

Colorado Emergency Reporting Net Wilderness Protocol

The Wilderness protocol was proposed in 1994 in QST magazine, William Alsup, N6XMW from Oakland, CA, wrote an article proposing a Wilderness Protocol "for effective simplex use of handheld VHF and FM transceivers in the backcountry." This protocol is listed in the ARRL ARES Emergency Resources Manual. The Wilderness protocol (see page 101, August 1995 QST) calls for hams in the wilderness to announce their presence on, and to monitor, the national calling frequencies for five minutes beginning at the top of the hour, every three hours from 7 AM to 7 PM (7am, 10am, 1pm, 4pm 7 pm) while in the back country. A ham in a remote location may be able to relay emergency information through another wilderness ham who has better access to a repeater. National calling frequencies: 52.525, 146.52, 223.50, 446.00, 1294.50 MHz.(P.87)

All monitors are encouraged to monitor either 146.520 or 446.000 frequencies from 5 minutes before the top of the hour until 5 minutes after. This should allow for differences in how people have their watch set. If you hear no traffic at the top of the hour please make the following CERN announcement:

This is your call sign for the Colorado Emergency Reporting Net

I will be monitoring the Wilderness Protocol Frequency 146.520

Until 5 minutes after the top of the hour.

If you have emergency traffic please say MADAY 3 times in quick succession.

I will relay your information to 911. your call sign Over.

At 5 minutes after the top of the hour

This is your call sign For the Colorado Emergency Reporting Net

I have completed monitoring the Wilderness Protocol on this Frequency 146.520. over QRT

If you plan on monitoring the frequency please announce the next time that you will make the announcement.

If you do monitor on this protocol please e-mail in the times that you monitored and a location that you monitored from. The location can be as exact as GPS, a city, a summit or pass or a trail name.

Remember: 1) If you are out in the back country you need to be able to relay the information.

2) After Gathering all information, establish a time for the next contact and verify the frequency that contact is to be made on

This is **NOT** a mandatory requirement for hourly monitoring; the adopting of this is a way for us to not only expand the service that we offer to the radio community, but allows us another way to volunteer our time while we do the activities that we all enjoy.

Mike Ranalls

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Colorado Emergency Reporting Net

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