

# Onslow ARES Repeater Failure Protocol

Onslow County has 4 analog repeaters that can be utilized for emergency communications. It is unlikely that all 4 of these repeaters will fail at the same time due to the individual separated locations of each. However, just in case prior planning is very important to be able to continue to support countywide ARES communications.

If failure on the primary net frequency (147.000 MHz) you will need to:

(1) Fallback to NB4TV Repeater 147.390 + 131.8pl

(2) Fallback to WD4FVO Repeater 145.190 – 88.5pl

(3) Fallback to KE4FHH Repeater 444.675 + 88.5pl

---

Move the Net to the NB4TV Repeater System (147.390 MHz)

**Get a volunteer** or assign someone **to remain on the primary frequency's output** (147.000) to announce that the net will be on the backup frequency. If the repeater is unusable, have them operate in simplex mode on the repeater's output frequency. Do this only if the repeater is unusable. Besides an off the air condition, "unusable" includes any condition that makes the repeater output unusable, such as distorted or noisy audio, low sensitivity, etc.

Once the net has been moved and the announcements are being made on the primary frequency, run the net in a normal fashion.

If the 147.390 MHz backup repeater is also unusable **move the net to the 145.190 repeater.**

If the 145.190 MHz backup repeater is also unusable **move the net to the 444.675 repeater.**

If the 444.675 MHz backup repeater is also unusable **move the net to 146.550 simplex, wideband (5kHz).**

(3) Fallback to a Unified Simplex Net

---

The same procedure and criteria apply here, but be sure that there is someone on the primary (147.000 MHz) **and** backup (145.190 MHz) frequencies announcing that the net will be on **146.550** simplex.

**Remind everyone to use relay stations** as needed in Simplex Net Operations.

1. Put that roll call list aside.
2. Ask for or assign a North County Area Relay Station, an Eastern County Relay Station, and a Southwest County Relay Station.
3. Call for check ins, checking in those stations you hear.
4. Have the **Northern** County area relay station ask for check ins and relay any check in heard.
5. Ask everyone to **only check in once**, even if they can hear any of the other 3 county area relay stations. (Northern, Eastern, and Southwest)
6. Have the **Eastern** County area relay station ask for check ins and relay any check in heard.
7. Have the **Southwest** County area relay station ask for check ins and relay any check in heard.
8. After all 3 of the Area Relay stations have taken their check ins, you, as the ACS/ARES NCS, will ask for any other check ins.
9. When the check in portion is over, the net should go on as any other net would. Have each of the Area Relay stations repeat your instructions and/or info. Be sure to ask if anyone needs fills or relays periodically.

## (4) Fallback to a Split Area County Simplex Net

---

If it's required, due to distance between stations, fall back to a split county simplex net. [\(See map\)](#)

### **Northern Area**

Suggested frequency is **146.580** (simplex, wideband [5kHz], [\(North of Hwy 17 & Hwy 53\)](#))

### **Eastern Area**

Suggested frequency is **146.550** (simplex, wideband [5kHz] [\(East of New River, South of Hwy 17\)](#))

### **Southwest Area**

Suggested frequency is **146.520** (simplex, wideband [5kHz], [\(South of Hwy 53 & west of New River\)](#))

[This also provides guard to the National Simplex Calling frequency in case of emergency.](#)

1. When a NCS has been established for all 3 Northern, Eastern, and Southwestern County Areas, have each of the Area NCS go to their assigned frequency to determine if the frequency is clear to use.
2. Then all 3 Area NCS should report back their findings to the ACS/ARES NCS.
  - If all frequencies are clear to use, have all stations move to their designated Area frequency.
  - If an assigned frequency is not clear to use, the ACS/ARES NCS will assign a new frequency to the Area or Areas affected and the Area NCS will again determine the newly assigned frequency's availability and again report back their findings to the ACS/ARES NCS before moving the stations in that zone to the new frequency.
3. All 3 Area NCS should then take a roll call of stations within their respective Area **only**.
4. Once they have completed their roll call have them report back to the ACS NCS and give their reports.
5. All other stations should remain on their assigned Area frequency until either released from the net or given further instructions.

