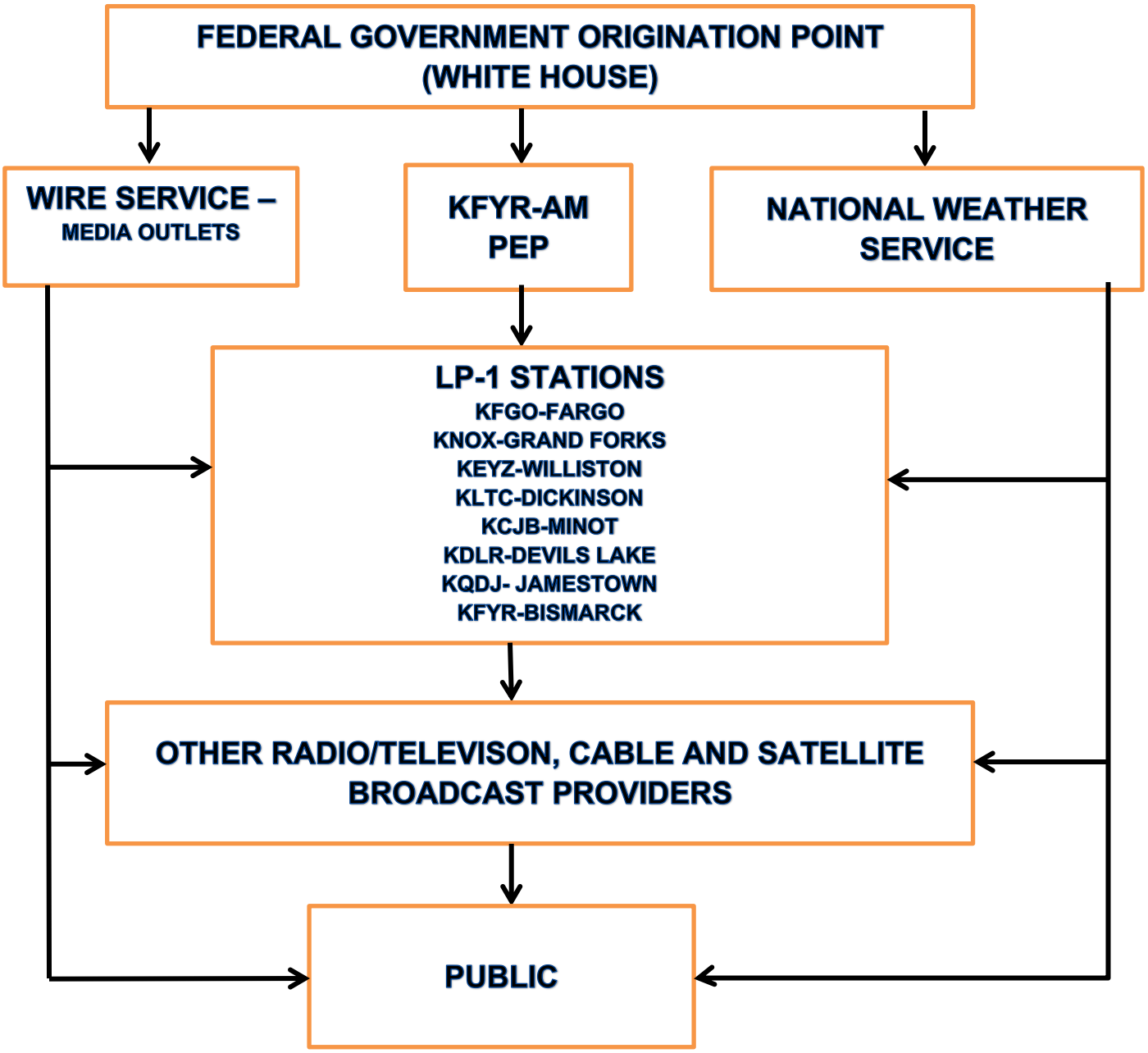
State Relay Network (SRN):

The State of North Dakota uses the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) enabling the State Primary Station (SP) to activate EAS broadcasts to commercial and public broadcasting stations statewide or in geographically targeted areas. Commercial and public broadcasting stations have the option to monitor the SRN for state level EAS activations.

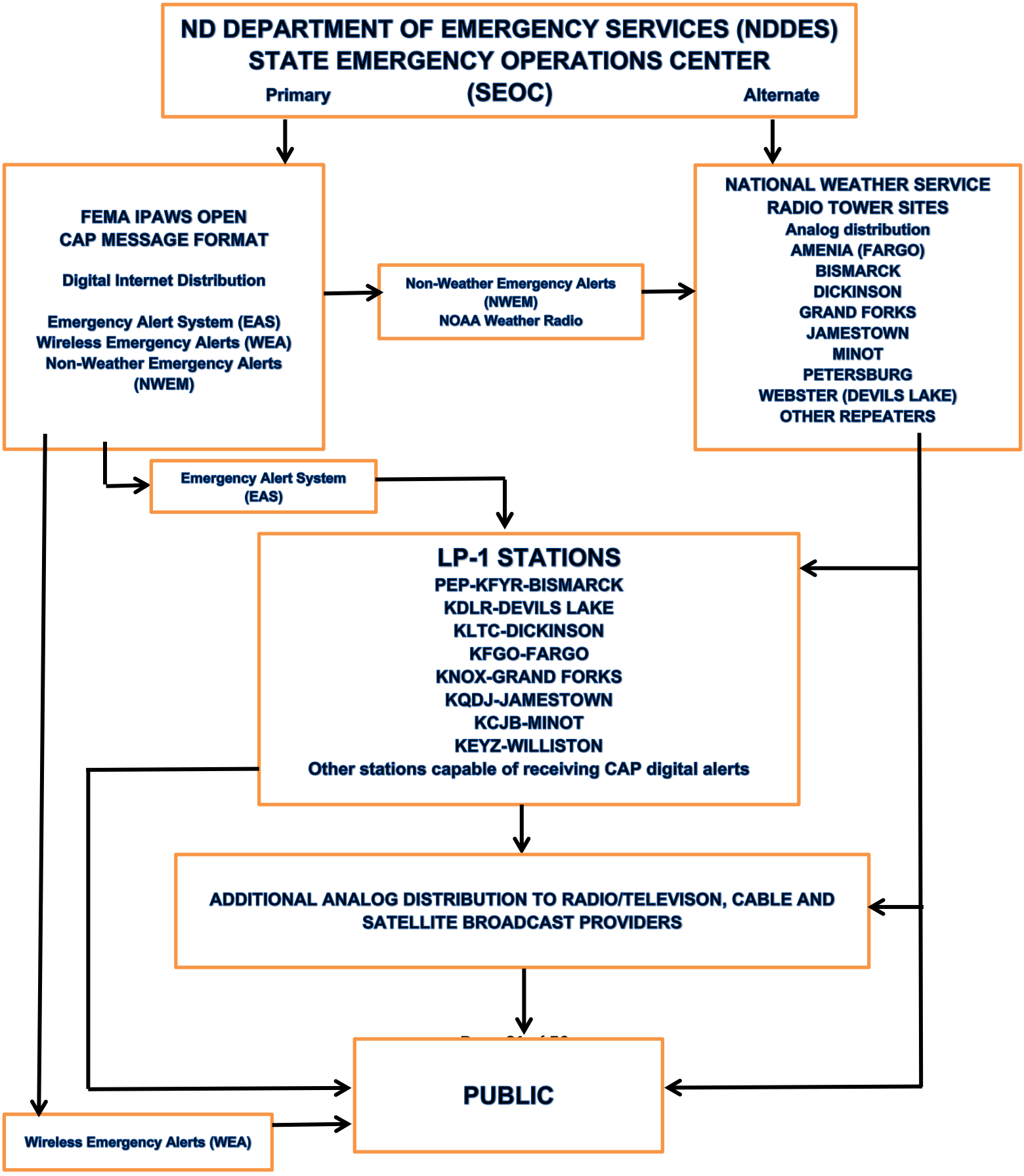
State Relay Station (SR):

Primary source for relay of EAS messages initiated by the State for broadcast to the public. These stations receive and retransmit EAS activations received over the SRN to assist statewide EAS message distribution to all local areas. SR stations will also relay Presidential or other national EAS activations, as well as NWS alerts and warnings. In North Dakota the SRs include select commercial and/or public radio stations in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Minot, Wahpeton, and Williston.

5 Appendix 2: National Activation

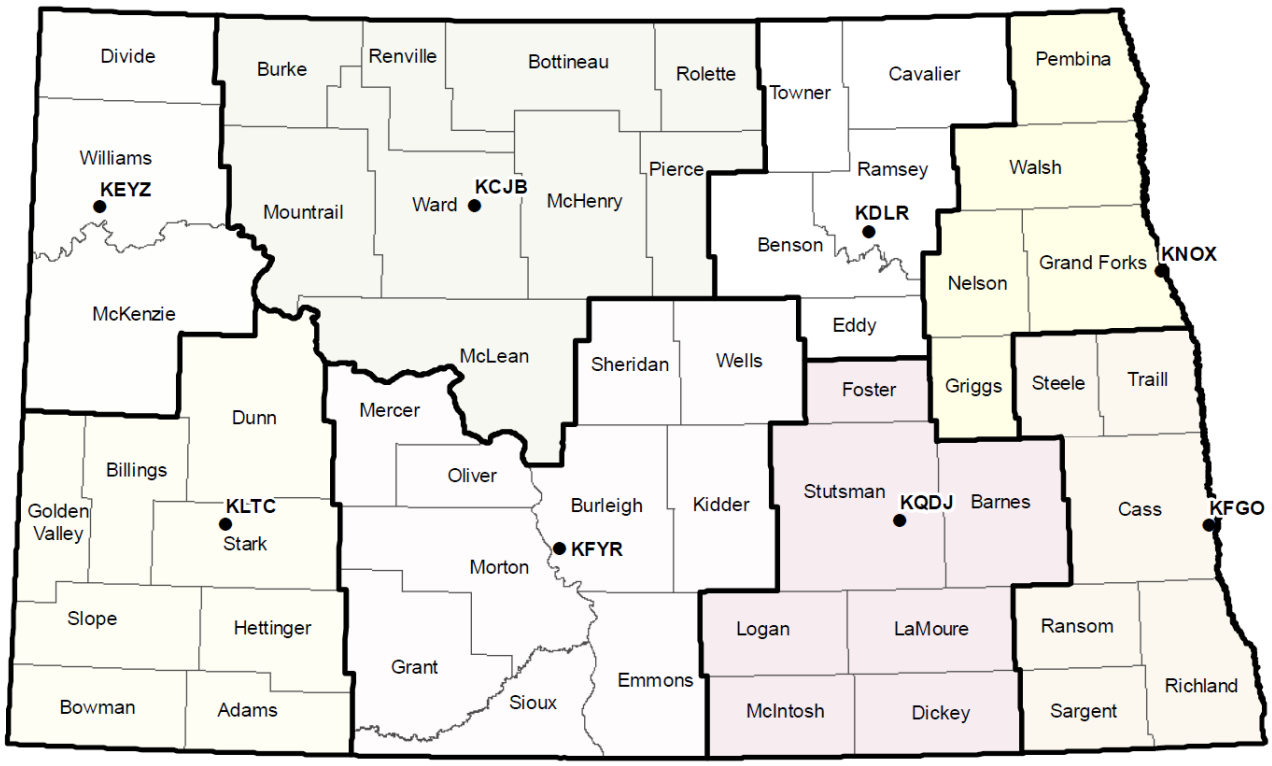


6 Appendix 3: State Relay Network



7 Appendix 4 Operational Area Map

NORTH DAKOTA
Emergency Alert System LP 1 Stations



8 Appendix 5 Test Schedule Example

North Dakota
2025 EAS TEST SCHEDULE

This is the 2025 Required Monthly Test (RMT) schedule for the North Dakota Emergency Alert System (EAS). The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) has implemented the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to disseminate alert and warning messages to commercial radio and television broadcasters simultaneously across EAS.

RMTs initiated by the State will be disseminated through IPAWS**.** Stations monitoring analog broadcasts can receive re-broadcast of EAS tests and alerts by continued monitoring of assigned LP-1 stations and/or through digital IPAWS CAP communications.

On-air, cable and satellite radio and television stations must ensure their equipment is programmed to process the following non-weather emergency codes used by state and local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) authorized to disseminate non-weather emergency and warning codes using the IPAWS system.

Non-Weather Event Codes

EAS Test Codes
RWT - Required Weekly Test
RMT – Required Monthly Test

Emergency Codes
LAE – Local Area Emergency
CEM – Civil Emergency Msg
TOE – Telephone Outage (911)
CAE – Child Abduction Emergency
BLU- Blue Alert
MEP- Missing and Endangered Persons*

Evacuation Codes
EVI – Evacuation Immediate
SPW – Shelter-In-Place Warning

Warning Codes
CDW – Civil Danger Warning
FRW – Fire Warning
HMW – Hazardous Materials
LEW – Law Enforcement
RHW – Radiological Hazard Warning

*New EAS Code

Upon reception of an RMT, commercial radio and television stations have 60 minutes to re-transmit the alert. The RMT is scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month. Odd

months are during the daylight hours. Even months are at night. If the first Wednesday falls on a holiday, the test will be conducted on the second Wednesday of the month.

If there are technical problems with an RMT, it should be sent again the following week on the same day and time.

NDDES Watch Center replaced ND State Radio in running the RMT every third month. (2024)

North Dakota
2025 EAS RMT TEST SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ORIGINATOR
January 8	2 PM - 3 PM	ND Watch Center
February 5	11 PM - Midnight	PEP (KFYR-AM)
March 5	2 PM - 3 PM	LP1 Stations
April 2	11 PM - Midnight	ND Watch Center
May 7	2 PM - 3 PM	PEP (KFYR-AM)
June 4	11 PM - Midnight	LP1 Stations
July 2	2 PM - 3 PM	ND Watch Center
August 6	11 PM - Midnight	PEP (KFYR-AM)
September 3	2 PM - 3 PM	LP1 Stations
October 1	11 PM - Midnight	ND Watch Center
November 5	2 PM - 3 PM	PEP (KFYR-AM)
December 3	11 PM - Midnight	LP1 Stations

ND Watch Center - (Statewide Alert Dissemination)
PEP - Primary Entry Point (National Emergency Dissemination)
LP1 Stations- Local Primary Stations

9 Appendix 6– Broadcast Designations and Monitoring Assignments

9.1 BISMARCK OPERATIONAL AREA

(Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan, Sioux, and Wells Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KFYR-AM	Bismarck	550	PEP-NP-SP-BSPP-LP1	National Communications System	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA /IPAWS
KSSS-FM	Bismarck	101.5	Lp-2	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA /IPAWS
KACL-FM	Bismarck	98.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KBME-TV	Bismarck	Digital Chnl-22	PN	KFGO-AM	KCND-FM	NOAA
KBMR-AM	Bismarck	1130	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA /IPAWS
KBMY-TV	Bismarck	Chnl-17	PN	KFYR-AM	KFGO-AM	NOAA/IPAWS
KBYZ-FM	Bismarck	96.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KCND-FM	Bismarck	90.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KFYR-TV	Bismarck	Digital Chnl-31	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA IPAWS Feed
KHND-AM	Harvey	1470	PN	KFGO-AM	KSJB-AM	NOAA/IPAWS
KHOL-AM	Beulah	1410	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KKBO-FM	Bismarck	105.9	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KKCT-FM	Bismarck	97.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS

KLBF-FM	Lincoln	89.1	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KLXX-AM	Bismarck	1270	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KNDB	Bismarck	Chnl-26	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KNDR-FM	Mandan	104.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KPHA-FM	Bismarck	91.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KQDY-FM	Bismarck	94.5	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA /IPAWS
KXMB-TV	Bismarck	Chnl-12	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	NOAA/IPAWS
KXMR-AM	Bismarck	710	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA /IPAWS
KXRV-FM	Bismarck	107.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KYYY-FM	Bismarck	92.9	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KSSS-FM, Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA IPAWS Feed
KXRP-FM	Bismarck	91.3	PN	KNDR-FM	KSSS-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
Midco Cable	Beulah Headend	CUID ND0049	PN	KFYR-AM	KYYY-FM	IPAWS
Midco Cable	Bismarck Headend	CUID ND0006	PN	KFYR-AM	KBYZ-FM	IPAWS

9.2 DEVILS LAKE OPERATIONAL AREA

(Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Nelson, Ramsey and Towner Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KDLR-AM	Devils Lake	1240	LP-1/BSPP	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS Channel	NOAA, IPAWS

KZZY-FM	Devils Lake	103.5	LP-2	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS Channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KAOC-FM	Cavalier	105.1	PN	KDVL-FM	KZZY-FM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KBRR-JHF	Devils Lake	K23J Chnl-23	PN	KDLR-AM	KZZY-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDVL-FM	Devils Lake	102.5	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS Channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KLME-FM	Langdon	95.7	PN	KDVL-FM	KZZY-FM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KNDK-AM	Langdon	1080	PN	KDVL-FM	KZZY-FM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KQZZ-FM	Devils Lake	96.7	PN	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM Channel	IPAWS/NOAA
WDAZ-TV	Devils Lake	Chnl-8	PN	KFGO-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KPPD-FM	Devils Lake	91.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KDLR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMDE-TV	Devils Lake	Digital Chnl-25	PN	KFGO-AM	KDLR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KYTZ-FM	Walhalla	106.7	PN	KDVL-FM	KZZY-FM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KXYM-LPFM	Belcourt	98.9	PN	KDLR-AM	KDVL-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Devils Lake Headend	CUID ND0004	PN	KDLR-AM	KZZY-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

9.3 DICKINSON OPERATIONAL AREA

(Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope and Stark Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KLTC-AM	Dickinson	1460	LP-1/BSPP	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	Premiere Network Satellite, NOAA/IPAWS
KCAD-FM	Dickinson	99.1	LP-2	KLTC-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR- AM, Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KDIX-AM	Dickinson	1230	PN	KLTC-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDPR-FM	Dickinson	89.9	PN	KFYR-AM	KLTC-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDXN-FM	Dickinson	105.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KLTC-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDSE-TV	Dickinson	Digital Chnl-9	PN	KFGO-AM	KCND-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KNDC-AM	Hettinger	1490	PN	KLTC-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KPOK-AM	Bowman	1340	PN	KFYR-AM	KLTC-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KQCD-TV	Dickinson	Digital Chnl-7	PN	KLTC-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KSLS-FM	Dickinson	90.7	PN	KLTC-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KXMA-TV	Dickinson	Chnl-2	PN	KFYR-AM	KLTC-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KZRX-FM	Dickinson	92.1	PN	KLTC-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR- AM, Premiere Network Satellite/IPAWS/NOAA
KZZQ-FM	Richardton	101.9	PN	KLTC-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Bowman Headend	CUID ND0149	PN	KFYR-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Dickinson Headend	CUID ND0365	PN	KFYR-AM	KCAD-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

9.4 FARGO OPERATIONAL AREA

(Cass, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele and Traill Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KFGO-AM	Fargo	790	LP-1/BSPP	KQDJ-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	NOAA, IPAWS
KPFX-FM	Fargo	107.9	LP-2	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
KFGO-FM	Fargo	104.7	LP-3	KQDJ-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	NOAA, IPAWS, Shares EAS with KFGO-AM
KBMW-AM	Breckinridge, MN	1450	PN	KFGO-AM	MPR	IPAWS/NOAA
KBMW – FM	Breckinridge, MN	92.7	PN	KFGO-AM	MPR	IPAWS/NOAA
KDSU-FM	Fargo	91.9	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KEGK-FM	Wahpeton	106.9	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
KFME-TV	Fargo	Digital Chnl-13	PN	KFGO-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KFNW-AM	Fargo	1200	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA /KFGO-FM
KFNW-FM	Fargo	97.9	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA /KFGO-FM
KLTA-FM	Moorhead, MN	98.7	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
KMAV-AM	Mayville	1520	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMAV-FM	Mayville	105.5	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KNFL-AM	Fargo	740	PN	KFGO-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KOYY-FM	Fargo	93.7	PN	KFGO-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KPFX-FM	Fargo	107.9	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
KQWB-AM	Fargo	1660	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
KQLX-AM	Lisbon	890	PN	KFGO-AM	MPR	IPAWS/NOAA

KQLX-FM	Lisbon	106.1	PN	KFGO-AM	MPR	IPAWS/NOAA
KQWB-FM	Fargo	105.1	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCD (MN) KCCM (MN	IPAWS/NOAA
KRDK-TV	Fargo	Chnl-24	PN	KFGO-AM	KDSU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KRWK-FM	Fargo	101.9	PN	KFGO-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KVLY-TV	Fargo	Chnl-36	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KVOX-FM	Fargo	99.9	PN	KFGO-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KVRR-TV	Fargo	Chnl-15	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KZTK-FM	West Fargo	103.9	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
WDAY-AM	Fargo	970	PN	KFGO-AM	KCCM-FM (MN)	IPAWS/NOAA
WDAY-TV	Fargo	Chnl-6	PN	KFGO-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KXJB-DT	Horace	Chnl-30	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
K28MA-D	Argusville	Chnl-28	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
K30LR-D	Grand Forks	Chnl-30	PN	KFGO-AM	KPFX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Wahpeton Headend	CUID ND0007	PN	KFGO-AM	KEGK-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	West Fargo Headend	CUID ND0299	PN	KFGO-AM	KDSU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

9.5 GRAND FORKS OPERATIONAL AREA

(Grand Forks, Griggs, Nelson, Pembina, and Walsh Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KNOX-AM	Grand Forks	1310	LP-1, BSPP	KFGO-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	NOAA, IPAWS
KQHT-FM *	**Fischer, MN**	96.1	LP-2	KNOX-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM, MPR (KQMN, KNTN) IPAWS/NOAA
KAUJ-FM	Grafton	100.9	PN	KNOX-AM	KFJM-AM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
KCGE-TV	Crookston, MN	Digital Chnl-16	PN	KFGO-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KFJM-AM	Grand Forks	1370	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KFJM-FM	Grand Forks	90.7	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KFJY-FM	Grand Forks	90.7	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KGFE-TV	Grand Forks	Digital Chnl-15	PN	KFGO-AM	KNOX-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KJKJ-FM	Grand Forks	107.5	PN	KNOX-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM, MPR (KQMN, KNTN) IPAWS/NOAA
KKXL-AM	Grand Forks	1440	PN	KNOX-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM, MPR (KQMN, KNTN) IPAWS/NOAA
KKXL-FM	Grand Forks	92.9	PN	KNOX-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM, MPR (KQMN, KNTN) IPAWS/NOAA
KNOX-FM	Grand Forks	94.7	PN	KFGO-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KNRR-TV	Neche	Chnl-12	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KQYZ-FM	Emerado	99.1	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KSNR-FM *	**Crookston, MN**	100.3	PN	KNOX-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM, MPR (KQMN, KNTN) IPAWS/NOAA
KUND-FM	Grand Forks	89.3	PN	KNOX-AM	KQHT-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

KXPO-AM	Grafton	1340	PN	KNOX-AM	KFJM-AM	Premiere Network Satellite IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Grand Forks Headend	CUID ND0002	PN	KNOX-AM	MPR	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Hannaford Headend	CUID ND0222	PN	KFGO-AM	KSJB-AM	IPAWS/NOAA

* Included as a possible monitoring source for other stations in the area.

9.6 JAMESTOWN/VALLEY CITY OPERATIONAL AREA

(Barnes, Dickey, Foster, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh and Stutsman Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KQDJ-AM	Jamestown	1400	LP-1	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFGO-AM IPAWS/NOAA
KYNU-FM	Jamestown	95.5	LP-2	KFYR-AM	KFGO-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
K32AP	Windsor	Chnl-32 Cable Chnl-9	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDAK-AM	Carrington	1600	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDDR-AM	Oakes	1220	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KJRE-TV	Ellendale	Digital Chnl-20	PN	KQDJ-AM-	KFGO-AM	KCND-FM IPAWS/NOAA
KJRR-TV	Jamestown	Chnl-7	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS
KOVC	Valley City	1490	PN	KQDJ-AM	KFGO-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KPRJ-FM	Jamestown	91.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KQDJ-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KQDJ-FM	Valley City	101.1	PN	KFYR-AM	KFGO-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KRVX-FM	Wimbledon	103.1	PN	KFYR-AM	KFGO-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KSJB-AM	Jamestown	600	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KSJZ-FM	Jamestown	93.3	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KXGT-FM	Carrington	98.3	PN	KFYR-AM	KFGO-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KZEB-LP	Jamestown	99.7	PN	KQDJ-AM	KYNU-AM	IPAWS/NOAA

9.7 MINOT OPERATIONAL AREA

(Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, McLean, Mountrail, Pierce, Renville, Rolette, and Ward Counties)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KCJB-AM	Minot	910	LP-1/BSPP	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	NOAA, IPAWS
KZPR-FM	Minot	105.3	PN	KCJB-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM IPAWS/NOAA
K20AM	Rolette	Chnl-20	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KBTO-FM	Bottineau	101.9	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KEYA-FM	Belcourt	88.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KDLR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KHRT-AM	Minot	1320	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KHRT-FM	Minot	106.9	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KIZZ-FM	Minot	93.7	PN	KCJB-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM IPAWS/NOAA
KKWZ FM	Rugby	95.3	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMOT-TV	Minot	Digital Chnl-10	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMCY-TV	Minot	Chnl-14	PN	KFYR-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMHA-FM	Newtown	91.3	PN	KFYR-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMPR-FM	Minot	88.9	PN	KFYR-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KMXA-FM	Minot	99.9	PN	KCJB-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM IPAWS/NOAA
KNDL-FM	Berthold	100.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KNDM	Minot	Chnl-24	PN	KCJB-AM	KNDL-FM	NOAA/IPAWS
KRRZ-AM	Minot	1390	LP-2	KCJB-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM IPAWS/NOAA
KSRE-TV	Minot	Digital Chnl-15	PN	KFGO-AM	KCND-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KTZU-FM	Velva	94.9	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KWGO-FM	Burlington	102.9	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

KXMC-TV	Minot	Chnl-13	PN	KCJB-AM	KZPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KXND-TV	Minot	Chnl-24	PN	KCJB-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KYYX-FM	Minot	97.1	PN	KCJB-AM	Sirius XM EAS channel	KFYR-AM IPAWS/NOAA
KZZJ-AM	Rugby	1450	PN	KCJB-AM	KMPR-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Minot Headend	CUID ND0009	PN	KCJB-AM	KYYX-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

9.8 WILLISTON OPERATIONAL AREA

(Divide, McKenzie, and Williams Counties and Richland County Montana)

Station	Location	Frequency	EAS Designation	Primary EAS Monitoring Assignment	Secondary EAS Assignment	Other Assignment
KEYZ-AM	Williston	660	LP-1/BSPP	KFYR-AM	Sirius XM EAS Channel	NOAA, IPAWS
KYYZ-FM	Williston	96.1	LP-2	KEYZ-AM	KFYR-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KDSR-FM	Williston	101.1	PN	KEYZ-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KPPR-FM	Williston	89.5	PN	KFYR-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KPPW-FM	Williston	88.7	PN	KFYR-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KTGO-AM	Tioga	1090	PN	KZTW-FM	Sirius XM EAS Channel	IPAWS/NOAA
KTHC-FM	Sidney, MT	95	PN	KEYZ-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KUMV-TV	Williston	Digital Chnl-8	PN	KEYZ-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KWSE-TV	Williston	Digital Chnl-11	PN	KFGO-AM	KCND-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
KXMD-TV	Williston	Chnl-11	PN	KFYR-AM	KEYZ-AM	IPAWS/NOAA
KZTW-FM	Williston	104.1	PN	KEYZ-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA
Midco Cable	Williston Headend	CUID ND0001	PN	KEYZ-AM	KYYZ-FM	IPAWS/NOAA

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10 Appendix 7 BCI Public Alerts Policy 414

North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation Policy Manual

Public Alerts

414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for alerting the public to important information and soliciting public aid when appropriate.

414.2 POLICY

Public alerts may be employed using the Emergency Alert System (EAS) local radio, television and press organizations and other groups to notify the public of incidents, or enlist the aid of the public, when the exchange of information may enhance the safety of the community. Various types of alerts may be available based upon each situation and the alert system's individual criteria.

414.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

414.3.1 SPECIAL AGENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Special Agents of the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation should notify their Supervisory Special Agent as soon as practicable upon learning of a situation where public notification, a warning or enlisting the help of the media and public could assist in locating a missing person, apprehending a dangerous person, or gathering information.

414.3.2 SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A Supervisory Special Agent apprised of the need for a public alert is responsible for making the appropriate notifications based upon the circumstances of each situation. The Supervisory Special Agent shall promptly notify the Director, the appropriate Supervisor, and the Public Information Officer when any public alert is generated.

The supervisor in charge of the investigation to which the alert relates is responsible for the following:

a. Updating alerts
b. Canceling alerts
c. Ensuring all appropriate reports are completed.

414.4 AMBER ALERTS™

The AMBER Alert ™ program coordinates the efforts of law enforcement, the media, and the public in an effort to safely recover abducted children. In the event of a suspected child abduction, an AMBER Alert should be generated first, and, if the facts warrant, the alert should be expanded beyond the AMBER Alert.

414.4.1 CRITERIA

An AMBER Alert must meet the criteria on the request form.

414.4.2 PROCEDURE

The following is the procedure for initiating an AMBER Alert:

a. Complete the AMBER Alert Activation form. See form: SFN53635 - Request for AMBER Alert
b. Fax the completed AMBER Alert Activation form to the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services' State Radio Communications System.
c. Verify by telephone that the form was received.
d. Make an NCIC missing person entry using the Child Abduction (CA) flag through the Criminal Justice Information Sharing System (CJIS).

414.5 BLUE ALERTS

BLUE Alerts are used to provide a statewide system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding a violent criminal who has seriously injured, killed, or abducted a local, state or federal law enforcement officer.

414.5.1 CRITERIA

The following criteria are utilized to determine if a BLUE Alert should be issued (N.D.C.C. § 54-12-32):

a. A suspect individual has threatened a Special Agent with a deadly weapon, has used a deadly weapon against a Special Agent or has caused a Special Agent to suffer serious bodily injury or death, or the Special Agent has been abducted or is missing while on duty.
b. The suspect has fled the scene and a description of the suspect or the suspect's vehicle is available for broadcast.
c. The suspect poses a threat to the public or other law enforcement members.
d. Dissemination of available information to the public may help avert further harm or assist in the apprehension of the suspect.

414.5.2 PROCEDURE

The NDBCI is the activating agency for a BLUE Alert. The NDBCI, in cooperation with the highway patrol and the division of state radio of the department of emergency services, shall prepare an operational plan to prepare for and respond to requests for activation of a BLUE Alert notice.

See form: SFN60831 - Request for BLUE Alert

414.6 SILVER ALERTS

The purpose of the Silver Alert Notice System is to locate an individual identified as a disabled adult, or vulnerable elderly adult, or a minor who has a developmental disability and has been reported to law enforcement authorities as missing.

414.6.1 CRITERIA

Upon the request of a law enforcement agency that is investigating a missing person. To Activate a Silver Alert, this missing person report must meet the criteria in (N.D.C.C. § 29-03-13.2).

414.6.2 PROCEDURE

The following is the procedure for initiating an Silver Alert:

a. Complete the Silver Alert Activation form. See form: SFN61282 - Request for SILVER Alert
b. Fax and email the completed Silver Alert Activation form to the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services' State Radio Communications System.
c. Call State Radio to request the alert and verify that the form was received.

The NDBCI and Highway Patrol will review the request form to determine if criteria is met and authorize activation of the SILVER Alert and dissemination of alert information to the media. State Radio will activate the SILVER Alert on law enforcement radio and teletype.

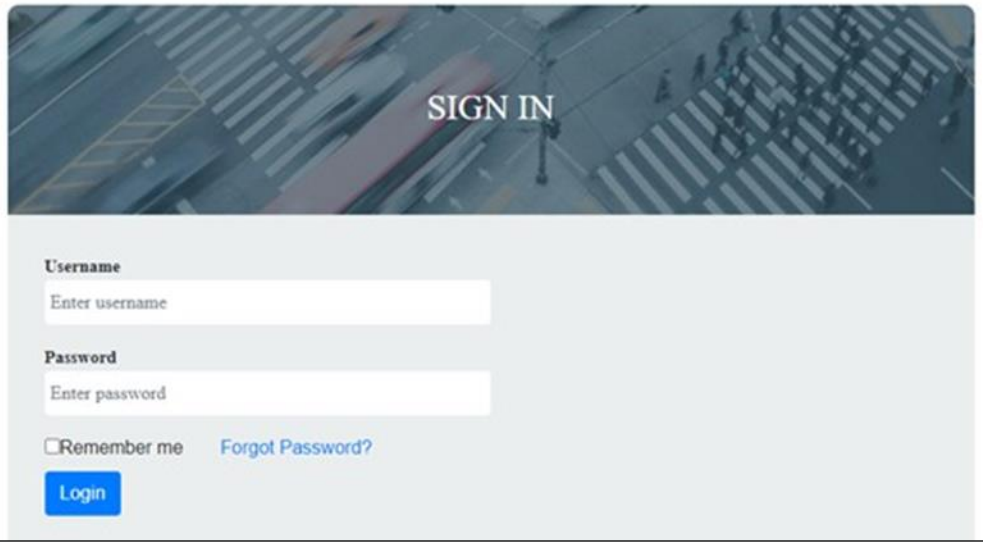
11 Appendix 8 North Dakota Highway Patrol Public Alert Procedures

AMBER, SILVER, and **BLUE** Alerts are conducted in partnership with **BCI** and **NDDES**. When a law enforcement agency contacts State Radio to request an alert, the requesting agency will complete a request for alert form (with applicable photos) and send to State Radio at **dessr@nd.gov.** As part of the NDHP Public Alerts team, you will receive this email. BCI and NDDES have staff on call that will also respond virtually or to the EOC for Public Alerts.

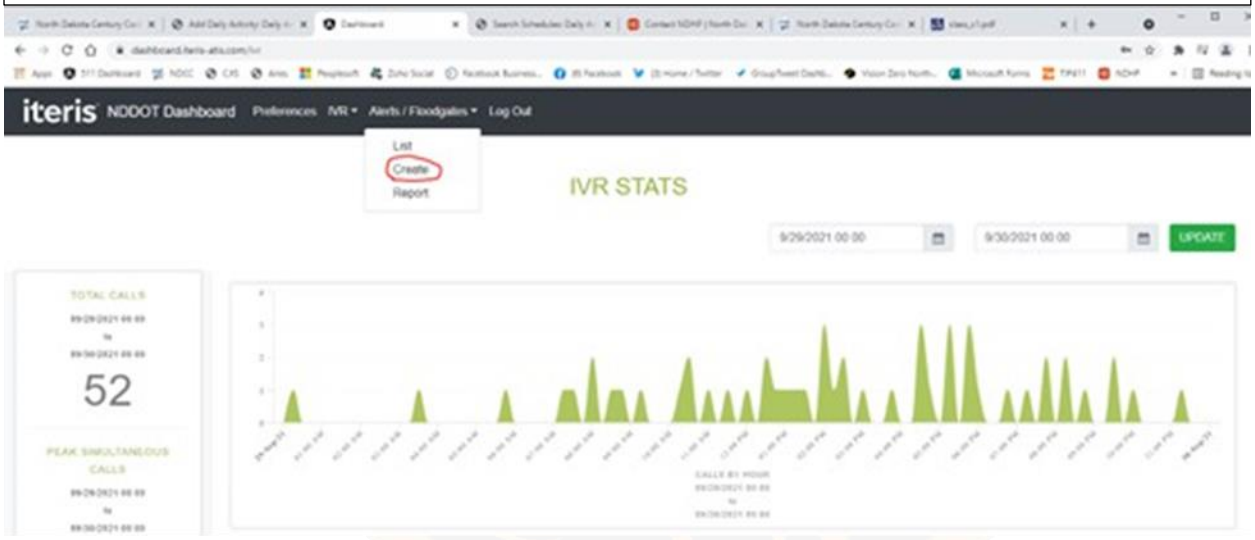
NDHP is the lead agency for AMBER and SILVER Alerts. BCI is the lead agency for BLUE Alerts. NDHP and BCI should jointly determine whether to authorize an Alert.

- **Upon notification from State Radio, inquire whom on the on-call BCI Officer, State Radio Supervisor, and Operations Officer are.**
- Work with BCI to review the request form to ensure criteria is met.
- Conduct follow-up as needed with the requesting agency.
- During AMBER and SILVER Alerts, assist the State Radio Supervisor with completing the ***Media Advisory Form***. The AMBER and Silver Alert templates are located in the Public Alert Team files.
    - **Silver** - SFN #61282; **AMBER** - SFN #53635; **Blue** - SFN #60831
- Utilize the notepad templates to complete the narrative for the ***Media Advisory Form***. Notepad is used for Everbridge, and it can be copied and pasted to a word document for the fax and media blast, and the 511 system.
- Copy the template wording into a new Note Pad document. **DO NOT** edit the template in Teams.
- **DOWNLOAD** a copy of the ***Media Advisory Form*** **BEFORE** pasting a copy from Note Pad. **DO NOT** paste to the template in Teams.
- Maintain contact with BCI, State Radio, and DES throughout the event via Teams or by phone. There will likely be questions, comments, and concerns from public. Provide continual updates in Teams.
- NDHP field personnel can be assigned to the investigating agency if needed and can respond to the scene. Acquire contact information of assigned personnel and add them to the Alert Teams meeting.

- Create the WEA message, if sending. NDHP/BCI/NDDES will jointly review and confirm if the message is appropriate prior to sending.
- WEA can be broken down to certain areas of the state for the initial Silver Alert. If an additional alert is needed, it will be pushed to the remainder of the state. AMBER and Blue alerts should be initially disseminated throughout the entire state.
    - Consider these factors for sending out a **SILVER Alert** WEA message:
        - Weather (potential for life threatening conditions)
        - Time of day
        - Medical necessity
        - Mobility of subject (vehicle vs. on foot)
        - Self-harm or violence potential
        - Subject has been abducted or with someone who may mean them harm
- Set up 511 Message
    - Iteris (NDDOT Dashboard)
        - **https://dashboard.iteris-atis.com/login**
        - **Username: redacted**
        - **Password: redacted**



- Click on "**Alerts/Floodgates**" at the top of the page and click on "**Create**."



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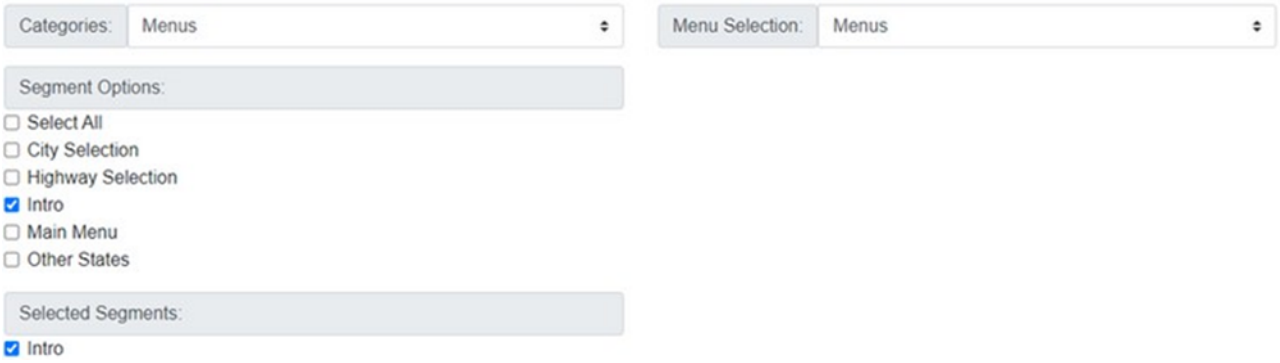
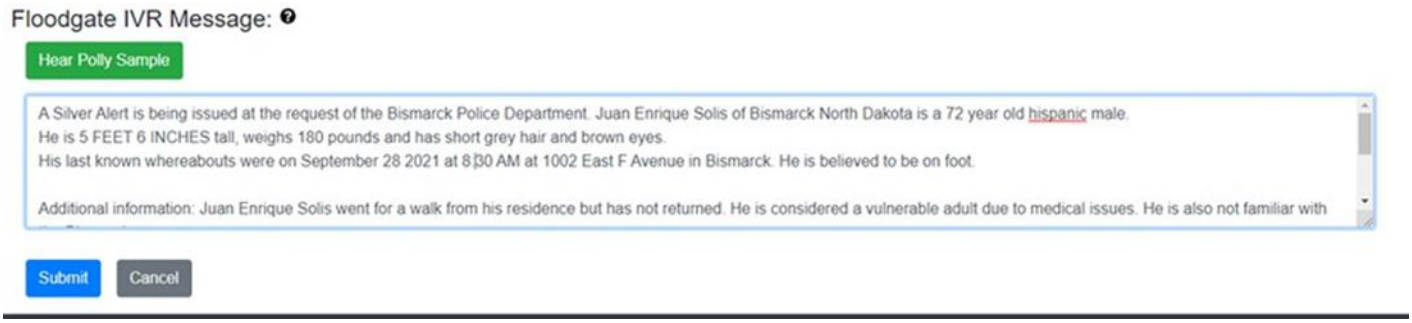
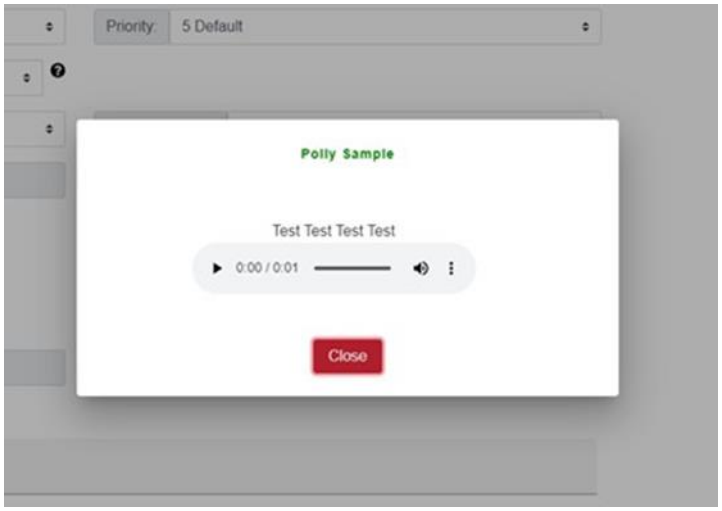
- **Title:** Type of alert and name of individual "Silver Alert -<Name>"
- **Reoccurring:** should NOT be selected
- **Start Time and End Time:** enter the start time and end time- The end time needs to be entered for the message to work. Circumstances should dictate the end time of the message
- **Default Alert Expiration Time:** needs to be selected
- **Type:** enter the type of alert; AMBER, Blue, use 'Endangered Person' for a Silver
- **Status**: needs to be "Enabled"
- **Priority**: list as 1 "MOST IMPORTANT"

- **Interpretability**: should be listed as “INTERRUPTIBLE”
- **Categories**: select “MENUS”
- **Menu Selection**: select “MENUS”
- **Segment Options**: Only click on “INTRO”



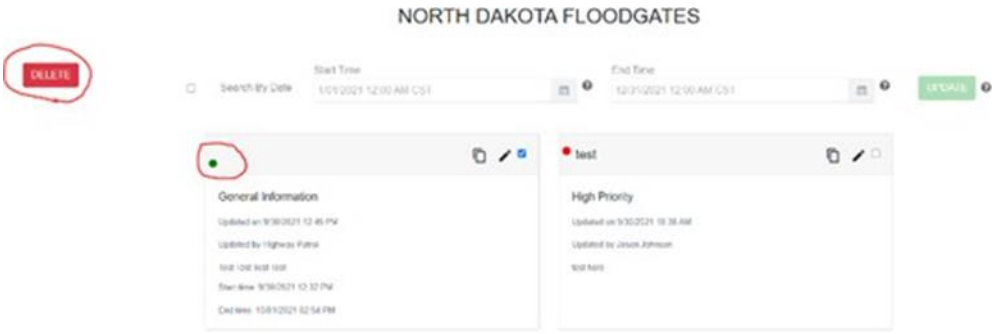
- **Floodgate IVR Message:** Message can be cut and pasted from a word document, notepad or from Team’s chat. Use the same message used in Everbridge.
- Select “Hear Polly Sample” as this allows you to listen to the message prior to sending.





- 511 Cancelation

- Click on **Alerts/Floodgates** and select **"LIST"**
- Select the active alert. It will have a green dot in the upper left corner of the alert.
- Click on delete on the left side of the screen.



OR

- If the above method **DOES NOT** work, try the alternate method for the 511 message.
- Read the same message over the 511 system.
  - Call **redacted** and enter code **redacted** and follow the prompts to activate a Public Alert message in North Dakota on the 511 system which is non- interruptible.

- In the Teams Channel, log the time of 511 activation.
- Once child, suspect or missing person has been located, or the test is concluded, a cancellation message (reviewed/approved by NDHP/BCI) will be sent using the "Public Alert Distribution Database" listserv; normally done by the ND Watch Officer.
- Follow the same process to cancel the 511-message system as above.
- In the Teams Channel, log the time of the 511 de-activation.
- Create a Casefile in Aries and include all pertinent information.

WEA CANCELLATION

Public Alerts (AMBER, Blue, and Silver) cancellation messages will no longer be sent out WEA. Utilize the email/fax distribution, ND Response website and social media platforms for notification of cancellation.

EAS ACTIVATION

After the initial Public Alert (AMBER, Blue, and Silver) EAS activation, continue EAS broadcasts as directed by the NDHP. If the alert takes place during overnight hours, consider re-issuing the EAS during the morning drive time.

12 Appendix 9 SECC Bylaws

State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) Bylaws

ARTICLE I – NAME

1.1 - North Dakota State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

2.1 - Establish, maintain, and authorize implementation of the North Dakota State Alert and Warning Plan, including, but not limited to, the following systems:

- Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)
- Emergency Alert System (EAS)
- Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and
- Non-Weather Emergency Messaging (NWEM) accessing the NOAA/National Weather Service (NWS) radio system.

2.2 - Coordinate Alert and Warning message reception and distribution capabilities among key partners, including broadcasters, cable companies, wireless providers, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDES), NOAA/NWS, the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), neighboring States and Canadian Provinces, local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and other present and future State Alert and Warning System participants.

2.3 – In compliance with the FCC Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR), Title 47, Part 11.21, since the state's EAS system is capable of initiating EAS messages formatted in the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), its EAS State Plan (which is an Annex to the State Alert and Warning Plan) includes information describing how such messages will be aggregated and distributed to EAS Participants within the state, including the monitoring requirements associated with distributing such messages. As such, the SECC will ensure state and local warning plans are consistent with national plans, FCC regulations, and EAS and IPAWS operation.

2.4 - The FCC, in Part 11.61 (a) (1), requires the SECC to establish times and scripts for EAS Required Monthly Tests (RMTs) in cooperation with effected parties.

2.5 – The SECC will establish, maintain and distribute EAS test schedules for the activation of EAS tests by the state's nationally designated Primary Entry Point (PEP) station, State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and LP-1 Designated Stations.

ARTICLE III – AUTHORITY

3.1 - The FCC in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 11.21, requires each state to have a State Plan, of which local plans may be included. These plans are reviewed by the FCC and implies the existence of an associated state organization.

3.3 - The State IPAWS Plan, developed by the SECC, shall be approved, and signed by the following parties:

The Director of NDDES-HLS

Representatives from:

- Radio Broadcasting
- Television Broadcasting
- North Dakota Broadcasters Association Executive Director
- Cable Television
- Federal Agencies including FEMA and FCC
- North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, and
- NOAA/National Weather Service
-

3.4 – The SECC shall have the authority to determine SECC policies. When a consensus of the SECC members cannot be reached, the SECC Chair shall make the final decision.

3.5 - The SECC Chair, with the concurrence of the SECC members, may appoint such permanent or ad hoc sub-committees as necessary to better facilitate the business of the Committee.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

4.1 - Membership of the SECC shall consist of an appointed SECC Chairperson, Regional Chairpersons appointed in the Northwest, Southwest, Northeast and Southeast regions within the state of North Dakota, representatives from the NOAA/NWS, ND Department of Emergency Services, and the Executive Director of the North Dakota Broadcasters Association, as well as others who may be required by the SECC as full participants in the planning process.

4.2 - The Regional Emergency Communications Committees (RECCs) are sub-committees of the SECC.

4.3 - Other interested local, tribal, and state governmental agencies, businesses, or organizations may fully participate in the process without a vote. These participants may be appointed to committees by the Chair of the SECC.

ARTICLE V – ELECTION OF CHAIR AND MEMBERS

5.1 - Officers must be selected from the participants described in Articles III and IV

5.2 - The SECC Chair shall be elected by the members described in Articles III and IV

5.3 - No compensation shall be paid to any officer.

5.4 - An Officer may resign by submitting his or her resignation, in writing, to NDDES.

5.5 - Officers are subject to removal by a vote of the members of the SECC as provided in Section 7.1.

5.6 - The SECC Chair shall be the principle executive officer of the SECC and shall in general supervise and control the business and affairs of the SECC. He or she shall preside at all SECC meetings. He or she may sign any contract, or other instruments which the SECC has authorized to be executed.

5.8 - The SECC Chair, with the concurrence of SECC members, shall appoint a Recording Secretary who shall record a summary of all SECC meetings and distribute meeting summaries to SECC members via email.

ARTICLE VI – DECISION PROCESS

6.1 - Decisions will be by majority vote of the SECC members present, except for modifications of the Bylaws, which will require a two-thirds majority vote.

6.2 - Each member of the SECC as described in Section 4.1 shall have one vote.

6.3 - Twenty-five percent (25%) of the membership of the SECC shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business by the SECC at any meeting, whether in attendance in-person or by conference call. However, notwithstanding the presence or absence of a quorum at any time during an SECC meeting, the Chair, where attendance and/or participation is minimal, and with the concurrence of the SECC members present, may elect to defer decisions until the next scheduled SECC meeting.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

7.1 - The SECC shall hold meetings at least once a year, unless otherwise determined by the SECC.

7.2 - Meeting notification shall be at least 30 days prior to the event.

7.3 - Meeting notification shall be via email.

7.4 - The date, time and location of meetings shall be determined by the SECC members.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 - The SECC shall maintain an email communications system that shall be open to everyone in the state having an interest in the State IPAWS or any of its system (EAS, WEA, NWEM and/or IPAWS in general).

8.2 - This email system shall be the official method of communication between all parties involved in development and maintenance of the State Alert and Warning plan.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

9.1 - Any proposed amendment to these By-Laws must be distributed at least 30 days prior to the meeting in which the amendment(s) will be considered for adoption.

9.2 - Amendments to these Bylaws shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote of SECC members.

9.3 - The SECC Bylaws will be reviewed at least every two years.