

File Code:

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To: All Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Employees

From: Assistant Director, Land Mobile Radio (LMR)

RE: Subscriber Unit (Portable/Mobile Radio) Firmware and Software

We recognize the need for periodic radio subscriber unit hardware, firmware, or software updates. Firmware and software patches mitigate emergent security issues and/or enhance functionality. Our goal is standardization of software and firmware used, to ensure version control and reduce the likelihood of erratic system performance.

To improve interoperability, flatten training curves, and improve safety, updates/upgrades are performed on a schedule approved by the LMR Operations Branch Chief or designee. Toward that end, LMR personnel will not download or install new firmware or software on any Forest Service radio outside this system-wide process. Instead, they will distribute and install standard version(s) of firmware and software as follows:

- A designated group of LMR employees tested and evaluated the latest version(s) of firmware and software prior to deployment.
- The LMR Operations Branch Chief determined minor issues found during testing are not significant enough to delay this upgrade. The versions that shall be used are, therefore, listed in Attachment A of this letter.
- If a new version of software or firmware is not identified for certain radios, they remain on the previous year's version.
- If a new version of software or firmware is designated, affected radios will be updated during annual preventative maintenance (PM) or programming updates. This is normally accomplished on or after 1 October of the FY and not during the months of May through September, unless a critical vulnerability is discovered and the LMR LT approves an out-of-cycle update.

This memo and its attachment supersede the one I sent on 8 Mar 24. My POC for questions about this is Kevin Ames, LMR Electronics Engineer, available at kevin.ames@usda.gov or at (406) 224-3864.

Stephen R. Day
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Attachment A

For FY25, the approved versions of subscriber unit firmware and software are:

Model	Firmware	Software
*BKR-9000	5.10.36f1	RES 5.8.38
**BKR-5000	5.8.69	RES 5.8.38
KNG2-P150	5.7.12	RES 5.8.38
KNGP-150CMD	5.7.12	RES 5.8.38
KNG-P150	5.7.12	RES 5.8.38
KNG-P150S	1.6.1	KNG Editor 1.2.0
KNG-M150	5.7.12	RES 5.8.38
KNG-M150R	5.7.12	RES 5.8.38
DPH5102X	Group99 Patch	DPH Editor 3.5.5
DPHX5102X	Update #103	DPH Editor 3.5.5
DMH5992X	Update #102	DMH Editor 1.1.3
***Kenwood NX-5700	5.20.00	KPG-D1SL 5.20
***Kenwood NX-5200	5.20.00	KPG-D1SL 5.20

*BKR-9000 – please refer to BK Service Bulletins 1092 and 1093 before installing new firmware.

**BKR-5000 – a new firmware release is expected later in January 2025. Once testing is complete, an updated memo will follow.

***Kenwood NX-5700, NX5200 – A new firmware release, that will include features for User selected NACs, is expected during the winter/spring of 2025. Once testing is complete, an updated memo will follow.

All Forests should upgrade to the firmware/software versions listed as soon as possible, taking care to clone to and from like models (e.g., P150 to P150 and P150S to P150S) only.

Stephen R. Day
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