

The Emergency Alert System

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Program Coordinator
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Why Emergency Alerts Matter

When seconds matter, your station is a lifeline.

- Wildfires. Flash floods. Severe weather. Missing children. Public safety emergencies.
- In these moments, communities rely on trusted local broadcasters to deliver accurate, timely information.

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) helps ensure your station can:

- Receive critical emergency information
- Alert your community when it matters most
- Support public safety efforts across tribal, local, state, and federal partners
- **Your role goes beyond broadcasting — you are part of the nation's public warning system.**

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The FCC's mission:

“promoting safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communication”

47 U.S.C. § 151

U.S. National Policy

“It is the policy of the United States to have an effective reliable, integrated, flexible, and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people in situations of war, terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other hazards to public safety and well-being (public alert and warning system), taking account of functions, capabilities, and needs and to ensure that under all conditions the President can communicate with the American people.”

Executive Order 13407, “Public Alert and Warning System” (June 26, 2006)

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The National Public Warning System

The Emergency Alert System (EAS)

Allows Trusted Alerting Authorities to deliver important emergency information.

Radio and television broadcasters, cable systems, satellite radio and television providers, and wireline video providers.

Required alert: President to address the public during a national emergency.

Voluntary: Weather and AMBER alerts

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Trusted Sources

Who are Trusted Alerting Authorities?

- The President of the United States
- Tribal Governments
- The National Weather Service
- State, local, and county governments
 - Emergency management agencies
 - State police
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) for AMBER Alerts

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The Emergency Alert System (EAS) Rules

1. EAS Participants (Tribal Radio Stations) must:
 - Deliver Presidential alerts
 - Participate in nationwide, monthly, and weekly tests – to make sure EAS is working.
2. EAS participants can voluntarily deliver other alerts (weather and AMBER).
3. EAS Alerts must be accessible to people with disabilities.
4. EAS Distribution:
 - EAS alerts are delivered to EAS Participants over the internet from FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) gateway or over-the-air broadcast.

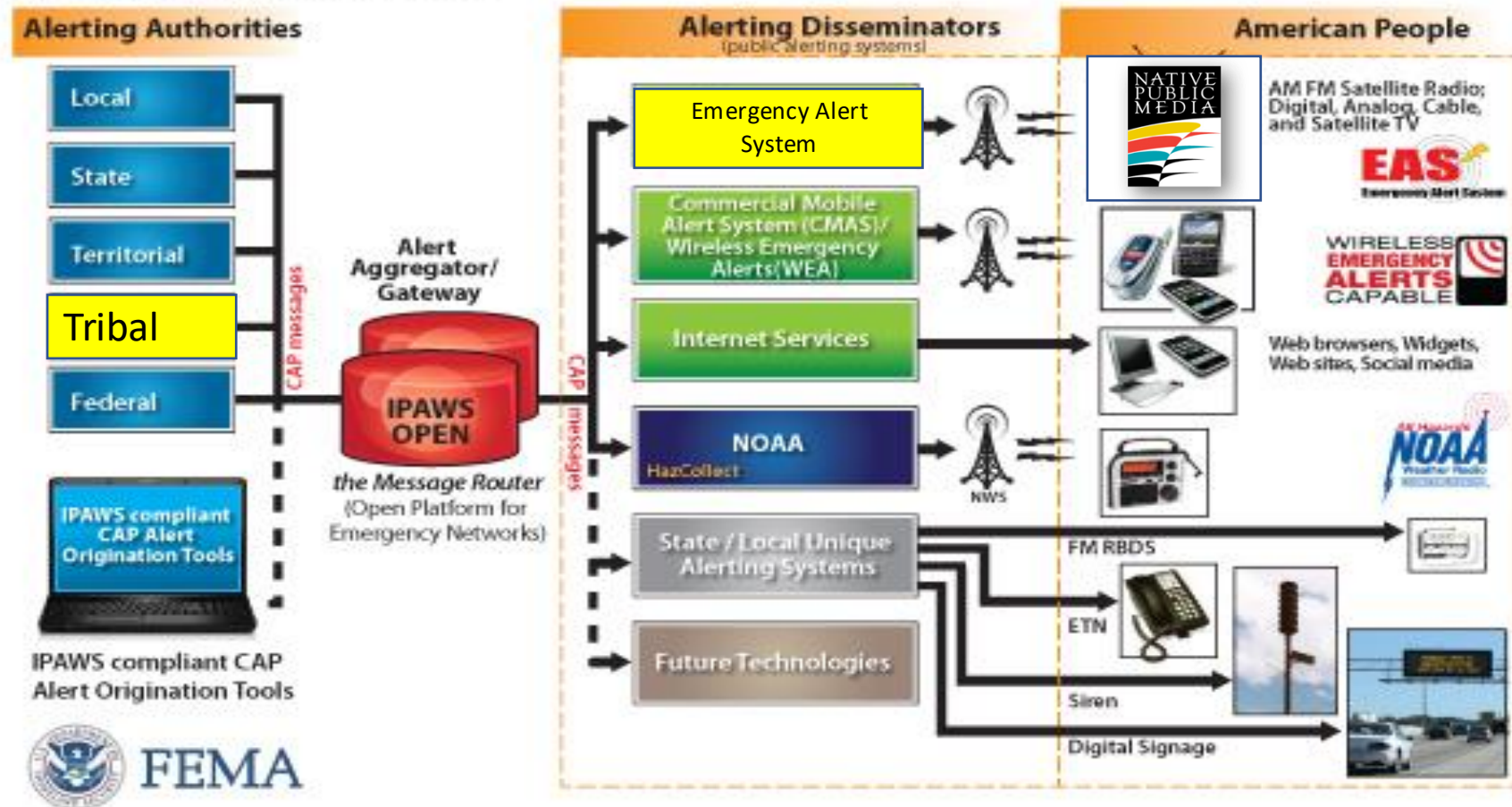
EAS Rules – 47 CFR §11.1, *et seq.*

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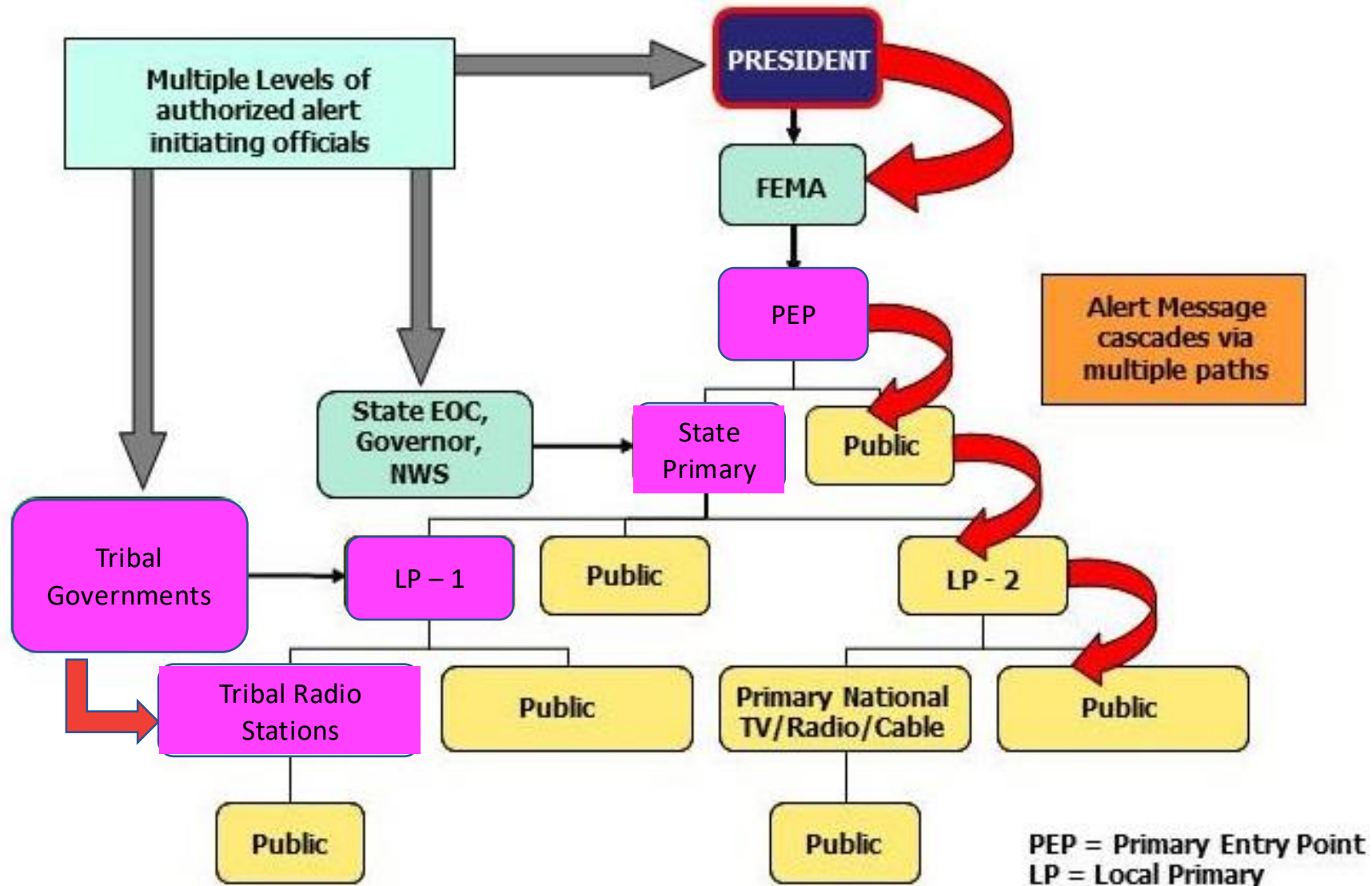
EAS Distribution over IPAWS

IPAWS Architecture

Standards based alert message protocols, authenticated alert message senders, shared, trusted access & distribution networks, alerts delivered to more public interface devices



How an Alert Makes Its Way to Your Station



Arizona Station Data

The last EAS test occurred October 4, 2023

Company ▼	Name of Licensee ▼	EAS Software Update ▼	NPM SURVEY ▼	EAS Working? ▼	NPM SURVEY ▼
KGHR 91.3 FM	Greyhills Academy High School	Unlisted			
KNNB 88.1 & 89.9 FM	White Mountain Apache Tribe	Unlisted	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644		No
KPYT-LP 100.3 FM	Pascua Yaqui Tribe	Unlisted	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644		No
KWAK-LP	Tohono O'odham Nation	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Yes	Yes
KGRF/KGRQ	Gila River Tribe	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Yes	Yes
KOHN 91.9 FM	Tohono O'odham Nation	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Yes	Yes
KTNN 600 AM/ KWRK 96.1 FM	The Navajo Nation	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Monroe Electronics/Digital Alert Systems - DASDEC-II	Yes	Yes
KUYI 88.1 FM	The Hopi Foundation	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Yes	Yes
KRMH 89.7 FM	Red Mesa Unified School District	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	No	No
KYAY 91.1 FM	San Carlos Apache Tribe	Unlisted	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644		No
KWLP-LP 100.9 FM	Hualapai Tribe	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Sage Digital Endec Model 3644	Yes	Yes

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NPM EAS Data

- 91% of NPM stations are listed in the EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS).
- NPM is working with ETRS “Unlisted” stations in submitting the necessary documentation through the FCC in becoming “Listed” when the next filing window opens.
- 71% of NPM stations participated in the October 2023 National EAS Test.

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Arizona Daisy Chain

Primary Entry Point	State Primary	Local Primary 1	Local Primary 2	NPM Call Letters	City	County
KDRI	KTAR	KNAU	KAFF	KGHR	Tuba City	Coconino
		KTAR	KJZZ	KGRF	Chandler	Maricopa
		KRFM	KWRK	KNNB	Whiteriver	Navajo
		KRQQ	KNST	KOHN	Sells	Pima
		KRQQ	KNST	KPYT	Tucson	Pima
		KRFM	KWRK	KRHM	Teec Nos Pos	Apache
		KRFM	KWRK	KTNN	Window Rock	Apache
		KRFM	KWRK	KUYI	Kykotsmovi	Navajo
		KRQQ	KNST	KWAK	Sells	Pima
		KWAP	KNLB	KWLP	Peach Springs	Mohave
		KRQQ	KNST	KYAY	San Carlos	Gila

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Newer FCC EAS Rules

Transitions the EAS from legacy daisy chain alerts to the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP)

The new EAS rules became effective on December 12, 2022.

Broadcasters will be required to implement these new rules by December 12, 2023.

This one-year period transition period for allows EAS participants to implement the required technical changes.

Common Alerting Protocol

CAP alerts are Internet-based versions of alerts delivered through the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

The CAP format allows the alert to have more information (including video clips for TV), augmented warning information, and foreign language versions of the alert.

CAP alerts are more informative and easier to understand by the public, particularly people with disabilities.

CAP alerts avoid the traditional daisy chain-delivered alerts that are less informative and of lower quality.

How to maintain EAS Compliance?

1. Maintain EAS Equipment
2. Monitor Assigned Sources
3. Conduct and Log Required Tests
4. Relay National Alerts
5. Review State EAS Plans
6. Respond to FCC Inquiries and Inspections



EAS Readiness Check

- Do we know our assigned EAS monitoring sources?
- Who is responsible for checking EAS equipment?
- Who performs and logs weekly/monthly tests?
- Are our EAS procedures available to all staff?
- Who do we contact during an emergency?





Why compliance is important?

- Ensures rapid dissemination of emergency alerts
- Ensure alerts are reaching a broader audience
- Ensures your station is following federal standards
- **Ensures Tribal communities are informed and safe**

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Thank you!

Questions?

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