

**Amateur Radio
Emergency Communications
Interoperability Plan**

Washington State
Homeland Security Coordination
Region 1

**Island County
San Juan County
Skagit County
Snohomish County
Whatcom County**

Amateur radio is a disaster-resilient mode of Emergency Communications backup to Public Service and Government Emergency Communications. Depending on the jurisdiction, these Amateur Radio volunteers may be part of the:

- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)
- ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
- Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)
- Or another organizational structure approved by the local Emergency Manager (EM)

The purpose of the Region 1 Interoperability Plan is to facilitate amateur radio emergency communications interoperability between the five counties in Washington Regional Homeland Security Coordination Region 1 (Region 1) in order to provide mutual aid as necessary during emergency operations.

This agreement augments the amateur radio emergency communications plans of Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom counties, and is intended to bond the five counties as a cohesive entity in order to provide mutual aid and assistance during emergencies.

The scope of this document includes both intra-region communications between the five counties, as well as inter-region communications with adjacent counties, homeland security regions, and economic regions in Washington and British Columbia, Canada.



Weekly OPS1 Net Test

There is a scheduled test of the OPS1 net every Tuesday at 1000 local time with coordination starting on the Lyman Hill repeater, 145.19 (127.3hz)

On a weekly basis 50 to 80 Amateur Radio Operators deploy to facilities throughout Region 1 to verify our readiness and ability to provide communications support.

The Region 1 Emergency Communications Net currently consists of:

- 1 ARES Station
- 6 American Red Cross Stations
- 2 CERT Stations
- 21 Emergency Operations/Coordination Centers Stations
This includes one British Columbia, Canada Station
- 7 Fire Stations
- 10 Hospitals and Medical Clinics
- 1 Public Health Station
- 1 MARS Station (Oak Harbor/Whidbey Island)

Additional Information about Region 1 Emergency Communications may be found at the following website:

Snohomish County ACS/ARES: www.wa7dem.info

- Online Documentation

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