



Disaster Communications

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Disaster Communications

The Stake

- The stake cannot replace the individual's responsibility to prepare for, nor the ward's ability to respond to "neighborhood" needs during, a disaster. *(The stake does have the responsibility of caring for its members, and providing local authority and leadership to the disaster relief effort, and doing it in a manner that does not conflict with local civil authority and its efforts.)*
- There needs to be some system in place for bishops to get information to stake leadership that can then be relayed to general church leadership. The method used is the responsibility of ward and stake leadership and is up to them to develop.



Amateur Radio

A Communications Option

- Every stake is urged to call an Emergency Response Communications (ERC) specialist who can meet periodically with area ERC specialists and become familiar with the communications capabilities that are available to our local area.
- These capabilities are discussed, rehearsed, refined, and otherwise developed on a regular basis at the area level.
- Preferably, this specialist (ERC rep) should be a qualified, experienced amateur radio operator who is licensed to provide High Frequency (HF) communications capabilities that will allow for more reliable radio contact with area ERC specialists.



Amateur Radio Cont.

- This is a way stakes **may** be able to communicate with area authorities when our normal communication systems are down.
- This person needs to be reliable, and willing to participate in weekly radio networks.
- Stakes should **seriously** assess the availability of amateur radio operators within their boundaries and the operator's ability to equip themselves for this service, and encourage the training and licensure of others who might have an interest in this service.



Amateur radio operators,

so called and so equipped, can organize local (stake) simplex networks involving all the willing amateur operators from the various wards. Weekly or monthly “radio nets” can then be held to develop techniques peculiar to the needs of the local “neighborhoods”, rehearsing their capabilities on a regular basis.



Setting up a Local 2 Meter Net (Simplex)

- A simplex net means operating radios in a direct, station to station mode using the same frequency, without the use of a repeater.
- Here is a suggested procedure for establishing a simplex net:
 1. Encourage amateur radio licensure. *



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* with one caveat –

Becoming a licensed radio operator and participating in nets such as this should be voluntary and not related to church obligation. This helps preserve the fundamental nature of amateur radio: a fraternity of voluntary and like-minded hobbyists and experimenters who enjoy communicating “with other amateurs for public service, recreation and self-training.”



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- Here is a suggested procedure for establishing a simplex net:
 1. Encourage amateur radio licensure. *
 2. Identify amateur operators in the stake.
 3. Contact each personally.
 - Determine interest in participating in the net.
 - Find an acceptable net time.
 - Try to establish simplex contact with each volunteer from the net control base station. Arrange relays for those who can't hear net control.
 4. Hold the net consistently.
 5. Share net control responsibilities from time to time.



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Thank You For Your Attention

Good Luck With Your Own Stake Net

You Would Be Most Welcome to Ask For Help

