

June 2017

**EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM  
PLAN  
FOR THE  
STATE OF MAINE**

**TO REQUEST AN EAS ACTIVATION**

for an incident or situation that poses an imminent threat to life or property:

Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.:

Call Maine Emergency Management Agency, 800-452-8735 (in-state only)

Nights, weekends, holidays, or for an abducted-child AMBER Alert at any time:

Call Maine Department of Public Safety

Augusta Dispatch: 800-452-4664

Houlton Dispatch: 800-924-2261

**MAINE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM PLAN  
APPROVALS AND CONCURRENCES**

This Maine Emergency Alert System State Plan, with its appendices, has been reviewed and approved by the following authorities:

Governor, State of Maine: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Chair, Maine State Emergency  
Communications Committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Broadcast Chair,  
Maine State Emergency  
Communications Committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Cable Chair,  
Maine State Emergency  
Communications Committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Chief, Public Safety and  
Homeland Security Bureau,  
Federal Communications Commission:  \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date) 11/29/17

**CONCUR:**

Commissioner, Maine Department  
of Defense, Veterans and  
Emergency Management: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Director, Maine Emergency  
Management Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Commissioner, Maine Department  
of Public Safety: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Director, Consolidated Emergency  
Communications Bureau,  
Maine DPS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Meteorologist in Charge,  
National Weather Service  
Gray, Maine: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

Meteorologist in Charge,  
National Weather Service  
Caribou, Maine: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (date)

# MAINE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) PLAN – TABLE OF CONTENTS

EAS Checklist for broadcast stations and cable TV systems .....	5
EAS Checklist for emergency response personnel .....	6
Preamble and Introduction.....	7
<hr/>	
I. Intent and Purpose of this Plan .....	9
II. The National, State and Local EAS: Participation and Priorities .....	10
A. National EAS Participation	
B. State and Local EAS Participation	
C. Conditions of EAS Participation	
D. EAS Priorities	
III. The Maine State Emergency Communications Committee .....	11
IV. Organization and Concepts of the Maine EAS Plan.....	11
A. EAS Participant Designations	
B. Other Definitions	
C. Primary and Secondary Delivery Plan	
D. Local Area Planning	
V. Guidance for Originators of EAS Alerts.....	13
A. Guidance for National Weather Service Personnel	
B. Guidance for Emergency Management Personnel	
C. Guidance for Nuclear Plant and Industrial Personnel	
D. Guidance for Regional Emergency Messages	
E. Guidance for Law Enforcement Agencies	

**Appendices:**

Appendix A: State SECC membership..... 14

Appendix B: EAS Operational Areas ..... 15

Appendix C: State Relay Plan and EAS Monitoring Assignments ..... 17

Appendix D: Authorized Sources for Activating EAS..... 31

Appendix E: EAS Protocol; Currently Authorized EAS Originator and Event codes ..... 32

Appendix F: Summary of the Maine AMBER Alert Plan..... 38

Appendix G: The Common Alerting Protocol and Changes to the Emergency Alert System ..... 39

Appendix H: NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) Locations and Frequencies ..... 41

Appendix I: EAS and Wireless Emergency Alerts ..... 42

Appendix J: Procedures for Radiological Emergency Events involving Nuclear Power Plants ..... 44

Appendix K: Guidance for EAS Participants in Programming EAS Decoders..... 45

Appendix L: EAS Tests (RMT/RWT)..... 47

Appendix M: EAS Alert Code Definitions; Test and Alert Scripts and Formats..... 49

# EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) CHECKLIST FOR BROADCAST STATIONS AND CABLE TV SYSTEMS

Your EAS Operational Area is \_\_\_\_\_

EAS Monitoring Assignment # 1 \_\_\_\_\_

EAS Monitoring Assignment # 2 \_\_\_\_\_

EAS Monitoring Assignment # 3 \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. All personnel are trained in EAS procedures and in the use of EAS equipment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. EAS encoder-decoder is installed and operating.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Correct assignments are monitored, according to State (or local) EAS plans.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Weekly and monthly EAS tests (RWT, RMT) are received and logged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Weekly EAS test transmissions (RWT) are made and logged.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. FCC EAS Operating Handbook is immediately available.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Copy of State (and, if applicable, local) EAS plan is immediately available.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Copies of FCC EAS Rules and Regulations (Part 11) and, if applicable, AM station emergency operation rule (Section 73.1250(f)) are available.

# EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) CHECKLIST FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL

In general, the following conditions should be considered in determining whether the issuance of an EAS alert is warranted:

1. **Predictability:** Is the situation sudden or unforeseen? Does the nature of this situation preclude advance notification? Or can it be predicted with some certainty?
2. **Severity:** Will an alert help to reduce loss or endangerment of life or reduce substantial loss of property?
3. **Urgency:** Does the situation require immediate public notification to avoid adverse impact?
4. Are other means of disseminating information inadequate to ensure rapid delivery?
5. Can an alert convey enough information to the general public within the two-minute time limit of an EAS message?
6. Can this information be provided to all radio and television stations and cable companies in the affected area by any other means?
7. For an AMBER Alert, does this situation meet the criteria for issuing an alert?

## EAS Activation Checklist

Yes    No

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is this a sudden, unforeseen, or unpredictable situation?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the situation pose an imminent threat to life or property?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the situation have the potential to adversely impact a significant population or geographic area?            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the situation require that the public be warned immediately to seek shelter or take other protective action? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are other means of disseminating information inadequate to ensure rapid delivery of the information?              |

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT** request EAS activation if the answer is NO to ANY of these questions.

## I. Preamble

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Rules, 47 Code of Federal Regulations § 11.41, Participation in EAS:

*Participation in EAS.*

*All EAS Participants specified in § 11.11 are categorized as Participating National (PN) sources, and must have immediate access to an EAS Operating Handbook.*

All EAS Participants must be able to receive and transmit Presidential alert messages, designated by the EAN (Emergency Action Notification) alert code.

**If Maine broadcasters or cable system operators choose not to participate in the Maine EAS System at the state or local level, they must so indicate in writing to the chair of the Maine State Emergency Communications Committee.**

## Introduction

This plan is the document outlined by the Federal Communications Commission in 47 C.F.R. §11.21 that describes the organization and implementation of the State of Maine Emergency Alert System (EAS). It sets forth procedures for broadcast station and cable system personnel and designated government officials to disseminate emergency information and instructions in threatened or actual emergencies.

This plan is the guideline for Maine broadcasters and cable system operators to determine:

- their mandated and optional monitoring assignments;
- the codes to be used in the EAS Header sequence in this state;
- the schedule of the Required Monthly Tests (RMTs) which must be relayed by all broadcasters and cable operators within 60 minutes of reception; and
- any other elements of the EAS which are unique to the State of Maine.

**AUTHORITY:** Title 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i) and (o), 303(r), 524(g) and 606; and 47 C.F.R. Part 11, FCC Rules and Regulations, Emergency Alert System (EAS) as pertains to day-to-day emergency operations.

This plan is an adjunct to the FCC EAS Rules and is not meant to be a summary, in whole or in part, of those Rules. FCC Rules, Part 11, contain the general rules regarding the Emergency Alert System.

These procedures were prepared by the Maine State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) in cooperation with Maine Public Broadcasting, the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the National Weather Service (NWS) offices in Gray and Caribou, Maine, the Maine Department of Public Safety, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), state and local officials, and

representatives of the broadcasters and cable operators of Maine. It provides background data and prescribes specific procedures for broadcast stations and cable TV systems to transmit emergency information and warnings to the public in the State of Maine, or any portion thereof within the broadcast coverage or cable system service area, at the request of designated government officials.

#### A CAUTIONARY NOTE FOR ORIGINATORS OF EAS MESSAGES:

*With the EAS system, emergency services agencies have a valuable tool for gaining direct access to the public through broadcasters and cable operators. However, if it is not used prudently, there is danger of destroying the effectiveness of this tool.*

***Broadcasters, cable operators, and the public expect that the EAS will be used only for sudden, unpredictable, or unforeseen events that pose an immediate threat to public health or safety, the nature of which precludes advance notification or warning. In many cases, as for example with weather-related events such as winter storms, modern technology and standard news-dissemination practices provide ample notice to the public, thereby precluding the need to issue an emergency alert.***

***An emergency alert using EAS also should not be automatically conflated with a proclamation of a state of emergency issued by the Governor, which could result from a long-fused event, e.g., a prolonged drought, or a non-emergency situation, such as to extend hours of service for fuel oil delivery drivers.***

*Emergency services personnel are urged to keep in mind that some broadcasters and cable operators keep their EAS decoders set on Automatic mode. Unattended operation of broadcast or cable facilities means there is no one available to screen an EAS message and decide whether it should be aired, and such facilities are therefore required to have their decoders set to Automatic mode. They are depending on you to send EAS alerts only for very serious, short-fuse emergencies. The first time EAS is triggered for a frivolous event, public confidence in the system will be diminished.*

*Emergency services personnel must also remember that broadcasters and cable operators participate in the state and local level EAS on a voluntary basis. Maintaining a good relationship with local broadcasters and cable operators is critical to ensuring their support during an actual emergency.*

*FCC Rules (47 C.F.R. §11.45) prohibit the transmission of EAS codes or attention signal in any circumstance other than an actual emergency or authorized test.*



## II. Intent and Purpose of this Plan

This plan outlines the organization and implementation of the Maine Emergency Alert System (hereinafter referred to as EAS). It is the guideline for message originators, broadcasters, cable operators, and all other EAS Participants to determine:

- their mandated and optional monitoring assignments;
- EAS codes to be used;
- guidance for message originators; and
- any other elements of the EAS which are unique to this state.

In this plan, EAS Participants are defined as:

- analog radio broadcast stations including AM, FM, and Low-power FM (LPFM) stations;
- digital audio broadcasting (DAB) stations, including digital AM, FM, and Low-power FM stations;
- analog Class A television stations, including LPTV stations;
- digital television (DTV) broadcast stations, including digital Class A and digital LPTV stations;
- analog cable systems;
- digital cable systems, which are defined for purposes of this part only as the portion of a cable system that delivers channels in digital format to subscribers at the input of a Unidirectional Digital Cable Product or other navigation device;
- wireline video systems;
- wireless cable systems, which may consist of Broadband Radio Service (BRS), or Educational Broadband Service (EBS) stations;
- DBS services, as defined in 47 C.F.R. 25.701(a) (including certain Ku-band Fixed-Satellite Service Direct to Home providers);
- SDARS, as defined in 47 C.F.R. 25.201;
- participating broadcast networks, cable networks and program suppliers; and
- other entities and industries operating on an organized basis during emergencies at the National, State and local levels.

For all EAS Participants, FCC rules require that an EAS Handbook “must be located at normal duty positions or EAS equipment locations when an operator is required to be on duty and be immediately available to staff responsible for authenticating messages and initiating actions.” See 47 C.F.R. §11.15. EAS Handbooks may be downloaded at <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/services/eas/>.

## **III. The National, State, and Local EAS: Participation and Priorities**

### **A. National EAS Participation**

The EAS is part of a national network that enables the President to address the American people during national emergencies. When not in use by the President, FCC regulations permit the EAS to be used by state and local authorities on a voluntary basis.

These actions are required of EAS Participants under FCC regulations:

- All EAS Participants will carry Presidential messages that use the EAN (Emergency Action Notification) alert code.
- EAS Participants must transmit a Required Weekly Test (RWT) each week.
- EAS Participants must re-transmit the Required Monthly Test (RMT) within 60 minutes of receipt.
- EAS Participants are required to be able to receive any alert activation with the event codes NIC or NPT, as outlined below.

EAS Participants should refer to the FCC's EAS regulations for unique requirements concerning EAS equipment.

### **B. State and Local EAS Participation**

Participation in the State (and, if applicable, Local Area) EAS is voluntary for all EAS Participants. However, any EAS Participants in Maine electing to participate in the State (or Local) EAS must follow the procedures found in this Plan.

### **C. Conditions of EAS Participation**

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 from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Broadcast stations, cable systems and all EAS Participants originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority. The concept of management of each EAS participant to exercise discretion regarding the broadcast or retransmission of emergency information and instructions to the general public is provided by the FCC Rules and Regulations.

### **D. EAS Priorities**

EAS Participants are reminded that the EAS Priorities as set forth in 47 C.F.R. §11 are as follows:

1. National EAS Messages
2. Local Area EAS Messages
3. State EAS Messages
4. Messages from the National Information Center (NIC) [These may be follow-up messages after a National EAS Activation.]

## **IV. State Emergency Communications Committee**

The State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) is the planning group that has developed this plan. SECC members can include the Chair; representatives of the National Weather Service (NWS), Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Maine Department of Public Safety (MDPS); Broadcasters; Cable and Wireline Video Provider system operators; and any other representatives so designated by the committee membership. See Appendix A.

## **V. Organization and Concepts of the EAS Plan**

### **A. EAS Participant Designations**

These are the FCC's EAS Designations reflecting the EAS status of every EAS Participant. Consult the Appendices of this Plan to determine your EAS Designation.

**NP (National Primary):** Source of National EAS messages. These sources will be monitored according to the priorities set by the State Emergency Communications Committee.

**SP (State Primary):** Source of state EAS messages. These sources may also relay National EAS messages. These sources will be identified and monitored according to the priorities set by the State Emergency Communications Committee.

**LP (Local Primary):** Source of local EAS messages. These sources may also relay National and State EAS messages. These sources will be identified and monitored according to the priorities set by the State Emergency Communications Committee.

**PN (Participating National):** All EAS Participants are designated as "PN" for purposes of retransmitting Presidential (EAN) alert messages.

### **B. Other Definitions**

The following are other terms used in the organization of the Maine EAS Plan.

**DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:** The persons designated by governments signatory to this procedure to request activation of the EAS and to make emergency announcements (see Appendix D).

**EMERGENCY:** A situation posing an unforeseen and extraordinary threat to the safety of life and property. Examples include, but are not limited to, natural situations such as tornadoes, flash floods, or widespread fires; and man-made situations such as discharge of toxic gases, widespread power failures, industrial explosions, civil disorders or nuclear incidents.

**MEMA:** Maine Emergency Management Agency

MDPS: Maine Department of Public Safety

NOAA WEATHER RADIO: Under the existing EAS, NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) stations are encoding all of their warnings using the identical coding as is used for EAS messages. The National Weather Service has titled this coding as "The Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME)." Thus EAS Participants can feed their EAS decoders with the digital code from an NWR receiver and their EAS decoder will react identically as it would with EAS codes from EAS Participants. Appendix I contains a list of NWR locations and frequencies for Maine.

NUCLEAR PLANT / INDUSTRIAL PLANT: Nuclear plants and industrial plants with a potential for dangerous conditions shall communicate with MEMA/MDPS, which shall make emergency notifications as appropriate.

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER: The state government facility where the government's emergency response is coordinated.

STATE RELAY NETWORK (SR): Any communication pathway used to connect message originators and EAS Participants for the distribution of EAS messages. The 'SR' designation may apply to Telco circuitry, VHF radio paths, the state microwave system, internet protocol architecture, or any other methods which may be utilized to distribute alerts to State Primary Stations.

STATE WARNING POINT (SWP): The State Government facility that originates EAS and other warnings. For purposes of the Maine EAS Plan, the Maine Department of Public Safety dispatch center in Augusta will be the Primary SWP. The Maine Department of Public Safety dispatch center in Houlton and the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will be the Alternate SWPs (hereinafter collectively referred to as SWPs).

### **C. Primary and Secondary Delivery Plan**

The task of this plan is to determine a primary and secondary delivery method for each level of EAS alert. EAS Participants can also add optional sources for EAS messages. Using the Designations and Definitions specified above, the redundancy of each plan is detailed in the attached appendices. Consult Appendix C, "EAS Monitoring Assignments," to determine the two required and the optional sources that each EAS participant should monitor.

### **D. Local Area Planning**

The Maine SECC has written this plan to design the delivery system for National and State level alerts and messages. It is not within the scope of this plan to set up local area alert plans. Some local areas have already developed sophisticated local emergency response procedures involving local EMA offices and county or local law enforcement departments. Local broadcast stations and cable operators are encouraged to develop a relationship with their county and local emergency agencies and assist with the development of local EAS procedures.

For unique local emergency situations not involving the entire state, or in areas where no local-area EAS plan exists, local authorities may request local-area EAS activation. In such circumstances, local authorities should contact the SWPs (Maine Department of Public Safety or Maine Emergency

Management Agency) to request activation, as the EAS can be activated to provide warnings to specific sub-areas of the state.

Local authorities must submit local-area EAS plans to the State Emergency Communications Committee for approval and are reminded that Local Area Plans must follow the protocols and procedures set forth in this Plan and in 47 C.F.R. §11.

## **VI. Guidance for Originators of EAS Alerts**

### **A. Guidance for National Weather Service Personnel**

NWS personnel issue weather-related EAS alerts via NOAA Weather Radio using the SAME Codes (identical to the EAS codes). NOAA Weather Radio is envisioned as an "All Hazards" network. alerts for non-weather emergencies may also be relayed by NWS personnel under a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Maine (see appendix G).

### **B. Guidance for Emergency Management Personnel**

Appendix D lists the sources of EAS alerts in Maine. These sources must comply with the procedures in this plan so that their alerts are delivered effectively and accurately to the relevant populace. After the EAS alert is received, people will probably search for additional information and instructions concerning the alert, so emergency management personnel should be prepared to provide follow-on information and instructions through normal news and information channels. Remember that an EAS message is time-limited to two minutes.

### **C. Guidance for Nuclear and Industrial Plant Personnel**

In Maine, all such alerts shall be issued by MEMA/MDPS personnel as listed in Appendix D.

### **D. Guidance for Regional Emergency Messages**

In Maine, all alerts shall be issued by MEMA/MDPS personnel as listed in Appendix D.

### **E. Guidance for Law Enforcement Agencies and Other First Responders**

Law enforcement agencies and first responders may be "first on the scene" of an incident or situation that rises to the level of an EAS alert. Examples may include, but are not limited to, a hazardous material spill, a dam breach that leads to a flash flood, a major accident or traffic tie-up on interstate highways, a child abduction leading to an AMBER Alert, or any similar situation that poses an imminent threat to life or property and that requires immediate notification of the public. In such situations, contact MEMA/MDPS for EAS activation.

## Appendix A

### Maine State Emergency Communications Committee

<p>Suzanne Goucher, Chair  President &amp; CEO  Maine Association of Broadcasters  69 Sewall St.  Augusta, ME 04330  207-623-3870  Suzanne@mab.org</p>	<p>Tristan Richards, Broadcast Chair  Director of Operations  Maine Public Broadcasting Network  65 Texas Ave.  Bangor, ME 04401  207-404-5123  trichards@mpbn.net</p>
<p>Steven Mallory  Statewide Interoperability Coordinator  Maine Emergency Management Agency  72 State House Station, 45 Commerce Dr.  Augusta, Maine 04333  207-624-4476  800-452-8735 (toll-free, in-state only)  TTY: 877-789-0200 (toll-free)  Kathleen.Rusley@maine.gov</p>	<p>Clifford Wells  Director, Consolidated Emergency  Communications Bureau  Maine Department of Public Safety  45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1  104 State House Station  Augusta, Maine 04333-0104  207-624-7001  Clifford.s.wells@maine.gov</p>
<p>Jeff Willis, Cable Chair  Director of Engineering  Spectrum/Time Warner Cable  118 Johnson Rd.  Portland, ME  (207) 253-2492  jeff.willis@twcable.com</p>	<p>Lt. Brian McDonough, AMBER Coordinator  Maine State Police, Major Crimes Unit  One Game Farm Rd.  Gray, ME 04039  657-5714 (o)  557-4600 (c)  Brian.t.mcdonough@maine.gov</p>
<p>Hendricus Lulofs  Meteorologist in Charge  National Weather Service  PO Box 1208  Gray, ME 04021  207-688-3221 x 222  hendricus.lulofs@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Donald Dumont  Warning Coordination Meteorologist  National Weather Service  810 Main St.  Caribou, ME 04736  207-492-0180 x 223  Donald.Dumont@noaa.gov</p>
<p>John Jensenius  Warning Coordination Meteorologist  National Weather Service  PO Box 1208  Gray, ME 04021  207-688-3221 x 223  john.jensenius@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Maria Jacques, Director  Emergency Services Communication Bureau  (E-911), Maine Public Utilities Commission  101 Second Street  Hallowell, ME 04347  207-287-3831  TTY Relay: 1-800-437-1220  Maria.jacques@maine.gov</p>

## Appendix B

### EAS Operational Areas

Maine is divided into sixteen Operational Areas. See the map on the following page. Each Operational Area corresponds to a county, with two exceptions as shown below:

Androscoggin

Aroostook – includes all of Aroostook County and that portion of Penobscot County north of Latitude N45°-50”

Cumberland

Franklin

Hancock

Kennebec

Knox

Lincoln

Oxford

Penobscot – includes only that portion of Penobscot County south of Latitude N45°-50”

Piscataquis

Sagadahoc

Somerset

Waldo

Washington

York

Broadcast stations may be included in more than one Operational Area based on grade B contour. Cable operators may be included in more than one Operational Area based on franchise area. Additionally, a given emergency situation may encompass more than one Operational Area.



The northern section of Penobscot County, above the dotted line, is included in the Aroostook County operational area.



## Appendix C

### State Relay Plan and EAS Monitoring Assignments

#### **RELAY OF FEDERAL ALERT MESSAGES**

With respect to monitoring EAS messages formatted in accordance with the specifications set forth in 47 C.F.R. §11.56(a)(2), EAS Participants' EAS equipment must interface with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to enable the distribution of Common Alert Protocol (CAP)-formatted alert messages from the IPAWS system via Internet Protocol (IP) to EAS Participants' EAS equipment.

In addition to the IP dissemination described above, the federal government also disseminates Presidential alerts using the EAN (Emergency Action Notification) code via a network of Primary Entry Point (PEP) radio stations, as well as via National Public Radio (NPR). National Public Radio at the national level has agreed to make Presidential emergency messages available directly from the White House to its affiliates across the country via the private satellite network that it uses to disseminate programming. FEMA has made NPR a Primary Entry Point, with its own hardened phone line to White House communications, so it will receive Presidential messages simultaneously with all the other PEP stations across the nation. See Appendix H.

Under this Plan, Maine Public Radio (MPR) and Maine Public Classical are designated as the State Relay Network. MPR is equipped to receive and disseminate national alerts from NPR, as well as provide a redundant pathway for state and local alerts from MDPS/MEMA (which also flow through the FEMA IPAWS server). EAS alerts will simulcast across all Maine Public stations.

EAS Participants should also monitor one of the following radio stations in the Alternate State Relay Network:

WBLM-FM, 102.9 mhz, Portland (WBLM will monitor WGAN-AM)  
WTOS-FM, 105.1 mhz, Skowhegan  
WHCF-FM, 88.5 mhz, Bangor  
WQHR-FM, 96.1 mhz, Presque Isle

Additionally, WGAN-AM, Portland, has been designated as a Primary Entry Point station for the state of Maine. EAS Participants that can directly monitor the WGAN-AM signal are urged to do so as a redundant backup for IPAWS and NPR/MPR relay of national alerts.

#### **RELAY OF STATE AND LOCAL ALERT MESSAGES**

The Maine Department of Public Safety and Maine Emergency Management Agency are also equipped with CAP-capable message origination equipment for dissemination of state and local alerts via the

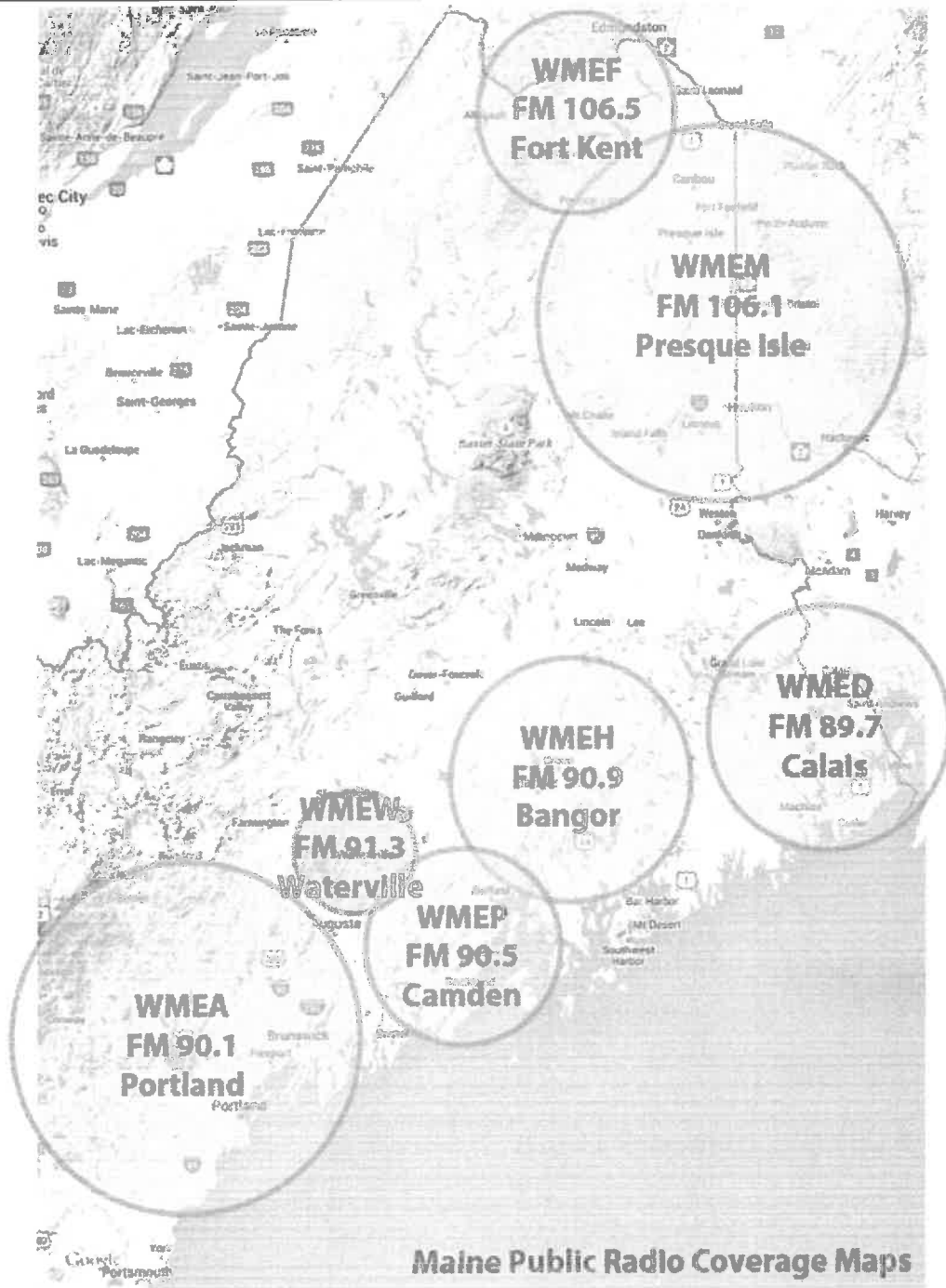
internet through the FEMA IPAWS server. MDPS and MEMA will also relay EAS alerts through Maine Public Radio in order to ensure redundancy.

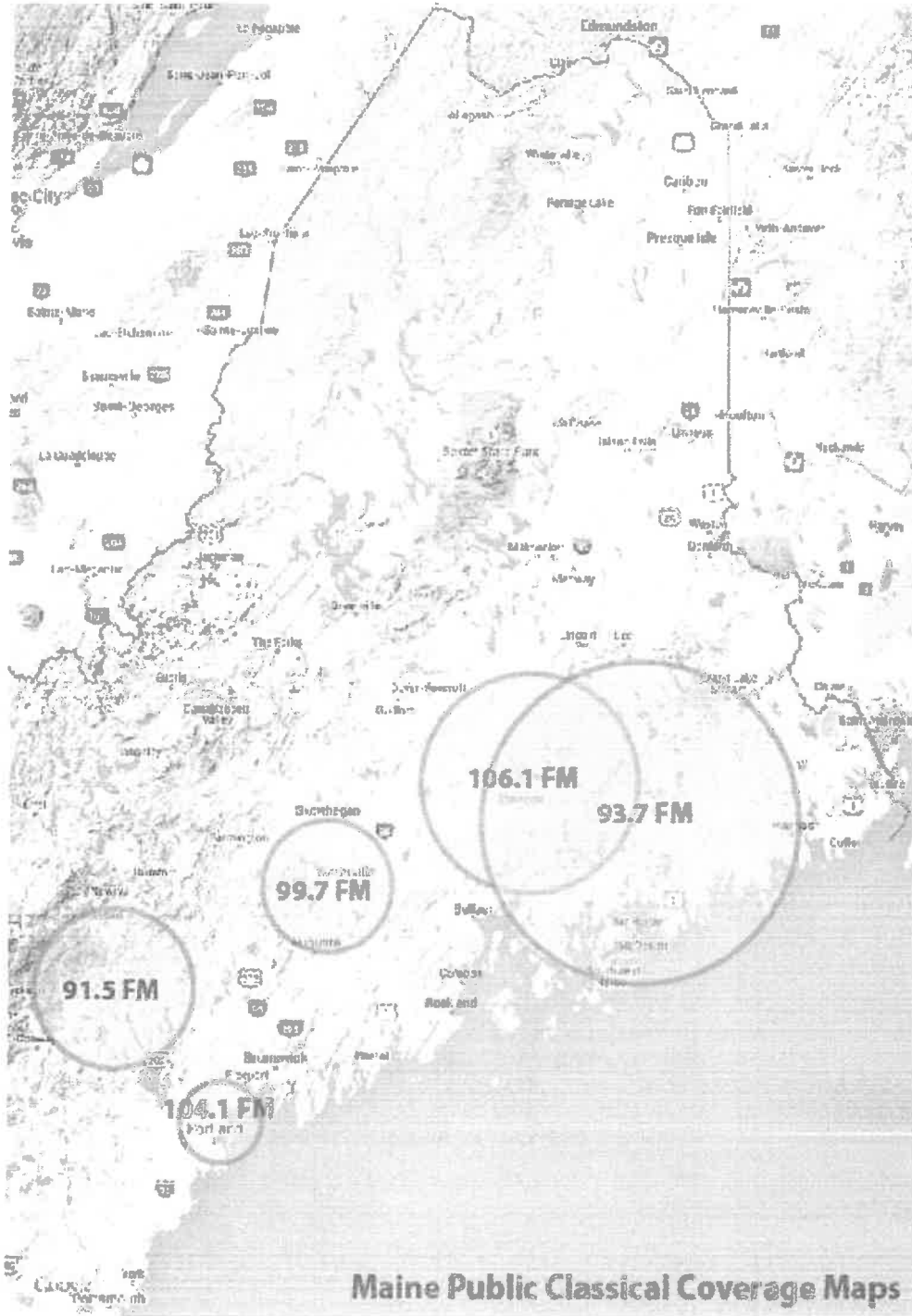
**All EAS Participants in Maine should monitor FEMA IPAWS, Maine Public Radio, and one of the Alternate Primary stations. Due to its resiliency, the broadcast-based EAS relay is expected to operate when other communications pathways are rendered inoperable.**

It is strongly suggested that all EAS Participants monitor a NOAA Weather Radio transmitter with coverage appropriate to their coverage area, in addition to the requirements in the Monitoring Assignments table below. (See Appendix I for a list of stations and frequencies.)

Additionally, MDPS/MEMA may request transmission of non-weather-related emergency messages over NOAA Weather Radio when other means of dissemination are not adequate to ensure rapid delivery of urgent information about an imminent threat. Meteorologists at each of the offices will be responsible for putting the non-weather emergency messages on their respective weather wires and broadcasting the alert on their respective NOAA Weather Radio stations.

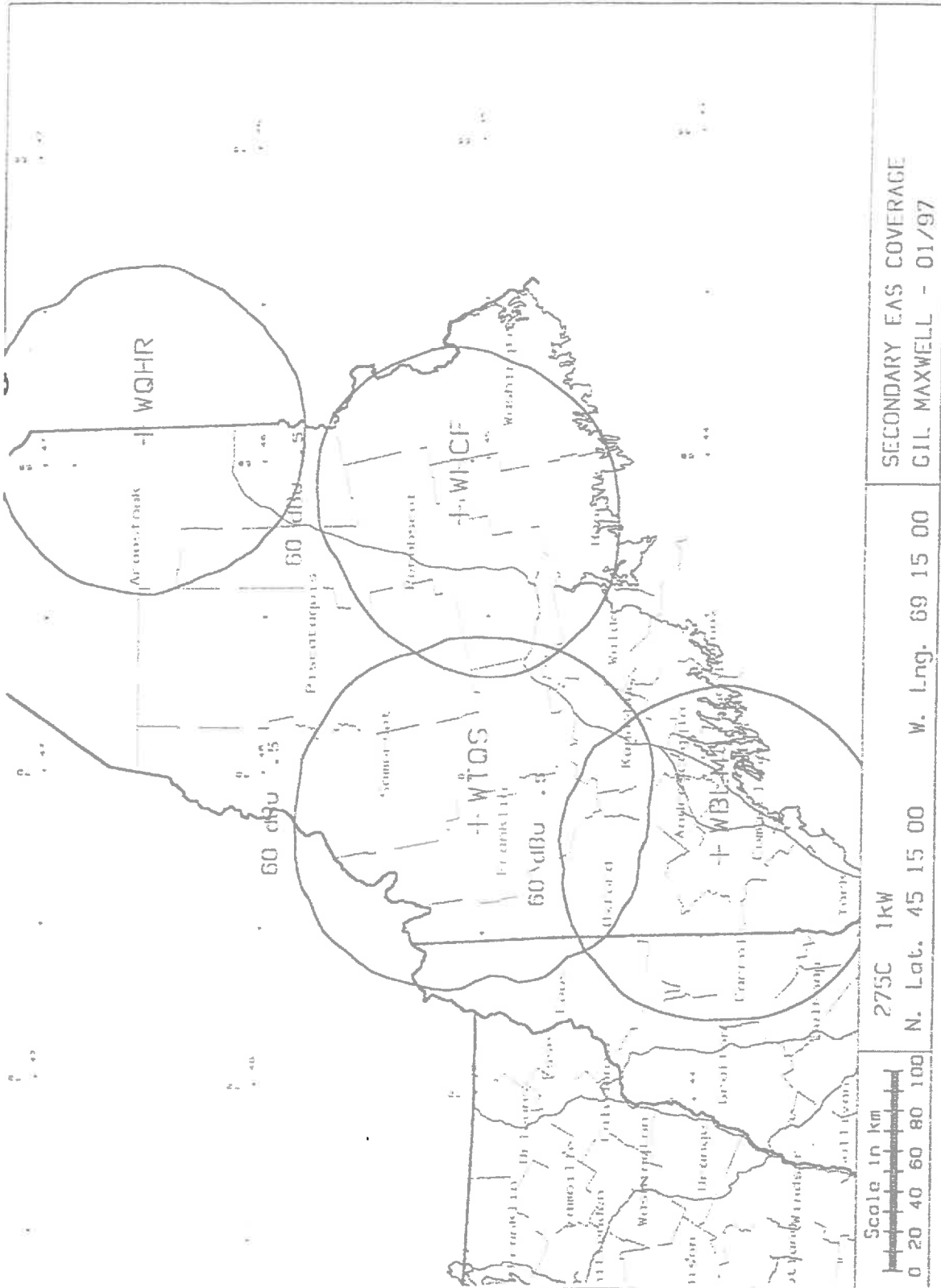
**Coverage Areas of the State Relay Network**





- 91.5 FM WFYB Fryeburg
- 93.7 FM WRMO Milbridge
- 99.7 FM W259BY Waterville
- 104.1 FM W281AC Portland
- 106.1 FM W291CO Bangor

# Coverage Areas of the Alternate State Network



## Broadcast stations: Monitoring Assignments and County ANSI\* codes

*\*In 2008, the National Institute of Standards and Technology eliminated several Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code standards, including those for countries (FIPS 10-4), U.S. states (FIPS 5-2), and counties (FIPS 6-4). Most codes have been replaced by new American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Codes which maintain the previous FIPS numerical system.*

All EAS Participants should set their EAS boxes to monitor and relay alerts for 000000, the "Entire USA" code, and for 023000, the entire state of Maine.

At their discretion, EAS Participants may monitor NOAA Weather Radio, and other alert sources if available, in addition to the monitoring assignments shown below.

**023001: Androscoggin | 023003: Aroostook | 023005: Cumberland | 023007: Franklin | 023009: Hancock | 023011: Kennebec  
023013: Knox | 023015: Lincoln | 023017: Oxford | 023019: Penobscot | 023021: Piscataquis | 023023: Sagadahoc  
023025: Somerset | 023027: Waldo | 023029: Washington | 023031: York**

### Maine Public:

**WMEA-FM Portland 90.1  
WMEW-FM Waterville 91.3  
WMEP-FM Camden 90.5  
WMEH-FM Bangor 90.9  
WMEM-FM Presque Isle 106.1  
WMEF-FM Fort Kent 106.5  
WMED-FM Calais 89.7**

### Maine Public Classical (if needed):

**WFYB-FM Fryeburg 91.5  
WRMO-FM Milbridge 93.7  
W259BY-FM Waterville 99.7  
W281AC-FM Portland 104.1  
W291CO-FM Bangor 106.1**

### Alternate Primary:

**WGAN-AM Portland 560 (Primary  
Entry Point station)  
WBLM-FM Portland 102.9  
WTOS-FM Skowhegan 105.1  
WHCF-FM Bangor 88.5  
WQHR-FM Presque Isle 96.1**

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
W14DA	TV Harpswell	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WABI	TV Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027	023011		
WABK	AM Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WABK	FM Gardiner	IPAWS	WMEH	WTOS	023013	023001	023017	023013	023027		

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WAGM	TV Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003	023019					
WALZ	FM Machias	IPAWS	WMED	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WARX	FM Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023011	023027	023013	023015	023001	023007	
WBAB	AM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBAK	FM Belfast	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023009	023027				
WBAN	AM Veazie	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019						
WBCI	FM Bath	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBCQ	FM Monticello	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WBFB	FM Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WBFE	FM Bar Harbor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023009	023019	023029				
WBFY	FM Belfast	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023027						
WBGR	TV Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WBKA	FM Bar Harbor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WBLM	FM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WGAN	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBOR	FM Brunswick	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBPW	FM Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003	023019					
WBOQ	FM Kennebunk	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBOQ	FM Thomaston	IPAWS	WMEP	WTOS	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WBYA	FM Islesboro	IPAWS	WMEP	WTOS	023027	023013	023009				
WBZN	FM Old Town	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WCBB	TV Augusta	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023011	023001	023015	023013	023027	023025	023007
WCKD	TV Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WCLZ	FM No. Yarmouth	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WCME	AM Brunswick	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023023	023007	023001				
WCRO	FM Dennyville	IPAWS	WMED	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WCSH	TV Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WCTB	FM Fairfield	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WCXU	FM Caribou	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003						

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WCXV	FM Van Buren	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WCXX	FM Madawaska	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WCYR	AM Veazie	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019						
WCYY	FM Biddeford	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	
WDEA	AM Ellsworth	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WEBB	FM Waterville	IPAWS	WMEW	WBLM	023005	023001	023023	023015	023011		
WEGP	AM Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WERU	FM Blue Hill	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WEZQ	FM Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WEZR	AM Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WEZR	FM Norway	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WFHP	FM Fort Kent	IPAWS	WMEF	WQHR	023003						
WFMX	FM Skowhegan	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023011	023025	023027				
WFNK	FM Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023001	023023	023005	023011	023017	023031	
WFST	AM Caribou	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WEVX	TV Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023009					
WFYB	FM Fryeburg	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023005	023017					
WGAN	AM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WGIN	AM Biddeford	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031						
WGME	TV Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WGUY	AM Veazie	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WGYS	FM Dixfield	IPAWS	WMEA	WTOS	023017						
WHCF	FM Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WTOS	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WHMX	FM Lincoln	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019						
WHOM	FM Mt. Washington NH	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023001	023031	023017	023007		
WHOU	FM Houlton	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003	023019					
WHPF	FM Pittston Farm	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023025						



Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WHPW	FM Harpswell	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WHSN	FM Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WHTP	FM Kennebunkport	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WHXR	FM Scarborough	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WJBQ	FM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WJCX	FM Pittsfield	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WJJB	FM Gray	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WJTO	FM Bath	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WJYE	AM Gardiner	IPAWS	WMEA	WTOS	023011	023013	023001				
WJZF	FM Standish	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WJZN	AM Augusta	IPAWS	WMEW	WBLM	023011						
WJZP	FM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WKIT	FM Brewer	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WKSQ	FM Ellsworth	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WKTJ	FM Farmington	IPAWS	WMEA	WTOS	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WOXO	AM South Paris	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WKVV	FM Searsport	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023009	023027				
WKVZ	FM Dexter	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023021	023025				
WLAM	AM Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WLBZ	TV Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WLKE	FM Bar Harbor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WLOB	AM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WLVP	AM Gorham	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WMCM	FM Rockland	IPAWS	WMEH	WTOS	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WMDR	AM Augusta	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WMDR	FM Oakland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023011	023001	023015	023023	023017		
WMEA	FM Portland	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023005	023031	023001	023017			
WMEA	TV Biddeford	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023005	023031					

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WMEB	FM Orono	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023021	023009	023027			
WMEB	TV Orono	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023025	023021	023027	023009		
WMEB	FM Calais	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023029	023029					
WMEB	TV Calais	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023029	023029					
WMEF	FM Fort Kent	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023003						
WMEH	FM Bangor	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WMEK	FM Kennebunkport	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005					
WMEM	FM Presque Isle	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023003	023019					
WMEM	TV Presque Isle	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023003	023019					
WMEP	FM Camden	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023015	023013	023027				
WMEW	FM Waterville	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023011						
WMEY	FM Bowdoin	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023011	023001	023023	023015			
WMGX	FM Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WMMB	FM Waterville	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023005	023001	023023	023015	023011		
WMME	FM Augusta	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023001	023023	023015	023011		
WMPF	FM Rumford	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023017						
WMPG	FM Gorham	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023031	023001	023023			
WMSJ	FM Freeport	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023001	023031				
WMTW	TV Poland Spring	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WNSX	FM Winter Harbor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WOXO	AM South Paris	IPAWS	WMEA	WTOS	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WOXO	FM Norway	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WOZI	FM Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003	023019					
WPEI	FM Saco	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023031					
WPFO	TV Waterville	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023001	023011	023017	023013	023015	023023	023005
WPME	TV Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023031	023001	023023	023015	023011	023017

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WPNX	Westbrook	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WPOR	Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WPPI	Topsham	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023023	023015	023001	023005			
WPXT	Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WQCB	Brewer	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WODY	Calais	IPAWS	WMED	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WQHR	Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WHCF	023003	023019					
WQSK	Madison	IPAWS	WMEH	WTOS	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WQSS	Camden	IPAWS	WMEH	WTOS	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WRBC	Lewiston	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WRPB	Benedicta	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023003	023019					
WRED	Westbrook	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WRFK	Rockland	IPAWS	WMEP	WTOS	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WRGY	Rangeley	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023007						
WRKJ	Westbrook	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005	023031					
WRMO	Milbridge	IPAWS	NPR	WHCF	023029	023009					
WRNM	Ellsworth	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023009						
WSEW	Sanford	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031						
WSHD	Eastport	IPAWS	WMED	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WSHK	Kittery	NH WHO									
WSKW	Skowhegan	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WSVP	Springvale	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031						
WSYY	Millinocket	IPAWS	WMEM	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WSYY	Millinocket	IPAWS	WMEM	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WTBP	Bath	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023015	023023	023013				
WTBU	York	NH WHO									
WTHT	Auburn	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011

Call Letters	City of license	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WTME	AM	Rumford	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WTNP	FM	Waterville	WMEW	WTOS	023013						
WTOS	FM	Skowhegan	WMEH	WBLM	023017	023007	023025	023021			
WTQX	FM	Boothbay Harbor	WMEH	WTOS	023015	023013	023011	023023			
WTUX	FM	Gouldsboro	WMEH	WHCF	023009	023029					
WTVL	AM	Waterville	WMEW	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WUMF	FM	Farmington	WMEA	WTOS	023007	023001	023011	023017	023025		
WUMM	FM	Machias	WMED	WHCF	023029						
WUPI	FM	Presque Isle	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WV11	TV	Bangor	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WVOM	AM	Rockland	WMEH	WHCF	023013	023027	023015				
WVOM	FM	Howland	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WVQM	FM	Augusta	WMEH	WTOS	023011	023027	023013	023015	023023	023001	023007
WWLN	FM	Lincoln	WMEH	WHCF	023019						
WWMJ	FM	Ellsworth	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WWTP	FM	Augusta	WMEA	WBLM	023011	023015					
WWNZ	AM	Veazie	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WWSF	AM	Sanford	WMEA	WBLM	023031						
WWWA	FM	Winslow	WMEW	WTOS	023011	023017	023007	023025	023021		
WXBP	FM	Corinth	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023025	023021				
WXEX	FM	Sanford	WMEA	WBLM	023031						
WXME	AM	Monticello	WMEM	WQHR	023003						
WXNZ	FM	Skowhegan	WMEW	WTOS	023025						
WXTP	FM	N. Windham	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WYAR	FM	Yarmouth	WMEA	WBLM	023005						
WYFB	FM	Fryeburg	NPR	WHCF	023017						
WYFP	FM	Harpeswell	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WYNZ	FM	So. Portland	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011

Call Letters	City of License	Required	State Primary (Maine Public)	Alternate Primary	County 1	County 2	County 3	County 4	County 5	County 6	County 7
WZAN	Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031	023005	023001	023023	023015	023013	023011
WZON	Bangor	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019	023029	023009	023027			
WZLO	Dover-Foxcroft	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023021	023019					

\*The Maine Public radio and television networks monitor WHCF through their control center in Bangor.

## Cable TV: Monitoring Assignments and County ANSI Codes

All EAS Participants should set their EAS boxes to monitor and relay alerts for 000000, the "Entire US" code, as well as for 023000, the entire state of Maine.  
 At their discretion, EAS Participants may monitor NOAA Weather Radio, and other alert sources if available, in addition to the monitoring assignments shown below.

**023001: Androscoggin | 023003: Aroostook | 023005: Cumberland | 023007: Franklin | 023009: Hancock | 023011: Kennebec**  
**023013: Knox | 023015: Lincoln | 023017: Oxford | 023019: Penobscot | 023021: Piscataquis | 023023: Sagadahoc**  
**023025: Somerset | 023027: Waldo | 023029: Washington | 023031: York**

System	City	Required	Primary (Maine Public)	Secondary	Counties
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Augusta/Central Maine Division	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023001, 023005, 023007, 023011, 023015, 023017, 023025, 023027, 023031
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Bangor/Maine Division	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023003, 023007, 023009, 023013, 023015, 023017, 023019, 023021, 023025, 023027, 023029
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Portland	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023005, 023031
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Presque Isle	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Houlton (Presque Isle)	IPAWS	WMEM	WQHR	023003, 023019, 023029
Comcast	Brunswick	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023001, 023005, 023023
Bee Line	Skowhegan	IPAWS	WMEW	WTOS	023007, 023025
Bee Line	Millinocket	IPAWS	WMEH	WHCF	023019
Lincolnville Communications	Lincolnville	IPAWS	WMEP	WTOS	023013, 023027
Spectrum/Time Warner Cable	Acton (Conway, NH)	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031
Comcast	Berwick, Kittery (Westford, MA)	IPAWS	WMEA	WBLM	023031

## Appendix D

### Authorized Sources for Activating EAS

#### **LOCAL/COUNTY/STATE:**

##### Maine Emergency Management Agency

Agency Director or his/her designee; Officer of the Day

##### Maine Dept. of Public Safety, Consolidated Emergency Communications Bureau – Augusta or Houlton

Director, Senior Operations Manager, or the Senior Operations Manager on Duty in their absence

**EAS Participants** are also authorized to originate alerts in coordination with emergency management or public safety authorities.

Absent an approved local EAS plan, all local or county requests for alert activation shall be referred to either MEMA or MDPS.

#### **FEDERAL:**

Federal Emergency Management Agency/White House  
Office of Communications

## Appendix E

### EAS Protocol; Currently Authorized Originator and EAS Event Codes

Note: The EAS protocol, including any alert codes, must not be amended, extended, or abridged without FCC authorization.

#### A. EAS Header Code Analysis

The FCC has mandated that an EAS Header Code contain the following elements sent in the following sequence:

1. [Preamble] ZCZC-ORG-EEE-PSSCCC+TTTT-JJHHMM-LLLLLLLL – repeated 3 times
2. Attention Signal (8 seconds)
3. Audio, Video, or Text Message
4. [Preamble] NNNN – repeated 3 times

The ASCII dash (-) and plus (+) symbols are required and may not be used for any other purpose. Unused characters must be ASCII space characters. FM or TV call signs must use a slash, ASCII character number 47 (/), in lieu of a dash.

#### Explanation:

1. [Preamble]= (Clears the system): Sent automatically by your Encoder.

ZCZC= (Start of ASCII Code): Sent automatically by your Encoder.

ORG= (Originator Code): Preset once by the message originator, then sent automatically by your Encoder. See section "B" below for codes.

EEE= (Event Code): Determined by the message originator, each time an alert is sent. See section "C" below for codes.

PSSCCC= (Location Code): Determined by the message originator, each time an alert is sent. See section "D" below for codes.



TTTT= (Duration of Alert): Determined by the message originator, each time an alert is sent. This indicates the valid time period of a message in 15 minute segments up to one hour and then in 30 minute segments beyond one hour; i.e. , +0015, +0030, +0045, +0100, +0430 and +0600.

JJHHMM= (Date/Time-of-Day): Sent automatically by your Encoder.

LLLLLLLL= (8-Character ID, identifying the Broadcaster, Cable operator, Weather Service Office, Nuclear/Industrial Plant, or Civil Authority operating that Encoder): Preset once by message originator, then sent automatically by your Encoder. See section E below for the format to be used in constructing L-codes.

2. Attention Signal: Must be sent if an audio, video or text message is sent. Duration 8 seconds.

3. Test or Alert Message. See Appendix Q for examples of alert scripts.

4. [Preamble]= (Re-clears the system): sent automatically by your Encoder when you receive the End-of-Message sequence. Followed by:

NNNN= (End-of-Message Code): End of Message (EOM) code sent as a string of four ASCII N characters. Usually initiated automatically at the end of every EAS Alert originated by all sources. If an EAS message fails to carry the EOM code, or an EAS encoder-decoder does not automatically release back to air at the end of the message, EAS Participants may clear their system by manually issuing an RWT (Required Weekly Test).

## **B. Originator Codes (ORG)**

The following are the only Originator Codes to be used by sources in the state of Maine:

**WXR** - To be used by National Weather Services Offices

**CIV** - To be used by Maine Emergency Management Agency, Maine Dept. of Public Safety, and all other Civil Authorities

**EAS** - To be used by all Broadcasters, Cable TV Operators, and other EAS Participants.

EAS Participants will almost always be relaying EAS messages originated by WXR or CIV. However, on rare occasion there may be an emergency condition that requires an EAS Participant, in coordination with emergency response authorities, to use their EAS equipment to originate an EAS message.

The following Originator Code will be used by federal authorities:

**PEP** – Primary Entry Point

### C. Maine Event Codes (EEE)

The only required EAS event codes are EAN, NIC, NPT, RMT and RWT (see chart below). All other codes are optional. However, the codes shown below are strongly recommended for retransmission by EAS Participants because Maine is prone to various emergency conditions that pose a threat to life or property.

The following Event (EEE) codes are presently authorized for the State of Maine:

Nature of activation	Event code	Must be retransmitted:
<b>National Codes (Required):</b>		
Emergency Action Notification (National only)	EAN	Immediately
National Information Center	NIC	Immediately
National Periodic Test	NPT	Immediately
Required Monthly Test	RMT	Within 60 minutes
Required Weekly Test	RWT	Originated by the EAS Participant on a weekly basis
<b>State and Local Codes (Recommended):</b>		
Child Abduction Emergency (AMBER Alert)	CAE	Immediately - statewide
Civil Danger Warning	CDW	Immediately
Civil Emergency Message	CEM	Immediately
Earthquake Warning	EQW	Immediately
Evacuation Immediate	EVI	Immediately
Extreme Wind Warning	EWV	Immediately
Fire Warning	FRW	Immediately
Flash Flood Warning	FFW	Immediately
Hazardous Materials Warning	HMW	Immediately
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW	Immediately
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW	Immediately
Shelter in Place Warning	SPW	Immediately
Tornado Warning	TOR	Immediately
Tsunami Warning	TSW	Immediately

The following state and local codes are optional, but EAS Participants should consider retransmitting them based on local conditions, weather patterns, etc.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning (1*)	SVR	*See notes below
Special Marine Warning (2*)	SMW	
Tornado Watch (3*)	TOA	

\*1 – Although Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are listed as optional in the plan, EAS Participants should consider airing EAS alerts for Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, as they do meet the criteria for an EAS event. By definition, severe thunderstorms produce wind gusts of at least 58 mph (50 kt) and/or hail of at least 1 inch in diameter. Typically winds of 58 mph or greater will topple trees, snap large tree limbs, and are an imminent danger to those in the path of the storm. A strong severe thunderstorm will produce damage greater than that of a weak tornado.

\*2 - Although Special Marine Warnings are listed as optional in the plan, EAS Participants that serve coastal areas of the state should consider airing EAS alerts for Special Marine Warnings, as they do meet the criteria for an EAS event. Special Marine Warnings are issued for thunderstorms that are expected to produce wind gusts of at least 39 mph. Typically wind gusts of 39 mph (35 kt) or greater are an imminent threat to recreational boaters in the path of the storm.

\*3 – Although Tornado Watches do not meet the EAS criteria of an imminent threat, EAS Participants should consider airing EAS alerts for Tornado Watches as they serve as an important notification to the public of the need to monitor weather conditions closely and to be prepared to take immediate action, if necessary. Typically, tornadoes in Maine develop with little or no warning, and the Tornado Watch may be the only indication that tornadoes are possible. Of the 550 U.S. tornado deaths in 2011, 547 occurred in areas under Tornado Watches – many victims either failed to hear the warnings or were unable to react in time.

**D. Location Codes (PSSCCC)**

ANSI codes<sup>1</sup>: 023000 Maine (entire state)

073000: Western North Atlantic Ocean, and along U.S. East Coast, from Canadian border south to Currituck Beach Light, N.C.

023001 Androscoggin County	023017 Oxford County
023003 Aroostook County	023019 Penobscot County
023005 Cumberland County	023021 Piscataquis County
023007 Franklin County	023023 Sagadahoc County
023009 Hancock County	023025 Somerset County
023011 Kennebec County	023027 Waldo County
023013 Knox County	023029 Washington County
023015 Lincoln County	023031 York County

FCC rules specify the EAS/SAME Locations codes in the PSSCCC format. The first digit ("P") is used to indicate one-ninth of a local jurisdiction such as a county, parish, local jurisdiction, etc. as located in the CCC element.

P Digit	Location
0	Entire Area
1	Northwest
2	North
3	Northeast
4	West
5	Central
6	East
7	Southwest
8	South

<sup>1</sup> In 2008, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) eliminated the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for numerically designating states and counties. FIPS has been replaced by American National Standards Institute (ANSI) codes, which maintain and mirror the previous numeric system for FIPS codes.

The second set of two digits ("SS") indicates the state. Therefore, a message targeted to the entire state of Maine would have the SS code of 23, and the EAS/SAME message PSSCCC code would be 023000.

The SS code is also used to designate offshore areas (marine areas). The offshore area code for Maine is SS code 73. The NWS description for code 73 is as follows:

Western North Atlantic Ocean, and along U.S. East Coast, from Canadian border south to Currituck Beach Light, North Carolina.

The third set of three digits ("CCC") indicate the county or local jurisdiction.

The list of ANSI codes for the entire United States is provided at the following web site:

<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ansi/data/13000.html>

### **E. EAS Participant Identification Codes (LLLLLLL)**

This 8-character (LLLLLLL) code is affixed to every EAS message originated or re-transmitted by every EAS Encoder. The code identifies the particular EAS message originator, including broadcasters, cable operators, NWS Offices, or civil authorities operating that encoder. "L-Code" IDs must adhere to the following formats. No deviation from these formats is allowed, since using certain other characters would cause an error in the system.

#### **Broadcasters:**

Single Station: WXXX followed by four "space" characters

Two Stations using a common EAS Encoder-Decoder: "WXXXWYYY"

Three or more Stations using a common EAS Encoder-Decoder: The call letters of one of the stations is sufficient. All other stations sending the alert should keep a log of alerts sent, as should the station whose call letters are used in the L-Code.

#### **Cable Operators:**

Use the FCC Cable ID Number, filling in any unused digits at the end of the 8-digit EAS L-Code with the "space" character.

#### **National Weather Service Offices:**

Use the Letters "NWS" followed by the call sign of the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) station sending the alert.

#### **Civil Authorities:**

Use three components in constructing the 8-character code:

Portion of "L Code"	Source of Characters
First four characters	First four letters of the name of the jurisdiction
Next two characters	Abbreviation for type of jurisdiction
Last two characters	Abbreviation for type of agency

Jurisdiction Type abbreviations:

TYPE	USE
State	ST
City	CY
Town	TN
Village	VL
County	CO
Township	TP
Municipality	MY

Agency Type Abbreviations:

TYPE	USE
Fire Department	FD
Police Department	PD
Traffic Authority	TA
Emergency Services	ES
Emergency Management	EM

Maine Emergency Management Agency = MAINSTEM

Maine Department of Public Safety = MAINSTPD

Maine Public Broadcasting: Use MAINMPBN

## Appendix F

### Summary of the Maine AMBER Alert Plan

In December 2002, Maine launched a statewide AMBER Alert Plan. AMBER Alert uses the Emergency Alert System and the CAE (Child Abduction Emergency) alert code to rapidly disseminate information statewide in order to enlist the public's aid in the search for an abducted child. AMBER Alerts are reserved for the most serious cases of child abduction and should not be used for missing children, or, except in extreme circumstances, for children who are in the company of a parent.

Criteria for issuing an AMBER Alert via EAS are spelled out in the Maine AMBER Alert Plan, which may be downloaded at [www.mab.org](http://www.mab.org).

Law enforcement agencies (including the Maine Warden Service and Maine Marine Patrol) should consider adopting the Maine Chiefs of Police Association Model Missing Persons Policy, which encompasses the Maine AMBER Alert Plan.

**All EAS Participants are requested to relay CAE alerts immediately, statewide, and then to rebroadcast the relevant information (without sending another EAS alert) at least once every 30 minutes for the first 4 hours, then at least once an hour for the next 4 hours.**

Time is of the essence in the safe recovery of an abducted child. According to a 1997 study by the U.S. Department of Justice, 74 percent of the children who were kidnapped and later found murdered were killed within the first 3 hours after being taken.

**The Maine Emergency Alert System is not to be used in cases of "Silver Alerts" for missing senior citizens. Information about such cases should be publicized through normal news-dissemination channels.**

## Appendix G

# The Common Alerting Protocol and Changes to the Emergency Alert System

**Effective Date:** Effective June 30, 2012, all EAS participants subject to 47 C.F.R. §11 must monitor the FEMA Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) aggregator. This will initially be accomplished through Internet Protocol (IP) connection of an approved IPAWS OPEN CAP-capable EAS device, and entry into these devices of information that will allow the device to poll the aggregator. This change means that all warning centers authorized by the State of Maine and FEMA can issue warnings that will reach the public not only through broadcast, cable and certain satellite program content providers, but also through other warning systems such as the Cellular Messaging Alert System, Reverse 911, sirens, and a wide variety of social communications media, as applicable.

**Non-Participating Stations:** The Non-Participating Station (NN) category for EAS has been eliminated. All EAS Participants (broadcast stations, cable systems, etc.) are designated PN, Participating National, and must carry all Presidential or national EAS alerts with the alert code EAN.

**Audio, video and graphics that may be associated with IPAWS OPEN messages:** The Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standard has provisions that allow audio, video, pictures or graphics to be associated with messages in order to deliver more and better information to the public. The IPAWS OPEN aggregator will not relay actual audio, or a computer audio file, within messages that CAP-EAS devices receive. When a CAP-EAS device polls a CAP message from IPAWS, that message may include a reference to an audio file on a separate server operated by FEMA, Maine emergency management, or the law enforcement agency in Maine responsible for an AMBER Alert. When a CAP-EAS unit polls the IPAWS OPEN CAP aggregator, if there is a URL “pointer” in the CAP message, the receiving CAP EAS device will automatically seek the referenced audio file and compile a complete message from those two elements. The Text to Speech (TTS) feature of CAP reception devices will serve as a backup mechanism in case an expected audio file “pointer” cannot be located. TTS audio is derived from the text word description in the CAP message.

**Information regarding the Maine CAP server:** While the actions described above are taking place, CAP-EAS units will also poll, or have pushed to them, the same CAP message from the Maine CAP source that is being used to forward the local/state CAP message to IPAWS. EAS-CAP devices will in this way seek an audio file “pointer,” or the audio file can be “pushed” to the CAP device. For IPAWS OPEN messages without a URL audio pointer, Maine originators will

rely completely on the ability of CAP-EAS reception devices to create TTS audio. TTS is a voluntary choice made by EAS participants.

### **Types of Warnings**

In Maine, the EAS can be used for warnings of an immediate emergency situation, such as severe thunderstorms or tornadoes, forecast or actually occurring; evacuations of areas due to an incident (such as a hazardous spill) or a tsunami; instructions to shelter in place; or other events requiring the public to take immediate protective action. Watches and statements of the National Weather Service (NWS) do not require this type of immediate action. In Maine, by agreement the EAS does not carry these types of messages, even though the FCC rules provide for them.



## Appendix H

### NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) Locations and Frequencies

<u>Location and Station</u>	<u>Station Call Letters</u>	<u>Station Frequency</u>
Caribou (Mars Hill)	WXM - 77	162.525 MHZ
Wiscasset (Dresden)	WSM - 60	162.475 MHZ
Bangor-Bar Harbor (Ellsworth)	KEC - 93	162.400 MHZ
Frenchville	KHB - 55	162.475 MHZ
Greenville	WNG - 542	162.525 MHZ
Jonesboro - marine only	WNG - 543	162.450 MHZ
Meddybemps	KHC - 47	162.425 MHZ
Milo	KHB - 54	162.450 MHZ
Portland (Falmouth)	KDO - 95	162.550 MHZ
Springfield	WXN - 28	162.500 MHZ
Sugarloaf	WNG - 547	162.450 MHZ

## Appendix I

### EAS and Wireless Emergency Alerts

On April 9, 2008, the FCC adopted requirements for the Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS) in 47 C.F.R. §10. CMAS was subsequently renamed WEA, Wireless Emergency Alerts. As of May 2012, some 77% of Commercial Mobile Service (CMS) providers (more commonly known as cell phone providers) had elected not to participate in WEA, and an additional 4% had elected to carry alert messages in only portions of their service areas. Thus, WEA should not be relied upon exclusively as a robust, ubiquitous alert messaging solution for the State of Maine.

CMS providers must follow the regulations in 47 C.F.R. §10 if they elect to participate.

EAS Participants and participating CMS providers will both be transmitting alerts to the public. Participating CMS providers will receive WEA alerts from FEMA. WEA alerts will be developed from certain elements in the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP). Once a CMS provider has elected to participate in WEA, that provider's subscribers will then receive WEA alerts at no cost, unless they opt out. Based on the capabilities of a CMS provider, a CMS subscriber can receive three classes of alert messages: (1) Presidential, (2) Imminent Threat, and (3) AMBER. Subscribers cannot opt out of receiving Presidential alerts.

1. A Presidential Alert is issued by the President of the United States or the President's authorized designee (FEMA).
2. An Imminent Threat Alert is an alert that meets a minimum value for each of three CAP elements: Urgency, Severity, and Certainty.
  - ♦ The CAP Urgency element must be either Immediate or Expected.
  - ♦ The CAP Severity element must be either Extreme or Severe.
  - ♦ The CAP Certainty element must be either Observed or Likely.

A tornado warning is an example of an Imminent Threat Alert.

3. An AMBER Alert is initiated by a state or local government official based on each state's or locality's AMBER Alert Plan.

A WEA alert message processed by a CMS provider includes five mandatory CAP elements—Event Type; Area Affected; Recommended Action; Expiration Time (with time zone); and Sending Agency. This requirement does not apply to Presidential Alerts. A WEA alert message processed by a CMS provider must not exceed 90 characters of alphanumeric text and must not include an embedded Uniform Resource Locator (URL), which is a reference (an address) to a resource on the Internet, or an embedded telephone number. This prohibition does not apply to Presidential Alerts.

In summary, cell phone users will be receiving WEA text alert messages that contain about the same amount of information as is contained in the digital header portion of an EAS message.

Because of the limited nature of WEA messages, a cell phone user, upon receiving a WEA text alert message, will most likely begin to search for additional information about the alert. The additional information may be available through the EAS. Therefore it is important for EAS Participants to monitor for the EAS messages for the affected area and be ready to transmit those messages as soon as possible. It is assumed that WEA and EAS alerts will be available from the government at the same time.