

# FEMA Manual 211-2-1: NATIONAL WARNING SYSTEM (NAWAS) OPERATIONS

July, 2016  
Version 2



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7/1/2016  
Date



# FEMA

## Foreword

The National Warning System Operations Manual describes the procedures the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), uses in implementing its warning functions. It also contains eligibility criteria that federal, state, local, tribal and/or territorial governments must meet to have access to this system as well as operational procedures. The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a 24-hour continuous private line telephone system used to convey warnings to federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government and public safety officials. Originally, the primary purpose of the NAWAS was to warn of an imminent enemy attack or an actual accidental missile launch upon the United States. NAWAS still supports this mission, but the emphasis now is on terrorist actions, natural, and technological disasters.

The threats posed by natural and manmade disasters or enemy attack make it imperative for state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to have access to an effective and reliable means of communication with which to warn the public of impending emergencies so that they may take protective actions. Title VI of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act authorizes the use of NAWAS to support the all-hazards emergency response mission of FEMA. NAWAS is used to disseminate warning information concerning natural and manmade disasters or enemy attack to over 2,000 warning points located throughout the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. This information includes but is not limited to terrorist actions, aircraft incidents/accidents, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, nuclear incidents/accidents, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, tsunamis, and winter storms.

NAWAS enables the coordination of warning information to and between emergency management officials at all levels of government so that they can take appropriate actions to warn, prepare, and protect their citizens of impending threats. NAWAS allows issuance of warnings to and coordination amongst all warning points nationwide or to selected warning points as dictated by the situation.

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## Overview

This Manual provides federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial Homeland Security emergency management personnel with information on the structure and operation of the National Warning System (NAWAS) and criteria governing eligibility for participation. The provisions of this Manual are applicable to all federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government emergency management agencies that participate in the NAWAS. It is intended to provide first responders and emergency operations centers with time-critical information.

## Overarching Approach

The NAWAS Manual is organized in primary chapters which address the eligibility requirements of federal, state, and/or local governments must meet to have access to this system, as well as equipment operation, installation of the various models of NAWAS terminals, and routine and emergency operating procedures. The Appendices will provide additional information procedures and use of NAWAS.

## Chapter 1: General Information

### Background

1. Threats imposed by all-hazards events make it imperative that all communities have a rapid, reliable, and efficient method of warning the public. The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a special purpose telephone system that provides a voice communication capability suited for disseminating and coordinating warnings to federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local government agencies and select military organizations.
2. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds, operates, and controls the NAWAS under the authority of Section § 5196(d) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes the President to make provisions for emergency preparedness communications and dissemination of warnings to governmental authorities and the civilian population in areas threatened by disasters. This authority has been delegated to the FEMA Administrator, within the Department of Homeland Security.
3. NAWAS was created to rapidly notify emergency management officials of an impending or threatened attack, or accidental missile launch on the United States. This type of warning capability still exists at both the FEMA Operations Center (FOC) and the FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC).

FEMA has placed primary emphasis on an all-hazard approach to emergency management to support rapid and effective response to natural and manmade disasters or enemy attack. The intent of warning specific government agencies first, rather than notifying the entire general public at once, is to allow sufficient time for those agencies to initiate disaster response plans and maintain an orderly management of the population for safety purposes.

4. Under established priorities, the attack warning has priority over all other NAWAS traffic. The FOC/FAOC exercise control over priorities for the NAWAS. The State Warning Points (SWP's) exercise control over priorities within their jurisdiction when they do not conflict with national priorities.
5. Other than warning messages from or directed by the President, the FOC/FAOC issues warning messages primarily to the SWPs. The SWPs then disseminate the warning information over local communication systems to local jurisdictions and to the public or local civilian population using local communications systems and may use the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System and its components including the Emergency Alert System (EAS), the Commercial Mobile Alerting System (CMAS) Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) All Hazards Weather Radio, and internet warning or media outlets. SWPs operate in accordance with their state's EAS Plan or other public alerting policy, procedures, and guidance.
6. When the NAWAS is not being used for emergency traffic/tests, state and local government personnel are encouraged to use it for official business. NAWAS users must be alert and relinquish use of the system when another user announces emergency traffic. **All users must ensure that the circuit is clear of traffic before dialing on the circuit.**

### **Type of Emergency Warnings**

Listed below are several types of warnings supported by NAWAS:

1. **Attack.** A term meaning that an impending or actual attack against the United States by an established country of concern or terrorist related action(s) has been detected and validated, that an assessment has been made by an authorized authority and that protective or defensive action should be taken immediately. The FOC/FAOC disseminates Attack Warning information over the NAWAS/Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS) when the assessing authority determines that an attack upon the United States is imminent or already occurring. Scenarios may differ due to the asymmetric or nation state nature of these attempts to harm U.S. interests. These scenarios may require the announcement of a limited Attack Warning directed towards a specific area or region of the United States. Should the NAWAS/WAWAS be activated to pass the initial warning, the circuit may be left in a **bridged-mode** to process further information as received. These continued broadcasts may be free-flowing, non-formatted information. Warnings are based on tactical and strategic intelligence gathered and evaluated by NORAD under its responsibility for the defense of North America in concert with other federal and military agencies (See [Appendix A](#)).

### **Figure 1-7-1 Possible Emergency Announcement**

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. All stations please stand by for possible emergency information. All stations stay on the line and keep the circuits open." <REPEAT ONCE>

### Figure 1-7. 2 Release from Continuous Monitoring Announcement

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. All stations are released from continuous monitoring, at this time it will not be necessary for the FOC to issue emergency information." <REPEAT ONCE>

2. **Nuclear Detonation (NUDET) Warning**. A warning of radiation hazards resulting from nuclear detonations or accidental mishaps. NAWAS would be used to convey this information to the affected state(s). The state(s) would then relay this information on to local governments, which would issue fallout warnings and instructions to the public based on local observations and information received from the state. (See [Appendix A](#))
3. **Technological Emergency**. A warning and continued notification of a disaster or emergency may include any of the following events: rail, aircraft accident, explosion, hazardous chemical spills, nuclear accidents, re-entering space debris and space weather, dam failures, cyber, or other potential or actual hazards to the public's health, safety, and property.
  - a. **Domestic Errant Missile Launch**. Domestic launches are scheduled events from NASA, Department of Defense (DoD), or contract facilities under the control of the United States Government. An errant missile is defined as any launch that does not reach its intended parameters, cannot be confirmed as having been destroyed, and has a predicted impact that is outside the area of the launch range. The FOC/FAOC will notify the affected state(s) over the NAWAS based on the information received from NORAD or from a special conference established with the launch site. (See [Appendix B](#))
4. **Natural Disaster**. A warning and continued notification of a natural disaster or emergency may include any of the following events: earthquake, fire, flood, hurricane, landslide, mudslide, near earth objects (asteroids/comets), storms, snowstorm, tornado, tsunami volcanic eruption, wind driven water, or other potential or actual hazards to the public's health, safety, and property. (See [Appendix C](#))

### Source of Warnings

1. **Attack Warning**. NORAD/U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) is the primary source for information related to detecting, validating, assessing, and declaring an attack on the United States of America and its allies. NORAD/USNORTHCOM coordinates assessments with national civilian leadership and other DoD assets. They in turn provide that information to the FOC/FAOC for further dissemination over the NAWAS and WAWAS to departments, agencies, and state and local governments.

- a. **Accidental Missile Launch**. An agreement exists between the United States and Russia to reduce the risk of nuclear war as a result of an accidental, unauthorized, or any other unexplained incident involving a possible detonation of a nuclear weapon, resulting in the risk of nuclear war. In the event of such an incident occurring (e.g., an accidental missile launch) that would threaten the United States with a possible nuclear detonation, the FOC/FAOC would transmit the accidental launch-warning message over the NAWAS. (See [Appendix A](#))
  - b. **Fallout Warning**. A warning of radiation hazards resulting from nuclear detonations. NAWAS would issue this information to the affected state(s). The state(s) would then relay this information on to local governments, which would issue fallout warnings and instructions to the public based on local observations and information received from the state. (See [Appendix A](#))
2. **Technological Emergency**. Notification of a disaster or emergency situation comes from a variety of sources such as the Department of Defense (DoD), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, DHS agencies, and state and local emergency responders.
  - a. **Fallout/Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) Warning**. A warning of nuclear, chemical or caustic hazards resulting from accidental mishaps. NAWAS would then be used to convey this information to the affected state(s). The state(s) would then relay this information on to local governments, which would issue fallout warnings and instructions to the public based on local observations and information received from the state. (See [Appendix B](#))
3. **Natural Disaster**. Warnings of possible threats to the public's health, safety, and property originate from many sources to include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and offices within NOAA that provide a variety of weather related information. These include:
  - a. The National Weather Service (NWS) provides short and long-range weather forecasts. The NWS can originate severe weather warnings and watches from any of approximately 125 Regional Offices throughout the United States and its territories. Most NWS Regional Offices have direct access to NAWAS. The NWS has links to many other offices within NOAA that provide warning of dangerous weather situations.
  - b. The National Hurricane Center and the Tropical Prediction Center, Miami, Florida, provide hurricane and tropical depression information for the Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and the Eastern Pacific. The Central Pacific Hurricane Center, Honolulu, Hawaii provides forecasts for the Central Pacific area.
  - c. The Tsunami Warning Centers in Honolulu, Hawaii and Palmer, Alaska provide seismic and tsunami information for the Pacific, Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico regions.
  - d. The NOAA Office of Hydrologic Development (OHD) uses flood data gathered by 13 National Weather Service (NWS) River Forecast Centers (RFCs) on possible flood conditions throughout the lower 48 states and Alaska.
  - e. NOAA and NWS have also established the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). The NCEP is made up of a variety of weather and prediction centers that pass information on weather conditions to the NWS, the

- U.S. Air Force, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and FEMA. Some of the essential centers include:
- i. Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC), Camp Springs, MD.
  - ii. Ocean Prediction Center (OPC), Camp Springs, MD.
  - iii. Environmental Modeling Center (EMC), Camp Springs, MD.
  - iv. Climate Prediction Center (CPC), Camp Springs, MD.
  - v. Aviation Weather Center (AWC), Kansas City, MO.
  - vi. Storm Prediction Center (SPC), Norman, OK.
  - vii. Tropical Prediction Center (TPC), Miami, FL.
  - viii. The Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC), Boulder CO.
- f. The National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC), U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, in Golden, Colorado provides earthquake information worldwide. The NEIC is on the NAWAS Region 9 circuit and reports all earthquakes felt in the United States and all earthquakes resulting in damage worldwide. The NEIC will be bridged from the region (circuit to any other regional circuit in which a quake may occur) to report to and retrieve information from that state. The NEIC has an automated earthquake reporting system that generates an email message to the FOC/FAOC and FEMA's National Watch Center (NWC) during both duty and non-duty hours. During non-duty hours, the FOC/FAOC may contact the NEIC Duty Officer to advise him or her of the earthquake activity.
  - g. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) located at Tyndall AFB, Florida may request information concerning missing or overdue aircraft through the FOC and FAOC. The AFRCC requests assistance from law enforcement agencies to determine if there have been any citizen reports of a crash or an unusual occurrence. NAWAS provides an effective means for the FOC/FAOC to disseminate the AFRCC **Alert Notice Message** to the State Warning Point(s) in the area of the event. Facsimile copies of the AFRCC Alert Notice Message are sent to each SWP. The FOC will relay messages to warning points east of the Mississippi River (Regions 1-5) and the FAOC will relay messages to the West Warning Points (Regions 6-10). Upon receipt of the AFRCC request, the SWP relays the message(s) to its local warning points. Conversely, SWP's receiving information from their local warning point concerning an aircraft incident should immediately relay it over NAWAS to their assigned FOC/FAOC. The FOC/FAOC then notifies the AFRCC as prescribed in established procedures. The AFRCC has a coordinating officer that coordinates a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each state as to how they want this information processed.
  - h. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) serves as the nation's nerve center for information sharing and domestic incident management, dramatically increasing the vertical coordination between federal, state, territorial, tribal, local, and private sector partners. The NOC collects and fuses information from a variety of sources to help deter, detect, and prevent terrorist acts. Operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week the NOC provides real-time situational awareness and monitoring of the homeland, coordinates incidents and response activities, and in conjunction with the DHS Office of Information Analysis, issues advisories and bulletins

- concerning threats to homeland security, as well as specific protective measures. Information on domestic incident management is shared with Emergency Operations Centers (EOC's) at all levels of the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). The FOC serves as a backup for the NOC on certain alert and notification functions.
- i. The National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) is located at FEMA Headquarters and is the dedicated area where National Response Framework (NRF) Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) carry out interagency operations. The NRCC maintains a Watch Team on a 24/7 basis and begins interagency response operations. When directed, the FOC notifies the ESFs by its Emergency Notification System (ENS), to report to the NRCC for interagency operations.
  - j. The National Watch Center (NWC) is located at FEMA Headquarters and maintains a Watch Team on a 24/7 basis. The NWC provides a central clearinghouse within FEMA for information on impending threats or incidents that may require potential federal response implications. The NWC also maintains current information for on-going operations and deployable assets and teams. The NWC works closely with both the FOC and the NOC on impending threat and incident issues.
  - k. National Response Center (NRC) located within the Coast Guard Headquarters, is the sole federal point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories. The NRC maintains agreements with a variety of federal entities to provide additional notifications regarding incidents meeting established trigger criteria. For FEMA, the NRC acts as a 24-hour point of contact from which to receive earthquake, flood, hurricane, and evacuation reports.
  - l. The Washington, DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA) serves as the control point for the Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS), a non-secure, dedicated telephone communications system for the Washington, DC metropolitan area. This system is owned and operated by DHS/FEMA and overall responsibility for system operation resides with the FOC. The FOC has delegated day-to-day operations to the DC HSEMA since this system connects primarily to federal agencies and other elements located in the National Capital Region (NCR).
  - m. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC): The NRC works within the National Response Framework to respond to events. Under this framework, the NRC retains its independent authority and ability to respond to emergencies that involve NRC-licensed facilities or materials. The NRC coordinates the federal technical response to an incident that involves one of its licensees. The NRC may request the support of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in responding to an emergency at an NRC-licensed facility or involving NRC-licensed materials. DHS may lead and manage the overall federal response to an event, according to Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5). In this case, the NRC would perform an important role in providing technical expertise and helping share information among the various organizations and licensees.

- n. National news and weather channel services are other sources of information and warning for the DHS Operations Centers.

#### 4. **National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS)**

- a. The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaced the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS). This new system more effectively communicates information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector. The FOC is FEMA's primary alert and coordination center for threat condition notifications. The following threat conditions each represent an increasing risk of terrorist attack. The heads of federal departments and agencies are responsible for developing and implementing appropriate agency-specific protective measures (See [Appendix D](#))
  - i. **Imminent Threat Alert**. Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.
  - ii. **Elevated Threat Alert**. Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.
  - iii. **Bulletin**. Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.

## **Chapter 2: Eligibility Requirements**

Outcome: This chapter reflects the eligibility requirements needed to ensure optimum use of the limited resources available to support NAWAS operations. FEMA will use these eligibility requirements to maintain existing terminals and establish new terminals as available funding permits.

### **Priority Criteria**

The following paragraphs define the priority criteria for NAWAS terminals:

#### 1. Priority 1

The terminal must be on the backbone (Federal Circuit) of the NAWAS circuit. These drops include the FOC and FAOC, the FEMA Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS) Operations Centers (MOCs), the 10 FEMA Regions, and the Primary and Alternate State Warning Points. (Category 1 and 2 Circuits).

#### 2. Priority 2A

- a. Primary and Alternate State Warning Points (State NAWAS Circuits)<sup>1</sup>
  - i. Local government Primary Warning Points staffed 24 hours a day with the capability and responsibility to activate indoor and outdoor warning devices,

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<sup>1</sup> Two NAWAS terminals are found at the State Warning Point. One terminal is connected to the federal circuit. The other terminal is connected to the state circuit which supports warning dissemination to the remaining state and local NAWAS terminals defined as Category 3.

or the local EAS activation and local government fan-out warning. (Category 3 Circuits).<sup>2</sup>

3. Priority 2B
  - a. Local government primary warning points that are staffed 24 hours a day and have the responsibility for warning fan-out only. (Category 3 Circuits).
  - b. Federal, state, and local warning points that have duplicate drops and incur no recurring monthly charge. (Category 3 Circuits).
  - c. NAWAS extensions. (Category 3 Circuits).
4. Priority 3
  - a. Federal agency NAWAS drops that are staffed 24 hours a day and have the responsibility for dissemination of warning information.
    - i. Examples are the National Weather Service drops that have a NOAA weather radio and the Tsunami Warning Centers. (Category 3 Circuits).
5. Priority 4  
Federal, state, and local NAWAS terminals that are alternate warning points and incur a monthly recurring charge. (Category 3 Circuits).
6. Priority 5  
Normally unstaffed locations. (Category 3 Circuits).

## Eligibility Criteria

The following eligibility criteria are used to determine whether an applicant should receive a NAWAS terminal:

1. **Warning Plan**. A state or local government applying for a new NAWAS terminal should reference an approved Warning Plan or warning annex to a local government Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which defines responsibility for distributing a warning. The applicant must have the communications and warning resources available and operational to ensure effective dissemination of the warning to other jurisdictions and the civilian population as described in the Warning Plan. The state or local Warning Plan must be consistent with the Warning Plan prepared by the next highest government authority.
2. **Population**. The warning point should serve a population of at least 25,000 and be located at least 25 miles away from an existing NAWAS primary warning point.
3. **Facility Operations**
  - a. Additional State Warning Point – Must be staffed 24 hours a day.
  - b. Federal Warning Point – Must be staffed 24 hours a day.

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<sup>2</sup> NAWAS extensions are located at local government sites and do not qualify for federal NAWAS funding. The cost of maintain these extensions is the responsibility of the local government.

- c. Alternate Warning Point – Must have an alert plan for recall of key personnel for activation of the facility in an emergency and the assumption of all warning point responsibilities.
- d. Emergency Power – The Primary/Alternate Warning Points must have emergency backup power.

## **Operational Requirements and Funding Information**

1. **State Government Installations**. These include terminals in Primary and Alternate SWP, and the Governor’s home and office. Installation charges and recurring costs for SWP and Governor’s installations are 100 percent FEMA funded. Sites must meet the following operational requirements:
  - a. **Primary SWP (PSWP)**
    - i. Act as PSWP for receipt and dissemination of warning and other emergency information as prescribed in a state Warning Plan, annex, or similar document.
    - ii. Act as the network control for the state portion of NAWAS. Ensures each station acknowledges receipt of information intended for it, conducts tests, and receives and logs NAWAS equipment outage reports received from primary warning points within the state.
    - iii. The NAWAS equipment location/SWP facility must have 24-hour staffing.
    - iv. Comply with operating procedures in this Manual and participate in tests as prescribed by FEMA.
    - v. Emergency Power – The Primary/Alternate Warning Points must have emergency backup power.
  - b. **Alternate SWP (ASWP)**
    - i. Provide backup facilities and staffing for the PSWP during emergencies as prescribed in a current state Warning Plan, annex, or similar document.
    - ii. Provide equipment in a protected EOC or facility with procedures established and on hand to obtain an extended fuel supply.
    - iii. Comply with operating procedures and participate in tests as prescribed by FEMA.
    - iv. Provide reasonable security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.
    - v. Emergency Power – The Primary/Alternate Warning Points must have emergency backup power.
  - c. **Governor’s Office Installation**
    - i. Act as PSWP for receipt and dissemination of warning and other emergency information as prescribed in a state Warning Plan, annex, or similar document.
    - ii. Install only on state NAWAS circuits.
    - iii. Provide reasonable security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.
    - iv. Tested weekly by ASWP to ensure equipment operability.
  - d. **Local Government Installations**. This includes Primary and Alternate Warning Points. Installation charges and recurring costs for these points are 100 percent FEMA funded.
    - i. To be eligible as a Primary Warning Point, the local government must have a warning responsibility that covers one or more political subdivisions (e.g., county or parish) and/or a jurisdiction of 25,000 or greater population.

- ii. A State Warning Plan or Annex. The warning point must be at least 25 miles from another Primary Warning Point, unless the Director, FEMA Operations Center, Response Directorate, Office of Response and Recovery, grants a waiver.
- iii. The following requirements must be met:
  - 1. Primary Warning Point
    - a) Provide equipment in a government facility with emergency service responsibility, such as police or fire, for further dissemination of warning as prescribed in the current local Warning Plan, annex, or similar document.
    - b) Provide a 24-hour staffing facility where NAWAS equipment is installed.
    - c) Comply with operating procedures in this Manual and participate in tests as prescribed by FEMA and the applicable state.
  - 2. Alternate Warning Point
    - a) Provide equipment in a protected EOC or facility as prescribed in the current local Warning Plan, annex, or similar document. The EOC or facility must have emergency backup power with procedures established and on-hand for obtaining an extended fuel supply.
    - b) Provide staff and communications as a backup for the Primary Warning Point during emergencies. Comply with operating procedures in this Manual and participate in tests as prescribed by FEMA and the applicable state.
    - c) Provide reasonable security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.
- e. NAWAS Extensions. Priority for approval of extensions is based on such factors as ability to comply with criteria and urgency of warning requirements. If a site is categorized as a NAWAS Extension User, the requesting affiliation will be responsible to pay for the NAWAS circuit. The requestor will be required to provide the billing address and name, phone number, fax number, and email address of the billing contact. State and local governments are billed directly by the FEMA Finance Office for NAWAS extensions that are not eligible for 100 percent FEMA funding. However, state and local offices of emergency management may apply their Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) funds to pay for up to 50 percent of extension costs. To be eligible for a NAWAS extension, the user must meet the following criteria:
  - i. Furnish additional fan-out warning to other emergency entities as provided for in approved local warning operating procedures.
  - ii. Comply with operating procedures established in this Manual and participate in tests as prescribed by FEMA and the applicable state.
  - iii. Provide reasonable security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.
- f. Federal Agency Installations. NAWAS service is provided to select federal agency installations that can supplement NAWAS through their own alerting systems. NAWAS service may also be approved for federal agency and military

installations that have a significant population or work force and an on-site capability for distributing NAWAS warning message.

## 2. Summary of Eligibility Requirements

**Figure 2-1. Eligibility Requirements**

Installation Type	100 Percent FEDERAL FUNDING	24 HOUR SERVICE	EMERGENCY POWER	WARNING DUTIES	PROCEDURES & TEST	TERMINAL LOCATION
<b>STATE GOVERNMENT</b>						
1. State Warning Point – SWP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Anywhere
2. Alternate SWP	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Protected Site (EOC)
3. Governor’s Installations	Yes	No	No	No	No	Governor’s Office or residence
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>						
1. Primary Warning Point	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Government Facility
2. Alternate Warning Point	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Protected Site (EOC)
3. NAWAS Extensions	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Anywhere
<b>FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Not Applicable

### Requests for NAWAS Service

The Director, FEMA Operations Center, Response Division must approve all requests for installations of federal agency service. If the decision is made to approve new service, based on demonstrated operational need, information will be obtained as to availability of funds from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). If no funds are available, the Director of the FEMA Operations Center will inform the state and give them the opportunity to suggest the elimination of other circuits of a lower priority within its jurisdiction to allow for funding of the new circuit. Where it is shown that NAWAS service will enhance the effectiveness and responsiveness of a federal agency’s day-to-day operations, FEMA may approve a NAWAS extension. Organizations are not authorized to go directly to ComLabs to purchase equipment. The agency requesting a NAWAS extension must pay for the NAWAS installation and recurring costs.

1. To obtain NAWAS service, the federal agency must:
  - a. Prepare a warning point standard operating procedures (SOP) that outlines, at a minimum, the responsibilities and actions to be taken by warning point personnel upon receipt of NAWAS information or upon activation of the EAS by the President of the United States.
  - b. Provide reasonable access security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.

- c. Comply with FEMA operational procedures in this Manual for NAWAS, including agreements for circuit testing. Locations staffed only during emergencies are granted waivers to circuit testing. However, a weekly check of the equipment is required to ensure equipment operability.
2. Commitments. In assessing eligibility for NAWAS terminal installation and support, FEMA will review the following commitments:
  - a. Compliance with the NAWAS Operating Procedures described in this Manual and participation in tests as prescribed by FEMA and applicable state or local government authority.
  - b. Provisions of reasonable access security for FEMA-owned NAWAS equipment.
  - c. Immediate priority for receipt and further dissemination of NAWAS information.
  - d. Preparation of a warning point SOP that outlines as a minimum the responsibilities and actions to be taken by warning point personnel with respect to an All-Hazards warning, accidental missile launch, and/or activation of the EAS by the President.
3. State and Local Government Application Process. Potential subscribers to the NAWAS should use the following procedures when applying for the service:
  - a. How to Apply
    - i. State Requests – State governments must apply in writing for NAWAS services to the FEMA Regional Office serving their areas.
    - ii. Local Requests – Local governments must apply in writing for NAWAS service through their respective state Emergency Management Agency (EMA). The state EMA will forward the approved requests to the FEMA Regional Office that serves the requesting local/state area.
4. Information Requested. A NAWAS Request Form is required for all NAWAS requests and shall be sent to the appropriate approving official before provisioning actions are taken. Request Forms must include the following information:
  - a. A brief description of the service needed and a statement on how the applicant meets the criteria and requirements for the service.
  - b. Complete address, including room numbers and telephone numbers for the installation site.
  - c. Name, address, and telephone number of a person to be contacted regarding installation of the NAWAS equipment.
  - d. A brief description of the physical facility in which the NAWAS equipment is to be installed, i.e., EOC, communications center, etc.
  - e. Information on whether or not emergency power is available.
  - f. A record that the request has been staffed and approved by the state EMA and the complete billing address and telephone number for the requesting entity (state/local) that is considered an Extension User.
  - g. All request forms shall be emailed to your regional counterpart and include the following Enterprise Circuit Provisioning Team members:  
[Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov), [Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov), and [Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov).

- h. The regional coordinator will review the request and approve or deny. If the request is approved, the regional coordinator will email the signed form to the FOC: [fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov) for final approval. If denied, the regional coordinator shall inform the requestor.
- i. All requests approved by the FOC will be sent to the regional coordinator and ECP: ([Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov), [Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov), and [Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov)). ECP will place the request into our internal ordering portal, Network Inventory and Optimization Solutions (NIOS), and submit the order to AT&T.

## **FEMA Review and Implementation Process**

Staff at FEMA Headquarters will use the following procedures when reviewing NAWAS applications:

1. Review applications against the priority criteria defined in [3-2](#). Final approval authority for installation and/or relocation has been delegated to the Director of the FEMA Operations Center (FOC). All requests will be submitted to the Director, FEMA Operations Center, [fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov). The FOC Director will coordinate all requests with the OCIO, Response Directorate, and Office of Response and Recovery.
2. If determined by the Response Directorate that approval of the application is consistent with the operational needs of NAWAS, the application will be forwarded to OCIO. They will determine if funds are available to support the installation of the terminal.
3. If funds are available, OCIO will arrange for installation of the terminal. Installation will be coordinated with the FOC and FAOC to ensure they are aware of the new terminal.
4. If funds are not available, inform the state and give them the opportunity to suggest the elimination of other terminal(s) of a lower priority within its jurisdiction to allow for funding of the new terminal.
5. NAWAS extensions are approved by the appropriate regional administrator and reported to either the FOC or the FAOC, depending on their location/region of assignment.
6. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved FEMA's request to collect information from federal, state, and local government agencies and military installations for approval of NAWAS service. It is estimated to take an average of one hour for each federal, state, local agency, or military installation to complete a request of service. The estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the request.

## Chapter 3: Equipment Operation

Outcome: This chapter provides information on operating local and state warning equipment and the proper handle of NAWAS equipment.

### Operation of Equipment

1. Local Warning Point Equipment. Most local warning points within the state have a model 207 instrument, use voice paging, and do not have a ring capability. They must call the primary or alternate SWP and request a ring on the circuit if the local point they are calling fails to respond to a voice call. When the handset is removed from its stored position, the internal speaker is muted from the circuit. Replacing the handset back in the cradle can restore normal operation and speaker monitoring. All local warning points are provided the following:
  - a. A wall mounted or desk-type unit and handset with push-to-talk bar that should be depressed only while speaking.
  - b. Volume control on the front panel that adjusts as necessary to suit the individual/environment.
2. State Warning Point (SWP) Equipment. A model 204 instrument similar to that described above is provided to each SWP. In addition to this equipment, there are two FEMA-owned terminals. The first contains the bridging mechanism (labeled S/N 205-XXXX) connecting the FOC/FAOC, the state's assigned FEMA Region/MOC, and the SWP. This instrument ensures the SWP can transmit or receive information from each of these entities. SWPs are always connected to these FEMA locations; the local warning points are not connected at all times. The second terminal (labeled S/N 209-XXXX) is used to signal within the state. The SWP uses a signaling key to alert all local warning points on the state warning circuit.

### Warning Circuit Signaling

The FOC/FAOC, FEMA Regional Centers, MOCs, SWPs, and the National Weather Service (NWS) terminals can generate audible alert tones even when the handset is off-hook. These locations may also use voice paging.

1. If Warning Points to State Warning Points. With the exception of certain National Weather Forecast Offices, warning points wishing to contact the SWPs and/or other NAWAS terminals within the state use voice paging.
2. State Warning Points to Warning Points. If a SWP desires to signal another warning point within the state, they must depress the signaling key. This will generate an alert tone at each NAWAS warning point or extension within the state.
3. FEMA National Watch Center (NWC)/Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC), and MERS Operations Center (MOC). Each center is equipped with a model 204-XXXX terminal set which provides the capability to generate an alert tone at all locations within their respective FEMA region.

4. FOC/FAOC. The FOC/FAOC can generate an alert tone to all NAWAS warning points simultaneously or selectively to specific states/locations. They may also use voice paging.

**Trouble Reporting**

1. Reporting Problems. Report equipment or circuit problems as indicated below. When contacting AT&T, call 1-877-GET-NTWX (877-438-6899). Current prompts are 4 (Service Assurance and Trouble Ticketing) then 2 (Non-wireless services); however, please listen carefully to prompting as it may be subject to change. If you experience any issues reporting troubles to the AT&T help desk, contact FEMA immediately.

**Figure 3-1. Reporting equipment or circuit problems.**

Location with Problem	Reports To:	Reports To:
Local Warning Point	PSWP	AT&T
Users	AT&T	AT&T
FEMA Regions/MOCs/Weather Stations	AT&T	Advise FOC or FAOC
FOC/FAOC	AT&T	Advise FOC or FAOC

- a. Information Required by the AT&T Call-Receipt Clerk:
  - i. Circuit ID.
  - ii. Segment number.
  - iii. Individual reporting troubles and telephone number.
  - iv. Trouble location and address.
  - v. Site contact and telephone number.
  - vi. Trouble description.

NOTE: PSWPs East of the Mississippi River (FEMA Regions 1 through 5) report to the FOC at (800) 634-7084. PSWP's West of the Mississippi River (FEMA Regions 6 through 10) report to the FAOC at (800) 792-6196.

2. Restoration of Service. Report restorations as follows:

**Figure 3-2. Restoration of Service.**

Location	Reports To:
Local Warning Point	PSWP over NAWAS
PSWP	Local Warning Points and FOC/FAOC over NAWAS
FEMA Regions/MOC	FOC/FAOC over NAWAS

3. NAWAS Terminal Malfunctions. Report as indicated after performing a self-test as described in [Appendix I](#).

**Figure 3-3. NAWAS Terminal Malfunctions.**

Location	Reports To:
Warning Point	PSWP
PSWP/MOCs/NWSs	FOC/FAOC

- a. Information Required.
- b. Serial Number 2XX-XXXX.
- c. Individual reporting trouble and their telephone number.
- d. Trouble description.

### **Movement of NAWAS Equipment**

**DO NOT MOVE NAWAS** equipment, to include extension equipment, **WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM FEMA**. Should it become necessary to move NAWAS equipment within the Warning Point or to another building, the Warning Point supervisor will contact the State Emergency Management Officer to coordinate the move through channels with their assigned FEMA region. The appropriate FEMA region will make arrangements and advise the FOC and FAOC of the proposed move. Requestors should allow 90 working days for the FEMA region to issue work orders through channels to complete the equipment move.

### **Ownership of NAWAS Equipment**

1. All NAWAS equipment is the property of FEMA.
2. Broken and/or excess equipment should be returned to FEMA at the following address:  
FEMA – NAWAS Service Desk 19844 Blueridge Mountain Rd Mt. Weather, VA 22611
3. Address questions regarding the return of NAWAS equipment to FEMA:  
[Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov), [Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov), and [Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Stephen.Cunningham@fema.dhs.gov).

### **NAWAS Database**

1. The FOC, FAOC, and ECP maintain a database of all NAWAS circuits, equipment, their locations, and individual point of contacts. Each NAWAS location should provide at least one 24-hour point of contact number for this database. Any changes in equipment location, contacts or telephone numbers should be forwarded to:  
[Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Natalie.Akles@fema.dhs.gov), [Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Tammy.Wisor@fema.dhs.gov), and [Stephen.cunningham@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Stephen.cunningham@fema.dhs.gov).

2. ECP will send an annual inventory report to the regional coordinator who shall work with their NAWAS community to validate each circuit and POC information. Report all inactive NAWAS segments to FEMA immediately for restoral or change. Inactive segments may impact service.

## Chapter 4: NAWAS Terminals

Outcome: This chapter outlines the installation of NAWAS terminal and the various models used at warning points. It details the dialing codes and calling procedures used to streamline the coordination.

### General

The Communications Laboratories (ComLabs) Micro Controller Unit (MCU) terminal is a four-wire telephone instrument designed to terminate telephone company (TELCO) provided private line, Category 2, voice grade circuits. All circuitry is contained in the terminal unit and is suitable for either desk or wall installation. Installation is accomplished by plugging the unit into a modular jack in the same manner as one would install a residential telephone. A 14-volt AC transformer that plugs into any AC outlet powers the terminal. If required, 24-volt DC can also power the terminal. The terminal includes an internal amplifier, speaker, volume control, visual warning indicator (light), push-to-talk button on the handset, and all circuitry required for decoding an alert signal. The MCU terminal supports two, three, or four digit individual addressing, group codes A0 to A9; multiple group inclusion A1 through A4; all call; ring back confirmation tones; and selectable privacy.

1. The FOC/FAOC/MOCs/Regional Watch Centers (RWCs), Primary State Warning Points (PSWP's), and the National Weather Service Stations (NWS's) can generate an alert tone on the NAWAS. The terminal will ring for approximately nine seconds to alert station personnel that a message follows. The light on the terminal will illuminate and remain illuminated until the user removes the handset from the cradle or the initiating party resets it.
2. After receipt of an alert tone, station personnel should monitor the network for the announcement that follows. The user should adjust the front-panel volume control as necessary to suit the environment. Once called, the user can reply by lifting the handset and depressing the push-to-talk bar while speaking. Do not press the push-to-talk while receiving traffic. When removed from the cradle, the handset causes the muting of the internal speaker in the terminal. Replacing the handset restores normal operation and speaker monitoring.
3. One feature of the terminal is the user **self-test** which allows a quick and simple assessment of instrument integrity ([Appendix I](#) explains this procedure). This test is essentially a loop-back of the transmit and receive functions. The user being able to hear himself or herself in the earpiece of the handset and the internal speaker contained in the terminal indicates a successful test.

## Installation

1. There are two stages of NAWAS terminal installation.
  - a. The first stage includes installation of the new circuit by the telephone technician.
  - b. The user performs the second stage by connecting the NAWAS terminal to the network by plugging the telephone into the RF-14C jack installed by the technician.
2. AT&T is only responsible for the circuit to the demark point. A designated local contractor is responsible from this point to the RJ-14C jack.
3. Each user must connect the terminal to the circuit immediately following completion of the technician's work and perform a full functional test with the FEMA Operations Center (FOC), FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC), or the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). This ensures proper installation of the jack before the technician departs.

## Terminal Models

There are several different types of terminals used at the various warning points. The following [Figure 4-1. Terminal Models](#) summarizes the model type and location where it is used.

**Figure 4-1. Terminal Models**

LOCATION	204	205	207	208	209	210
State	X		X		X	X
Primary	X	X			X	X
Alternate	X	X		X		X
MOC	X					
NWS	X		X		X	X

1. COMLABS Model 204-XXXX MCU (Keypad) Terminal. MCU terminal designed to expand the use of the regional circuits on the NAWAS. They are used in conjunction with the 205-XXXX bridging equipment at each Primary/Alternate State Warning Point. By using the keypad, the terminals can contact users on each state circuit by activating the bridge for each state and then signaling all users in the state by pressing the (\*) button. Additionally, selective signaling capabilities enable each terminal to dial both individual and group stations of other users on the regional circuits.
2. COMLABS Model 205-XXXX NAWAS System Bridge (One- or Two-Way). This bridging unit allows state terminals to initiate a bridge connection with the regional circuit. To enable the state circuit to bridge switch #2 should be in the CLOSED (ON) position. To disable the state circuit from bridging, switch #2 should be in the OPEN (OFF) position.

3. COMLABS Model 207-XXXX Standard Terminal. Standard terminal found at state and NWS locations. Set-up of this terminal is a simple procedure.
  - a. Immediately upon receipt of the terminal package, inspect it for shipping damage. Report any damages to the appropriate FOC or state EOC as soon as possible. The package should include one of each of the following items:
    - i. Telephone base housing;
    - ii. Push-to-talk handset;
    - iii. AC transformer with power cord;
    - iv. 14' telephone line cord,
    - v. 12' coiled handset cord; and
    - vi. Operators Manual.
  - b. Insert the modular plug of the coiled handset cord into the receptacle located on the left side of the terminal.
  - c. Connect the other end of the coiled cord to the receptacle located in the base of the terminal handset.
  - d. Insert one end of the 14' line cord into the receptacle located on the rear of the terminal instrument.
  - e. Connect the other end of the cord to the RJ-14C jack installed by the telephone company. The modular line cord is a standard 4-conductor line cord; use longer lengths if required.
  - f. Plug the AC power cord into the jack provided on the rear of the terminal.
  - g. Plug the AC transformer into an AC outlet that has power supplied on a 24-hour basis.
  - h. Test the terminal by establishing communications with the FOC/FAOC, FEMA Region, or EOC.
  - i. Should the terminal not work properly, perform the Self-Test. (Refer to either the pull out card located under the terminal or the procedures in [Appendix I](#))
4. COMLABS Model 208-XXXX NAWAS System Bridge. Old one-way bridge used at some alternate warning points.
5. COMLABS Model 209-XXXX Signaling Unit. This unit is designed to allow State Warning Points (SWPs) to transmit an alert signal to those stations served by their statewide warning circuit. It is identical to the standard NAWAS terminal except for the addition of two front-panel push buttons labeled **SIGNAL** and **RESET**.
  - a. These two push buttons are operational when the **DISCONNECT/MANUAL** switch located on the 204-XXXX terminal is in the **MANUAL** position. The normal position of the **DISCONNECT/MANUAL** switch is in the **DISCONNECT** position. This position allows the federal/state bridge to connect and disconnect automatically upon receiving the corresponding code.
  - b. The **MANUAL** position should only be used if there is a failure of the **DISCONNECT** position. The SWP generates the alert signal by depressing the button labeled **SIGNAL**. The terminal controls the duration of the signal transmitted. Once the signal is sent, the terminals in the field will activate their warble tone alert ringer, and continue for approximately nine seconds. The red

light on the front panel of the receiving terminals will illuminate and remain on until it resets. The system will reset upon receipt of the reset signal.

- c. To reset the terminal, remove the handset from the cradle and replace it. The button labeled **RESET** will turn off both the audible signal and the red lamp on the front of the terminal if it does not time out after nine seconds. By depressing the signal button, followed by the reset button, the warning point has the ability to control the duration of the alert signal. This allows the warning point to **ring** the stations on the NAWAS for a shorter duration than the standard nine seconds.
6. COMLABS Premise Bridge Model 210-XXXX. When connecting more than three and up to five terminals on the same circuit this six-point bridge is utilized. Locations where these are used include some FEMA Federal Regional Centers (FRCs), the MERS Operations Centers (MOCs), the National Weather Service (NWS), and the National Hurricane Center (NHC). The Warning Point can respond from any position within the facility because each terminal functions as an individual unit. To install the bridge, plug one end of a telephone cord into the RJ-14C jack and the other end into the first port on the terminal bridge marked **circuit**. Plug the terminal bridge AC transformer into any standard electrical outlet. To connect five NAWAS terminals into the bridge, plug the individual terminals into one of the five terminal ports on the terminal bridge.
  7. Connecting 205 (Bridging) to 209 (Signaling) Sets.
    - a. Install power supplies by inserting the power plug into the rear of the units.
    - b. Install a 14' modular cord between the modular jack on the rear of the Signaling (209-XXXX) terminal (the one with the two push buttons located on the front panel labeled **SIGNAL** and **RESET**) and the modular jack labeled phone on the rear of the Bridging (204-XXXX) terminal.
    - c. Install a modular line cord from the TELCO provided RJ 14C jack on the Regional circuit to the modular jack labeled **REGION** on the rear of the bridging (208-XXXX) terminal.
    - d. Install a modular line cord from the TELCO provided RJ 14C jack on the state circuit to the modular jack labeled **STATE** on the rear of the bridging (204-XXXX) terminal.
    - e. The switch on the bridging terminal labeled **AUTOMATIC** and **MANUAL** should be left in the **AUTOMATIC** position at all times, unless the **AUTOMATIC** feature is inoperative. The switch allows the State Primary/Alternate Warning Points to connect the REGION and STATE circuits.

## Dialing Codes

To streamline weather warnings and coordination on the NAWAS, many NOAA terminals were converted from the state side of the circuit to the federal side.

This allows each NOAA terminal to direct dial any location within its region.

[Appendix K](#): lists the National Weather Service stations and Primary State Warning Points on the federal/national side of the circuit.

1. The NOAA terminals have two-way communications with a single state or NOAA terminal. They can group call multiple states and/or multiple other NOAA terminals and connect with the federal terminals. Primary State Warning Points have been provided with bridging equipment to contact users on each state circuit. To use this system, activate the bridge for the state with the corresponding four-digit code and signal all users in that state by pressing the (\*) button.
2. The NAWAS numbering plan allows two-digit alphanumeric dialing for group (conference) calls and four-digit numeric dialing to reach individual terminals on the regional circuit. The two-digit code for each state comes from the standard Federal Information Processing System (FIPS). The table in [Appendix L](#) displays the FIPS codes and four digit-dialing plans.
3. The FOC/FAOC has the ability to cancel any activated bridges. An activated bridge is a connection that combines two circuits. The Control Circuit allows the NOAA Centers to dial each other directly using the multi-addressing terminals.
4. Local Warning Points desiring to contact a NOAA terminal will contact their Primary State Warning Point. The Primary SWP connects the NOAA terminal to the local terminal by bridging via a four-digit code, allowing the local terminal to communicate with the NOAA terminal.
5. Four Digit Dialing. The first two digits of each terminal address represent the state according to the standard FIPS codes illustrated in [Appendix J](#). The third and fourth digits of the terminal address, below ([Figure 4-2](#)), specify certain standardized function/endpoints within each state:

**Figure 4-2. Four Digit Dialing**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Terminal Address</b>	<b>Terminal Model</b>
XX01	NAWAS System Bridge Primary Warning Point	205-XXXX
XX05	Regional Terminal (PWP)	204-XXXX
XX02	NAWAS System Bridge Alternate Warning Point Terminal	205-XXXX
XX06	Regional Terminal (AWP)	204-XXXX
XX10- XX49	National Weather Service (NWS) Terminal	N/A
XX50- XX99	Non-NWS terminals	N/A

6. Conference Group Dial Plan. The 2-digit alphanumeric dialing plan for conference calling follows ([Figure 4-3](#)):

**Figure 4-3. Conference Group Dial Plan**

2-Digit	Action
A1	Activates general-purpose terminals on the regional circuit.
*2	Activates all NOAA (NWS) terminals on the regional circuit.
A8	Activates all NAWAS state bridges within the regions. Depressing the (*) button after the A8 allows two-way access with all users in each state.
A*	Alerts all regional and state terminals on the system.
A#	Resets all regional and state terminals that have been alerted.
#	Resets the module (turns off lights) on the state circuit only.

**Calling Procedures**

1. The **XX** in the following [Figure 4-4](#). Warning Point Call Actions equates to the two-digit FIPS code for the state you wish to call.

**Figure 4-4. Warning Point Call Actions**

Location	Action to Take:
Local Warning Point	To call all local warning points with a particular state dial XX01 and press the (*) button. To end the call, dial A#.
State Warning Point	To call the SWP, dial XX05. To end the call, hang up.
Local Warning Point	To call all local warning points within a state and the Primary Warning Point dial XX05 XX01 and press the <b>asterisk (*)</b> button. To terminate the call, dial A#.

2. Calling NOAA Terminals and SWPs Individually. To call these terminals, complete the steps in the order listed in the following ([Figure 4-5](#).):

**Figure 4-5. Steps to Take When Calling NOAA Terminals and SWP(s)**

1. Lift the handset and dial the appropriate code.
2. Two beeps indicate a ring at the station dialed.
3. Depress the push-to-talk (PTT) button and speak into the handset. NOTE: If you speak before the called terminal lifts the handset from the cradle, they will hear you on the speaker of their telephone. Otherwise, they will hear you on the handset.

3. Calling All Users Within a State. When calling all users in a state, complete the steps in the order listed in the [below](#) (Figure 4-6.):

**Figure 4-6. Steps to Take When Calling All Users within a State**

<b>Action</b>	<b>What Occurs</b>
Lift the handset and dial the code (XX01) for the state bridge, followed by the (*) button.	The star activates the ring on the state circuit. The Primary Warning Point (PWP) will hear the conversation in the speaker of the MCU terminal. If you wish to signal the PWP so that the ringing tone and light alert them, you must dial an additional 4-digital code.
To talk to all parties connected, press the push-to-talk button.	The speakers on both terminals at the Primary Warning Point (PWP) are suppressed to avoid interference problems during activation of the two-way bridge. Consequently, the only way to alert the primary warning point itself and make part of the party line conversation is to specifically dial the 4-digit code for that terminal. All the codes can be dialed in sequence. The only constraint is that the bridge code (XX05) must be dialed prior to the (*).
When Calling Local Warning Points.	To call all local warning points within a state and the Primary Warning Point, dial XX05 XX01 and press the <b>asterisk (*)</b> button. To terminate, the call dial A#.
To Signal All State Circuit Users, including the PWP, dial XX01 followed by XX05, followed by <b>asterisk (*)</b> .	Press push-to-talk button and speak with users.
To terminate call, press A#.	Established connections will be cleared.

4. Calling a Group of Similar Offices. To call a group of similar offices, implement these steps:

- a. Lift the handset and dial the number for the intended group (i.e., 2 for NOAA terminals or A\* for SWPs under a MERS Operations Center (MOC).
- b. Talk to the members of the group in a conference call.
- c. When finished, press A# to clear all connections you have established.

5. Users within a State Calling a NOAA Office.

- a. Local terminals that need to contact a NOAA station on the regional circuits must first call the state PWP and request activation of a two-way bridge. The PSWP can then either manually activate the bridge or call the NOAA station on the regional circuit and request that they activate the bridge by dialing the appropriate individual or group code.

- b. In the event the PSWP does not respond, request the Alternate SWP call the NOAA station and have them initiate activation of the bridge and communication with the local terminal.
- c. When the state and regional circuits are bridged, all users on both circuits will hear the transmission. However, the transmission will not be broadcast over the speaker on the state terminal making the broadcast. Because of this feature, the bridge can only be tested by calling users on either the regional or state circuit, and having them respond via the handset. Neither of the speakers will broadcast a conversation that occurs using a terminal connected to the regional circuit.

## Chapter 5: Routine Operating Procedures

Outcome: This chapter provides routine recommended procedures for personnel who operate NAWAS equipment at the warning points and other locations.

### Warning Point Control Log

Each warning point should maintain a complete and accurate record of daily NAWAS events. Entries should include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Date and time call received.
2. Type of call and summary of message.
3. Equipment and/or circuit malfunction.
4. Time of reporting malfunction.
5. Maintain logs as required.

### Warning Circuit

All locations connected to the circuit hear **ALL** voice transmissions. To ensure the immediate availability of NAWAS/WAWAS for emergency operations, strict control of the circuit is required at all times. All warning centers/points will continuously monitor the circuit and, when necessary, take immediate action to stop unauthorized use of the circuit.

### Circuits Test

1. Test Schedule. The Director, FEMA Operations Center, prescribes procedures for conducting tests of the NAWAS warning circuits. State Warning Point tests occur twice a day. Tests will be conducted twice a day between the hours of 1200 – 1400 Eastern Time and 2200 – 2400 Eastern Time. Tests of the National Weather Service (NWS) stations occur twice a day. The FAOC conducts a test of the western NWS stations at 1330 Eastern Time and the FOC of the eastern NWS stations at 2030 Eastern Time. The Washington DC Control Point (DC EMA) tests the WAWAS once each eight-hour shift. Although the MOCs do not have a set test schedule, it is encouraged that they

conduct regional tests/roll calls on the NAWAS at least once a month to ensure network connectivity.

NOTE: Any station not tested on a regular basis such as the National Hurricane Center, National Earthquake and Information Center, and the National Tsunami Warning Center are encouraged to initiate a test call to the FOC/FAOC to ensure their equipment/circuit is working properly. ASWPs are also encouraged to test their equipment/circuit with their respective SWP to the FOC/FAOC.

2. Responsibilities. Normally, the FOC conducts tests with FEMA Regions 1 through 5, and the FAOC conducts tests with FEMA Regions 6 through 10. Both operations centers have the capability to conduct the test(s) with either side and/or all regions simultaneously. The procedure for the National SWP test follows. The procedures for the NWS are similar with the main difference being in the terminology.
3. After connecting the appropriate regional circuits (1-5 or 6-10), the FOC/FAOC initiating the test sends an alert tone. All warning points and NAWAS extensions receive the alert tone and hear the FOC/FAOC announcement. The FOC/FAOC will announce [below](#):

### Figure 5-1. NWS Test Terminology

**NWS TEST TERMINOLOGY:**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a National Warning Systems test for the National Weather Service Stations. I say again. This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a National Warning Systems test for the National Weather Service Stations. Stations standby for roll call.”

4. The FOC/FAOC will disconnect the warning points below the state level. Then, poll each station. Each will acknowledge by stating: “(Name of station)” i.e., “OHIO.”
5. The FOC/FAOC recalls any station not acknowledging at the end of the poll by state, “Re-polling (Name of Station).”
6. The FEMA Operations Center that initiated the test will then end the test by stating: “This is the end of the test. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center Out at (Time) Zulu.”
7. The FOC/FAOC disconnects the conference.
8. Should a station fail to acknowledge after recall, the FOC/FAOC will call that location by selecting the regional circuit and dialing the four-digit code (if applicable). If no contact over four-digit dial, contact the station(s) by commercial telephone. **If it is determined that there is line trouble, report the failure as described in [3-3](#).** If the

local telephone instrument is defective, inform the appropriate FEMA Operations Center after performing a self-test. (See [Appendix I: Terminal Self-Test](#)).

## Calling Procedures

To voice page the FOC on the NAWAS circuit use "FEMA OPS." To voice page the FAOC use "FEMA ALTERNATE." Use the following procedures to call one or more locations. To voice page on the Washington DC Control Point on the WAWAS use "CONTROL POINT."

1. Calling Party. Ensure the circuit is not in use and then initiate an alert or voice page.
2. NOTE: If a station has emergency traffic, they may break into the test and state that they have emergency traffic to pass, e.g., National Weather Service severe weather warnings.
3. Calling Party. Announces: "Location, this is\_(calling party)." For example, announce:

"FEMA OPS this is FEMA Region I";

OR

"California, Oregon, and Washington, this is FEMA Alternate";

OR

"Local Warning Point, this is the\_\_\_\_\_(State Warning Point)";

OR

"State Warning Point, this is the\_\_\_\_\_(Local Warning Point)";

OR

"Control Point, this is Capitol Police."

4. Called Location. Responds: "This is (location) go ahead." For example: "This is California, go ahead," or "This is the Control Point, go ahead."
5. NOTE: In the event the warning point initiating the call is unable to receive an acknowledgment from the warning point being called, the SWP can be requested to signal on the circuit to alert the called warning point.
6. Calling Party. Passes the message to the called location(s).
7. Calling Party. Asks the called location(s) if they copied the message, "California, did you copy?"

8. Called Location: Responds/acknowledges the message by stating: “(Location) copies.” In this example, “California copies.”

NOTE: If there are several stations receiving the message, suggest you conduct a poll of all stations to ensure receipt and understanding of the message.

9. Calling Party. Terminates the transmission by stating: “(Calling Party) out at (time) Zulu.” For example, “FEMA Operations Center out at 1756 Zulu.”

### **Time Usage and Conversion**

All times used in NAWAS transmissions from FOC/FAOC/MOC will be in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), Universal Coordinated Time (UCT) or 24-hour Zulu time to prevent any misunderstanding of when an event occurs. These terms are interchangeable. They may be derived from the U.S. time zones as illustrated on the following [Time Conversion Chart](#).

NOTE: The NWS uses local time to broadcast their weather watches and warnings.

**Figure 5-2. Time Conversion Chart**

GREENWICH MEANS TIME (ZULU)		EASTERN STANDARD	CENTRAL STANDARD	MOUNTAIN STANDARD	PACIFIC STANDARD	ALASKAN STANDARD	HAWAIIAN STANDARD
	EASTERN DAYLIGHT	CENTRAL DAYLIGHT	MOUNTAIN DAYLIGHT	PACIFIC DAYLIGHT	ALASKA DAYLIGHT		
0100	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM
0200	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM
0300	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM
0400	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM
0500	0100/1AM	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM
0600	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM	2000/8 PM
0700	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM	2100/9 PM
0800	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM	2200/10 PM
0900	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM	2400/Midnight	2300/11 PM
1000	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM	2400/Midnight
1100	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM	0100/1 AM
1200	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM	0200/2 AM
1300	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM	0300/3 AM
1400	1000/10 AM	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM	0400/4 AM
1500	1100/11 AM	1000/10 AM	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM	0500/5 AM
1600	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM	1000/10 AM	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM	0600/6 AM
1700	1300/1 PM	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM	1000/10AM	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM	0700/7 AM
1800	1400/2 PM	1300/1PM	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM	1000/10 AM	0900/9 AM	0800/8 AM
1900	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM	1300/1 PM	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM	1000/10 AM	0900/9 AM
2000	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM	1300/1 PM	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM	1000/10 AM
2100	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM	1300/1 PM	1200/Noon	1100/11 AM
2200	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM	1300/1 PM	1200/Noon
2300	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM	1300/1 PM
2400	2000/8 PM	1900/7 PM	1800/6 PM	1700/5 PM	1600/4 PM	1500/3 PM	1400/2 PM

## FEMA Contact Information for 24/7 Operations Centers

Figure 5-3. FEMA Contact Information for 24/7 Operations Centers

OPERATIONS CENTER E-MAIL	COMMERCIAL PHONE	DSN	DRSN
FEMA HQS NWC <a href="mailto:fema-nwc@fema.dhs.gov">fema-nwc@fema.dhs.gov</a>	202-646-2828	544-2828	
FOC <a href="mailto:fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov">fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-634-7084	380-6100	80-250-4154
FAOC/Thomasville MOC <a href="mailto:fema-moc-thomasville@fema.dhs.gov">fema-moc-thomasville@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-792-6196	394-6630	80-692-2418
Maynard MOC <a href="mailto:fema-moc-maynard@fema.dhs.gov">fema-moc-maynard@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-213-8965	391-5501	
Denton MOC <a href="mailto:fema-moc-denton@fema.dhs.gov">fema-moc-denton@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-260-5110	591-5280	
Denver MOC <a href="mailto:fema-moc-denver@fema.dhs.gov">fema-moc-denver@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-311-7021	398-4847	
Bothell MOC <a href="mailto:fema-moc-bothell@fema.dhs.gov">fema-moc-bothell@fema.dhs.gov</a>	800-395-6042	390-4448	

## Chapter 6: Emergency Operations Procedures

Outcome: This chapter describes the systems that support federal, state, and local authorities in meeting their warning responsibilities and provides procedures for warning points that are responsible for receiving warning information and relaying it throughout their area of responsibility. To accomplish this mission in an efficient manner, warning point personnel must be thoroughly familiar with their emergency operating procedures and state/local emergency plans.

### Description of Alerting Systems

Types of Warning Circuits include:

1. **Regional Circuits.** The regional NAWAS consists of 10 separate circuits the FOC or FAOC may activate individually or as a group. The FOC/FAOC has access to all circuits, and can provide bridging support when any of the regions or states within the different regions wants to communicate with each other. When conferenced, the regional circuits link the FOC and the FAOC with the ten FEMA Regions, five FEMA MERS Operations Centers (MOCs), and Federal Warning Points (FWPs) such as the NWS terminals and Primary/Alternate State Warning Points. Classified as Category 2 circuits, the regional circuits consist of approximately 300 terminals. A complete Microsoft Access database of the NAWAS circuits is maintained by both the FOC and the FAOC. The FOC monitors and controls the Eastern States in FEMA Regions I, II, III, IV, and V. The FAOC monitors and controls the Western States in FEMA Regions VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X. The MOCs monitor their regional circuits and react to NAWAS traffic as required. Maynard MOC covers Region 1 and 2; Thomasville MOC covers Regions 3 and 4; Denton MOC covers Regions 6 and 7; Denver MOC covers Regions 5 and 8; and Bothell MOC covers Regions 9 and 10.

2. State Circuits. State warning circuits connect to the regional warning circuit at the State Warning Point (SWP). Within each primary and alternate SWP location is a bridge unit that conferences the regional circuit and State NAWAS circuit. Classified as Category 3 circuits, the NAWAS State circuits consist of approximately 1,500 terminals. The SWP supervises/controls the NAWAS within their respective state except during an Attack Warning/Civil Warning and national emergency announcement(s) by one of the FOCs. No relay of information is required under normal configuration. Information originating at a local warning point within the state requiring transmission out of the state must be relayed by either the primary or the alternate SWP.
3. Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS). The WAWAS is a non-secure, dedicated telephone communication system for the Washington, DC metropolitan area. This system is owned and operated by FEMA and overall responsibility for system operation resides within the FOC. The WAWAS is not directly tied to the NAWAS circuits but the FOC and FAOC can bridge the two separate systems together to pass warning information. After the FOC/FAOC completes any warning broadcast, the Washington Area Control Point will roll call circuit subscribers. The FOC has delegated day-to-day operations to the Washington, DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency. This delegation is due to the fact that this system connects primarily to federal agencies and other elements located in the National Capital Region (NCR). The primary use for the WAWAS was originally to pass FEMA attack warning declarations based on NORAD Commander assessments. However, it is used daily for, but not limited to, disaster response and special events management, presidential proclamations, weather broadcasts, government closures, and traffic control issues. There are over 140 subscribers which include federal, state, local agencies, including law enforcement, fire/HAZMAT response, the National Weather Service, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), FEMA National Watch Center (NWC), the White House, Secret Service, Capital Police, Department of Defense, Department of State, Dulles and National Airports, United States Coast Guard (USCG) Headquarters, military facilities, and surrounding state and county emergency operations centers.

### **Conferencing Capability**

The FOC and FAOC have conferencing capabilities. They include but are not limited to; conferencing/bridging of regions and states NAWAS circuits, commercial numbers, multiple commercial numbers and predefined dial-in conferences (“meet me” conferences). In addition, the FOC/FAOC has a Blast Conference capability that can dial several commercial numbers at the same time. It can also be used to tie in commercial numbers to the NAWAS circuits. The FOC/FAOC has a preset conference(s) for tsunami notification traffic.

### **Key Operational Sites**

Key operational sites using NAWAS are as follows:

1. FEMA Operations Center. The FEMA Operations Center (FOC) and the FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC) are equipped and staffed to transmit warnings and emergency information to all or selected warning points on the NAWAS. The FOC and the FAOC are provided threat and warning information through event/threat conferences via a variety of communication avenues. Once the FOC/FAOC receives warning information, it will be relayed over the NAWAS/ WAWAS system(s) as appropriate. The NWC is in a monitor mode on the WAWAS circuit, but does not have operational notification responsibility. Upon disruption of communications at the FOC, the FAOC will take over warning responsibility of the states within the FOC's assigned regions.
2. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) is on the FEMA Region 3 circuit and the WAWAS circuit in a primarily monitor mode.
3. Washington Area Control Point. The Washington Area Control Point works under the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA) and is staffed 24 hours a day, monitors the Region III NAWAS circuits and manages the Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS) for federal and city emergencies. They also work closely with the adjoining state and county officials of Virginia and Maryland.
4. Regional Watch Centers (RWC)/Regional Communications Centers (RCC). Staffed during disasters, emergencies, special exercise, or special events, these centers coordinate with their assigned states.
5. MERS Operations Centers (MOCs). Staffed 24 hours a day, these centers monitor the NAWAS circuits of their assigned regions and react to NAWAS traffic as required.
6. NAWAS Primary and Alternate State Warning Point (SWP). SWPs receive and report emergency information on behalf of the governor. In each state, one Warning Point is designated as the Primary SWP (PSWP) and exercises operational control of NAWAS within that state. The PSWP is staffed 24 hours a day and relays any state-related emergency information to the FOC or FAOC as appropriate.
7. Alternate State Warning Point (ASWP). The ASWP may also assume primary responsibility in an increased readiness situation. Each state has an ASWP, usually located in the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
8. National Weather Service (NWS) Stations. These locations provide weather forecasts and warnings to various users on the national and state circuits. They may also provide other warnings, as required, i.e., Attack/Civil Warnings upon receipt from the FOC/FAOC.
9. United States Coast Guard (USCG). The USCG supports the national warning mission at their operations center with the NOC located in the Baltimore area, and individual district centers at port locations in Miami, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; Alameda, California; Seattle, Washington; and Juneau, Alaska.

10. NAWAS Extensions. NAWAS extensions are available to state and local emergency management authorities subject to criteria described in Section [2-2 – Eligibility Criteria](#). These extensions can provide warning to other state and local warning locations.

### **NAWAS Duplicate Warning Points**

Used when the PWP's are at risk because of potential or actual emergency conditions. They must be in a protected site, such as an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and are generally in the same building as a primary or alternate warning point, but in a more protected area such as the basement.

1. State Warning System. States distribute warnings received over NAWAS over state-controlled warning/communications systems to alert those political jurisdictions not directly served by the NAWAS.
2. Local Warning Systems. These include local government-controlled warning or communications to other local jurisdictions not having a NAWAS terminal. These systems are used to relay warning and emergency information to local government officials, the public, schools, and institutions that are within the government's area of responsibility. They include outdoor and indoor warning systems and input to the local government portion of the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

### **Emergency Preparedness Warning Signals**

FEMA CPG 1-17 (1980) established signals for outdoor warning devices that alert the public and indicate the immediate action people should take in an emergency. FEMA recognizes that there has been a reduction in the number of active siren systems throughout the warning community over the past several years. However, many communities still operate sirens as well as other systems and continue to use the following signals:

1. Attention or Alert Warning Signal. A three to five minute steady signal from sirens, horns, or other devices. Local government officials may authorize use of this signal to alert the public of peacetime emergencies. Besides any other meaning or requirement for action as determined by local government officials, the Attention or Alert signal will indicate to all persons in the United States, "Turn on your radio or television and listen for essential emergency information."
2. Attack Warning Signal. A three to five minute wavering tone on sirens or a series of short blasts on horns or other devices. The Attack Warning signal means detection of an actual attack or accidental missile launch – take protective action immediately. The Attack Warning will be repeated as often as deemed necessary by local government authorities to obtain the required response by the population, including taking protective action related to the arrival of fallout. This signal will have no other meaning and will be used for no other purpose.
3. Local Warning System Tests. Local warning systems should be tested on a periodic basis to include the fan-out warning and the alerting of key officials and agencies. It is

especially important that local warning devices be tested to ensure they are operating properly and to help the public recognize different warning signals. FEMA recommends regularly scheduled tests with local political subdivisions accompanied by advance publicity to inform the public of the tests.

### **Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)**

The IPAWS is the national public warning system that supports the President and other federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local officials to provide critical emergency alerts and information to the American public during emergencies. IPAWS provides authenticated alert messaging from emergency officials to the public via radio and television through the Emergency Alert System, cellular phones through the Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS), and NOAA National Weather System All Hazards Radio through the HazCollect System. While the FCC is tasked with the regulatory authority over private sector partners participating in the EAS and CMAS, DHS/FEMA is responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of the IPAWS EAS and CMAS components. NOAA develops, operates, and maintains the National Weather All Hazards Radio and other public information dissemination systems

1. Emergency Alert System (EAS). The EAS is a public warning system component that can provide critical information to the American public during emergencies via announcement on broadcast radio and television, cable television systems, wireless cable systems, satellite digital audio radio service (SDARS) providers, and direct broadcast satellite (DBS) providers. The national level system can be activated by the President to address the public across the entire nation during an emergency. State, tribal, territorial, and local emergency authorities and NOAA's National Weather Service can activate local parts of the EAS to issue localized emergency alerts, such as civil emergencies, missing persons/AMBER alerts, and weather alert information.
2. Commercial Mobile Alerting System (CMAS). Supported by participating cellular carriers under the name Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the CMAS is a public warning system that can be used by the President and other federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local officials to broadcast short text based emergency alerts from cell towers located in an emergency area. Any WEA capable cellular phone near an activated cellular tower will receive the emergency alert. The CMAS system may only be used for the most severe alerts, for AMBER alerts, or by the President.
3. NOAA National Weather Service All Hazards Radio System. Audible alerts can be broadcast over the NWS All Hazards radio system also accessible via an IPAWS interface with the NOAA NWS HazCollect system. The President and state, tribal, territorial, and local officials authorized by NOAA can utilize the IPAWS HazCollect interface to send audio alerts for broadcast to NOAA Weather Radios.

4. State and Local EAS. The state and local EAS may be used to broadcast information on disasters or emergencies. Such use is encouraged especially for weather warnings and other natural and technological disaster information.
5. Exercises. Federal, state, and local agencies should exercise components of the alert system to ensure proper operation and understanding of operational procedures. Exercises may be scheduled separately according to the needs of each part of the system or in combination by mutual agreement of responsible authorities.

### Emergency Information Communicated by NORAD/USNORTHCOM and USSTRATCOM

1. Possible Fire Report (PFR). The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) detects fires or other unusual heat sources throughout the 50 states. This information can provide initial warning to local authorities of a natural or technological disaster. Confirmation of these reports is beneficial to both local authorities and the NORAD/USNORTHCOM Command Center (N2C2). Upon receipt of SWP confirmation and/or information relating to the PFR, the FOC provides the information to N2C2, FEMA NWC, MOCs, or other agencies as deemed necessary. When NORAD notifies the FOC/FAOC of such detections, the FOC/FAOC will issue the following statement to the SWP(s) located near the detection.

**Figure 6-1. Fire Report Statement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. A possible fire has been reported at \_\_\_\_\_ degrees, \_\_\_\_\_ minutes North, and \_\_\_\_\_ degrees, \_\_\_\_\_ minutes West. This is approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes (North/South/East/West) from \_\_\_\_\_ near \_\_\_\_\_. Are you aware of any activity in this area? Do you have any patrols in the area to confirm this report?”

NOTE: This report is **NOT, REPEAT, NOT** to be construed as a request for state or local authorities to take extraordinary means to search for a fire or incident. We simply request confirmation if resources permit.

2. Atmospheric Space Object/Debris Re-entry. The FOC/FAOC handles information concerning the re-entry of space objects/debris as follows:  
USSTRATCOM Elements. The USSTRATCOM’s Joint Space Operations Center (JSpOC), provides Trajectory Impact Prediction (TIP) messages concerning space debris to many locations including the FOC/FAOC, which monitor the data for the FEMA Administrator. Space debris includes: rocket bodies, satellites, platforms, and/or other objects launched by any country. Most debris burns up during re-entry. Due to the composition and size of some objects, some portions may survive re-entry and impact the surface of the earth. There may be sightings and soundings, i.e., sonic booms, associated with the re-entry. Increased attention is given to objects that may be powered by a nuclear source or objects that failed to reach their intended orbit and are re-entering with hazardous propellants or materials.

3. FEMA Operations Center (FOC). The FOC passes re-entry predictions involving the Continental United States (CONUS) and earth-trace information to the DHS/FEMA staff. The following is a sample of a typical space debris announcement passed to the affected State Warning Points.

**Figure 6-2. Sample Space Object/Debris Re-entry Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. (Object name) is in its final orbit and is expected to re-enter the earth’s atmosphere within the next ( \_ ) hours. The Joint Space Operations Center will report on the probability of the satellite entering the atmosphere over North America within this ( \_\_\_\_\_ )-hour period. Some satellite debris may survive re-entry but a precise impact location will not be available until post event computer data is processed or sightings and/or soundings are reported and verified.”

4. Impact Predictions. Precise impact predictions are not possible because of the shape and attitude of the object. Should debris survive re-entry and impact the United States, JSpOC will provide advisory messages to the FOC/FAOC containing information as to material on board and care in approaching and handling. Coordinating federal efforts in cleanup where radioactive debris is involved is the responsibility of FEMA.
  - a. Relay of Reports. The FOC/FAOC relays all reports of sightings, soundings, or impact information to the NORAD/USNORTHCOM Command Center.

**Declaration/Dissemination of an Attack Warning**

Threats and attacks on the United States and its territories can occur in various domains, land, air, space, cyber, and maritime. In accordance with FEMA policy, Attack Warning will be disseminated over the NAWAS/WAWAS circuits. Threat assessment information for each domain will be provided to the FOC/FAOC by the appropriate entity. If the threat is limited to a specific area, the Attack Warning announcement would be tailored for that area. FOC/FAOC disseminates Attack Warning information over NAWAS/WAWAS when the United States is under attack within any domain. As well as a mass attack, there are limited threat scenarios by which terrorists or countries of concern may attempt to harm U.S. interests. These scenarios may require an announcement of a limited Attack Warning to a specific area or region of the United States. The Attack Warning will be disseminated immediately over NAWAS/WAWAS and if the situation requires, the NAWAS/WAWAS will remain open and updated

1. National Weather Service. Additionally, the National Weather Service (NWS) offices that receive the Attack Warning over NAWAS will further disseminate the warning over the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio System and NOAA Weather Wire Service. Listed below are procedures for distributing the Attack Warning. (See [Definitions](#) for detailed procedures and terminology.)
2. Warning Points. State and local warning points immediately forward the emergency information they receive over NAWAS to local jurisdictions by means of state and local warning/communication systems and alert key government officials. The NWS distributes the Attack Warning to local jurisdictions over its communications system.

3. Local Authorities. Local authorities sound the Attack Warning signal on public warning devices and distribute the Attack Warning declaration to the public, news media, institutions, government agencies, and industry.

### **Termination of an Attack Warning**

The FOC/FAOC announces the termination of the Attack Warning over the NAWAS/WAWAS when it has been determined by the assessing authority that the threat no longer exists or has been eliminated. Local government officials may tailor the content of the message transmitted to communities to reflect existing conditions. (See [Appendix E](#) for termination procedures.)

1. General Alternate Procedures. Communication difficulties may occur during the dissemination of warning or other emergency information. The FOC, FAOC, MOC, and/or FEMA region(s) will use any means available to relay the information to the warning points.
2. Termination of Attack Warning and National Level EAS Operation. The termination of Attack Warning will be broadcast over NAWAS/WAWAS, when it has been determined by the assessing authority, that the threat no longer exists. ([Appendix F](#): provides procedures for termination of an Attack Warning and/or National Level EAS.)

### **Reporting Trans-Attack and Post-Attack Information**

1. Reporting Trans-Attack and Post-Attack Information
  - a. Nuclear Detonation (NUDET) Information. NORAD and State Warning Points report trans-attack and post-attack information to the FOC, FAOC, or supporting MOCs in the form of NUDET and/or other types of **Flash Reports**. ([Appendix H](#): provides the format and type of information required in these reports.) To transmit the mass data required for precise location of ground zero, detailed fallout pattern plotting, and analysis of the fallout threat, states may use the Incident Command Reporting System (ICRS), facsimile systems, or electronic mail. There is a need for prompt reports on locations of detonations if an enemy attack with nuclear weapons occurs. From these reports and fallout wind vector data, fallout area forecast plots can be developed to prepare warning for issuance to areas expected to be subjected to the fallout effects. States transmit Flash NUDET reports on nuclear detonations over NAWAS. These are one-time initial reports from the local level (civil and military), which indicate only the area hit and the time of detonation, unless information that is more specific is immediately available. Reports should be forwarded to the state warning point for relay to the FOC/FAOC and/or MOCs.
  - b. Fallout Information. Local, state, and federal warning points may use the NAWAS to broadcast fallout information. If requested and if information is available, the FOC/FAOC will relay fallout information over NAWAS.

## Appendix A: Attack Warning — Declaration/Dissemination

### Overview

Threats and attacks on the United States and its territories can occur in various domains: land, air, space, cyber, and maritime. In accordance with FEMA policy, Attack Warning will be disseminated over the NAWAS/WAWAS circuits. Threat assessment information for each domain will be provided to the FOC/FAOC by the appropriate entity. If the threat is limited to a specific area, the Attack Warning announcement would be tailored for that area.

1. The FOC or FAOC bridges the regional warning circuits into a nationwide configuration and disseminates the warning using the following terminology:

**Figure A-1. Attack Warning Message.**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with an attack warning notification for (all stations) (affected region(s)). Stations should immediately activate local warning systems and advise residents to take cover and remain alert for further instructions. Consider implementing sheltering in place plans and protective measures.”

If applicable: “The national level emergency alert system has been activated.”

“FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”  
**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

NOTE: Activation of national EAS is expected in conjunction with an Attack Warning announcement. The announcement for a simultaneous Attack Warning and EAS activation is indicated in [Appendix E](#).

2. More Some Attack Warning scenarios may be limited in scope and not a total mass attack, so time may allow for a more in depth broadcast of specific warning information than just an Attack Warning and declaration time. Should this occur, the NAWAS circuits will remain open until it is determined no more information is available to inform NAWAS subscribers, after which a roll call will be conducted.
3. After receiving acknowledgment from the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center, the FOC or FAOC separates the east and west conferences. The FOC and FAOC will then conduct a poll of their respective regions/states. The Washington DC Control Point will conduct a poll on the WAWAS.
4. Each station called should acknowledge by stating: “(Name of Location). Attack Warning received.” Should any station request a repeat during the poll, the FOC/FAOC/DC Control Point will immediately repeat the message.

5. At the end of the poll, the FOC/FAOC/DC Control Point will recall any station that did not acknowledge the poll. Stations not answering the poll over NAWAS will be contacted by telephone or other means of communication.
6. As soon as the FOC/FAOC complete their poll of the SWPs, the SWP will immediately call the roll of warning points within the state, using the following procedures:
  - a. Pick up handset;
  - b. Depress the signaling key on the telephone instrument for three seconds;
  - c. Press the push-to-talk button; and
  - d. State: "This is the (Name) State Warning Point. Standby to acknowledge an Attack Warning."
  - e. Each warning point will acknowledge the poll with its name followed by; "Attack Warning received." E.g., "**PORTLAND**. Attack Warning received."
7. Any warning point not answering the poll will be contacted by telephone or radio immediately after the poll, repeat the warning message, and request acknowledgment.
8. Warning points in accordance with state and local plans will further disseminate the Attack Warning and other emergency information.
9. Use the same procedures as in the initial attack to announce subsequent attacks.

**Figure A-2. Nuclear Weapon Detonation/Fallout Message.**

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. A nuclear weapon detonated in (city, county, state) at \_\_\_\_\_ Zulu. Radioactive fallout is possible! Persons in (city, county, state) should be advised to remain under cover and await further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents are advised to take protective actions in accordance with local community shelter plans and to be alert for further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents in all other areas are advised that protective action is not required at this time."  
**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

10. Attack Warning Termination
  - a. The FOC/FAOC then bridges the regional circuits, sends the alert, and announces:

**Figure A-3. Attack Warning Termination Announcement**

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The Attack Warning is terminated. Termination time (Time) Zulu. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge."

- b. After receiving acknowledgment from the FAOC, separate the east-west conference; release the local warning points within the states from the federal side

of NAWAS. The FOC/FAOC will then conduct a poll of their respective regions/SWPs.

- c. Each station will acknowledge by stating: “(Name of Station). Attack Warning termination received.”
- d. Should any station request a repeat during the poll, the FOC/FAOC will immediately repeat the message. The terminology for making this request is, “(Name of Station). Say again your message.”
- e. At the end of the poll, the FOC/FAOC will recall any station not responding by the most expeditious means available.
- f. As soon as the SWP has received the **TERMINATION** announcement, the operator will immediately call the roll of the warning points within the state. Use the same procedures and terminology specified in the Attack Warning Dissemination procedure but substitute “Attack Warning **TERMINATED**” for the term “Attack Warning.”

## Appendix B: Technological Emergency Warning and Notification

### Overview

Warning of a possible threat or active situation to the public's health, safety, and property may originate from many sources to include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and offices within NOAA such as the National Earthquake and Information Center (NEIC), the National Hurricane Center (NHC), and the National Weather Service River Forecast Centers (NWSRFC). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will provide information related to nuclear power plant incidents.

#### Figure B-1. NRC Announcement

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center." (This will be non-formatted, free flowing information as received from the original source and may include instruction from the FEMA Administrator or Deputy Administrator.)

#### 1. Accidental Missile Launch Warning

Overview: The following NAWAS messages provide warning(s) to the civil population of an accidental missile launch.

#### Figure B-2. Accidental Missile Launch Warning Message

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with an Emergency Warning for the following (state(s), city/county). An accidental missile launch threatens the following area(s) (state(s) at (Zulu time). Advise population by all means available to take cover. Warning points not included in the threatened area(s) advise the population by all means available that protective action is not required at this time. Additional information will be furnished when available." **(ROLL CALL REMAINING WARNING POINTS)**

#### Figure B-3. Accidental Launch Nuclear Weapon Detonation/Fallout Message

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. An accidentally launched nuclear weapon detonated in (city, county, state) at Zulu Time). Radioactive fallout is possible! Persons in (city, county, state) should be advised to remain under cover and await further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents are advised to take protective actions in accordance with local community shelter plans and to be alert for further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents in all other areas are advised that protective action is not required at this time." **(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

#### Figure B-4. Accidental Launch/Impact without Nuclear Detonation Message

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. An accidentally launched nuclear weapon impacted in (city, county, state) at (Zulu Time). A nuclear detonation did not – **REPEAT** – did not occur. Persons in (city, county, state) should be alert for further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents in all other areas are advised that protective action is not required at this time.”  
**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

#### 2. Domestic Errant Missile Launch

The United States space and science programs launch a variety of missiles from several launch locations within its borders. These missiles are categorized as Types 1, 2, and 3. Types 1 and 2 are the larger booster variety, and Type 3 is the smaller scientific rocket size. There is a potential for these missiles to go errant and not reach their intended destination. The FOC/FAOC would notify the affected state(s) over the NAWAS based on the information received from NORAD or a special conference established with the launch site.

- a. Upon notification from either the launch site or NORAD that a missile has not achieved its programmed parameters and it cannot be determined that the missile has been destroyed and a predicted impact location has been received from NORAD the FOC/FAOC bridges the NAWAS to the affected area(s) and announces:

#### Figure B-5. Domestic Errant Missile Announcement

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a domestic errant missile warning for (Geographic Impact Location) effective immediately. I say again. **REPEAT**. This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a domestic errant missile warning for (Geographic Impact Location) effective immediately. Stations stand-by for roll call.”  
**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

NOTE: Only those states affected by the warning announcement will be polled.

#### 3. Space Object/Debris Reentry

JFCC Space, through its Joint Space Operations Center (JSpOC), detects, tracks, and identifies all artificial objects in Earth orbit. The JSpOC maintains the catalog of all artificial Earth-orbiting objects, charts preset positions for orbital flight safety, and predicts objects reentering the Earth's atmosphere. Since the launch of Sputnik in 1957, over 39,000 man-made objects have been catalogued, many of which have since re-entered the atmosphere. Currently, the JSpOC tracks more than 16,000 objects orbiting

Earth. About 5 percent of those being tracked are functioning payloads or satellites, 8 percent are rocket bodies, and about 87 percent are debris and/or inactive satellites.

**Figure B-6. Space Object Reentry Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. (Object name) is in its final orbit and is expected to re-enter the earth’s atmosphere within the next ( \_\_ ) hours. The Joint Space Operations Center will report on the probability of the satellite entering the atmosphere over North America within this ( \_\_\_\_\_ )-hour period. Some satellite debris may survive re-entry but a precise impact location will not be available until post event computer data is processed or sightings and/or soundings are reported and verified.”

# Appendix C: Natural Disaster Warning and Notification

## Overview

Natural disasters or emergencies may include any of the following events: earthquake, fire, flood, hurricane, landslide, mudslide, near earth objects (asteroids/comets), storms, snowstorm, tornado, tsunami, volcanic eruption, wind driven water, or other potential or actual hazards to the public's health, safety, and property.

## Pacific Tsunami Procedures

1. The United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) operates and administers the tsunami-warning program for the United States. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) in Ewa Beach, Hawaii has mission responsibility as the operational center for the Tsunami Warning System (TWS) in the Pacific, as the U.S. National Tsunami Warning Center for U.S. national interests throughout the Pacific basin and as the Hawaii Regional Tsunami Warning Center. The National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) (formerly known as the West Coast & Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC&ATWC)) located in Palmer, Alaska, has the responsibility for Alaska, the U.S. West Coast, the Canadian Province of British Columbia, and Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico regions. As a result of the devastation caused by the Indonesian tsunami on December 26, 2004, NOAA directed the WC&ATWC to provide tsunami warning coverage to the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. Dissemination of tsunami messages occurs over several types of media to include NAWAS, commercial telephone, the Internet, and satellite.
  - a. The FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC) is the primary point of contact for tsunami traffic. When the FAOC is contacted by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center over the Region IX NAWAS circuit or the NTWC over the Region X NAWAS circuit, the FAOC will activate a tsunami conference for the Pacific region. If for some reason the FAOC does not respond to the primary call, contact FEMA Operations Center (FOC) via NAWAS.
  - b. When the Tsunami Warning Center (TWC) requests a tsunami conference with the FAOC for Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California, the FAOC will request that the Center terminate the call on the Region X circuit while the tsunami conference is brought on-line. If the FOC becomes the primary, they will just bridge the circuits together, contact Canada by phone, and conduct the roll call.
  - c. Dissemination of tsunami messages occurs over several types of media to include NAWAS, commercial telephone, the Internet, and satellite. The
  - d. U.S. Department of Commerce Communication Plan for the Tsunami Warning System contains details on this warning system. FEMA coordinates input to this plan for FEMA Regions and the West Coast states.

NOTE: Hawaii receives earthquake notifications from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

- e. The FAOC activates the tsunami conference.

NOTE: This conference includes: the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California, the Bothell MERS Operations Center (MOC), Coast Guard Alameda and Seattle, Government of Canada Operations Center, Joint Operations Center Pacific, British Columbia and the FEMA Operations Center. If the situation dictates, any station(s) on the Region IX and X circuit can be voice paged during this conference.

f. Announce the following after activation of the conference:

### Figure C-1. National Tsunami Conference Activation Announcement

“This is the FEMA Alternate Operations Center; this is a tsunami message for Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and the Bothell MOC. Please standby.” <REPEAT ONCE>. Then state, “Stations standby for roll call.”  
**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

- g. Poll only the station(s) requested by the TWC on the initial roll call so that they can quickly transmit their message. After station acknowledgment, advise the TWC to go ahead with their message.
- h. When the TWC has completed their transmission, poll each station again to ensure receipt of the message and for them to ask any questions. At this time, the FAOC will also poll the Bothell MERS Operations Center (MOC), the FEMA Operations Center (FOC), Coast Guard Alameda and Seattle, Government of Canada Operations Center – British Columbia and Joint Operations Center Pacific – British Columbia.
- i. In the event that the Tsunami Warning Center is unable to transmit over NAWAS for any reason, then the FOC/FAOC will relay the message for them.

### Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Tsunami Procedures

1. The FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC) is the primary point of contact for Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico tsunami traffic. When the FAOC is contacted by the National Tsunami Warning Center over the Region X NAWAS circuit, the FAOC will activate a tsunami conference for the Atlantic and Gulf regions. If for some reason the FAOC does not respond to the primary call, contact the FEMA Operations Center via NAWAS.
  - a. The FAOC activates the tsunami conference.

NOTE: This conference includes the following: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Maynard MERS Operations Center (MOC), New Jersey, New York, VITEMA, Puerto Rico, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Brevard County EOC, Coast Guard Miami, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Thomasville MERS Operations Center (MOC), Texas, Louisiana, Coast Guard New Orleans, Denton MERS Operations Center (MOC), Government of Canada Operations Center, and FEMA Operations Center. If the situation dictates, any station(s) on the Region I, II, III, IV, or VI circuit can be voice pages during this conference.

2. Announce the following after activation of the conference.

**Figure C-2. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Tsunami Conference Activation Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. This is a tsunami message for the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico states. All other stations please stand by.” <REPEAT ONCE>.  
“Tsunami Warning Center. Go ahead with your message.”

3. More When the TWC has completed the transmission, poll each station to ensure receipt of the message and to give the stations an opportunity to ask questions. States and other warning points that do not have coastal warning will not be roll called. However, this does not preclude any station from asking a question at roll call.

**Figure C-3. Roll Call Questions**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. If you have any questions, ask them on roll call: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Maynard MERS Operations Center (MOC), New Jersey, New York; VITEMA, Puerto Rico, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Florida, Brevard County EOC, Coast Guard Miami, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Thomasville MERS Operations Center (MOC), Texas, Louisiana, Coast Guard New Orleans, Denton MERS Operations Center, and Government of Canada Operations Center. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center out at \_\_\_\_\_Z.”

4. The conference will be disconnected with DTMF tones by the FOC/FAOC.
5. In the event that the Tsunami Warning Center is unable to transmit over NAWAS for any reason, then the FOC/FAOC will relay the message for them.
6. NOTE: The NTWC will only broadcast over NAWAS earthquake information for earthquakes magnitude of 6.5 or greater. However, they may transmit messages for those that are less than 6.5 over email. Their internet web site is <http://ntwc.arh.noaa.gov/>
7. The FOC/FAOC will notify the Bureau of Reclamation Grand Coulee Control Center (GCCC) on all earthquakes with a magnitude 4.0 utilizing the Modified Mercalli Intensity scale (See [Definitions](#)) or greater that occur from 39 to 52 degrees North latitude and 107 to 126 degrees West longitude (Pacific Northwest Water and Power Resources Service Region). In addition, any earthquake with a magnitude of 6.0 or greater that occurs anywhere in the Pacific Northwest will be reported to the GCCC.

## Earthquake Announcement

1. Earthquakes are recorded by the USGS using a seismographic network. Each seismic station in the network measures the movement of the ground at the site. There are many different ways to measure different aspects of an earthquake.
  - a. Magnitude is the most common measure of an earthquake's size. It is a measure of the size of the earthquake source and is the same number no matter where it's located.
  - b. Intensity is a measure of the shaking and damage caused by the earthquake, and this value changes from location to location. Their internet web site is <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/?source=sitenav>.

**Figure C-4. Earthquake Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with an earthquake notification for (Geographic Impact Location). At (DTG) a (Magnitude) earthquake with a depth of (Depth) occurred at (Location Coordinates)” **<REPEAT ONCE>**.

**(ROLL CALL AFFECTED WARNING POINTS)**

## Volcano Announcement

1. In cooperation with universities and state agencies, the USGS monitors seismic activity, ground deformation, volcanic gases, thermal emissions, and changes in water levels and chemistry. When unusual activity is detected, a response team may do more ground surveys and install more instruments, if possible, to better determine if an eruption is likely. Volcanoes can erupt with little warning so continuous monitoring is important even if a volcano is not showing signs of activity.
  - a. Small jagged pieces of rocks, minerals, and volcanic glass the size of sand and silt (less than 2 millimeters (1/12 inch) in diameter) erupted by a volcano are called volcanic ash. Volcanic ash is formed during explosive volcanic eruptions. Explosive eruptions occur when gases dissolved in molten rock (magma) expand and escape violently into the air, and also when water is heated by magma and abruptly flashes into steam. The force of the escaping gas violently shatters solid rocks. Expanding gas also shreds magma and blasts it into the air, where it solidifies into fragments of volcanic rock and glass. Once in the air, wind can blow the tiny ash particles tens to thousands of miles away from the volcano.
  - b. Following an eruption, volcanic ash can cause irritation of the airways and lungs and, if breathed in over many years, could cause lung disease. Primary hazards to domestic and/or international aviation are ash clouds produced during an eruption. Engines and instruments can fail within seconds of volcanic ash contamination.
  - c. The USGS works with the Federal Aviation Administration to provide information about volcanic unrest and potential eruptions. Their internet web site is <http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/>.

### Figure C-5. Volcano Eruption Announcement

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a volcano eruption notification for (Geographic Impact Location). At (DTG) the (Volcano Name) volcano erupted. Ash plume is (Direction Information) evacuation direction is (Direction/information)”  
**<REPEAT ONCE>**.

**(ROLL CALL AFFECTED WARNING POINTS)**

# Appendix D: National Terrorism Advisory System

## Overview

1. The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaced the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS). This new system more effectively communicates information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector. The FEMA Operations Center (FOC) is FEMA's primary alert and coordination center for threat condition notifications. The following threat conditions each represent an increasing risk of terrorist attack. The heads of federal departments and agencies are responsible for developing and implementing appropriate agency-specific protective measures.
2. Types of Alerts
  - a. Imminent Threat Alert. Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.
  - b. Elevated Threat Alert. Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.
  - c. Bulletin. Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.
3. NTAS is a comprehensive and effective means to disseminate information regarding the risk of terrorist acts to federal, state, and local authorities and to the American people. It further directs that at each threat level, federal departments and agencies will implement a corresponding set of protective measures to further reduce vulnerability or increase response capability during a period of heightened alert. The level is determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security based on current intelligence information from a variety of sources both domestic and foreign. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) is the primary alert and coordination center for threat condition notifications.
4. If requested by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) or other designated authority, the FOC/FAOC bridges the NAWAS and WAWAS into a national configuration and announces to all 50 states, including local warning points and other federal departments and agencies:

## Figure D-1. National Terrorism Advisory System Change Announcement

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a National Terrorism Advisory System change of (Imminent or Elevated) for all locations or for (Location) effective (Date) and at (Eastern Time). I say again. <REPEAT>. This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a National Terrorism Advisory System change of (Imminent or Elevated ) for all locations or for (location) effective (Date) and at (Eastern Time). Stations stand-by for roll call.”

**(ROLL CALL WARNING POINTS)**

## Appendix E: National Level EAS Activation

### Overview

The national-level Emergency Alert System (EAS) is the all hazards, all contingencies component of the national Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). The national-level EAS is designed as a contingency system for use by the President to reach the public promptly with critical information in case of a grave threat or national emergency. State, tribal, territorial, and local emergency authorities and NOAA's National Weather Service can activate local parts of the EAS to issue localized emergency alerts such as civil emergencies, missing persons/AMBER alerts, and weather alert information.

1. Levels
  - a. Priority One: Presidential Messages.
  - b. Priority Two: Local Area Programming.
  - c. Priority Three: State Programming.
  - d. Priority Four: National Emergency Information Programming (Activated by the President or designated representative).
2. More At the national level, the EAS can only be activated by Authority of the President. After the President has finished using the system, designated representatives of the President can use the EAS to distribute National Emergency Information Programming regarding disaster assistance, food availability, and other vital information.
3. FEMA serves as the White House Military Office's (WHMO) Executive Agent for the development, operation, testing, and maintenance of the national-level EAS. The FCC regulates the private sector participation of all EAS Participants to include publishing rules for equipment configuration and operations, compliance inspections, and review of all state and local EAS plans. Working in partnership with the FCC, FEMA coordinates all EAS activities relating to government entities including the integration of EAS into emergency telecommunications policies, plans, and programs, and coordination of the participation of state and local emergency management personnel in EAS. State and local governments routinely use the system to transmit critical information to the public including NOAA National Weather Service (NWS) all hazards alerts. These localized alerts and warnings are transmitted according to state and local EAS plans. The national-level EAS provides the President a capability to address the nation across all radio and television channels in the event of a national emergency. The EAS is composed of FEMA Primary Entry Point (PEP) stations, also known as National Primary stations. FEMA PEP stations are commercial radio stations with FEMA installed communications equipment for direct connection to FEMA and resiliency enhancements including extended back up power generation and in some cases, protection from electromagnetic pulse. There are currently 83 PEP stations providing direct coverage to over 90 percent of the American population. All other EAS participants (radio and television broadcast, cable, satellite, and wireless providers), are required by FCC regulations to monitor a PEP source for national-level messages.

The national-level EAS is activated by an order from the President to the White House Communications Agency (WHCA) duty officer or the President’s Communications Officer (PCO) through the FEMA Operations Center (FOC) or FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC). The FOC/FAOC authenticates the request and establishes the Primary Entry Point (PEP) conference. At the request of the President, FEMA distributes **Presidential Level** messages to the PEP stations. As the entry point for national-level EAS messages, the PEP stations have a National Primary (NP) EAS designation and are monitored in turn by other AM and FM radio stations; TV broadcast stations (audio only) and cable systems (audio only) in the hierarchical chain. The 83 National Primary PEP stations are listed in figure E.1.

**Figure E-1. NATIONAL PRIMARY EAS STATIONS**

NATIONAL PRIMARY EAS STATIONS	
STATION CALL LETTERS	LOCATION
KSL	Salt Lake City, UT
KBOI	Boise, ID
KCBS	San Francisco, CA
WHB	Overland, MO
KERR	Polson, MT
KFLT	Tucson, AZ
KFQD	Anchorage, AK
WJR	Riverview, MI
KFYR	Bismarck, ND
KIRO	Seattle, WA
KKOB	Albuquerque, NM
KKOH	Reno, NV
KOA	Denver, CO
KTRH	Houston, TX
KTWO	Casper, WY
WABC	New York, NJ
WBAP	Arlington, TX
WBAL	Baltimore, MD
NPR	Washington, DC
WCCO	Minneapolis, MN
WTIC	Farmington, CT
WHAM	Rochester, NY
KRVN	Lexington, NE
WLS	Chicago, IL
WLW	Cincinnati, OH
WMAC	Macon, GA
WQDR	Raleigh, NC
WRXL	Richmond, VA
WSM	Nashville, TN
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI
WTAM	Cleveland, OH
WWL	New Orleans, LA

WFLF	Maitland, FL
WFED	Washington, DC
HEOC	Honolulu, HI
WBZ	Boston, MA
WSRV	Atlanta, GA
WCOS	Columbia, SC
WSTA	St. Thomas, USVI
WKAQ	San Juan, Puerto Rico
WJOX	Birmingham, AL
WMSI	Jackson, MS
WOKV (am)	Jacksonville, FL
WMRV	Endicott, NY
WBT	Charlotte, NC
KRMG	Tulsa, OK
WHO	Des Moines, IA
WOKV (pm)	Jacksonville, FL
WTAR	Norfolk, VA
WJXB	Knoxville, TN
KDKA	Pittsburgh, PA
WJCW	Johnson City, TN
WVBE	Roanoke, VA
KLBJ	Austin, TX
KDWN	Las Vegas, NV
KROD	El Paso, TX
WAQI	Miami, FL
WMUU	Greenville, SC
XM RADIO	Washington, DC
KMJ	Fresno, CA
KAAY	Little Rock, AR
KMOX	St. Louis, MO
WVUV	Pago Pago, AS
KOGO	San Diego, CA
KTWG	Guam
WSFL	New Bern, NC
KWKH	Shreveport, LA
KFI	La Mirada, CA
KPXP	Saipan
WGAN	Portland, ME
PRN	Sherman Oaks, CA
CCC	San Antonio, TX
WROW	Albany, NY
KPNW	Eugene, OR
WREC	Memphis, TN
WCHS	Charleston, WV
KOPB	Portland, OR
WTEL	Philadelphia, PA
WWL	New Orleans, LA

4. Upon notification that the EAS has been activated, the FOC or FAOC as appropriate, will notify the other Operations Center and authenticate using established procedures.
  - a. The FOC/FAOC bridges the regional warning circuits, sends the alert tone, and announces:

**Figure E-2. EAS Activation Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The national level Emergency Alert System has been activated. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

- b. After receiving acknowledgment from the other operations center, separate the east-west conferences. The FEMA Operations Centers will then conduct a poll of their respective Regions/State Warning Points.
- c. Each station will acknowledge with, “(Name of Station). National level Emergency Alert System activated.”
- d. Should any station request a repeat during the poll, the FOC/FAOC will immediately repeat the message. The terminology for making this request is, “(Name of Station). Say again your message.”
- e. At the end of the poll, the FOC/FAOC will recall any station not responding by the poll by the most expeditious means available. If an Attack Warning is declared at the same time the national level EAS is activated, the Attack Warning message will be expanded to include the following:

**Figure E-3. Attack Warning Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with an attack warning notification for (all stations) (affected region(s)). Stations should immediately activate local warning systems and advise residents to take cover and remain alert for further instructions. Consider implementing sheltering in place plans and protective measures. The national level emergency alert system has been activated. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

## Appendix F: National Level EAS Termination

### Overview

After confirmation through the National Command Authorities (NCA) that the threat no longer exists, the Administrator of FEMA or his or her authorized representative will authorize the termination of the Attack Warning.

1. EAS Deactivation. Upon notification of EAS deactivation, the procedure listed above will be used with the following change in terminology:

#### Figure F-1. National Level Emergency Alert System Deactivation Announcement

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The national level Emergency Alert System has been deactivated. **REPEAT**. The national level Emergency Alert System has been deactivated. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

2. Attack Warning Termination
  - a. The FOC/FAOC then bridges the regional circuits, sends the alert, and announces:

#### Figure F-2. Attack Warning Termination Announcement

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The Attack Warning is terminated. Termination time (Time) Zulu. FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

- b. After receiving acknowledgment from the FAOC, separate the east-west conference; release the local warning points within the states from the federal side of NAWAS. The FOC/FAOC will then conduct a poll of their respective regions/SWPs.
- c. Each station will acknowledge by stating: “(Name of Station). Attack Warning termination received.”
- d. Should any station request a repeat during the poll, the FOC/FAOC will immediately repeat the message. The terminology for making this request is, “(Name of Station). Say again your message.”
- e. At the end of the poll, the FOC/FAOC will recall any station not responding by the most expeditious means available.
- f. As soon as the SWP has received the **TERMINATION** announcement, the operator will immediately call the roll of the warning points within the state. Use the same procedures and terminology specified in the Attack Warning

Dissemination procedure but substitute “Attack Warning **TERMINATED**” for the term “Attack Warning.”

3. Simultaneous Attack Warning and National Level EAS Termination
  - a. When the national level EAS operation is terminated at the same time as the Attack Warning, the operations centers will make the announcement as follows. Use the same procedures as those governing termination of the Attack Warning.
  - b. If terminated simultaneously (Attack Warning and national level EAS), state the following:

**Figure F-3. Simultaneous Attack Warning and National Level EAS Termination Announcement**

“This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The Attack Warning is terminated. The national level Emergency Alert System has been deactivated. **REPEAT.** The Attack Warning is terminated. The national level Emergency Alert System has been deactivated. Termination time of the Attack Warning is (Time) Zulu.” FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

# Appendix G: Emergency Messages from Local Warning Points to SWP/MOCS

## Overview

Upon receipt of these types of messages, the local warning point(s) should relay it to the appropriate SWP(s). The SWP should in turn relay the message(s) to the FOC/FAOC. The FOC/FAOC will then ensure that the respective MERS Operations Center (MOC) for that region/state is notified of the event.

### 1. Potential Emergency

Messages should cover the following points:

- a. Source of warning.
- b. Type of destruction expected.
- c. Time the emergency is expected.
- d. Probable area affected.
- e. Probable severity.
- f. Any local actions taken or to be taken.

### 2. More Actual Emergency

Messages should cover the following points:

- a. Type of emergency.
- b. Time of emergency.
- c. Area affected.

### 3. Estimate of casualties as follows:

- a. Dead.
- b. Injured.
- c. Homeless.

### 4. Estimate of damage (report private and public damages separately)

### 5. Local actions taken or to be taken

### 6. Outside assistance needed:

- a. What type?
- b. Where?
- c. When?
- d. What extent?

NOTE: Each FEMA Operations Center (FOC/FAOC) will carefully control the use of the NAWAS for emergency messages. Since NAWAS is a voice communications system, lengthy messages are not permitted over the circuits.

# Appendix H: NUDET, Fallout Warning and Other Flash Reports

## Overview

There is an urgent need for timely and authentic information in any type of emergency operation. The following are suggested types of **FLASH** reports to be generated by any warning point and then broadcast to the FOC/FAOC. The FOC/FAOC will turn the information and provide it to FEMA HQ, the DHS NOC, and NORAD/NORTHCOM (N2C2). Nuclear fallout warnings broadcast from the FOC will be information reported by federal or military sources based on data that is received on their detection systems.

1. Nuclear Detonations (NUDETS)
2. Location-give coordinates by geographical reference, Universal Transverse Mercator, or latitude and longitude
  - a. Size-small, medium, or large.
  - b. Type of burst-air, surface, or water.
  - c. Time of detonation.
  - d. Source of information.
  - e. Remarks.
3. Radiological Contamination
  - a. Area involved.
  - b. Exposure rate and time of exposure rate observation.
  - c. Source of information.
4. Other
  - a. Subject.
  - b. Time.
5. Fallout Warning
  - a. When the FOC/FAOC receives relevant fallout warning information, the NAWAS will be activated, and the following statement will be broadcast:

### Figure H-1. Fallout Warning Announcement

“This is the FEMA Operations Center with a fallout warning for (Location). (This will be non-formatted, free flowing information as received from the original source and may include instruction from the FEMA Administrator or Deputy Administrator). “FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center acknowledge.”

# Appendix I: Terminal Self-Test

## Overview

The self-test procedure is a loop-back of the transmit and receive functions of the terminal. It provides a high level of assurance that the terminal is functioning properly. To perform the test:

1. If Adjust the volume control to the mid-range position.
2. Lift the handset.
  - a. Depress the push-to-talk bar while speaking into the handset mouthpiece. You should hear your voice in the handset earpiece.
3. Locate the black button, next to the power connector, on the rear of the telephone next to the power connector. Hold this button down while simultaneously depressing the push-to-talk bar and speaking into the handset mouthpiece. You should hear your voice in the speaker.
4. To determine the proper operation of the tone generating circuitry, press and hold the test switch located on the rear panel of the terminal, and depress individually the signal and reset buttons on the front of the terminal. The self- test is completed when the user is able to hear the signal and reset tones through the terminal loudspeaker.
5. A test is considered successful when side-tone is heard while depressing the push-to-talk, and the speaker's voice is also heard over the loudspeaker while the black button located on the rear of the terminal is depressed.
6. To test the terminal **ALERT TONE**, request the FEMA Operations Center (FOC), FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC), FEMA MERS Operations Centers (MOCs), State Primary/Alternate Warning Point or Emergency Operations Center (EOC) generate an alert tone to the network. The terminal should begin to ring and continue ringing for approximately nine seconds. The red lamp should illuminate and remain illuminated until removal of the handset from the cradle or the transmission of a reset signal from the Center that initiated the Alert Tone.
7. If the terminal fails either the self-test or the Alert Tone test, check all the terminal connections. Verify that AC power is present at the AC outlet. Report terminal failures in accordance with procedures outlined in [CHAPTER 3](#).

## Appendix J: FIPS Codes

Figure J-1

REGION	STATE	ABBREVIATION	FIPS CODE	PSWP/ASWP	BRIDGE
01	Connecticut	CT	09	05/06	01/02
01	Maine	ME	23	"	"
01	Massachusetts	MA	25	"	"
01	New Hampshire	NH	33	"	"
01	Rhode Island	RI	44	"	"
01	Vermont	VT	50	"	"
02	New Jersey	NJ	34	"	"
02	New York	NY	36	"	"
02	Puerto Rico	PR	72	"	"
02	Virgin Islands	VI	52	"	"
03	Delaware	DE	10	"	"
03	District of Columbia	DC	11	"	"
03	Maryland	MD	24	"	"
03	Pennsylvania	PA	42	"	"
03	Virginia	VA	51	"	"
03	West Virginia	WV	54	"	"
04	Alabama	AL	01	"	"
04	Florida	FL	12	"	"
04	Georgia	GA	13	"	"
04	Kentucky	KY	21	"	"
04	Mississippi	MS	28	"	"
04	North Carolina	NC	37	"	"
04	South Carolina	SC	45	"	"
04	Tennessee	TN	47	"	"
05	Illinois	IL	17	"	"
05	Indiana	IN	18	"	"
05	Michigan	MI	26	"	"
05	Minnesota	MN	27	"	"
05	Ohio	OH	39	"	"
05	Wisconsin	WI	55	"	"
	Arkansas	AR	05	05/06	01/02
06	Louisiana	LA	22	"	"
06	New Mexico	NM	35	"	"
06	Oklahoma	OK	40	"	"
06	Texas	TX	48	"	"
07	Iowa	IA	19	"	"
07	Kansas	KS	20	"	"
07	Missouri	MO	29	"	"
07	Nebraska	NE	31	"	"
08	Colorado	CO	08	"	"
08	Montana	MT	30	"	"
08	North Dakota	ND	38	"	"
08	South Dakota	SD	46	"	"
08	Utah	UT	49	"	"
08	Wyoming	WY	56	"	"
09	Arizona	AZ	04	"	"
09	California	CA	06	"	"
09	Hawaii	HI	15	"	"
09	Nevada	NV	32	"	"
10	Alaska	AK	02	"	"
10	Idaho	ID	16	"	"
10	Oregon	OR	41	"	"
10	Washington	WA	53	"	"

NOTE: The SWP and bridge suffix codes are the same for all locations.

## Appendix K: National Weather Service Stations

**Figure K-1  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE STATIONS  
(FEDERAL- EAST)**

LOCATION	4-DIGIT DIAL CODE
<b>REGION 1</b>	
TAUNTON, MA	2510
GRAY, ME	2311
CARIBOU, ME	2310
ALBANY, NY	3610
<b>REGION 2</b>	
NEW YORK CITY, NY	3611
<b>REGION 3</b>	
MOUNT HOLLY, NJ	3410
STATE COLLEGE, PA	4210/4212
PITTSBURGH, PA	4211
STERLING, VA	5110
BLACKSBURG, VA	5114
WAKEFIELD, VA	5115
CHARLESTON, WV	5411
<b>REGION 4</b>	
HUNTSVILLE, AL	0112
BIRMINGHAM, AL	0110
MOBILE, AL	0111
TALLAHASSEE, FL	1210
JACKSONVILLE, FL	1212
MIAMI, FL	1213
PADUCAH, KY – Regions 4 & 5 ( <b>CROSSOVER</b> )	2110
LOUISVILLE, KY	2111
WILMINGTON, NC	3710
CHARLESTON, SC	4510
GSP, SC (Greenville/Spartanburg)	4511
COLUMBIA, SC	4512
MEMPHIS, TN	4710
MORRISTOWN, TN	4711
<b>REGION 5</b>	
QUAD CITY, IA	1910
CHICAGO, IL	1710
NORTHERN, IN	1810
INDIANAPOLIS, IN	1812
CHANHASSEN, MN	2710
DULUTH, MN	2711
WILMINGTON, OH	3910
LA CROSSE, WI	5510

**Figure K-2  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE STATIONS  
(FEDERAL- WEST)**

LOCATION	4-DIGIT DIAL CODE
<b>REGION 6</b>	
LAKE CHARLES, LA	2210
SHREVEPORT, LA	2211
AMARILLO, TX	4810
MIDLAND, TX	4811
NORMAN, OK	4010
TULSA, OK	4011
SANTA TERESA, NM	3510
SPRINGFIELD, MO – Regions 6 & 7 <b>(CROSSOVER)</b>	2912/2911
JACKSON, MS – Region 6 <b>(CROSSOVER)</b>	2810
<b>REGION 7</b>	
GOODLAND, KS	2010
PLEASANT HILL, MO	2910
OMAHA, NE	3111
SIOUX FALLS, SD	4611
LA CROSSE, WI – Regions 5 & 7 <b>(CROSSOVER)</b>	5511
<b>REGION 8</b>	
GRAND JUNCTION, CO	0810
RAPID CITY, SD	4610
SALT LAKE CITY, UT	4910
<b>REGION 9</b>	
PHOENIX, AZ	0410
LAS VEGAS, NV	3210
RENO, NV	3211
MEDFORD, OR – Region 9 <b>(CROSSOVER)</b>	4112
<b>REGION 10</b>	
BOISE, ID	1610
PENDLETON, OR	4111
PORTLAND, OR	4110
SPOKANE, WA	5310

**Figure K-3  
STATE WARNING POINTS (EAST)**

LOCATION	4-DIGIT DIAL CODE
<b>REGION 1</b>	
CONNECTICUT	0905
MAINE	2305
MASSACHUSETTS	2505
NEW HAMPSHIRE (PRI)	3305
(ALT)	3306
RHODE ISLAND	4405
VERMONT	5005
MAYNARD MERS R1 (Host)	2551
REGION I – BOSTON	N/A
REGION I – MAYNARD	2550
NORTHEAST R.F.C.	2510
<b>REGION 2</b>	
NEW JERSEY	3405
NEW YORK	3605
PUERTO RICO	N/A
MAYNARD MERS R2 (Non-Host)	2552
V.I.T.E.M.A.	N/A
REGION II – NEW YORK	3650
<b>REGION 3</b>	
DELAWARE	1005
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	1105
MARYLAND	2405
COAST GUARD BALTIMORE	N/A
PENNSYLVANIA	4205
VIRGINIA	5105
WEST VIRGINIA	5405
CSX RAILROAD	N/A
AMTRAK	N/A
PHILADELPHIA MEGA CENTER	N/A
REGION 3 – PHILADELPHIA	4250
NGCC JOC	N/A
MID ATLANTIC RFC	4210
FREDERICK MERS	N/A
CAMP DAWSON – WV	N/A
NRCC	N/A
<b>REGION 4</b>	
ALABAMA	0105
FLORIDA	1205
BREVARD COUNTY EOC (FL)	N/A
COAST GUARD MIAMI	N/A
GEORGIA	1305
KENTUCKY	2105
MISSISSIPPI	2806
NORTH CAROLINA	3705
SOUTH CAROLINA	4505

TENNESSEE	4705
NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER	1211 <b>(ACTIVE 6/1 – 11/30)</b>
<b>REGION 5</b>	
<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>4-DIGIT DIAL CODE</b>
ILLINOIS	1705
INDIANA	1805
MICHIGAN	2605
BATTLE CREEK MEGA CENTER	<b>N/A</b>
MINNESOTA	2705
OHIO	3905
WISCONSIN	5505
DENVER MERS R5 <b>(Non-Host)</b>	1750
REGION 5 – CHICAGO	1750

**Figure K-4  
STATE WARNING POINTS (WEST)**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>4-DIGIT DIAL CODE</b>
<b>REGION 6</b>	
OKLAHOMA	4005
TEXAS	4805
NEW MEXICO	3505
ARKANSAS	0505
LOUISIANA	2205
DOE ALBUQUERQUE	3550
COAST GUARD NEW ORLEANS	<b>N/A</b>
DENTON MERS R6 <b>(Host)</b>	4851
REGION 6 – DENTON	4850
<b>REGION 7</b>	
NEBRASKA	3105
IOWA	1905
KANSAS	2005
MISSOURI	2905
DENTON MERS R7 <b>(Non-Host)</b>	2950
REGION 7 – KANSAS CITY	2950
<b>REGION 8</b>	
NORTH DAKOTA	3805
SOUTH DAKOTA	4605
WYOMING	5605
COLORADO	0805
UTAH	4905
MONTANA	3005
NORTHCOM	<b>N/A</b>
DENVER MERS R8 <b>(Host)</b>	0851
REGION 8 – DENVER	0850
<b>REGION 9</b>	
CALIFORNIA	0605
NEVADA	3205
ARIZONA	0405
HAWAII	1505
COAST GUARD ALAMEDA	0610
BOTHELL MERS R9 <b>(Non-Host)</b>	0650
REGION 9 – OAKLAND	0650
FEMA PACIFIC AREA OFFICE	<b>N/A</b>
NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE INFORMATION CENTER	6065
PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER	<b>N/A</b>
<b>REGION 10</b>	
WASHINGTON	5305
OREGON	4105
IDAHO	1605
ALASKA	0205
COAST GUARD SEATTLE	<b>N/A</b>
GRAND COULEE	<b>N/A</b>
BOTHELL MERS R10 <b>(Host)</b>	5351

REGION 10 – BOTHELL	5350
NATIONAL TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER	<b>N/A</b>

## Appendix L: NAWAS Briefings.

### 1. FEMA Operations Center

#### Figure L-1. FEMA Operations Center Announcement

This is the Federal Emergency Management Agency Operations Center located in Bluemont, Virginia. This center has an alternate operations center, which is located in Thomasville, Georgia. Both of these centers operate 24-hours a day. In the event of an enemy attack, natural or technological disaster, these centers provide warning on a local, regional, or national basis using the National Warning System (NAWAS). There are approximately 1800 NAWAS warning points throughout the United States. About 1400 of these are federal, state, and local warning points, which are also staffed 24-hours a day. This concludes the briefing, FEMA Operations Center out at \_\_\_\_\_ Zulu.

### 2. FEMA Alternate Operations Center

#### Figure L-2. FEMA Alternate Operations Center Announcement

This is the Federal Emergency Management Agency Alternate Operations Center located in Thomasville, Georgia. This center serves as the back up to the FEMA Operations Center, which is located in Bluemont, Virginia. Both of these centers operate 24 hours a day. In the event of an enemy attack, natural or technological disaster, these centers provide warning on a local, regional, or national basis using the National Warning System (NAWAS). There are approximately 1800 NAWAS warning points throughout the United States. About 1400 of these are federal, state, and local warning points, which are also staffed 24-hours a day. This concludes the briefing, FEMA Alternate Operations Center out at \_\_\_\_\_ Zulu.

## Additional Information

### Supersession

This Manual supersedes FEMA Manual 211-2-1, dated January 31, 2013.

### Review Cycle

The FEMA Operations Center is responsible for the implementation, and regular update of the *National Warning System Operations Manual* in coordination with, and supported by, the FEMA Response Directorate.

FEMA Manual 211-2-1: *National Warning System Operations* will be reviewed, reissued, revised, or rescinded within 4 years of the issue date.

### Authorities

- A. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Pub L. No.93-288 (codified as amended primarily at 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207).
- B. Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-296 (codified as amended at 6 U.S.C. §§ 101-1405).
- C. Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA) of 2006, Pub. L. No. 109-295.
- D. Executive Order (E.O.) 12148, Federal Emergency Management, dated July 20, 1979, as amended.
- E. Executive Order (E.O.) 12656, Assignment of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities, dated November 18, 1988, as amended.
- F. Executive Order (E.O.) 13407, Public Alert and Warning System, dated June 26, 2006.
- G. National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) 66, Civil Defense, dated March 16, 1992.
- H. DHS Delegation 9001.1, Delegation to the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, dated December 10, 2010.
- I. Memorandum of Understanding between the North America Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), the United States Space Command (USSPACECOM), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on exchange of emergency information, dated 6 May 2015.

### References

- A. Executive Order (EO) 13618, Assignment of National Security and Emergency Preparedness Communications Functions, dated July 6, 2012.
- B. Emergency Alert System, 47 C.F.R. Part 11 (2011).
- C. FEMA Plan for the Operations of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) National Threat Advisory System (NTAS).
- D. Communications Laboratories (ComLabs) MCU Communications Terminal Operations Manual.

E. NORAD Instruction NI 10-22, Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Reporting System, 29 Jun 2013.

## Definitions

**Air Force Rescue Coordination Center:** Located at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Florida. The AFRCC requests information relating to missing or overdue aircraft from the FEMA Operations Centers. The FOC/FAOC in turn uses the NAWAS or facsimile to request information from the State Warning Point(s) in the area of the event. The state(s) may then pass the information to agencies on their statewide NAWAS circuit for assistance.

NOTE: The AFRCC has a coordinating officer that coordinates memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with each state as to how they want the information processed.

**Alternate Warning Point:** See [Warning Point](#).

**American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T):** State the definition here. Only define terms that (1) appear in the instructions and (2) are not commonly known. Organize definitions in alphabetical order.

**Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (DHSNOC), otherwise known as DHSNOC:** The DHSNOC is located at the Nebraska Avenue Complex (NAC) in Washington, DC and monitors vulnerabilities and compares them against threats, providing a centralized, real-time flow of information between homeland security partners. This data collected from across the country is then fused into a master template, which allows the DHSNOC to provide a visual picture of the nation's current threat status. The DHSNOC is staffed by components of each agency under the DHS purview.

**Emergency Alert System (EAS), formerly known as the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS):** The EAS is a public warning system component that can provide critical information to the American public during emergencies via announcement on broadcast radio and television, cable television systems, wireless cable systems, satellite digital audio radio service (SDARS) providers, and direct broadcast satellite (DBS) providers. The national level system can be activated by the President to address the public across the entire nation during an emergency. State, tribal, territorial, and local emergency authorities and NOAA's National Weather Service can activate local parts of the EAS to issue localized emergency alerts, such as civil emergencies, missing persons/AMBER alerts, and weather alert information.

**Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** A site from which civil government officials, volunteer organizations, and the private sector can exercise direction and control of emergency operations. EOCs can be found at the federal, state, and local levels of government, as well as in various community organizations.

**Federal Communications Commission (FCC):** For the purpose of this Manual, the FCC is responsible for the rules that guide the EAS users and establish the testing procedures and times when they are to be accomplished.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Operations Center(s):** The primary FEMA Operations Center (FOC) is located at the FEMA Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center (MWEOC) in Bluemont, Virginia. The FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC) is located within the MERS Detachment Operations Center (MOC) in Thomasville, Georgia. The FAOC has the capability to function as the primary operations center if the situation dictates. The FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) is located at the FEMA Headquarters building in Washington, DC and monitors the WAWAS. These centers operate 24 hours a day.

**Federal Warning Point (FWP):** NAWAS terminals located at a federal installation have a responsibility for further dissemination of critical emergency information, including Attack Warning. An example of a FWP is the National Weather Service (NWS) stations.

**Flash Report:** A short message that gives the first available details of an incident such as a bombing, NUDET, disaster, etc.

**Greenwich Mean Time (GMT):** This is the mean solar time at the Greenwich Prime Meridian in Greenwich, England. Also called Zulu time or Universal Coordinated Time (UTC).

**Local Warning Point:** A facility in a city, town, or community that receives warnings and activates the public warning system in its jurisdictional area of responsibility.

**MERS Detachment:** There are six geographically located detachments in Bothell, Washington; Denton, Texas; Denver, Colorado; Maynard, Massachusetts, Thomasville, Georgia; and Frederick, Maryland. These FEMA assets provide prompt and rapid multi-media communications, information processing, logistics and operational support to federal, state, and local agencies during emergencies and disasters for government response and recovery operations. All MERS Detachments are self-sufficient and require no outside support for communications, logistics, operations, or maintenance of assigned systems and associated ancillary devices.

**MOC:** There are five FEMA MERS Operations Centers (MOCs) that are staffed 24-hours a day. They are located at each of the detachment locations mentioned above. In addition to their normal operations center duties, they function as a point of contact for the FEMA Regions during non-duty hours for both NAWAS and other state incidents. Each MOC is responsible for two FEMA Regions.

**Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale:** The Modified Mercalli Intensity value assigned to a specific site after an earthquake has a more meaningful measure of severity to the nonscientist than the Richter scale magnitude because intensity refers to the effects actually experienced at that place.

INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	V. Heavy

**National Military Command Center (NMCC):** This is the primary military operations center to execute the responsibilities assigned to the National Military Command System (NMCS). The NMCC is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**National Military Command System (NMCS):** Provides the U.S. national leadership and the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) with means for making accurate and timely decisions, including the communications required for rapid and reliable transmission of those decisions to all U.S. Military Forces under conditions of peace and war.

**National Response Coordination Center:** The NRCC is located at FEMA Headquarters and is the dedicated area where National Response Framework (NRF) Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) carry out interagency operations. The NRCC maintains a Watch Team on a 24/7 basis and begins interagency response operations. When directed, the FOC notifies the ESFs by its Emergency Notification System (ENS), to report to the NRCC for interagency operations.

**National Weather Service (NWS):** The NWS is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The NWS is a critical part of the NAWAS and are located on all 10 regional circuits and broadcast severe and dangerous weather information to state and local warning points. The NWS can also retransmit any warning information received from the FOC/FAOC over their NOAA radio system to the U.S. public.

**North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) Command Center:** This center is located at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado. NORAD relays real-time warning information to the FOC and the FAOC. This information includes: attacks from foreign territories and domestic terror, accidental missile launches, re- entering space debris, possible fire reports, nuclear, biological, and chemical incident reports.

**HQ U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM):** Co-located with NORAD at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, Colorado. USNORTHCOM partners to conduct homeland defense, civil support, and security cooperation to defend and secure the United States and its interests. This is all conducted through the NORAD USNORTHCOM Command Center (N2C2).

**Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC):** The NRC Operations Center monitors all nuclear power plant activities and relays significant emergency information to the FOC for notification of DHSNOC and other high-level departments and agencies.

**NUDET:** Nuclear detonation.

**Possible Fire Report (PFR):** NORAD detects fires and other unusual heat sources throughout the 50 states. NORAD notifies the FOC/FAOC so that they can relay the information to the affected area SWP by means of NAWAS.

**Priority Criteria:** Criteria established to determine eligibility for new NAWAS service or maintenance of existing service.

**Regional Circuits:** Ten separate NAWAS regional circuits that may be bridged by the FOC and FAOC. These circuits include the 10 FEMA Regions, the FEMA MERS Operations Centers (MOCs), Federal Warning Points (FWPs), Primary and Alternate State Warning Points and the NWS terminals.

**Re-entering Space Debris:** The Joint Space Operations Center (JSpOC) at Vandenberg AFB, California monitors all man-made space objects. JSpOC transmits record reports to the FOC and FAOC, called Trajectory Impact and Prediction (TIP), on each object that will re-enter the Earth's atmosphere. For those objects that re-enter over the FEMA's area of responsibility, the FOC/FAOC will notify the affected SWP(s). Re-entry data is also available via <https://www.space-track.org/auth/login>.

**Regional Communications Center:** These centers are located in the 10 FEMA Regions.

**Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC):** These regional centers are not staffed 24/7 until directed to do so, and then they mirror the FEMA NRCC with ESFs, support the regional administrator and coordinate requirements from the states to the FEMA Headquarters NRCC and NORTHCOM N2C2.

**Regional Warning Circuit:** This is the portion of NAWAS which lies within a FEMA region and connects the State Warning Points (SWPs) in that area with the region.

**Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act:** The Stafford Act provides the authority for the federal government to respond to disasters and emergencies, and to furnish assistance to save lives and protect public health, safety, and property. The President uses the authority of the Stafford Act to declare major disasters and authorize the disbursement of funds to deal with the consequences of disasters. Federal resources supplement the efforts and available resources of states, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused by natural or technological disasters.

**State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC):** A facility used by state personnel and emergency services to coordinate a state's response during a time of crisis/disaster.

**State NAWAS Circuit:** The portion of NAWAS that connects all Warning Points within a state with the State Warning Point (SWP) which includes all terminals bridged to the regional circuit through terminals located in the Primary and Alternate State Warning Points.

**State Warning Point (SWP):** Each state has a Primary and Alternate SWP. The primary SWP is staffed 24 hours a day and exercises operational control over NAWAS within the state. The Alternate SWP is generally located in the state EOC.

**The Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC)** is part of the National Weather Service and is one of nine National Centers for Environmental Prediction. It is the nation's official source of space weather alerts, watches, and warnings. SWPC provides real-time monitoring and forecasting of solar and geophysical events which impact satellites, power grids, communications, navigation, and many other technological systems.

**United States Coast Guard (USCG):** The USCG supports the national warning mission at their Operations Center with the NRC located in the Washington, DC area, and individual district operations centers at port locations in Miami, FL; New Orleans, LA; Alameda, CA; Seattle, WA; and Juneau, AK.

**United States Geological Survey (USGS):** The USGS is a science bureau within the United States Department of the Interior. It provides impartial information on the health of ecosystems, environment, and the natural hazards that threaten them.

**HQ United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM):** Located at Offutt AFB, NE, USSTRATCOM monitors space control missions and provides the FOC/FAOC with domestic missile launch schedules for scientific testing and items that are to achieve orbit.

**Warning Center:** Any center (federal, state, local) which is the source of first available information concerning any type of warning to the population.

**Warning Point:** A facility with the responsibility for receipt of warnings and other emergency information over NAWAS and dissemination in accordance with state and local emergency preparedness plans.

**Washington Area Warning System (WAWAS):** The WAWAS is a non-secure, dedicated telephone communication system for the Washington, DC metropolitan area. This system is owned and operated by DHS/FEMA and overall responsibility for system operation resides with the DHS/FEMA Operations Center (FOC). The WAWAS is not directly tied to the NAWAS circuits. However, the FOC can bridge the two separate systems together to pass warning information. The DHS/FOC has delegated day-to-day operations to the District of Columbia, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA).

**Washington Area Control Point:** The Washington Area Control Point is part of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA) and is the 24-hour emergency operations center that coordinates federal and city emergency operations in the Nation's Capital.

## Questions

Direct questions to the Director, FEMA Operations Center, P.O. Box 129, Mt. Weather, Virginia 22611. Email address: [fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-operations-center@fema.dhs.gov).

