



Emergency Communications - 'Wilderness Protocol'

Wilderness Protocol is a suggestion that those outside of repeater range should monitor standard simplex channels at specific times, in case others have Emergency or priority calls.

This system was conceived to facilitate communications between hams that were hiking or backpacking in wilderness areas, outside of repeater range.

*Wilderness Protocol should not be viewed as something just for people in the wilderness or outside repeater range. It can and should be used by everyone, everywhere. The protocol only becomes effective when many people use it.

Implementing Wilderness protocol, stations should monitor the primary (and secondary, if possible) frequency every three hours starting at 07:00, for five minutes. Those stations that have sufficient power resources, or who can do so, should monitor for five minutes starting at the top of every hour or even continuously.

Primary frequency: 146.520 MHz

Secondary frequencies: 52.525, 223.500, 446.000, 1294.500 MHz

Priority transmissions should begin with the LiTZ signal. (Long Tone Zero) which is a tone produced before the transmission. Do this by keying up and holding down the zero key for about ten seconds, to continuously transmit the zero DTMF tone. Then proceed to make your emergency call. This will help listeners to recognize that an emergency or priority call is coming through.