



# **Alaska Land Mobile Radio Communications System**

## **Spectrum Licensing and Management Procedure 400-12**

**Version V15**

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## Document Revision History

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## **Acronyms and Definitions**

**Alaska Federal Executive Association (AFEA):** federal government entities, agencies, and organizations, other than the Department of Defense, that operate on the shared ALMR system infrastructure.

**Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) Communications System:** the ALMR Communications System, as established in the Cooperative and Mutual Aid Agreement

**Alaska Municipal League:** a voluntary non-profit organization in Alaska that represents member local governments.

**Alaska Public Safety Communication Services (APSCS):** a State of Alaska (SOA) office in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) that operates and maintains the SOA Telecommunications System (SATS) supporting ALMR and provides public safety communication services and support to state agencies.

**Department of Defense – Alaska:** Alaskan Command, US Air Force and US Army component services operating under United States Pacific Command and United States Northern Command.

**Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA):** a State of Alaska (SOA) department where the SOA Telecommunications System (SATS) and ALMR programs reside.

**Executive Council:** governing body made up of three voting members and two associate members representing the original four constituency groups: the State of Alaska, the Department of Defense, Federal Non-DOD agencies (represented by the Alaska Federal Executive Association), and local municipal/government (represented by the Alaska Municipal League and the Municipality of Anchorage).

**Federal Communications Commission (FCC):** for the purposes of ALMR, the Federal level governing body that approves the use of commercial, maritime, state, local and other agencies that are not a part of the Department of Defense or other Federal agencies radio frequency spectrum through the issuance of radio station authorizations once coordination with all potentially affected agencies has been completed. The approvals will in most cases (exceptions might be waivers or special temporary authority) be for use of a particular portion of a frequency band that has been pre-authorized through the frequency band table of allocations. In addition, the FCC maintains the communications tower registration program.

**Municipality of Anchorage (MOA):** the MOA covers 1,951 square miles with a population of over 300,000. The MOA stretches from Portage, at the southern border, to the Knik River at the northern border, and encompasses the communities of Girdwood, Indian, Anchorage, Eagle River, Chugiak/Birchwood, and the native village of Eklutna.



**National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA):** the President's principal adviser on telecommunications and information policy issues, and in this role frequently works with other Executive Branch agencies to develop and present the Administration's position on these issues; manages the Federal use of spectrum; performs cutting-edge telecommunications research and engineering, including resolving technical telecommunications issues for the Federal government and private sector; and administers infrastructure and public telecommunications facilities grants.

**Operations Management Office (OMO):** develops recommendations for policy, procedures, and guidelines; identify technologies and standards; and coordinates intergovernmental resources to facilitate communications interoperability with emphasis on improving public safety and emergency response communications.

**Radio Station Authorization:** the document issued by the FCC that authorizes an agency to utilize portions of the radio frequency spectrum for their deployed communications equipment.

**State of Alaska (SOA):** the primary maintainer of the states' microwave system, and shared owner of the system.

**System:** the ALMR Communications System, as established in the Cooperative Agreement, including System Design/System Analysis (SD/SA) and System Design/System Implementation (SD/SI) documents.

**User Council (UC):** governing body responsible for recommending all operational and maintenance decisions affecting the system. Under the direction and supervision of the Executive Council, the User Council has the responsibility for management oversight and operations of the system. The User Council oversees the development of system operations plans, procedures and policies under the direction and guidance of the Executive Council.

**Universal Licensing System (ULS):** the Universal Licensing system is a software-based system that provides FCC licensees the ability to submit for new radio station authorizations, modify, renew, or cancel existing radio station authorizations and provides the user an ability to track one's actions by FCC file number. The ULS provides a wide range of options to assist users with the means to take care of FCC transactions from one's desktop computer.



## **1.0 Purpose**

This document serves as a guide to cover the accounting for, distribution of, and radio station authorization licensing actions for Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) Communications System sites and other equipment used to ensure the operational readiness of ALMR in accordance with State of Alaska and DOD Spectrum Sharing Agreement, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) documentation.

## **2.0 Roles and Responsibilities**

### **2.1 Executive Council**

The Executive Council (EC) shall be responsible for the management and enforcement of sanctions when violations of the Spectrum Licensing and Management Procedure warrant such action.

### **2.2 User Council**

The User Council (UC) shall be responsible for the formal approval of the Spectrum Licensing and Management Procedure and any substantial revisions hereafter.

### **2.3 Operations Management Office**

The Operations Management Office (OMO) will establish policies, direct updates, and monitor site and equipment licensing documentation accountability activities to improve the administrative document maintenance program.

**NOTE:** The State of Alaska maintains copies of the licenses for their radio sites and the DOD services maintain their individual site licenses.

### **2.4 Joint Frequency Management Office – Alaska**

2.4.1 Joint Frequency Management Office-Alaska (JFMO-AK), as part of Alaskan Command (ALCOM) J6, assigns frequencies for intra-area use per existing national and international instructions and agreements and manages coordination and control of all US military use of the assigned frequency spectrum within a 200 nautical-mile radius of Alaska.

2.4.2 The JFMO-AK office:

- Utilizes the Spectrum XXI system for all frequency assignment processing,
- Performs assignment reviews, modifications, and deletions,
- Submits for new proposals, when required,



- Ensures that all military sites are properly licensed,
- Maintains a database of all Department of Defense (DOD) assignments,
- Works closely with the State of Alaska frequency coordinator for joint spectrum use issues and keep each other informed on all ALMR-related spectrum record/licensing changes,
- Works with the US Army Spectrum Management Office, US Army Frequency Management Office and US Army-Pacific Spectrum Office on US Army-Alaska and DOD spectrum issues,
- Works with the NTIA and Spectrum Planning Subcommittee (SPS) for approval of new locations to provide military communication systems growth and expansion within the Alaskan area of responsibility, and
- Ensures copies of pertinent documentation are provided, when changes are made, or updates/renewals are received to any of the documents.

## **2.5 Alaska Public Safety Communications Service**

2.5.1 The State of Alaska (SOA) Department of Public Safety (DPS), Alaska Public Safety Communication Services (APSCS) obtains frequency authorizations for intra-area use per existing national and international regulations. The SOA APSCS office manages, coordinates, and is the licensee for the State of Alaska Telecommunications System (SATS) assigned frequency spectrum comprising the backbone infrastructure and ALMR.

2.5.2 For ALMR, the FCC Licensing Coordinator will be responsible for maintaining a current Federal Registration Number (FRN) with the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Universal Licensing System (ULS) and perform the following tasks on an as-needed basis:

- License renewals, modifications, and cancellations,
- Submit for new licenses, when required,
- Work with accredited spectrum coordination agencies to gain new spectrum approvals; maintain records of all licensing coordination documents,
- Ensure all sites/equipment are properly licensed,
- Maintain tower registrations for all applicable SOA towers,
- Maintain a database of all SOA FCC licenses,
- Submit for and gain approval through the FAA for new tower aeronautical studies,
- Maintain accountability of all approved FAA studies for existing SOA towers,
- Submit appropriate construction completion documentation to the FCC through use of ULS for licensing purposes and to the FAA when new tower construction has been completed (FAA 7460-2),
- Perform ULS administrative updates to SOA licenses, as needed,



- Work closely with the JFMO-AK frequency manager for joint spectrum use issues and laterally coordinate on all ALMR-related spectrum record/licensing changes, and
- Ensure copies of pertinent documentation are provided when changes or updates/renewals occur to any of the documents.

### **3.0 Standards**

#### **3.1 General**

Having the appropriate site documentation, licenses, and registrations is an important component of the overall ALMR system. Without the required documentation available, any number of problems could arise that may lead to extended outages and possible government fines. Missing documentation or changes to existing documents should be reported as soon as they are discovered and once reported, should be addressed, and corrected in an expeditious manner.

The following information concerns the ALMR system (as a whole) as well as documentation of each site that pertains to radio station authorizations (licenses), registrations and FAA approvals.

#### **3.2 Documentation**

SOA APSCS shall serve as the primary depository for records maintenance and the JFMO-AK shall serve as the alternate depository. FCC, NTIA, licenses, permits, and other governing spectrum reference documents, plans, procedures, manuals, and records that are used by ALMR management, operations, and maintenance personnel shall be kept in a central reference library and organized by site, or for the ALMR system as a whole, using standard office filing procedures.

The OMO will maintain copies of associated frequency permits and licenses in the site books, when provided by the corresponding site owner. Specific documents, located with the appropriate records custodian, who should be available for reference when issues arise concerning site spectrum licensing and or registrations include the following:

##### **3.2.1 Library**

- ALMR VHF Spectrum Management Plan
- State of Alaska Region 2, 800 MHz Regional Coordination Plan
- State of Alaska Region 2, 700 MHz Regional Coordination Plan

##### **3.2.2 Administrative Support Files**





Records for each ALMR site, or for the ALMR system, are the responsibility of the SOA APSCS (primary depository) and the ALCOM JFMO-AK (alternate depository) for the following:

- Master file(s) of original and/or copy of the site(s) FAA Form 7460-1 (Aeronautical Study Approval). The FAA web site can be used for validation and as an additional resource for permanent records,
- Master file(s) of original and/or copy of the site(s) FAA Form 7460-2 (Notice of Tower Construction completion),
- Master file(s) of original and/or copy of the site(s) FCC Form 601 (Radio Station Authorizations) for all communications equipment at a particular site requiring a FCC license. Files should be maintained by authorization Call Sign. The FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) can be used for validation and as an additional resource for permanent records,
- Original and/or copy of all FCC Tower registrations, if/where applicable,
- Master file(s) of original, and/or copy, of the DOD NTIA spectrum approvals,
- FCC Rules and Regulations with quarterly updates on Wireless Telecommunications regulation,
- FAA Form 7460-1, Aeronautical Study Determination/Approval,
- FAA Form 7460-2, Tower Construction Completion Notice,
- FCC Form 601, Radio Station Authorization (License to Operate), and
- FCC Tower Registrations.

#### 3.2.2.1 ALMR System files

- Spectrum Sharing Agreement (between SOA and DOD),
- Copies of the FAA tower site approvals, as provided by SOA or DOD,
- Copies of the FCC Radio Station Authorizations, as provided by SOA,
- Copies of the DOD radio frequency authorizations, as provided by DOD,
- Copies of the FCC tower registrations, as provided by SOA or DOD,
- Tower loading diagrams, as provided by SOA or DOD, and
- Circuit Diagrams for the site, as provided by SOA or DOD.

#### 3.2.3 Permanent/Historical files

The permanent file and historical records of FCC licensing, tower registrations, NTIA radio frequency authorizations, and FAA Aeronautical Study approvals should be maintained in a controlled environment by the SOA FCC Licensing Coordinator and the JFMO-AK. At site locations in which there is a sharing agreement and neither the SOA or the DOD is the site owner, copies of the site owner's FCC tower registration (if applicable), FAA Aeronautical Study approval, and copies of the radio station authorizations should be secured for reference and filed with the approved sharing agreement.



## **4.0 Compliance**

Compliance with the Spectrum Licensing and Management Procedure is outlined in ALMR Spectrum Licensing and Management Policy Memorandum 400-12.