

**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS)
PROCEDURES FOR THE
Blue Mesa
EAS LOCAL AREA 10**

**Blue Mesa EAS LOCAL AREA 10
INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES**

**Delta
Montrose
Gunnison
Hinsdale
Ouray
San Miguel**

Adopted May 8, 2006

I. INTRODUCTION

This plan was prepared by the county emergency managers in Blue Mesa EAS Local Area 10 and the broadcast and cable media. It is used to disseminate emergency and warning information to the general public in Blue Mesa EAS Local Area 10 or any portion thereof within the broadcast coverage and cable system service areas at the request of designated local officials. This EAS Local Area plan may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to emergencies such as: power outages, floods, civil disorders, hazardous materials spills or any occurrence which poses a danger to life or property.

Acceptance of/or participation in this plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control, and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee or cable operator from exercising his independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations and cable systems originating emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each broadcast station and cable system to exercise discretion regarding the transmission of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules.

Counties within Blue Mesa EAS Local Area 10 may have local plans and procedures for activating the emergency alert system via locally operated encoders or through arrangements with the National Weather Service. This plan is an adjunct to those local plans.

II. AUTHORITY

Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154 (i) & (o), 303 (r), 524(g) & 606; and 47 C.F.R. Part 11, FCC Rules & Regulations, Emergency Alert System.

III. KEY EAS SOURCES

LOCAL PRIMARY SOURCE (LP-1): KKXK and KUBC

LOCATION: Montrose, Colorado

EAS EMERGENCY CODES: 08085

EAS MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS:

KKXK monitors NWS and KKNN

KUBC monitors NWS and KKNN

CONTACT: Jim Frank, chief engineer

TELEPHONE: 970-249-4546

HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 hrs

COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES: Studio location-106 Rose Lane, Montrose, CO 81401

LOCAL PRIMARY SOURCE (LP-2): KKNN

LOCATION: Delta, Colorado

EAS EMERGENCY CODES: 08029

EAS MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS: KJYE(LP-1) and Mesa County 911(LP-2)

CONTACT: Ted Wetzel

TELEPHONE: 970-242-7788

HOURS OF OPERATION: 8-5

COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES: 315 Kennedy Ave G.J. CO 81501

LOCAL PRIMARY SOURCE (LP-2): KREY-TV

LOCATION: Montrose

EAS EMERGENCY CODES: 08085

EAS MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS: KKXK (LP-1)

CONTACT: Phil Mowbray

TELEPHONE: 970-242-5000

HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 Hours
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES: Montrose, CO

LOCAL PRIMARY SOURCE (LP-2): KSTR-FM (KJYE 92.3?)

LOCATION: Montrose
EAS EMERGENCY CODES: 08085
EAS MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS: KKXK
CONTACT: Robert Bowe (MBC Grand Broadcasting)
TELEPHONE: 970-241-9230
HOURS OF OPERATION: 8-5PM
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES: Grand Junction, CO

IV. AUTHENTICATION

- A.** Only individuals listed in Annex A of this plan are authorized to initiate an EAS alert under the procedures outlined in this plan.
- B.** If there is any question as to the authority of the individual requesting EAS activation, the initiating entity will call the public safety answering point (dispatch center) for the requesting jurisdiction and confirm the authority of the requesting individual. Each dispatch center in Blue Mesa Local Area 10 knows the phone numbers or radio contact information for the other dispatch centers. In the case of a dispatch center that rolls their dispatch function to other centers in the evening, the supporting center will be contacted for verification.
- C.** Broadcasters should maintain a list of dispatch center phone numbers for verification purposes.
- D.** National Weather Service (NWS) warnings received via NOAA Weather Radio, NOAA Weather Wire or AP, Reuters and UPI wire do not need authentication. NWS sources can be monitored optionally after the two assigned LP sources (LP-1, LP-2, etc.).
- E.** Authentication procedures for EAS activation via the National Weather Service are located at Annex E. Each County must develop procedures with the NWS in advance of the need for activation.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Procedures for Designated Officials

- I. Request activation of the EAS facilities through:
 - a. The LP-1 (or LP-2 if the LP-1 cannot be contacted) via phone or other available communications methods.
 - b. A Blue Mesa Local Area 10 County with EAS encoder capability
 - i. Gunnison County Dispatch
 - ii. Delta County Dispatch
 - iii. National Weather Service (See Annex E)
 - iv. Montrose Dispatch (when activated, TBA)

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

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

NOTE: Use Authentication as noted in paragraph IV above.

3. Upon authentication, designated officials and EAS source personnel determine transmission details
 - a. Live
 - b. Recorded
 - c. Immediate
 - d. Delayed
4. Requesting officials should provide emergency program material including a description of the emergency, actions being taken by local government, and instructions to the public. EAS message originators shall limit their messages to two minutes, the maximum recording time of EAS equipment.
5. Keep line of communication open if necessary.
6. For a unique emergency not involving the entire EAS Local Area, authorities may request EAS activation through the cable system and broadcast station serving only the affected area.
7. If required, the emergency message will need to be rebroadcast by the requesting entity (public safety) unless arrangements have been made with the broadcasters for a scheduled release in excess of the original release.

B. Procedures for Broadcast and Cable System Personnel

1. Upon receipt of a request to activate the local EAS from the appropriate authority (verify authenticity via method described in IV above), the LP-1 (or LP-2) may proceed as follows:

- a. Broadcast the following announcement:
 - i. "WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW."
- b. Transmit the EAS header codes and Attention Signal.
- c. Transmit the following announcement and material:
 - i. "WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS WILL FOLLOW." *** Follow with emergency program ***
- d. To terminate the EAS message (immediately or later), make the following announcement:

"THIS CONCLUDES EAS PROGRAMMING. ALL BROADCAST STATIONS AND CABLE SYSTEMS MAY NOW RESUME NORMAL OPERATIONS."
- e. Transmit the EAS End Of Message (EOM) code.

2. Important Notes:

- a. The audio portion of the message should not exceed two minutes in length.
- b. When relaying EAS messages for State and local emergencies, broadcasters and cable operators have the option of transmitting only the EAS header and EOM codes without the Attention Signal and emergency message. This is acceptable so that EAS coded messages can be quickly relayed through areas unaffected by the emergency.
- c. All other broadcast stations and cable systems are monitoring key sources via EAS equipment and will be alerted by the header codes and attention signal. Each station and cable system upon receipt of the signal will, at the discretion of management, perform the same procedures as in step 1 above by retransmitting the emergency message from the LP-1 or LP-2. Broadcast

stations and cable systems using automatic interrupt of programming should receive the EOM codes before retransmitting state or local level EAS messages. This can prevent downstream locations from missing parts of the EAS message.

3. To avoid unnecessary escalation of public confusion, all stations and cable systems must be cautious in providing news and information pertaining to the emergency. All messages must be based on definite and confirmed facts. The public must not be left to decide what is or is not fact.

4. Upon completion of the above transmission procedures, resume normal programming. Appropriate notations should be made in the station and cable system records. A very brief summary may be sent to the FCC for information purposes only.

VI. TESTS

Tests of these EAS procedures shall be conducted on a scheduled basis from a point that would originate the common emergency message. See Annex G for schedule of required monthly tests.

VII. ANNEXES

ANNEX C: List of broadcast stations and cable systems.

ANNEX D: Monitoring Assignments

ANNEX E: National Weather Service Civil Emergency Message Procedures

ANNEX F: County FIPS codes

ANNEX G: Schedule of required monthly tests

ANNEX H: Colorado Department of Transportation low-power FM Stations

ANNEX C

Broadcast Stations, Cable Systems and NWS

Station	Phone Number (970)
KUBC, KKXK, KBNG	249-4546
KKNN	242-7788
KSTR	254-2113
KRYD	249-8989 252-1049
KREY-TV	242-5000
KEJJ/ KPKE	641-4000
KPRH	
NWS	243-7007
Cable Bresnan Communica tions	241-0801
Adelphia Cable Systems	209-3067

ANNEX D

Monitoring Assignments

Sign	FIPS Code	City of License	Freq (CH)	EAS Title	Monitoring Assignments	
K02LY	08051	GUNNISON	CH 02	PN	LP-1	LP-2
K49AX	08085	NUCLA	CH 49	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KBUT	08051	CRESTED BUTTE	90.3	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KDTA	08029	DELTA	1400	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KKNN	08029	DELTA	95.1	LP-2	KJYE	LP-2
KKXK	08085	MONTROSE	94.1	LP-1	KKNN	NWS
KEJJ	08051	GUNNISON	98.3	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KOTO	08113	TELLURIDE	91.7	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KPKE	08051	GUNNISON	1490	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KPRH	08085	Montrose	88.3	Satellite KPRN	KPRN	
KREY-TV	08085	MONTROSE	CH 10	LP-2	LP-1	LP-2
KRYD	08085	Norwood	104.9	PN	LP-1	
KSTR-FM	08085	MONTROSE	96.1	LP-2	LP-1	LP-2
KUBC	08085	MONTROSE	580	LP-1, BSPP	LP-1	LP-2
KURA	08091	OURAY	105.7	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KVLE	08051	GUNNISON	102.3	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KVNF	08029	PAONIA	90.9	PN	LP-1	LP-2
KWSB	08051	GUNNISON	91.1	PN	LP-1	LP-2
NWS-Montrose	08085	Montrose	162.45		NA	NA
Adelphia Cable System		Telluride/ Gunnison		PN	LP-1	KOTO

ANNEX E

National Weather Service Civil Emergency Message Procedures

Civil Emergency Message dissemination steps:

1. Notify the NWS in Grand Junction (UNLISTED 970-256-9463) for the need to have a CEM disseminated. Identify yourself and provide your 4 digit authentication code.
2. After providing the authentication code, provide a phone number where you can be reached for verification of message origination or for questions pertaining to the CEM.
3. Fax* your message to the Grand Junction NWS office at (970) 257-0452, using the format and text guideline from the following EXAMPLE.
4. If you are unable to fax the message, you will need to dictate the CEM for the NWS to write down. When dictating a CEM, use the following EXAMPLE as a guideline.

CIVIL EMERGENCY MESSAGE

(YOUR COUNTY) OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

100 PM MDT THU JUL 19 2004

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS BEING TRANSMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF THE (YOUR COUNTY) OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

...STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN (LOCATION)...

(YOUR COUNTY) EMERGENCY MANAGER...**JOHN B. AWARE**...HAS DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN (LOCATION) DUE TO THE RELEASE OF AN AIRBORNE TOXIN IN THE VICINITY OF (LOCATION). DR. XXX...(YOUR COUNTY) HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR...RECOMMENDS THAT YOU STAY INDOORS WITH WINDOWS CLOSED AND AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTION FROM CIVIL AUTHORITIES. ANYONE NEEDING HELP OR INFORMATION SHOULD CALL THE (YOUR COUNTY) HEALTH DEPARTMENT HOTLINE AT 555-111-2222. TO REQUEST IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE...DIAL 911. PLEASE TUNE TO LOCAL RADIO AND TV/CABLE TV FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS EMERGENCY.

JOHN B. AWARE

(YOUR COUNTY) EMERGENCY MANAGER

4. The NWS in Grand Junction will then transmit the CEM via NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). This will automatically activate NWR receivers and also automatically activate the EAS warning system for the broadcast media in your area.

Additionally, the CEM text product will be transmitted via long line by the NWS office in Grand Junction to the wire services and other text message vendors.

5. The CEM will continue to be broadcast on NWR until you notify the NWS office in Grand Junction that the threat has expired or that an updated CEM needs to be broadcast. The CEM must not be broadcast any longer than the existence of the threat.

Follow-up messages to the original CEM, including a CEM cancellation message, will require identification (including authentication code) from the official contacting the NWS.

ANNEX F

County FIPS Codes

Delta: 029

Gunnison: 051

Hinsdale: 053

Montrose: 085

Ouray: 091

San Miguel: 113

ANNEX G
Schedule of required monthly tests for Blue Mesa Area

Note: Phil Mowbray, KREY-TV, would like the LP-1 (KKXK) to provide for 60 minutes to schedule in tests and not override commercial time.

Month	RMT Transmission Window*	Originating Source
January	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	KKXK
February	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	Gunnison County
March	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	Colorado State EOC
April	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	Delta County
May	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	KKXK
June	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	KOA-AM
July	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	Montrose County
August	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	Delta County
September	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	GJT WFO (NWS)
October	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	Gunnison County
November	Day/8:30 AM to local sunset	Montrose County
December	Night/local sunset to 8:30 AM	Colorado State Patrol

Note: The quarterly statewide tests are shaded.

*Avoid transmitting an RMT between the following times:

- 12:00 Noon and 1:00 PM
- 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM
- 10:00 PM and 11:00 PM

*Also avoid transmitting an RMT during the period from 5 minutes before the hour and 10 minutes after the hour.

ANNEX H

Colorado Department of Transportation Low-power FM Stations

In some areas of the Blue Mesa Area (West Region), the Colorado Department of Transportation operates low-power FM radio transmissions to inform travelers of road conditions. These stations often rebroadcast NWS transmissions. Local governments may use these stations to broadcast emergency information to the traveling public by contacting Hanging Lake Tunnel Control at: 1-877-945-3840.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The CDOT low-power stations do not rebroadcast EAS alerts.

Below are the low-power FM stations in the Blue Mesa Area:

Broadcasting out of Delta S.O. Office

Call Sign: KDEA-LP

Frequency: 99.1 MHz FM

In Service January 22, 2003

Broadcasting out of GUNNISON TELECOM BUILDING

Call Sign: KGUS-LP

Frequency: 99.1 MHz FM

In Service November 19, 2002

Broadcasting out of GRAND JUNCTION STATE SERVICES BUILDING

Call Sign: KGJN-LP

Frequency: 106.7 MHz FM

In Service February 24, 2004