



'The Rag'

COARECT'S Online Monthly Newsletter – July 2026
Emailed to all COARECT members monthly and available
on the COARECT.com website.

GENERAL MEETING DATE CHANGE

The COARECT General Meeting date has changed to Saturday, July 11th, at 9:30am due to the 4th of July holiday. Doors open before the meeting at 9am for coffee and an in-person 'rag chew'. The 'Show and Tell' portion of the meeting will focus on mobile emergency gear. If you have something special in radio gear that allows you to go mobile like power supplies, emergency kits, special antennas, bring them. All of us are looking for equipment ideas that make us better prepared radio operators. Zoom will be available for those who cannot make the meeting in person.



WALKER RANGE NEEDS YOUR HELP



Walker Range Fire Patrol Associates has scheduled 'Water Pump' training on July 18th, 9:00am at the Walker Range headquarters in Crescent. Plan on warm weather and wear appropriate clothing. This training will include traveling to various pump sites and may last most of the day. Pack a lunch and bring plenty of water.

RD spoke at a recent Walker Range BBQ about staffing and the possible fire disasters that could take place this year. He said we are already seeing some of this in Colorado where very large, dangerous and fast-moving wildland fires are occurring. He said “It is hard to predict what is going to happen this year due to the lowest recorded snowpack in Oregon’s history”.



Walker Range Fire Patrol Associates has a good team of trained fire fighters, and they will need support from the members of COARECT. This could include filling water tenders, running water pumping stations, delivering meals, moving equipment and any other non-firefighting chores. RD wants to plan for the worst and pray we will not be needed. Please come out to this training if you think that you have the time and ability to support the Walker Range team.

Directions to the Walker Range Fire Patrol Associates Headquarters: The address is 135393 U.S. 97, Crescent, Oregon. Located on Hwy 97, about a mile south of the town of Crescent. Watch for the headquarters sign on the east side of the highway. Please be careful when exiting or entering highway 97!

FIELD DAY



COARECT participated in the ARRL National Field Day event on June 27th and 28th. Even though the Field Day site needed to be changed to a new location along the Upper Deschutes River, due to campers already occupying our original site, the event went well with 38 voice contacts and 9 or 10

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digital contacts during the Field Day contest time limits. However, the weather did not cooperate with outdoor activities, which included colder than normal temperatures, rain, and wind. Quite a few folks visited this new location because of its close proximity to La Pine. 20 plus people shared a potluck meal Saturday Night.

We look forward to the next Field Day Event in January 2027, during the La Pine Ham Radio Swap Meet. Thanks, again, to everyone who helped setup the Field Day Event and participated.



PREPARADNESS DRILL

COARECT conducted a Preparedness Drill on Friday, June 26th in conjunction with COARECT'S 2026 Field Day event. This drill required COARECT and HiDarg radio operators to check in via radio. Net controllers received the check-ins from the Field Day site in the MICU and a remote location. COARECT members used the Walker Mountain repeater, and HiDarg members used the Mount Bachelor Repeater to check in. Radio stations checking in were asked a series of questions including station ID, GPS location and weather conditions. The drill began at 14:00 hrs. on Friday, June 26th and ended at 15:00 hrs. 16 COARECT members and 8 HiDarg members checked in during that time period. The information received from all stations was converted to a CSV file and emailed via Winlink to Paul K7PIL in La Pine.



"Sorry OM, I can only work QRP at the moment!"

We want to thank everyone who participated and worked the drill. The Preparedness Drill team included Mike KK7NBQ, Interim Incident Commander, Cyndi KJ7CPP and Alan KK7MKQ, Assistant Incident Commanders, Kirk KK7QEL, COARECT Net Control, Tony KK7EYI, COARECT Scribe, Mike KC7LUC, Hidarg Net Control, Beverly N6DFW, HiDarg Scribe, Jeff W7JST, Winlink Operator, Paul K7PIL, Pushover and Winlink Receiving Station, and Cliff WB7PSE, for putting the Preparedness Drill together.

We always discover issues when conducting these preparedness drills. That is the reason we do them. Look forward to the next drill and please participate in it. Future preparedness Drills and After-Action Reviews will be available soon on the COARECT website under the EmComm tab.

4th OF JULY PARADE



COARECT ran the MICU in the La Pine 4th of July Parade, right along with Walker Range, Crescent Fire, Oregon Forestry Fire and La Pine Fire. In addition, COARECT pulled the trigger and set up a booth next to Walker Range and ODF in front of the La Pine Fire station 101. Quite a few COARECT members came by and participated with the staff

working the COARECT table. Special thanks to Cyndi, KJ7CPP and Beverly N6DFW for set up, working and tearing down the COARECT booth.

A View from the MICU – Mike, KK7NBQ and Kirk, KK7QEL piloted the MICU in the parade. “We couldn’t believe the number of people (especially children) who watched the parade”. Kirk mentioned that he had not had this much fun in 20 years. He was hanging out the passenger window of the MICU waving and hollering “Happy 4th of July and God Bless America”. What an incredible opportunity to show COARECT’s national pride and support to our community.

CENTRAL OREGON EMERGENCY COMMS NET

There is a Central Oregon Emergency Comms NET every Thursday evening at 7:30pm or 19:30 hours on the Mt. Bachelor repeater. Frequency 145.450, minus,



103.5 tone. The Mt. Bachelor repeater works well for most hams in Central Oregon and there have been some check-ins from as far away as Eugene in the Willamette Valley. This Net is an attempt to bring all ham radio operators together in Central Oregon.

Please consider the opportunity to be one of the Net Controllers for this net. There is no regular rotation for net controllers, and you can volunteer to run just one or more of these nets at your choosing. Contact Mike Skeels, KC7LUC and he will direct you to the person who is scheduling net controllers for the Central Oregon Emergency Comms Net. This is great experience for operating a widespread comms net. Step Up and raise your hand!

ARE YOU REALLY READY FOR AN EMERGENCY?

We continue to beat the drum about being prepared. This summer may be the test that shows you if you are ready. Mid-State Electric may need to shut down the main power lines coming into La Pine. Customers have been notified that the power supply could be shut down to prevent forest fires during extreme fire danger situations. ARE YOU READY? Our concern is NOT how the Team is going to respond to an emergency; it is how YOU are going to respond personally. There is no way you can leave your home and help COARECT or Walker Range if you aren't prepared at home.



If the power goes out, will you be able to get gas for your vehicles? Will you be able to get money out of the ATM machine or buy groceries? Think about what conditions will be like if the power goes out and be prepared.

JOIN THE REPEATER TEAM REPEATER WORKERS NEEDED



I'd use the repeaters more,
but I'm a little chicken.

Jim Williams, AA1JW and Cy, KK7AZD, are looking for anyone in the COARECT Team who wants to learn about repeaters and has a desire to help work on the repeater team. The repeaters that Jim and Creagh own are an integral part of amateur radio use in and around South Deschutes, North Klamath and North Lake counties. Please contact Jim or Cy if you have the time to help with the repeater team. They will train you with what needs

to be done, you just need to be willing to help.

BUY – SELL – TRADE

Question? Are you happy with the way your ham station is set up? Do want to move up to dual band VHF/UHF or HF. How about adding a handheld, mobile / base station radio?

Contact the COARECT Tech Team, Robert, KJ7ZMT, flightlesspilot@yahoo.com, for advice and help to update your ham station. Do you have extra ham equipment that you would like to buy, sell, or trade, why not put a free notice on the COARECT website. Contact Paul, K7PIL to get something up on the COARECT **Buy – Sell – Trade** section of the website.

