

ARES Resource Typing Project

A resource typing list could be used on ARES resource net to quickly list needed communications equipment and registered ARES amateur radio operators. This list will be used during the early stages of activating ARES for an event. The type of communications equipment will be based on served agency needs for an event having wide area or more localized area that is affected. During the first hour of an event, it will be determined that a number of personnel and what type of communication equipment will be needed.

Almost any activation could proceed like this.

1st – Need operators to man incident command center like City or County EOC, command trailer, monitor a net, or be assigned as net control operator on a repeater.

2nd – Need mobile stations to move to a staging area.

3rd – Need portable fixed stations to be located with served agency communications needs.

To fulfill the first need, an ARES amateur radio operator must receive some training in emergency communications. He will also need to be qualified to serve with the agency and now most want us to have a background check before we can serve with them. We need to set a standard for the minimum training for an ARES amateur radio operator to have. There also must to be continuing education program required.

Required levels of training could be:

Member: Sign up to become an ARES radio operator.

Basic: Take ARRL Emergency communications course, Level I.
Participation in ARES training nets and attends EC ARES meetings.
Serve as a communicator at public service events.

Intermediate: Take ARRL Emergency communications course, Level II.
Get credentials from a served agency that they want to participate with. i.e. EOC, Red Cross, DPS, Hams for Hospitals etc. Take on roles that could lead to becoming a Leader.

Leader: Take ARRL Emergency communications course, Level III. Act as public service coordinator for an event. Serve as AEC.

To fulfill the second and third need, an ARES amateur radio operator must have equipment that is ready to be deployed for an event. We need to list what communication equipment is necessary to fulfill the local area needs.

Some equipment types could be.

Shadow 1 – 146 MHz - HT

Shadow 2 - 146 / 440 MHz- HT

Mobile 1 – 146 MHz 25W or greater

Mobile 2 - 146 / 440 MHz 25W or greater

Mobile 3 - 146 / 440 MHz and 5 band HF. 25W or greater

Portable 1 – 146 MHz 25W or greater, A/C power supply, coax, antenna and support

Portable 2 – 146 / 440 MHz 25W or greater, A/C power supply, coax, antenna and support

Portable 3 – 146 / 440 MHz and 5 band HF, A/C power supply, coax, antenna and support

For portable station with battery power, add B. i.e. Portable 2B.

For portable station with digital capabilities, add D. Portable 2BD or 2BWL2K.

These are simple classifications of operator skills and the equipment that might be needed in the first hours of a call out. The list needs to be simple and easy to remember so a resource net can proceed with listing the needs and getting the needed operator and communications equipment deployed as fast as possible.