

## Repeater Operations Change Notice, VCARC Ministry 145.150

To all users of the Ministry 145.150 repeater in Eagle River. Per extensive discussion and approval of majority present and the Board, we have decided to conduct an experimental test of this repeater from Friday June 1, 2018 to Friday June 29, 2018. The repeater will be set for automatic C4FM (System Fusion) digital/analog during this time frame. Users are requested to comment please.

This means those who initiate a digital C4FM contact will come out on the repeater as C4FM, which will be heard as a very annoying digital bit stream for those in analog FM mode. The repeater will switch to analog FM if anyone attempts to break into the digital conversation.

If the other parties in C4FM conversation have their radios ALSO in auto mode, they will hear both the analog and digital transmissions via the repeater.

The repeater is already sending the receive PL, so go ahead and start programming per following.

- If you do not have Fusion C4FM capabilities, and do not want to hear any digital traffic, you **MUST** program your radio(s) for the receive PL of 114.8 and activate Tone Squelch mode if using RTSystems software or equivalent. Both TX and RX PL must be active.
- If your radio is a Yeasu and supports C4FM Fusion, make sure it is programmed for 'auto recognition' mode. See your specific manual, read carefully, double check results.

So, if you program your radio correctly, how will you know repeater is in use if there is a digital conversation going on? Most radios, even if in scan mode, will show a signal on the S meter but will not stop the scan. Older HTs/mobiles by Motorola will show the channel busy and may stop on scan if the receive PL is not programmed. And of course most older scanners will hear the digital, as only newer high end models have any PL settings at all.

We would like to hear from those operators whose only main radios can not provide a receive PL. Please email VCARC Net Manager Roger, KD9EPX at [rog15mn@yahoo.com](mailto:rog15mn@yahoo.com). Also interested in any comments, like regarding the following:

FCC rules do not appear to require announcing call signs in analog on a dual mode repeater, but from viewpoint of those without digital, do you think it would be much more polite to announce in analog your intention to initiate digital call, so those with no choice can QSY their radios or turn down the volume first? Should this become required protocol for this repeater if it stays in dual mode? And, digital users please leave enough of a pause between transmissions for analog breakers. Understand, this is only a courtesy issue. Any other ideas?

Please share your thoughts and comment during this trial period of June 1 to June 29. Thanks for your help. **NOTE: This plan has been activated as of 6/1 1400 hrs.**

Roger KD9EPX VCARC Net Manager