VARA FM Practical Tailgate Training

August 27, 2024 1300-2000

Part A:

Refer to "Appendix A". Use the ICS-205 to determine what frequencies to use for this training. Refer to "Appendix B" for local VARA FM nodes information.

Contact Net Control on the Primary Repeater for any last-minute updates!

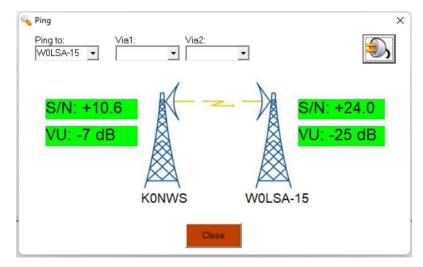
Ensure Audio Drive Levels are correct...

On VARA FM, do a "Drive Level Calibration" to W0LSA-15. This will ensure that your audio TX/RX settings are in the ballpark. Fine tuning can be done later. See sample image below:

Main Menu >> Settings >> SoundCard... >> Auto Tune button

👋 Drive Level Calibrati	n	×
Calibrate with:		
WOLSA-15 -		
Dr	ive Level: -3 dB	
S/	N: +26.6 dB	
VL	J: -6 dB	
Por States and		
	Di Paris and	16850
111	2ª KANY	NNBA
and the second se	STORE STORE	
		State States
	Close	

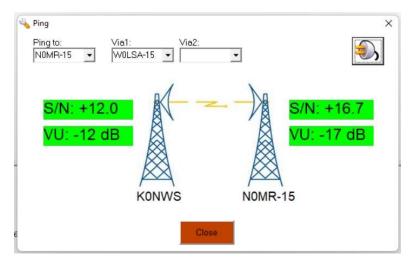
Once your Drive (Audio) Levels are "Approved" then perform a VARA FM "Ping" the WOLSA-15 VARA FM Digipeater.



Main Menu >> Ping

VARA FM Practical Tailgate Training...

- Compose and send a short email using the W0LSA-10 Winlink RMS Gateway at Maple WI:
 - Session Connection: Direct to W0LSA-10
 - Email:
 - To: KC0MKS;kc0mks@gmail.com
 - Cc: AA0AW;aa0aw@chartermi.net
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink Gateway...
 - Body: Testing Winlink RMS Gateway for VARA FM in Maple WI...
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending.
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for an email reply from Net Control.
- Compose and send a **short email** via **Winlink P2P**:
 - Session Connection: Direct to K0NWS
 - Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P...
 - Body: Testing Winlink P2P for VARA FM.
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- Compose and send a **short email** using **Winlink P2P** through a **VARA FM Digipeater**:
 - o Session Connection: Digipeater to K0NWS via W0LSA-15
 - o Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- **Ping** the **N0MR-15** VARA FM Digipeater using a **VARA FM Digipeater**:
 - Ping to: N0MR-15 via W0LSA-15
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending ping.
 - Notify Net Control when ping is done.



- Compose and send a short email using Winlink P2P through a VARA FM Digipeater:
 - o Session Connection: Digipeater to N0MR via W0LSA-15

- Email:
 - To: N0MR
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
- o Contact Net Control prior to sending
- Notify Net Control when sent.
- Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- Compose and send an email that contains a USA ICS-213 Form using Winlink P2P:
 - Session Connection: Direct to KONWS
 - Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
 - Find the ICS-213 Form and fill it out with data.
 - Submit the form and post to the outbox.
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- Compose and send an American Red Cross 213 Form using Winlink P2P and a VARA FM Digipeater:
 - Session Connection: Digipeater to KONWS via W0LSA-15
 - Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing ARC Form using Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
 - Find the ARC 213 Form and fill out to the best of your knowledge.
 - Submit the form and post to the outbox.
 - Contact Net Control prior to sending
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- Compose and send a Local Weather Report Form using Winlink P2P and a VARA FM Digipeater:
 - Session Connection: Digipeater to K0NWS via W0LSA-15
 - o Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing WX Form using Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
 - Find the Local Weather Report Form and fill it in as best as possible.
 - Submit the form and post to the outbox.
 - o Contact Net Control prior to sending
 - Notify Net Control when sent.
 - Wait for a reply email from Net Control.
- Compose and send a short email with a **Photo Attachment** using **Winlink P2P**:
 - Session Connection: Direct to K0NWS
 - o Email:
 - To: K0NWS;AA0AW
 - Subject: Testing VARA FM Winlink P2P Digipeater...
 - Body: Testing photo attachment using Winlink P2P for VARA FM Digipeater.
 - Take a photo at your current location, including selfie and radio setup if possible.
 - Reduce the size of the photo to less than 120k (for the purposes of this training, 30k or less).
 - Attach the photo to the email.

- Post to the outbox.
- Contact Net Control prior to sending
- Now would be a good time to incrementally fine tune your sound card levels. Use tiny steps...
- Notify Net Control when sent.
- Wait for a reply email from Net Control.

Part B:

For this part of the training, you will be on your own! Pack up all your gear and get ready to travel to a "Staging Area." Choose your "Staging Area" location from the below suggestions:

- Old Central High School
- Thompson Hill Rest Area
- Spirit Mountain Parking Lot
- Holy Rosary
- Hawk Ridge

From your new location at a "Staging Area", set up your equipment as before and start all over again from the top! Practice makes (nearly) perfect!

Keep in mind that direct connections to KONWS and AA0AW may not be possible. Try using a Digipeater...

Have fun!

-Jeff KC0MKS

			incident Name			Date/Time Prepared		Operatio	Operational Period Date/Time
	INCIDENTI	INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN	(Inter	10/4 IOPE (InterOPerability Exercise)	e)	8/24/2024 0:10	0:10	~	10/04/2024 06:00-18:00
"	Function	Channel Nam∋⊡runked Radio System Talkgroup	Ass gnment	RX Freq N or W R	FX Tone/NAC	TX Freq N or W	TX Tone/NAC	Mode A. D. or	Remarks
۲	Voice Repeater								
2	Amateur Radio	ARAC Duluth (Ch 30)	ARES	146.940	103.5	-146.390	103.5	A	Primary Repeater
3	Amateur Radio	NW Wisconsin Duluth (Ch 9)	ARES	145.310	n/a	-144.710	103.5	A	Secondary Repeater
4	Amateur Radio	NW Wisconsin Solon Springs (Ch 13)	ARES	145.490	n/a	-144.890	110.9	A	Secondary Repeater
5	Amateur Radio	TAC4 Maple (Ch 141)	ARES	444.925	110.9	+449.925	110.9	۲	Tertiary Repeater
9	Amateur Radio	TAC4 Duluth (Ch 126)	ARES	444.300	103.5	+449.300	103.5	A	Tertiary Repeater
7									
8	Voice Simplex					2	12		
9	Amateur Radio	ARES HV-Golf (Ch 93)	ARES	146.595	n/a	146.595	n/a	A	Primary Simplex
10	10 Amateur Radio	ARES HV-Hotel (Ch 104)	ARES	147.555	n/a	147.555	n/a	A	Secondary Simplex
11	11 Amateur Radio	ARES HV-Bravo (Ch 81)	ARES	146.415	n/a	146.415	n/a	A	Tertiary Simplex
12									
13	Digital						8		
14	Amateur Radio	VARA FM Network	ARES	145.690	n/a	145.690	n/a		VARA FM (NE MN)
15	Amateur Radio	Winlink VARA FM Gateway	ARES	145.690	n/a	145.690	n/a		VARA FM (NE MN)
16	Amateur Radio	Winlink VARA FM P2P	ARES	145.690	n/a	145.690	n/a		VARA FM (NE MN)
17	17 Amateur Radio	Packet Network	ARES	145.010	n/a	145.010	n/a	۵	Packet (NE MN)
18	Amateur Radio	Winlink Packet RMS Gateway	ARES	145.010	n/a	145.010	n/a	D	Packet (NE MN)
19	Amateur Radio	Winlink Packet P2P	ARES	145.010	n/a	145.010	n/a		Packet (NE MN)
20	20 Amateur Radio	Winlink VARA HF RMS Gateway	ARES	80m/40m/20m	n/a	80m/40m/20m	n/a		VARA HF (World Wide)
Pier	Prepared By (Communications Jnit)	(thu		D	ougias Count	Douglas County Fargrounds	Superior Wisconsin	nsin	
Ame	ateur Radio: Doug Nelson (D	Amateur Radio: Doug Netson (DEC), Jeffrey Nast (EC), Ray Barnes (EC), Dave Miller (EC), John Cavanaugh (EC)	anaugh (EC)	ă	Douglas County WI	by WI N 46.68358 W 92.10119	2.10119		
Ţ	e convention calls for fre	The convention calls for frequency lists to show four digits after the decimal place, followed by either an "N" or a "W", depending on whether the frequency is	ollowed by elthe	er an "N" or a "W", dep	ending on	whether the frequen	icy Is		

arrest of the band. Mode refers to either "A" or "D" indicating analog or digital (e.g. Project 25) or "M" indicating mixed mode. All channels are shown as if programmed in a control station, mobile or portable radio. Repeater and base stations must be programmed with the RX and TX reversed.

Appendix A: 10/4 IOPE ICS-205

3/2007

ICS 205 Excel

Appendix B: Local VARA FM Stations...

Image: Control Image	VAR/	A FM Nodes	VARA FM Nodes in NE MN and NW WI					
Image: Section	0	Slick here for a map	Amatuer Radio Digital Nodes					
ImageCityTypeFrequencyCall SignEssotericNARA FMImageVARA FMType145.690KCOMKSPigpeeterPigpeeterImageVarueVARA FM145.690NOLCKNOLCKNOLCK-15ImageVarueVARA FM145.070NOLCKNOLCK-15ImageVarueVARA FM145.070NOLCKNOLCK-15ImageVarueVarue145.070NORS-10777ImageVarueVarue145.690NORK777ImageVarueVarue145.690NORK777ImageVarue145.690NORK145.690NORKImageVarueVarue145.690NORK777ImageVarueVarue145.690NORK145.690NORKImageImageTypeFrequency145.690NOLK145.690ImageImageTypeFrequency145.690NOLSA-15ImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarueVarueVarueVarueImageImageVarue	Clubs	& Individuals	. [Usually active full time]					
Knife RiverVaRA FM P2P145.690KCOMKSKCOMKS-15No HarborsVAVA HM WININK P2P145.690NOLCKNOLCK-15NiginiaVaRA FM Winink RMS Gateway145.070NOSKS-10777ViginiaVaRA FM Winink RMS Gateway145.070NOSKS-10777NalesVaRA FM P2P145.690NOMR777MalesVara FM P2P145.690NOMR777LastVara FM P2P145.690NOMR777LastVara FM P2P145.690NOMR777LastVara FM P2P145.690NOMR777LastVara FMVara FM145.690NOMRAdoleTypeFrequency145.690VARA FMAdoleVara FM Winlink RMS Gateway145.690VOLSA 10VARA FMAdoleVara FM Winlink RMS Gateway145.690VOLSA 10VOLSA 10	State	City	Type	Frequency	Call Sign	Essoteric	VARA FM Digipeater	Notes
Iwo HarborsWed HarborsValee145.690NULCK+1NULCK+15VirginiaVARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway145.070NOSKS-10??????ValeeValee145.690NOMR?????WaleeValee145.690NOMR?????WaleeValee145.690NOMR??????MableMableFrequency145.690NOMR???MapleType145.690NOMR??????MapleMapleMableYeacheringYeacheringYeacheringMapleVara FM Winlink RMS Gateway145.690WOLSA-10WOLSA-10	NW	Knife River	VARA FM P2P	145.690	KCOMKS		KCOMKS-15	KCOMKS - Jeffrey Nast
VirginiaVARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway145.070NOSKS-10???NodesVARA FM P2P145.690NOMR0WalesVARA FM P2P145.690NOMRNOMR-15MalesVales145.690NOMRNOMRInterventional structural structura	NW	Iwo Harbors	VAHA FM Winlink P'2P	145.690	NULCK		NULCR-15	N90LCK - Lake County KACES/ARES
Wales VARA FM P2P 145.690 NOMR NOMR-15 Males VARA FM P2P 145.690 NOMR NOMR-15 List Pathener Pathener Pathener NOMR-15 List Pathener Pathener Pathener Pathener Adole Maple VARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway 145.690 WOLSA-10	NW	Virginia	VARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway	145.070	N0SKS-10		446	NOSKS - Kevin Moon
Ibs & Individuals [Usually active full time] Frequency Maple Maple Frequency Maple	WW	Wales	VARA FM P2P	145.690	NOMR		NOMR-15	
ation ation ation ation by the call Sign Essotatic Digipeater Maple VARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway 145.690 W0LSA-10 W0LSA-15	Clubs	& Individuals	. [Usually active full time]					
Maple VARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway 145.690 W0LSA-10 W0LSA-15	Location		Type	Frequency	Call Sign	Essoteric	VARA FM Digipeater	Notes
	M	Maple	VARA FM Winlink RMS Gateway	145.690	W0LSA-10			WLSAR - Western Lake Superior Amateur Responders