BeachNet
Covering the “Lower Left Corner” of Washington State
QSL.net/nm7r
Welcome to the “Lower Left Corner” of Washington State
The “Lower Left Corner”

- Rural and sparsely populated.
- Coast Range, hills, ridges and isolated valleys.
- Transportation is two-lane roads.
- Communications cables follow the roads.
Why Amateur Radio?
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Because it works
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Because it works

- Already deployed throughout populace
  - Equipped and familiar with their own gear
  - Trained through regular drills
Why Amateur Radio?

Because it works

• Already deployed throughout populace
  • Equipped and familiar with their own gear
  • Trained through regular drills
• Able to quickly report local conditions over a wide area
  • Reports shape EOC response
  • Link EOC to neighborhoods, other counties & State
Why a repeater?

• Extends range of low-power VHF/UHF equipment.
  • Line-of-sight propagation
  • Blocked by “dirt” / Absorbed by foliage

• If you can work a repeater
  • Can reach anyone else on that repeater
Why a repeater network?

- Any repeater has “holes” or “dead spots” in its coverage.
  - Multiple linked repeaters make full coverage more likely.

- Reliability in case of equipment failure.
Three Goals for *BeachNet*

1. Link two Pacific County EOCs
2. Link County EOC to State (Camp Murray)
3. Provide County-wide Coverage
1998

North Cove VHF
2000

North Cove VHF
KO Peak UHF
Three Lucky Breaks
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1. Y2K Planning Session
   • Helped us get foot in the door
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2. 2001 Nisqually Earthquake
   - Showcased Ham EmComm capabilities
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1. Y2K Planning Session
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2. 2001 Nisqually Earthquake
   • Showcased Ham EmComm capabilities
3. FCC Narrow-banding Mandate
   • Provided equipment
Normal Operation with 18 of the 20 repeaters at 15 sites linked, providing near-complete regional coverage.
RF (UHF) linking for survivability
Not dependent on Internet or PSTN

Multiple flexible links available
Normally all linked together as a single system
Multiple secondary pathways in case of failure
Can operate as several separate nets
District Three
EOC
Net on Capitol Peak
Seismic Survivability

Where available, equipment is mounted in racks
Seismic Survivability

Otherwise, we strap the equipment to something sturdy (like a wall)
Maintenance is on-going

Service Trips:

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BeachNet

QSL.net/nm7r
or Google: “BeachNet Repeaters”

Frank Wolfe, NM7R
PO Box 91
Nahcotta, WA 98637
360-665-5292
nm7r@yahoo.com