Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting on March 6! ←

Presentation by Bobby Graves, KB5HAV Net Manager for the Hurricane Watch Net

Officers

President Richard Tweet, KL2AZ Vice President TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

Secretary Vacant

Treasurer Kent Petty, KL5T

Three Year Board Members

John Lime III, KL4OF Dave Webb, N9AIG Keith Clark, KL7MM Matthieu Ostrander, KL4OH

Kent Petty, KL5T Wigi Tozzi, KL0R

Rebecca Weicht, Associate

Board Appointees

Station Manager TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

Activities Chairman Vacant

Newsletter Editor Keith Clark, KL7MM

Membership Chairman Vacant

Trustee Keith Clark, KL7MM

~~~ *HOT LINKS* ~~

**AARC** web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <a href="https://kl7aa.org/">https://kl7aa.org/</a>
Email Reflector: <a href="https://kl7aa.org/">KL7AA@QTH.NET</a>
Webmaster: <a href="https://kl7aa.org/">webmaster@kl7aa.org</a>
President: <a href="mailto:president@kl7aa.org">president@kl7aa.org</a>
Membership: <a href="mailto:membership@kl7aa.org">membership@kl7aa.org</a>
Newsletter: <a href="mailto:trustee@kl7aa.org">trustee@kl7aa.org</a>

**Newsletter Submissions, Information or corrections:** 

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting.

Email: trustee@kl7aa.org

Mail: P.O. Box 91758, Anchorage, AK 99509

W1AW CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule can be found at:

https://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule

**Nets in Alaska:** 

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:

Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily

Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily moving to 3920

at 8:15 PM

Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily Alaska Pacific Net 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F

No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM South Central Simplex Net Wednesday at 1900 local,

starting on 146.520

Eagle Node Packet 145.01 Wednesdays 7:00 PM local ARES net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 8:00 PM local Alaska Emergency Frequency Test the last Saturday of the

month on 5167.5 MHz/USB

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Coordinated Repeaters

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft

146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL 444.70/449.70, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 PL

KL7AA at Mt. Gordon Lyon, 3,940 ft

147.30/90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB, EARS

146.67/.07, 103.5 Hz PL

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA Club 146.85/.25, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL

For a list of all Alaska State coordinated repeaters go to:

https://www.alaskarepeaters.kl7.net/

**South Central Area Simplex Frequencies** 

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency

146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat

146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat

147.42MHz Peninsula simplex chat

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#### **Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:**

AARC <a href="https://kl7aa.org/">https://kl7aa.org/</a>

EARS <a href="https://www.kl7air.us/">https://www.kl7air.us/</a>

MARA https://kl7jfu.com/

Moose Horn ARC <a href="https://al7le.org/">https://al7le.org/</a>

ARES <a href="https://kl7aa.org/anchorage-ares">https://kl7aa.org/anchorage-ares</a>

Fairbanks AARC http://www.kl7kc.com/

Yukon Amateur Radio Association <a href="https://www.yara.ca/">https://www.yara.ca/</a>

HAARP Project https://haarp.gi.alaska.edu/

Amateur Radio Reference Library

VOCAP https://www.voacap.com/hf/

ARRL https://www.arrl.org/

Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here. Report dead links or bad info to trustee@kl7aa.org.

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**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**; All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed above. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 14 days prior** to the meeting or it may not be included.

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#### **Regular HAM Gatherings:**

**Thursdays Coffee, 2:00 PM:** Join the gang for coffee and an eyeball QSO at Pizza Man in Eagle River. Attendance varies from 6 to 12 each week.

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#### THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

March 6: AARC general meeting at 7:00 PM will be at the Radio Science and Operating Center 6827 Raspberry Road.

**VE License Exams:** These happen 6 days a week on line and occasional in person exams. See the link on the AARC website at https://kl7aa.org/vec.

**March 18: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 3<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month by video conference. Link on the AARC website calendar. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

March 28: MARA meeting at 7PM the last Friday of the month at locations announced or via Zoom Meetings. These meetings are open to all who wish to attend.

## Why Do We Do Public Service

We support public service events for several reasons. It gives us a chance to practice our communication skills from time to time.

We get to exercise our equipment, and practice with, and learn about our equipment in different situations i.e. weather, noise, etc.

We are there in the event that newer technology breaks down in any manner.

If we are using local repeaters or simplex paths, we can find out where the holes are.

And sometimes we get a t-shirt or a ball cap!.

We also can bank our participation to justify our use of the spectrum that we get for free.

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#### 2025 Public Service Events

Walk and Roll for Hope - May 15

Contact Keith, KL7MM

MS Walk Around Lake Hood - To be Announced

Contact Keith, KL7MM

Gold Nugget Triathlon - May 18

Liaison Rebecca Weicht

Looking for Coordinator – Please volunteer

Alaska Run for Women – June 7

Looking for Coordinator – Please volunteer

Dog Jog – To Be Announced

Contact TJ. KL7TS

Anchorage Runfest – August 18

Contact Keith, KL7MM

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#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Keith Clark KL7MM for volunteering to get a newsletter out to the members of the AARC. We currently do not have a Newsletter Editor and several members of the ARRC Board are wearing multiple hats in order to keep the wheels turning and keeping this club operational, so Keith's efforts are greatly appreciated.

At every Membership meeting we ask for volunteers to fill vacant positions in your club and those include Club Secretary (Board officer position), Newsletter Editor, and Membership Coordinator. While these positions are currently open, the Treasurer (Board officer position) will become vacant on January 1, 2026. We NEED to fill these positions, especially the Board positions. If anyone has an interest in filling any of these positions, please reach out to me at president@kl7aa.org.

Your club organization includes a

Finance/Development/Project committee which meets every Thursday at 11am. Focuses are many, with many revolving around ways and means to monetarily support this club. Grants are an obvious avenue and are constantly being researched and developed as time permits, depending on which hat we are wearing at the time. The AARC maintains a gaming permit that is available for use as it was with Boniface Bingo before they went bankrupt and ended a positive income stream for the club.

An avenue for you, as a member, to help your radio club is to use Pick, Click, Give with your Permanent Fund application. Last year the club had 18 contributors using this option resulting in \$1092 donated to the club. Permanent Fund Dividend applications are available from January 1 to March 31, though Alaskans may choose to add or adjust their pledges online through August 31. Please consider this tax deductible avenue to contribute to your club.

Current scheduled activities at the club station are participation in the Department of Homeland Security SHARES HF net on Wednesdays from 0700-1100 and operating the South Central Simplex net on Wednesdays from 1900-2100. We welcome members to come see these operations, and as they become comfortable, participate in them as an operator. Depending on the number of station staff during these nets may dictate how available someone is available to train or discuss during the net operation but are available before and after the net for assistance. Visits to the AARC station can be arranged most any time by emailing the club at <a href="mailto:info@kl7aa.org">info@kl7aa.org</a> or through me at <a href="mailto:president@kl7aa.org">president@kl7aa.org</a>.

Club station maintenance is done on Saturdays from 0900noon, and usually we are available to provide tours of the facility, answer questions and provide some operator training. One visit to the station will explain the need to keep the gate closed to keep the moose out once the number of guy lines supporting antennas are seen. If coming to the station, simply call the number on the gate and we'll open it or call on 146.49 as we monitor that at the station as well.

All AARC meetings listed on the <a href="www.kl7aa.org/events">www.kl7aa.org/events</a> page are open meetings, and we encourage participation by our members.

Please consider participation in, and support of, your club through any of the avenues available. Remember this is your club and it's success is directly related to your participation.

73, Richard Tweet KL2AZ

**AARC President** 

#### **AARC Receives Rasmuson Grant**

Snow removal at the Club has been a great deal of work for those volunteers who have given up their time to make sure the building was accessible during snow events.

To help make the job a bit less time consuming, in November the Club applied for a Rasmuson Grant to purchase a snow blower attachment to alternate with the mower attachment on our John Deer tractor. As of February 4<sup>th</sup> we have been advised that our grant has been approved. Many thanks to those members that spearheaded this effort!

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting, December 19, 2023

The online meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:**

None

# BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM) or PHONE:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Dave Webb N9AIG, Kent Petty KL5T, John Lime KL4OF, Keith Clark KL7MM, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Riley Petty KL4RP, Dr. Rebecca Weicht

#### **EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

Kevin Opalka KL1V, Mathew Notte WL4DX.

#### **UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

None

#### REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### **VISITORS:**

None

#### TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

#### REPORTS:

#### SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the November 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and December 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by TJ Sheffield KL7TS to approve the minutes as presented with one minor correction. With no objections, the motion passed.

#### TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported on AARC assets and account balances and reported all bills are paid and accounts current. Kent noted that AARC Membership renewals and new member sign ups continue at a regular rate.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark referenced the emailed report to the Board. There was no additional discussion.

#### **GRANT REQUESTS**

There have been no incoming grant requests.

#### GAMING COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted there has been no activity to report on.

#### TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported no use of the KL7AA callsign and Dave Webb N9AIG reported no use of the KL7G callsign.

#### RULES OF PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

The AARC Rules of procedure review and updates will begin in the new year.

#### PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on current RSOC projects/maintenance on the list including snow management which included plowing/moving/shoveling approximately 360 tons of snow so far this year to maintain the RSOC grounds. Dave Webb N9AIG reported on battery maintenance and noted 16 are ready for use and reported on development of a battery buss for the North operating stations. TJ reported on the East fiberglass mast repairs to the broken sections. Kent Petty KL5T reported on receipt of a dummy load for use at the RSOC which was purchased from the Saturday Swap and Shop net on 3920 kHz.

#### **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on, and discussion included, Grubstake ongoing issue with access, Site Summit turnover to KL7AA with access, and transfer letter items being worked, ARRLF grant report, South Central Simplex Net restructure, Point One Navigation proposal, 5 letters to be drafted/sent inc: Section Manager, PARKA, ANMC, RAVN and State EOC. Kent Petty KL5T reported on SHARES activity, RSOC Satellite Station PC migration, and the First Mile project. Brief discussion was also held on Public Service events, Challenge Coins and the RSOC roof heat trace system.

#### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 290 with renewals and new members signing up. Kent noted an increase in Life Memberships.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Kent Petty KL5T reported on upcoming online training with an exam session to follow.

#### **EQUIPMENT REPORT**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the AARC Elecraft K3 sent into Elecraft for repair and the issue with strong adjacent signals. Also discussed was the donation of 2 VHF amplifiers which provide 60/70-watt output with 5-watt input and the AARC label maker.

#### **EMCOMM**

Kent Petty KL5T reported on upcoming communication with the SHARES program office. SHARES notes 40+ stations in Alaska with very few participating. TJ Sheffield reported on meeting with Providence Medical Center to discuss and tour new Hospital Command Center layout, meet Project Manager, and discuss quarterly exercises to include Kodiak, Seward, and Valdez. Discussion noted suggested equipment to upgrade Alaska Native Medical Center's 5 West installation.

#### VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, noted the program continues to operate well with In-Person exams scheduled in Anchorage, Kenai, and Jamestown Tennessee.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Brief discussion was held on upcoming events with the Gold Nugget Triathlon being the first event requiring AARC's participation in planning meetings.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 01. AARC Newsletter. Kent Petty noted he will be producing an end of year newsletter and is requesting articles be submitted by December 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 02. Secretary vacancy Remains vacant.
- 03. Grubstake repeater status Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. Nothing new
- 04. KL7ION repeater status. Nothing new
- 05. ARDC/ARRL grant updates. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted he is producing the ARRLF grant final report for submission.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 01. Kent Petty KL5T reported that AARC RT Systems programming software has been loaded into the AARC shared drive.
- **02.** Membership meeting speakers. Brief discussion was held on possible speakers for upcoming meetings. No speaker is scheduled for the January Membership meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 12/19/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Please note that Board minutes will be brought current in future newsletters.

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## Alaska Section News February 2025

No information to post this month.

David W Stevens KL7EB AK SM KL7EB@arrl.org

#### **Motley News**

ANNUAL MOTLEY PICNIC / WEEKEND CAMPOUT JULY 31 - AUGUST 3, 2025

It will be held at the TOLSONA WILDERNESS CAMPGROUND.. <a href="https://tolsonacampground.com">https://tolsonacampground.com</a> Mile 173 Glenn Highway. Phone (907) 822-3900 Checkout their website which includes a campground layout.

This will help you with selecting your campsite.

Campground reservations will be abailable after March 1, 2025. Reservations made at the conclusion of last year's picnic are valid.

There are 20 spots still held in reserve for our group at this time.

All Amateur Radio operators / families are welcome to attend and join in the fun...

There will be souvenirs, door prizes, raffles, swap and shop, a mini craft fair, and group meals to name a few....

License testing will be available if there is interest.

There will be two low-power FM Broadcast stations with campground coverage...

Tubing on the river/creek will be available..

Be sure to bring your handy-talkie and listen on 146.520 for announcements, possible changes in programs, etc......

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION IN NEWSLETTERS.....

# **Grubstake Repeater!!**

The Grubstake repeater system is on the air on 147.33 with plus offset and a tone of 103.5 Hz, however with reduced output. It's really way up there so give it a try. This is a KL7AA repeater that is being operated for the benefit of South Central Alaska hams. It is currently awaiting a site visit for upgrades. See kl7aa.org for a link to support this site.



# (Approved) Anchorage Amateur Radio Club General Meeting from January 2, 2025

#### Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established. All attendees introduced themselves.

#### **Business**

There was no AARC business to be conducted at this meeting.

#### **General Discussion**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ opened the meeting for general discussion.

You Tube videos were shown:

KL7AA's ongoing activities and station maintenance were noted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM and was followed by donated snacks, tours, and conversation.

Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on January 4, 2024.

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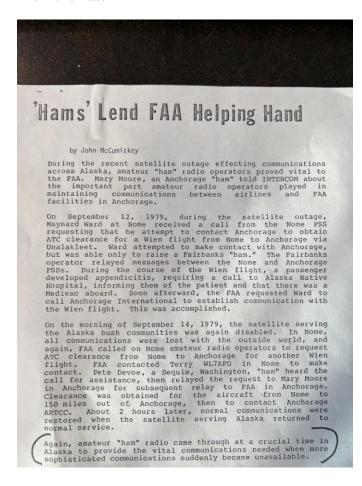
ARES Thoughts – Thinking about emergencies

To assist you when participating in emergency communications drills or actual emergencies. See the following Internet address for a complete checklist: <a href="https://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/training/ARES">https://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/training/ARES</a> Emergency communications guide.htm

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#### From the Past - -



#### A Few Notes:

 Remember the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) newsletter can be read online at: <a href="https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/">https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/</a>

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### ARRL Division News Northwestern Division

Northwestern Division event update:

Hello Northwestern Division and welcome to the last week of February.

Hamfest season kicked off with the Salem Hamfair in Rickreall OR last weekend. VD Sterba made the trip down and along with Oregon SM Rosenfeld representing ARRL and both reported a good time was had by all.

Next up on the event list is Mike and Key Swap in Puyallup WA March 8th. Flyer here This is always a great event. Michael and I will both be there along with WWA SM Purdum, EWA SM Whitney and who knows who else upstairs at the ARRL booth. DXCC card checking will also be available at the booth.

Other events from the FB N7CFO website are listed below.

(thanks, Lynn, for keeping this up to date!)

Michael and I look forward to seeing you at one or more of these this year.

April 12. N7YRC Tailgate Party, Union Gap, WA. Yakima Valley Emergency Management, 2403 S. 18th St., Union Gap, WA. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned* 

*Event.* www.arrl.org/hamfests/n7yrc-tailgate-party-3 Map in PDF.

April 19. Kamiah Hamfest. [NOTE THE DATE CHANGE!] American Legion Hall 618 Main St. Kamiah, ID. www.3riversarc.club This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event.

April 26. Spokane Hamfest, ARRL Washington State Convention. Horizon Middle School, 3915 S. Pines Rd, Spokane Valley, WA 99206. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event*. Flyer in PDF. **spokanehamfest.org** 

April 27. Comox Ham Swap Market. (Vancouver Island). Vendor Set up 8:30 (approx.), Public 9 am – 1 pm. Merville Hall (yellow building), 1245 Fenwick Rd at Hwy 19A. (just 15 min. North of Courtenay on the old highway), Merville BC. LOTS OF FREE PARKING. Seller tables \$20 (6' table), HELPER \$5. CONTACT BRIAN, VE7RD, sells795@telus.net DOOR PRIZES! COFFEE & DONUTS ADMISSION JUST \$5. Presented by the Comox Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 10. Stanwood Camano ARC 32nd Annual Electronic Flea Market and Hamfest. Stanwood, WA. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event*. scarcwa.org/ham\_fest.shtm

May 30, 31 and June 1. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event.* info@seapac.org www.seapac.org November edition of SeaPac Waves.

June 6, 7, & 8. Wenatchee Apple City ARC Hamfest, Dryden, WA. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event.* www.applecityarc.com

June. Port Ludlow ARC Tail Gate Swapmeet. www.n7pl.org

July 18-20. Glacier Waterton Hamfest. East Glacier, Montana. www.gwhamfest.org

July 26. Chehalis Valley ARC Swapmeet. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned Event*. Flyer in PDF.

August 9. 2025, 0800 - 1300 hrs. ARRL Idaho State Convention sponsored by the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society. Location to be determined in Post Falls, ID.

August 15-18. Pacific Northwest DX Convention, Clackamas, OR. *This is an ARRL Sanctioned*Event. pacificnwdxconvention.com

August 17. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association Annual Swapmeet. **psararadio.com** 

September. High Desert Amateur Radio Group 3rd Annual High Desert Ham Fest, Redmond, Oregon. www.hidarg.org . contact kf7max@arrl.net

October. Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference. www.pnwvhfs.org

October Kitsap County ARC Hamfest. Bremerton, WA. kcarc.org/hamfest

October 18. Swaptoberfest. Rickreall, OR. www.swaptoberfest.com

If you don't see your event and would like to have it listed, please contact N7CFO directly.

N7cfo@n7cfo.com

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Mark J. Tharp, KB7HDX Northwestern Division Director kb7hdx@gmail.com

# **EARS Winlink RMS's Are Coming Back To Life**

As local Winlink users may know, the 2-meter, 1.25-meter, and 70 cm Winlink RMS stations located at the EARS club station on Elmendorf AFB have been down since late spring of 2024. From a practical perspective, most of that station's assets have been off they air since then. Why? The Air Force commissioned a complete re-roofing of the building which required us to remove ALL of our roof-mounted antennas. Due to time constraints and a limited number of involved hams, it has been a slow recovery. Thankfully, work is moving forward. The first effort included a complete tear down of the station to better understand its working and to rearrange power distributions and computer/equipment interconnections. As of today, the WL7CVG-10 VHF RMS on 144.91 MHz, 1200 baud packet, is back online due to the work of Bill Sutter, KL5TY. Initial testing indicates it is working ok. We'd ask Winlink users to give it a try.

It ALSO appears that we MAY have the WL7CVG-10 1.25-meter RMS on 223.66 MHz, 9600 baud packet is back as well. The Winlink RMS sysop software is talking to the computer OK, but we do need folks to test on-air performance. The 70-cm WL7CVG-10 RMS on 441.175 MHz, 9600 baud packet is NOT YET back online. There are a few more interconnections that need to be made.

More to follow soon I hope.

73, Kent, KL5T

# 5167.5 kHz Alaska Emergency Frequency Test

Hello again,

The last Saturday of each month, at 1000 local time, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Auxiliary Station NNAØLP hosts a test of

the Alaska Emergency Frequency on 5167.5 kHz. Use only upper sideband USB (J3E or R3E). Continuous Wave CW (A1A) and digital modes (F1B, J2B,

etc.) are not authorized on this frequency.

Maximum power is 150 watts PEP. There are no restrictions on types of antennas.

NOTE: Government stations often use procedures taken from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Radiotelephone Handbook, for example USCG Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM) CGTTP 6-01.1B, available on-line: <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CGTTP">https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CGTTP</a> 6-01 1B Radiotelephone Handbook.pdf [1]

For signal reports, select one descriptor from the Signal Strength column, and one descriptor from the Readability column (see attached).

Each month, a summary report regarding this test is sent to the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X staff are copied in.

Thanks very much,
TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
Vice President, AARC
Station Manager
Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)
Anchorage, Alaska



