



**Proudly serving those
who serve in the
Military Via MARS**

As well as

**FEMA, Homeland
Security, Whidbey
Island Community, US
Northwest and across
the United States:
Emergency
Management Agencies**

NAS Whidbey HF and

MARS STATION

AGA0WJ / W7UMX

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More Information about MARS

<http://www.af-mars.org/public/>

**Naval Air Station
Whidbey HF / MARS
Station**

AGA0WJ / W7UMX



WWW.NAS-Whidbey-MARS-Station.com

NAS Whidbey HF & MARS Station AGFA0WJ / W7UMX

NAS Whidbey HF Station supports many HF, VHF, and UHF communications needs in the United States.

The Military Auxiliary Radio System (**MARS**) is a Department of Defense-sponsored program. MARS was established to build and maintain a communications system capable of running in parallel with military communications systems in the event of communication overloads and/or national emergencies. The MARS staff is made up of communications specialists who volunteer to operate and maintain the station.

NAS Whidbey HF Station is instrumental in providing phone patch connections for military Aircraft via other HF sites across the US.

Our Mission today

We have evolved over the years to meet the needs of today's world with internet and cell phones.

The NAS Whidbey HF/MARS station is a member of the Air Force MARS team.

Our team also provide support for city, state and federal groups requiring HF and VHF/UHF communication support such as: Navy Region Northwest Emergency Operations Centers; *FEMA, Homeland Security, and SHARED RESources (SHARES) High Frequency (HF) Radio program.*

Station NAS Whidbey HF Station also utilizes what we call a Go Box and field installable antennas. An additional asset is our communications trailer

The trailer and/or the Go Box may be taken to the site of an emergency to provide communications for the events.

Training

It is important for our operators to train and maintain skills as required by DOD and other agency communication standards for both voice and several digital communications formats.

NAS Whidbey HF Station participates in daily disciplined MARS radio nets following the DOD communications and NATO operating procedures.

Daily communication with Washington, Oregon, and Idaho MARS stations assures our operators and equipment are ready to support Navy region NW, other DOD facilities and any emergency or disaster that may occur.

NAS Whidbey HF Station participates in Air Force, Army, and Navy exercises. The exercises may include establishment of a remote station and erection of our field installed antennas.

During communication exercises, operators send and relay messages via voice and digital to hone their skills.

Become a MARS Operator

Become part of the HF worldwide communications system.

The Place to Start

Get an Amateur license and become a MARS member. When accepted as a MARS member, you will receive a DOD/MARS call sign and you can start training to become a key player in the DOD and emergency communication systems.

With the approval of the NAS Whidbey HF Station Chief Operator, you could be eligible to operate the station under instruction while obtaining an Amateur license.

When you are licensed and ready, our Chief Operator will certify you for independent operation of the NAS Whidbey HF station.

Military Reservists standing watches at MARS are eligible to earn retirement points.

MARS members are happy to help new people learn more about DOD and emergency communications, as well as assisting individuals in obtaining their Amateur license.

If you would like to do something personally rewarding to serve your neighbors on Whidbey Island; the Northwest; and the United States, join us at NAS Whidbey HF Station.