

BCARCC COORDINATORS' REPORT for 2022 by George Merchant VE7GM, Chief Coordinator

This year's activities have focused on further development of our frequency lists as well as supporting many repeater operators who were enhancing their systems. The coordination of new repeaters was minimal. This year, many packet networks and simplex stations renewed their coordinations, indicating increased interest in these areas of our hobby. No new narrow-band repeaters were coordinated.

Our recently developed list of simplex nodes and stations has been of interest to many, indicating that the creation of this list has been beneficial.

We have had one instance of interference that has been resolved by the parties involved. The problem arose because a new repeater in the State of Washington interfered with an uncoordinated link about 300 Km. away on Vancouver Island. Although all parties do their best to avoid interference, we had, in this case, some unforeseen circumstances:

1. The Vancouver Island link was not coordinated, possibly because it was assumed to be "far and out of the way", but its receiving ability excelled.
2. The new Washington repeater went on air and was coordinated not being aware of the existence of the Vancouver Island link because it was not coordinated and therefore not shown in our frequency lists.
3. The link was not protected by CTCSS or any other access control. Therefore, the Washington repeater's signal was heard not only on the link, but throughout the network the link served. Although we were told that the Washington signal was stronger than the interfering signal, CTCSS access would have prevented the link from coming up while idle.

There are several lessons to be learned from this situation:

1. Always coordinate all repeaters to alert others that you are using the frequency.
2. It is best to have access controls, such as CTCSS or DTMF access on a repeater to avoid hearing undesired signals. It is imperative that access controls be used on links.
3. Finally, there are times when amazing and unexpected coverage by a repeater will cause interference within the footprint of another, distant repeater. Such unforeseen situations will always have to be dealt with as best we can. But that's what Ham Radio is all about, isn't it?

We can now announce that our new frequency list is now on our website. It allows you to sort by any column by clicking on the header, it allows you to list repeaters in any band, or all bands; any region of the province or the whole province and, if you wish, you can highlight any part of the displayed list, copy it and paste it into your own spreadsheet. It's a new feature and we would appreciate your feedback.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all the coordinators and Hams who have provided us with information and assistance of all kinds to make our work successful.

Number of current, coordinated repeaters by BAND:

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|---------|-----|-----------|---|
| 6m | 5 | 440MHz | 189 | Crossband | 1 |
| 2m | 248 | 900MHz | 3 | | |
| 220MHz | 25 | 1200MHz | 9 | | |

Number of current, coordinated repeaters by MODE:

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----------|----|-------|---|
| ATV | 3 | FM/C4FM | 39 | MMDVM | 2 |
| DMR | 18 | FM/D-STAR | 1 | NXDN | 3 |
| DMR/FM | 2 | FM/NXDN | 1 | P25 | 4 |
| D-Star | 17 | FM/P25 | 6 | Other | 8 |
| FM | 376 | | | | |