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GROUND TO AIR RADIO MAINTENANCE

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This supplement supersedes Alaska Region Supplement 05-2004, Ground to Air Radio Maintenance, dated April 13, 2004, applicable to NWSI 30-2101. The Homer station was deleted.

 /SIGNED/

 July 20, 2009

Frank P. Kelly

Date

Regional Director

Ground to Air Radio Maintenance

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1. Introduction. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) Alaska Region completed a joint project to install ground to air radios at 12 Weather Service Offices (WSO). We commonly call these radios “mike-in-hand” radios. The following table lists the WSOs equipped with a ground to air radio, their authorized operating frequency, and the radio channel assigned to each frequency.

Station	Frequency (MHz)	Channel Number	Station	Frequency (MHz)	Channel Number
Annette	122.000	1	Kotzebue	122.650	4
Barrow	122.000	1	McGrath	122.000	1
Bethel	122.000	1	Nome	122.000	1
Cold Bay	122.000	1	St. Paul	122.000	1
King Salmon	122.000	1	Yakutat	122.000	1
Kodiak	122.550	3			

The purpose of this supplement is to define the NWS Alaska Region maintenance philosophy and responsibilities for the ground to air radios used in operations at the WSOs throughout the state.

2. Repair Priority. The ground to air radio requires a repair response within 3 days after failure notification. Following regional guidance, the station manager may decrease the response time required to meet an emergency where public safety is concerned.

3. Maintenance Philosophy. Repair of a defective radio will be done using a complete line replaceable unit (LRU) maintenance approach. The user will follow the instructions contained in the Failure Resolution section of this supplement when experiencing a radio failure.

4. Maintenance Responsibilities. The following section defines the maintenance responsibilities for the ground to air radios.

4.1 Electronics Unit Anchorage (EUA). The EUA electronics maintenance staff has the primary repair responsibility for the radios at all Alaska Region WSOs. The EUA staff will provide remote telephone support to help in fault isolation. The EUA staff will configure and maintain a stock of replacement radios and antennas.

4.2 Electronics Maintenance Staff at WFO Fairbanks and WFO Juneau. The electronics maintenance staff at WFO Fairbanks and WFO Juneau have the primary responsibility for preventive maintenance of the radios at the WSOs located in their maintenance areas. Preventive maintenance consists of scheduled cleaning of the major LRUs and performing transmitter power and antenna tests.

If the EUA staff cannot resolve a problem by LRU replacement (example: an antenna or cable failure), and the WSO is in either the WFO Fairbanks or WFO Juneau maintenance area, the EUA will contact the responsible Electronics Systems Analyst (ESA). The ESA will provide an electronics technician to travel to the WSO to troubleshoot and repair the radio system.

5. Failure Resolution. If there is a radio failure, the user will contact the Area Electronics Supervisor, or their designee, at the EUA at (907) 266-5122 to initiate a repair action. The EUA staff will try to resolve the problem remotely with the help of the WSO staff. If they cannot solve the problem, the EUA staff will configure and ship a replacement LRU to the WSO. Upon receipt of the LRU, the user will install the LRU and, if needed, contact the EUA staff for support. The user must then ship the defective system unit back to the EUA as soon as possible for repair.