EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM
EAS
PLAN AND PROCEDURES

OPERATIONAL AREA 12
HIGH COUNTRY
Revised May 20, 1998
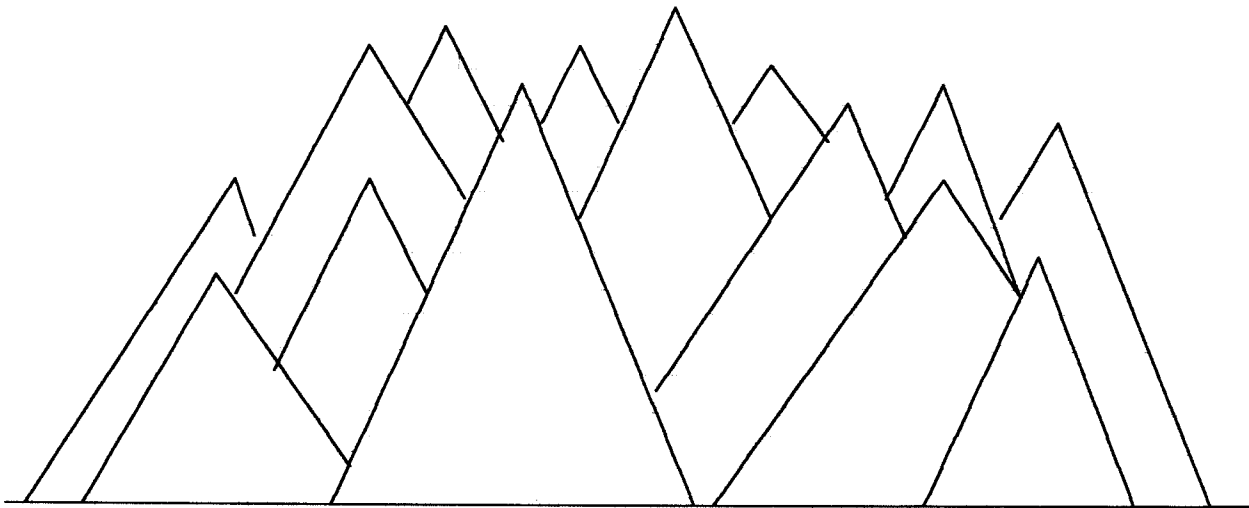
INDEX

05/20/98

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM
PLANS AND PROCEDURES
HIGH COUNTRY OPERATIONAL AREA

I.   INTRODUCTION

This Plan provides specific procedures for the broadcast media to disseminate emergency information to the general public in the High Country Operational Area or any portion thereof at the request of designated local, state, and federal officials. This local EAS Plan may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as tornadoes, power outages, floods, heavy snows, or any occurrence that poses a danger to life or property.

Participation in this Plan shall not be deemed as a relinquishment of program control, and shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. FCC rules and regulations provide each broadcast station guidance and regulation in exercising discretion regarding information and instructions to the public. Stations that originate EAS communications shall understand that they have conferred rebroadcast authority.

II.   PURPOSE

The purpose of this Plan is to provide procedures agreed upon by the broadcast industry, local area government and participating agencies that permits the dissemination of emergency information and instruction during potential or actual emergencies. This plan is to be used to augment the State of Colorado Emergency Alert System State Plan (approved October 23, 1997, and revised in March of 1998).

III.   AUTHORITY

All mandated participants in the Emergency Alert System (EAS) must have the capability to conduct activations and tests. Cable systems with fewer than 10,000 subscribers are mandated to participate in the EAS effective December 31, 1998. Cable systems with more than 10,000 subscribers have until January 1, 2002, before participation becomes mandatory. All voluntary participants may have the capability to conduct activations and tests. Activations and tests may only be done by designated officials in accordance with the local and state plan. Typically, the designated officials will be broadcasters, cablecasters, emergency management offices and public safety officials representing their jurisdictional authority, and the National Weather Service. The priority for activations and tests are first – national level messages, second – local area messages, third – state messages, and fourth - National Information.

      A.   Part 73, Subpart G, Federal Communication Commission Rules and Regulations.

B.   FEMA Civil Preparedness Guide 1-40, 1-41
C.   Title 47, CFR Part 11, EAS, as amended
D.   State of Colorado Emergency Alert System State Plan (Rev March 1998)

IV. EAS KEY SOURCE STATIONS

PEP   **KOA AM Denver (850 AM)**
     Station Contact: Jerry Bell
     Phone: (303) 892-4800

LP-1   **KZYR-FM (103.1 Avon; 96.7 Leadville)**
     Station Contact: Kevin Logan
     Telephone: (970) 949-3339 (business)
           (970) 949-1137 (emergency)
     On Air Hours: 24 Hours

LP-2*   KSNO-FM*   (103.9 Snowmass Village; 103.5 Aspen, Basalt;
      Pitkin County   93.5 Glenwood Springs)

LP-3*   KSMT-FM*   (102.3 Breckenridge; 102.7 Dillon)
      Summit County

LP-4*   KIDN-FM*   (95.9 Hayden; 95.5 Steamboat Springs)
      Routt County

     * KSNO, KSMT, and KIDN simulcast KZYR emergency broadcasts via satellite that pertain that each station's operational area. Contact any of these stations at (970) 949-1137 in case of emergency.

LP-5   KYSL-FM (93.9 Frisco; 93.1 Vail)
Summit Station Contact: Robbie Hodge
County Telephone: (970) 668-0292
     On Air Hours: 24 Hours

LP-6   KNFO-FM (106.1 Basalt; 95.3 Glenwood Springs & Aspen;
Pitkin   96.7 Eagle; 105.5 Vail)
County Station Contact: Lisa Brickhouse
     Telephone: (970) 925-5776
     On Air Hours: 24 Hours

LP-7   KBCR-FM (96.9 Steamboat Springs)
Routt   Station Contact: Terry Kottom
County Telephone: (970) 879-2270
     On Air Hours: 24 Hours

V. EAS PROCEDURES

A. PROCEDURES FOR DESIGNATED OFFICIALS

1. Coordinate activation request of EAS by telephone, with Local Primary source (LP-1), with nearest LP-2 as a backup. Coordination call assumes that disaster/emergency event has reached a stage where EOC activation is in progress and field notifications and actions need to be supplemented by mass public safety information from government entities.

2. Designated officials use the following format when contacting the LP-1 or LP-2 station:

   > "This is (name/title) of (organization). I am activating the Emergency Alert System for the High Country Operational Area (or a portion thereof) because of (description of emergency)." (Use Authentication as noted under paragraph VI. Please stand by to ensure message is received and read it back).

B. PROCEDURES FOR STATION PERSONNEL IF EAS FAILS

1. If LP-1 goes off air or EAS equipment fails, they are to notify each LP-2 and contact the nearest PEP station and advise them of the situation. The PEP for our area is AM 850 KOA in Denver. Phone: 303-892-4800

2. The LP-2 Stations now function as the LP-1

3. If, for any reason, the LP-1 station is unable to function as the principal station, the LP-2 will perform this function and monitor the assigned stations:
   KYSL-FM will monitor KCNC TV Denver
   KBCR-FM will monitor KRAI-FM Craig or KOA-AM Denver
   KNFO-FM will monitor KJYE-FM Grand Junction
   All other local stations will monitor the nearest LP-2 to their location.

4. Upon resumption of normal programming, notations should be made in the station log, and a brief summary may be sent to the FCC for information only. AM Stations that may have used their daytime facilities to cover areas that would not have service during night-time hours must report this fact to the FCC.

C. EAS PROTOCOL

The EAS uses a four part message for an emergency activation of the EAS. The four part are: Preamble and EAS Header Codes; audio Attention Signal; message; and,

Preamble and EAS End of Message (EOM) Codes. The EAS Protocol including any codes must not be amended, extended, or abridged without FCC authorization.

D.   INTERRUPTION OF NORMAL PROGRAMMING

1.   A broadcast station or cable system is required to interrupt normal programming either automatically or manually, immediately, when it receives an EAS message in which the header contains the EAN and EAT Event Codes. Although not required, broadcast stations and cable systems are encouraged to give state and local emergency messages the same level of attention.

2.   Automatic interrupt of programming is required when facilities are unattended for any portion of a broadcast day. Manual interrupt of programming and transmission of EAS messages may be used if the station is attended 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. EAS messages with the EAN Event Code must be transmitted immediately. Messages with the RMT Event Code must be transmitted within 15 minutes.

3.   All actions must be logged or recorded.

E.   MESSAGE PRIORITIES

1.   A national activation of the EAS for a Presidential message with the EAN Event Code must take priority over any message and preempt it if it is in progress.

2.   EAS participants should transmit other EAS messages in the following order:
     a.   Local Area Messages
     b.   State Messages
     c.   National Information Center Messages

F.   PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

1.   All radio and television stations shall transmit EAS messages in the main audio channel. Television stations shall transmit a visual message containing Originator, Event, Location, and the valid time period of an EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall be displayed at the top of the screen or where it will not interfere with other visual messages.

2.   Cable systems serving 10,000 or fewer subscribers shall transmit EAS messages in the same manner as broadcast television and radio stations effective December 31, 1998. Cable systems serving more 10,000 subscribers must participate by January 1, 2002. Additionally, cable systems must:

a. Provide a video interruption and audio EAS message on all channels. The audio message must state which channel is carrying the visual EAS message.

b. Transmit a visual EAS message on at least one channel. The visual message shall contain the Originator, Event, Location, and the valid time period of the EAS message. If the message is a video crawl, it shall be displayed at the top of the screen or where it will not interfere with other visual images.

c. Provide a method to alert hearing impaired or deaf subscribers to EAS messages.

VI. AUTHENTICATION

A.   All telephone or radio requests will be authenticated.

B.   An Authentication Code for phone activation will be given to each agency by the local
     EAS Committee Chairperson. Please secure this code at a key location at your station.

C.   EAS Originator Codes are included in the message header and indicate who originally
     initiated the activation of the EAS.

     1.   Broadcast Stations or Cable Systems   EAS
     2.   Civil Authorities   CIV
     3.   Emergency Action Notification Network   EAN
     4.   National Weather Service   WXR
     5.   Primary Entry Point System   PEP

D.   EAS Event Codes are included in the message header and indicates the nature of the
     EAS activation. The following codes will be used in the High Country:

     1.   National Codes
          a.   Emergency Action Notification (Nat'l only)   EAN
          b.   Emergency Action Termination (Nat'l only)   EAT
          c.   National Information Center   NIC
          d.   National Periodic Test   NPT
          e.   Required Monthly Test   RMT
          f.   Required Weekly Test   RWT

     2.   Local Codes
          a.   Administrative Message   ADR
          b.   Blizzard Warning   BZW
          c.   Civil Emergency Message   CEM
          d.   Evacuation Immediate   CVI
          e.   Flash Flood Warning   FFW
          f.   Flood Warning   FLW
          g.   Practice/Demo Warning   DMO
          h.   Tornado Warning   TOR

E,   EAS LOCATION CODES (PSSCCC)

1.   The Location Codes indicate the geographic areas affected by the EAS alert. There may be 31 Location Codes in an EAS alert. The Location Code uses the Federal Information Processing System (FIPS) numbers. Each state is assigned an SS number and each county is assigned a CCC number. P defines County subdivisions.

2.   Operational Area 12 – Location Codes:

   a.   Colorado Entire State   008000
   b.   All of Eagle County   008037
   c.   All of Lake County   008065
   d.   All of Grand County   008049
   e.   All of Jackson County   008049
   f.   All of Summit County   008035
   g.   All of Pitkin County   008097
   h.   Eastern Garfield County   008045

E.   AUTHENTICATION

1.   Authenticator word lists are used by EAS participants to ensure that National level alerts and tests are legitimate. The list must be used in accordance with directions in the EAS Operating Handbook.

     The (Red envelope) authenticator list is issued to all broadcast stations and specified control points of radio and television networks, cable networks, and program suppliers, common carriers, wire services, and other specified entities. This list should only be opened to authenticate receipt of an EAN or EAT message. The FCC may request immediate return of the sealed Red Envelope at any time.

2.   State or Local area emergency messages are not authenticated with a word list. LP-1 authorized personnel should be familiar with persons who may request activation of the EAS. An EAS message should not be sent unless the originator is absolutely certain as to the validity of the messages, and the identity of the authority of the requester.

F, IMPLEMENTATION

1. Procedures for Designated Officials

   a. **ALL** requests for activation of EAS facilities will first go through the LP-1 via phone or other available communications facility. The LP-1 for the High Country is KZYR in Avon. That station can be reached in an emergency at:

      (970) 949-1137 (to request EAS activation only)

   b. Designated officials should 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 FOR THE (AREA) BECAUSE OF (DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY)."

   c. Upon authentication, designated officials and EAS source personnel determine transmission details (e.g., live or recorded, immediate or delayed). Officials should provide emergency program material including a description of the emergency, actions being taken by local government, and instructions to the public.

   d. Keep line of communications open if necessary and possible.

   e. For a unique emergency not involving the entire local area, local authorities may request activation of the EAS limited to a specific geographic are.

   f. Contact the following station nearest your location and repeat the above procedure:

LP-5	KYSL Frisco - Vail	(970) 668-0292
LP-6	KNFO Basalt – Aspen	(970) 925-5776
LP-7	KBCR Steamboat	(970) 879-2270

2. Procedures for Emergency Management, Dispatch or other LP-1 Broadcast Personnel.

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

        1. Broadcast the following announcement:

        "WE INTERRUPT THEIS PROGRAM BECAUSE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY. IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW:'

        2. Transmit the EAS header codes and attention signal.

        3. Transmit the following announcement and material:

        "WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM FOR THE (area) BECAUSE OF A (description of emergency)."

        Follow with emergency program and information

        4. To terminate the EAS message, make the following announcment:

        "THIS CONCLUDES EAS PROGRAMMING. ALL BROADCAST STATIONS AND CABLE SYSTEMS MAY NOW RESUME NORMAL OPERATIONS."

        5. Send End of Message (EOM) Codes.

3.	Procedures for Broadcast and Cable System Personnel (EAS Relay LP-2's)

a.	Broadcast stations and cable systems are monitoring key EAS sources (LP-1's via EAS monitor receiver/decoders and will be alerted by the header codes and attention signal). Each station and cable system, upon receipt of the signal, will review the message content, then release the message for relay over their system.

b.	If broadcast personnel believe the audio message lacks quality, clarity, or does not properly address the listening or viewing public within the stations Area of Responsibility, at the discretion of station management, the audio message may be replaced. The rebroadcast of modified emergency information is to be completed as outlined above.

c.	Messages containing EAN, EAT, and RMT Event codes, along with accompanying location codes with a stations or services Area of Responsibility shall be relayed unchanged except for the call sign of the re-broadcasting station or service.

d.	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.

e.	Upon completion of the above transmission procedures, resume normal programming. Appropriate notations should be made in the station or cable system records.

IV. TESTS

A.   REQUIRED MONTHLY TESTS (RMT)

Required Monthly Tests will conform with the procedures in the EAS Operating Handbook and shall include the EAS header codes, Attention Signal, Test Script, and EOM codes. Federal and State tests will be made at the discretion of those government entities.

1.   On random days and times, RMT's in odd numbered months shall occur between 8:30am and Local Sunset. Tests in even numbered months shall occur between local sunset and 8:30am and on random days and times.

2.   Origination of RMT's will be coordinated between the State Office of Emergency Management, Local (County) Offices of Emergency Management, and the National Weather Service per the following figure:

These monthly tests MUST be transmitted within 15 minutes of receipt by broadcast stations and cable systems in the EAS location when required by the commission. Stations which receive an RMT while signed off need only log receipt of the RMT.

Following is the test script for the RMT:

MONTHLY EAS TEST SCIPT
60 seconds

Audio intro is suggested to Explain the test – But is not Required	This is a required monthly test of the emergency alert system. This is only a test.
EAS Header	(required)
EBS two tone	(required)
Audio Message	This is a coordinated monthly test of broadcast stations and Cable Systems in Eagle, Summit, Jackson, Grand, Lake, and Pitkin Counties. Equipment that can quickly warn you during emergencies is being tested. If this had been an actual emergency such as a severe weather warning or a civil emergency, official messages would have followed the alert tone. This station is a member of the High Country Operational Area. This concludes this test of the Emergency Alert System.
EAS EOM	(required)
EAS EOM	(required)

Resume normal programming.

REQUIRED MONTHLY TEST
TRANSMISSION SCHEDULE AND POINT OF ORIGINATION
HIGH COUNTRY OPERATIONAL AREA
1998

Month	Date	Time Frame	Point of Origination
JAN	random	8:30am to local sunset	KZYR Network (LP-1)
FEB	random	Local sunset to 8:30am	KZYR Network (LP-1)
MAR*	3/26/98	1:45pm exactly	KOA-AM (PEP)
APR	random	Local sunset to 8:30am	KZYR Network (LP-1)
MAY**	5/7/98	10:15am exactly	KYSL-FM (LP-2 Summit)
JUN*	6/4/98	4:45am exactly	CO EOC Denver
JUL	random	8:30am to local sunset	KZYR Network (LP-1)
AUG	random	Local sunset to 8:30am	KZYR Network (LP-1)
SEP*	9/17/98	9:45am exactly	Weather Service Denver
OCT	random	Local sunset to 8:30am	KZYR Network (LP-1)
NOV**	11/21/98	10:45am exactly	KNFO-FM (LP-2 Pitkin)
DEC*	12/11/98	2:45am exactly	CO State Patrol Denver

* Indicates Coordinated Statewide Test
** Indicates Origination of Test from LP-2 in outlying area

B.   REQUIRED WEEKLY TESTS (RWT)

1.   Required Weekly Tests will conform with the procedures in the EAS Operating Handbook and shall include the EAS header codes and EOM Code only.

2.   Broadcasters and cable stations are required to conduct Weekly Tests per FCC rules. Appropriate notations should be made in the station and cable system records.

3.   Required Weekly Tests must be conducted at least once per week at random days and times.

4.   An RWT is NOT required during the week that a monthly test is conducted or relayed.

WEEKLY TEST SCRIPT
30 seconds

Audio Intro (suggested)	This is a Test of the Emergency Alert System. This is only a test.
EAS Header	(required)
EAS EOM	(required)
Audio Outro (suggested)	This has been a test of the Emergency Alert System on (Station Identification).

VII. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Designated Officials Authorized to Activate the EAS

Appendix B: Broadcast Stations including technical data and monitoring assignments

Appendix C: Approvals

Appendix D: Operational Area Map

Appendix E: EAS Web Architecture for the High Country Operational Area

Appendix F: Glossary of Abbreviations

APPENDIX A:

DESIGNATED OFFICIALS AUTHORIZED TO ACTIVATE THE EMERCENCY ALERT SYSTEM IN THE HIGH COUNTRY OPERATIONAL AREA

Colorado State Patrol – Denver, Eagle, Frisco, Glenwood Springs, Steamboat Springs, Aspen

National Weather Service - Grand Junction

National Weather Service - Denver

Sheriff and Police Department Officials and Emergency Coordinators in:

Eagle County:	Vail, Avon, Minturn, Eagle, Gypsum, Basalt
Summit County:	Breckenridge, Frisco, Dillon, Silverthorne
Pitkin County:	Aspen, Snowmass Village
Lake County:	Leadville
Grand County:	Kremmling, Granby, Hot Sulfur Springs
Jackson County:	Walden, Rand
Routt County:	Steamboat Springs, Hayden, Oak Creek
Garfield County:	Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, Rifle

National Forest Service (Department of Agriculture)

APPENDIX B:

MONITORING ASSINMENTS
FOR
BROADCAST STATIONS - HIGH COUNTRY EAS LOCAL AREA

Callsign	FIPS Code	City of License	Frequency	Facilities	EAS Designation	Monitor Assign.
KZYR	08037	Avon	103.1	12.0KW149M	LP-1	KWBI, KJYE, LP-5, LP-6
KSMT	08117	Breckenridge	102.3	3 KW -70. M	LP-2	KTUN,KYSL
KSNO-FM	08097	Snowmass Village 103.9		6 KW 99M	LP-3	KWBI, KJYE, LP-6
KIDN	08107	Hayden	95.9	1.8 KW 360 M	LP-4	KRAI, KBCR
KYSL	08035	Frisco	93.9	.56 KW 324 M	LP-5	LP-2, KCNC
KNFO	06037	Basalt	106.1	2.0 KW 111 M	LP-6	KKCH, KSNO
KBCR-FM	08107	Steamboat Springs 96.7		.89 KW 155 M	LP-7	LP-4, KRAI-FM
KTUN	08037	Eagle	101.5	37KW674M	PN	KZYR,KYSL
KSKE	08037	Vail	610	.217/5. KW ND-1 U	PN	KZYR, KYSL
KSKE-FM	08037	Vail	104.7	100 KW 120 M	PN	LP-1, LP-5
KPRE	08037	Vail	89.9	1.5 KW 107 M	PN	LP-1, KTUN
K64DD	08037	Redcliff	CH 64	.217 KW	PN	LP-1, KTUN
KSPN-FM	08097	Aspen	97.7	3KW-26M	PN	KKCH, KSNO
KAJX	08097	Aspen	91.5	.38 KW -01M	PN	LP-3, LP-6
K20DH	08097	Aspen	CH 20	.008 KW	PN	LP-3, LP-6
K23AE	08097	Aspen	CH 23	1.05 KW	PN	LP-3, LP-6
KKCH	OB097-08037	Glenwood Springs 92.7		56 KW 753 M	PN	KTUN,KZYR
KHTH	08117	Dillon	113D	5.KWND-D D.	PN	LP-2, LP-5
KRKM	08049	Kremmling	106.3	.150KW334M	PN	KTUN,KYSL
KRKY	08049	Granby	930	.121/4.5 KW ND-1 U	PN	KRAI, KBCR
KFMU-FM	08107	Oak Creek	104.1	1.40KW327M	PN	LP-4, LP-7
KBCR	08107	Steamboat Springs. 1230		1.KWND-1 U	PN	LP-4, KRAI-FM
KSBS TV	08107	Steamboat Springs CH 24		5.01 KW 157 M	PN	LP-4, LP-7

APPENDIX C: APPROVALS

This High Country Operational Area 12 EAS plan was developed and approved by:

The High Country Operational Area Emergency Communications Committee.

This Plan is coordinated and distributed to all designated officials listed in Appendix A and all broadcast stations listed in Appendix B.

OAC Chair – High Country Operational Area 12
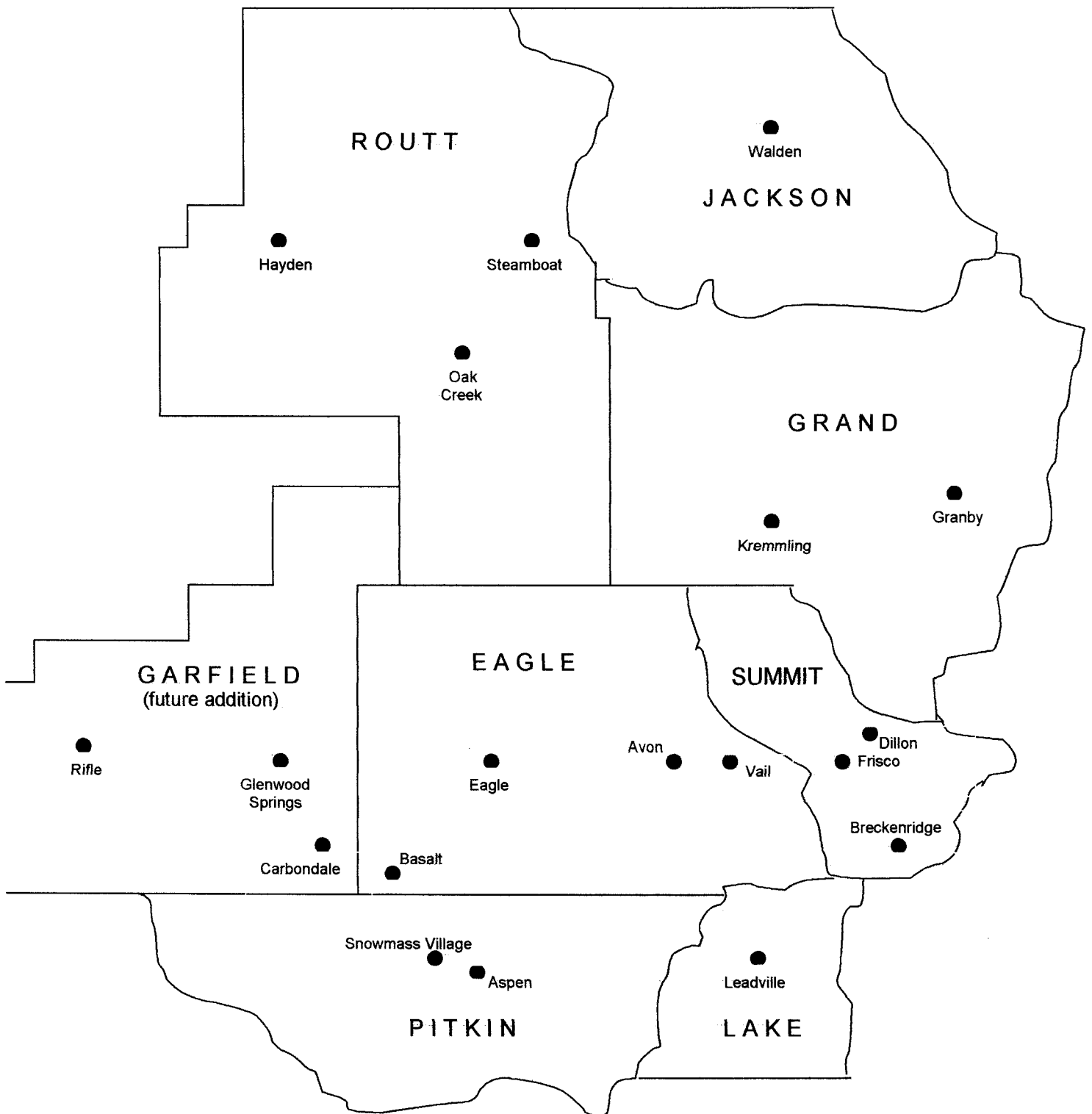

_____
Kevin Logan

Colorado SECC Broadcast Co-Chair
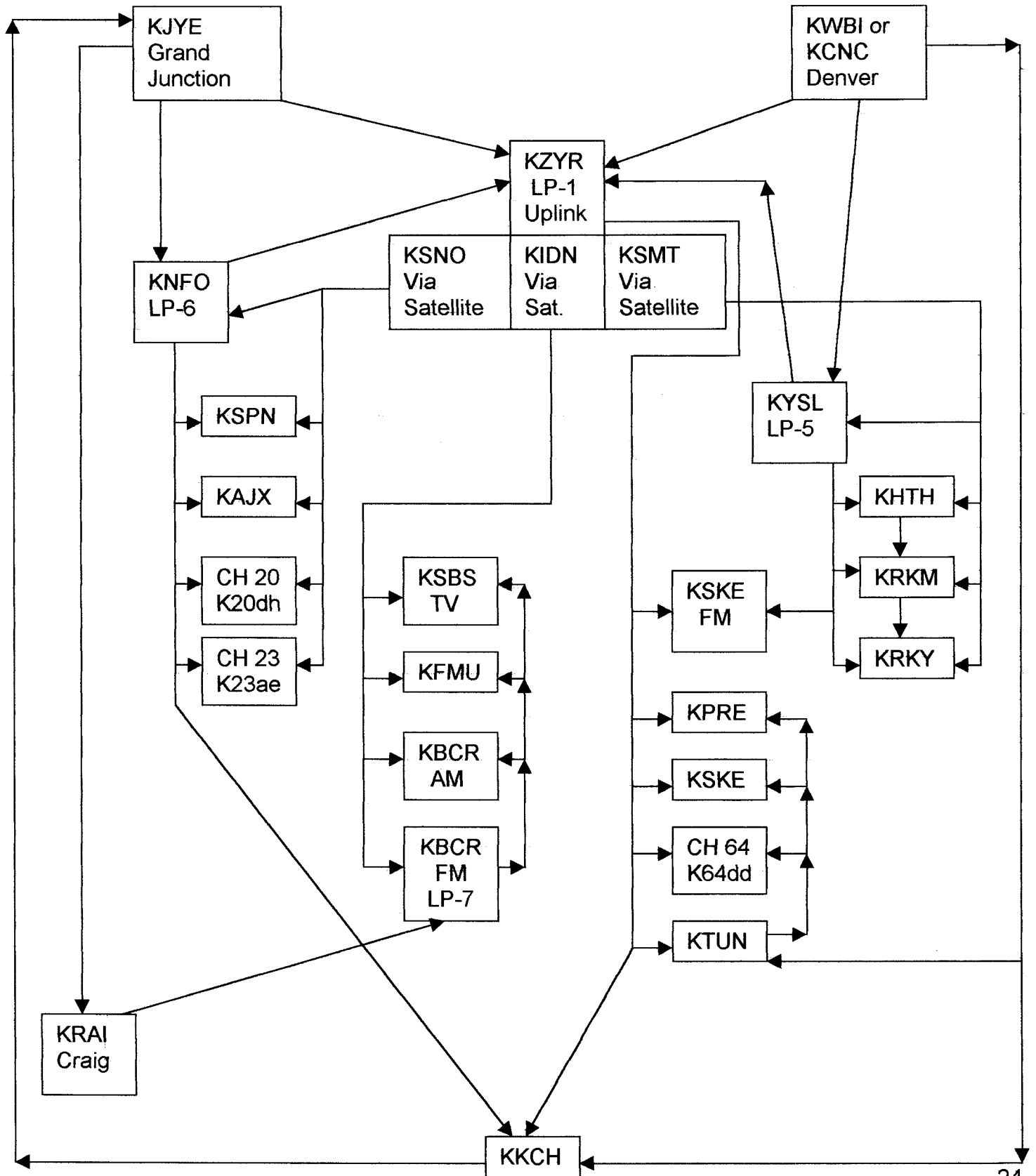

_____
Jack McKain

Colorado SECC Cable Co-Chair

_____
Hal Crutchfield

APPENDIX D: AREA 12 – HIGH COUNTRY OPERATIONAL AREA MAP

ROUTT

● Walden

JACKSON

● Hayden

● Steamboat

● Oak Creek

GRAND

● Granby

● Kremmling

EAGLE

SUMMIT

GARFIELD
(future addition)

● Rifle

● Glenwood Springs

● Eagle

● Avon

● Vail

● Dillon
● Frisco

● Breckenridge

● Carbondale

● Basalt

Snowmass Village ●
■ Aspen

● Leadville

PITKIN

LAKE

APPENDIX E: EAS WEB ARCHITECTURE FOR THE HIGH COUNTRY

05/20/98

APPENDIX F: GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED HEREIN

ASCII
> A standard set of text characters with numerical equivalents

Activation
> The initiation of the EAS by transmission of the EAS codes.

Attention Signal
> Eight seconds of two tones (853 & 960 Hz) used as an audio alert.

Authenticator Word Lists
> A list of words that federal officials send prior to official EAS national activation; used to substantiate the information being sent.

Authorization Letter
> The official authorization letter, given by FCC, for a broadcast station to go off the air during a national level activation of the EAS.

Automatic Interruption
> The automatic encoding and transmission of EAS codes for pre-selected events.

Certification
> An equipment authorization issued by the FCC based on representations and test data submitted by the applicant for equipment designated to be operated without individual license under Parts 15 and 18 of the rules.

Decoder (EAS)
> An electronic device used by EAS participants to receive EAS alerts and to translate the EAS codes into visual messages.

Decoder (Two-Tone)
> An electronic device that alerts operators to the reception of the two-tone signal

Emergency Action Notification
> The message for national EAS activation

Emergency Action Termination
> The message for national EAS termination

Encoder (EAS)
> An electronic device used by EAS participants to originate EAS alerts by creating the EAS codes for transmission to other participants and the public.

Encoder (Two-Tone)
> An electronic device that produces a two-tone signal

EOM Code
>In ASCII form 'NNNN', this burst of data, sent three times signifies the end of an EAS message or EAS activation.

Event Codes
>A three character ASCII code in the EAS headers that denotes the type of emergency event

FEMA
>The Federal Emergency Management Agency that administers EAS

FIPS Number
>A five character ASCII code in the EAS headers that represent those counties affected by an EAS activation, as defined by the Federal Information Processing System that assigns each state and territory with their respective counties a five digit number.

Header Code
>A single string of intelligent digital EAS ASCII data that includes the originator, event, location, time period, and other basic information concerning an emergency; three header codes precede the voice warning message.

Key Source
>A source which is central to the dissemination of emergency alerts and information such as an NP, SP, or LP broadcast station or cable system.

Local Primary (LP)
>A key source within an EAS local area that is the primary source of EAS programming for that area.

Location Code
>An ASCII code in an EAS header that specifies the location of an emergency utilizing the five character FIPS code of a state and county, and a sixth character to designate nine divisions in a county.

Mapbook
>A list of broadcast stations and cable systems and their EAS designation delineated by state and local area for use by other stations to determine the best source of EAS monitoring; an FCC generated attachment to every state plan.

Monitoring Assignment
>The off-air broadcast or cable sources of EAS activations and programming as given by the FCC Mapbook and the state plans

National Control Point Procedures
>Those national EAS procedures used only by national networks and program suppliers.

National Information Center (NIC)
> A source of official federal government information

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
> One of the tree federal agencies that participates in EAS

National Periodic Test (NPT)
> Tests of National Primary sources

National Primary (NP)
> A primary source of Presidential or other national EAS activations and programming, including broadcast stations involved with the PEP system and EAN Networks.

National Weather Service (NWS)
> An operation of NOAA that is directly responsible for issuing local weather related emergency alerts and warnings in addition to day-to-day forecasts and other weather activities

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)
> A service of the National Weather Service that provides to a local area continuous broadcasts of the latest weather information and any weather-related emergency warnings using one of seven VHF radio channels.

Non-participating National (NN)
> An EAS source (usually a broadcast station) that has elected not to participate in the National level EAS and removes its carrier from the air if a national level activation occurs

Operating Handbook
> A document issued by the FCC that instructs broadcasts station and cable personnel of the actions they must take during an activation of EAS

Operator Interruption
> The transmission of the EAS activation which has been manually initiated by broadcast station or cable system personnel

Originator Code
> A three character ASCII code in an EAS header which denotes the source of an activation

Participating National (PN)
> Broadcast stations, cable systems, or MDS stations which monitor primary sources of EAS programming and directly feed emergency alerts to the public.

Pre-selected Codes
> An EAS event which the operator of EAS equipment has chosen to be automatically encoded and retransmitted upon receipt

Primary Entry Point (PEP)
Key broadcast stations throughout the U.S. which together can provide national emergency information in the event that the primary national alerting methods are inoperable.

Protocol
A standard set of guidelines by which digital information is encoded and decoded, including the common code structure, the character set used, the sequence and timing of codes, and modulation technique used for radio transmission.

Program Priorities
The precedence of the information that must be transmitted during an EAS activation, namely national, local, and state activations in that order

Required Monthly Test
A coordinated monthly test of EAS operations involving the full receiving and transmission of EAS codes, Attention Signal, EAS test programming, and EAS EOM codes.

Required Weekly Test
An independent weekly test of EAS equipment only involving the decoding and encoding of EAS header codes and EOM codes.

State/Local Plan
A document that details monitoring assignments, actions to be taken in emergency activations, and other guidance for broadcaster and cable personnel in use with the EAS

State Primary (SP)
A primary source of EAS state programming which can originate with a Governor or designated representative, such as a state's emergency operations officer.

State Relay (SR)
An entity which receives and retransmits EAS activations in a State Relay Network to assist in bringing a state activation to all EAS local areas of a state.

State Relay Network
A system of facilities used to distribute state EAS activations and programming across a state.