

For Immediate Release:

On Monday, June 1, 2020, the 146.820 - repeater, PL 110.9 Hz was placed in service as part of a several year long process to expand the Southwest Missouri Linked Repeater System (SMLRS) Eastward.

The repeater is located on the Missouri State Highway Patrol tower at Troop I in Rolla, MO with the antenna at 320' AGL and utilizes a Motorola MSF-5000 100-Watt repeater and a Comprod 872F-70TM 5.5 dBd gain antenna with Commscope AVA5-50 7/8" heliax.

The repeater is one of 3 repeaters now online for the Eastern half of the SMLRS, with the other two located in Willow Springs (146.985-, PL 110.9 Hz) and at Bendavis, about 10 miles Southwest of Houston (444.775+ PL 110.9 Hz). Currently these three repeaters are RF linked 100% of the time.

The Western half of the system includes the following repeaters, which are all RF linked as well:

146.655-	PL 91.5 Hz	Branson	KONXA	
442.150+	PL 162.2 Hz	Crane	KONXA	(Southwest System Hub)
145.390-	PL 91.5 Hz	Granby	KMOHP	(SE of Joplin)
145.450-	PL 91.5 Hz	Nevada	WOHL	
147.015+	PL 162.2 Hz	NE Springfield	KONXA	
147.225+	PL 162.2 Hz	SW Springfield	WOPM	
444.975+	PL 162.2 Hz	Stockton Lake	KONXA	(Northwest System Hub)
147.075+	PL 127.3 Hz	Warsaw	KMOHP	

To add a repeater to the system, we set forth several requirements which include all sites must have backup generator power, be professionally grounded to meet Motorola's R56 standards, utilize all commercial grade repeaters, and utilize the SCOM 7330 repeater controller. These minimum standards help ensure the system will be available when it is needed and have good systemwide audio and continuity of control. In addition, the repeaters have been installed in hardened shelters and have climate-controlled environments.

The SMLRS was formed when several groups, clubs and individuals decided regional communications on VHF was deficient after the Joplin Tornado and felt by pooling resources and talent a good working system could be built. With multiple groups and individuals involved, we can repair repeaters more quickly and also provide ownership for many hams in the area that donate time and funds to the system knowing they and their club/group helped build the system.

The system currently has two nets that are held weekly and all are invited and encouraged to check into them whenever possible. This helps us know if there are any problems with the repeaters in the system:

Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Nixa ARC Weekly Net
Friday	7:30 p.m.	Region D ARES VHF / UHF Net

In addition, regional public service events will use the system for bike rides, such as the Bike MS, and other events. Because of the dynamic configuration, we will sometimes utilize only a few of the repeaters for an event and remove them from the system so as to not tie up the entire system with their traffic.

If you have a public service event or net and would like to use the system, or if you have any questions, please send an email to swmlrs@gmail.com with your request.

Because we want everyone to be able to enjoy the system and not have it monopolized by a few people, we have set for some gentlemen's rules for using the system, please visit <https://smlrs.info/guidelines-for-use-of-smlrs/> for details.

In addition, you should check out the linked system's website www.smlrs.info where you can find information on the WESTERN half of the system (we will be updating it soon to include the East repeaters) as well as Level I and Level II documentation describing how the system is used for day to day operations and how it would be used during emergency operations, including severe weather should the Weather Service ever determine the use of the system necessary to obtain severe weather reports.

