

DMR: Beyond the Basics

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We've come a long way

- When I gave the DMR talk three years ago, there were about 44,000 registered DMR users
- Today there are over 130,000 registered users with over 151,000 DMR IDs
- A good selection of quality DMR transceivers are now available at attractive prices
- Hotspots have grown extremely popular, providing coverage even when a repeater is unavailable

Why use DMR?

- Low cost of entry new radios available for about \$100
- Easy to use (REALLY!) logical talkgroup layout
- Work the world from your handheld
- Great voice quality
- Spectrum efficiency about 1/3 the bandwidth of traditional analog FM
- Long battery life talk time is about 40% more compared to an analog radio of the same power rating

But I hate "Newfangled" or "Proprietary" Modes

- Consider the move from Spark to CW
- Again for the move from AM to SSB
- Amateur Radio is all about experimentation
- DMR is a well-accepted standard developed by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) and is used worldwide in professional mobile radio services

DMR Networks

- DMR-MARC (dmr-marc.net)
- K4USD (k4usd.org)
- ChicagoLand (chicagoland-cc.org)
- Brandmeister (brandmeister.network)
- DMR+ (dmr-marc.net/FAQ/dmrplusamerica.html)
- TGIF (tgif.network)
- Others

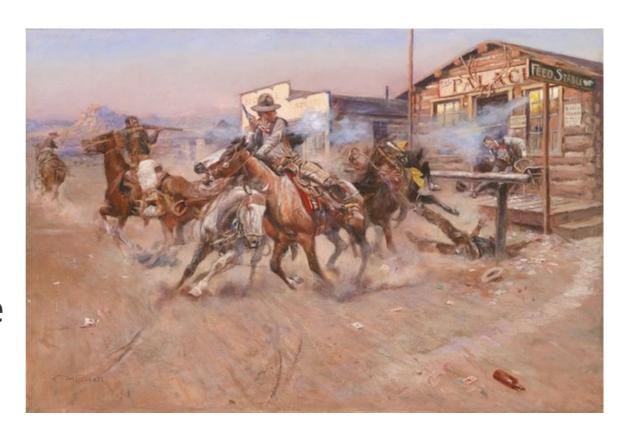
DMR-MARC

- Only Motorola repeaters can connect
- Set many of the talkgroup standards
- Reliable, commercial equipment
- Consistent Programming



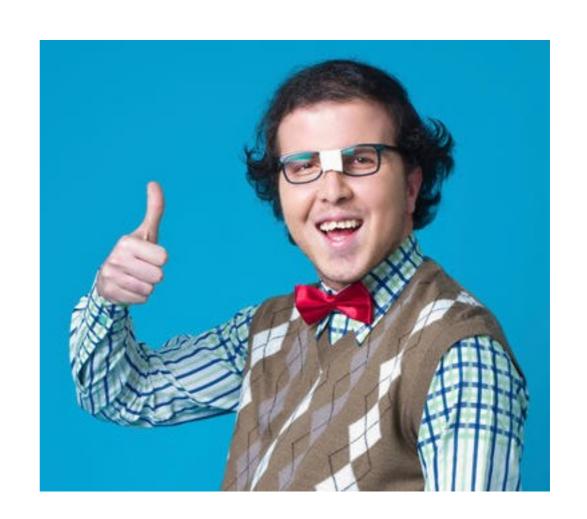
Brandmeister

- Repeaters and hotspots can connect
- Talker Alias
- Dynamic talkgroups
- Connections are anywhere from stable to challenging



DMR+

- Original network
- Repeaters and hotspots can connect
- Popular in Europe
- Experimentation encouraged
- Reflectors ("1000 talkgroups")



TGIF

- Repeaters and hotspots can connect
- Growing in popularity
- Ragchews encouraged
- Limited bridging to other networks



OK, Let's talk to somebody

- Request a DMR ID from RadioID.net
- Purchase a radio (and maybe a Hotspot)
- Install programming software
- Determine your access method (Repeater and/or Hotspot)
- Determine your desired talkgroups
- Download a codeplug (from fmarc.net / others) to modify/build upon
- Tweak or build your codeplug and program radio (Change the DMR ID to yours)

Hotspots

- Low power access point
- Not a repeater
- Connect to the Internet via Wi-Fi
- DIY or fully-built/assembled
- Avoid satellite frequencies! (435-438 MHz)



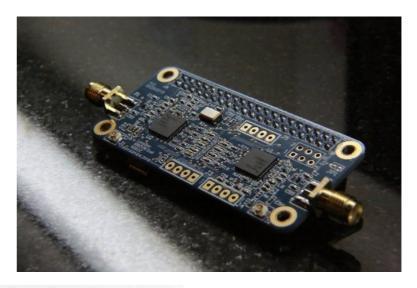


Hotspot Vendors

- Amazon, BridgeCom, Radioddity, HRO
- Ebay, AliExpress
- N5BOC (Tindie)
- SharkRF

Hotspot Boards







Hotspot Software

- pistar.uk
- Setup instructions: amateurradionotes.com/pi-star.htm

Modes E	Enabled	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	Gateway Activity											
D-Star	DMR	Time (MDT)	Mode	Callsign	Target	Src	Dur(s)	Loss	BER					
YSF	P25	09:20:35 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	MEDY	TG 310	Net	1.7	0%	0.0					
F XMode	NXDN	09:20:11 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	KASENC	TG 310	Net	1.6	0%	0.0					
R XMode	POCSAG	09:20:04 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	KE FOON	TG 310	Net	1.9	0%	0.0					
		09:19:51 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	HROAK.	TG 310	Net	1.2	0%	0.0					
Network	Status	09:18:37 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	VESPY	TG 310	Net	1.2	0%	0.0					
Star Net	DMR Net	09:17:50 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	REKV	TG 310	Net	0.5	0%	0.0					
SF Net	P25 Net	09:17:44 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	NIKC	TG 310	Net	0.8	0%	0.0					
SF2DMR	NXDN Net	09:17:41 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	MRRGRS.	TG 310	Net	0.5	0%	2.5					
SFZNXDN	YSF2P25	09:16:56 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	MERK	TG 310	Net	0.5	0%	0.0					
MRZNXDN	DMR2YSF	09:16:27 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	KFSAVS	TG 310	Net	10.6	0%	0.0					
		09:16:01 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	HS7GU0	TG 310	Net	2.7	48%	2.5					
Radio	Info	09:15:01 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	MSERK	TG 310	Net	31.1	0%	0.19					
	ening DMR	09:11:45 Oct 21st	DMR Slot 2	M9F0.2	TG 310	Net	1.6	0%	0.09					
	circing orac	09:09:16 Oct 21st	DMP \$1.0+ 2	48780	TG 310	Not	0.5	014	0 00					

Who to talk to?



Other Talkgroup consider	os to
Common name	TG#
BM Worldwide	91
BM NA	93
TAC	310- 319
BM Bridge	3100
Other Regions	31xx
Other States	31xx
QuadNet	31012
TGIF	31665

Sources of Talkgroup Lists

- Your local repeater's website
- KF5IW.com
- DMR-MARC.net
- Brandmeister.network

Sources of Talkgroup Lists

Connecting Southwest Florida to the world

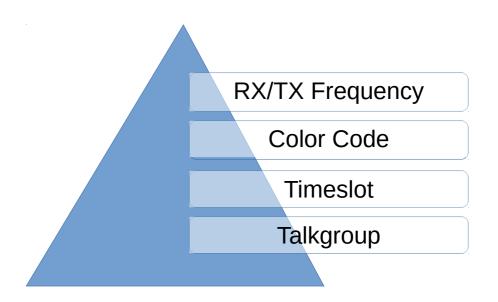
Partial talkgroup list from KF5IW.com

KF5IW DMR

KF5IW DMR Talkgroups TS TG# Talkgroup FT/PTT Notes 1 1 Worldwide PTT* 1 10 Worldwide German PTT PTT 1 13 Worldwide English 1 14 Worldwide Spanish PTT 1 91 Brandmeister WW PTT 3 FΤ North America 1 93 Brandmeister NA PTT 2 3100 Bridge PTT 1776 USA PTT 1 133 DMR+ USA PTT 31012 QuadNet PTT QuadNet website **TGIF** 31665 PTT TGIF website 3169 Midwest Regional PTT IA IL IN KS MI MN MO ND NE OH SD WI 2 3172 Northeast Regional PTT CT MA ME NH NJ NY RI VT 3173 MidAtlantic Regional PTT DC DE MD PA VA WV 3174 Southeast Regional FT AL AR FL GA KY LA MS NC SC TN

Programming the radio

- Frequency
- Color Codes
- Time Slots
- Talk Groups
- Zones



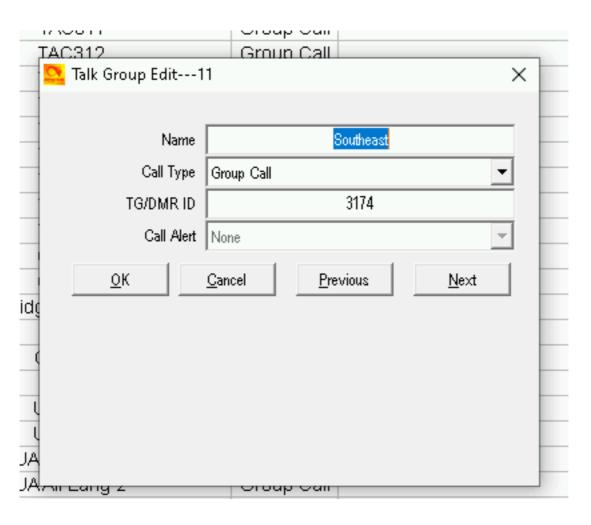
Make copies of each iteration of codeplugs. I append the date to each new codeplug I create.

Set up Talkgroup List

ile Model Set Program		vicov Ticip			
	<u> </u>				
868UVE - Public	No.	TG/DMR ID	Call Alert	Name	Call Type
Channel	8	3169	None	Midwest	Group Call
Zone	9	3172	None	Northeast	Group Cal
Scan List	10	3173	None	Mid Atlantic	Group Cal
FM	11	3174	None	Southeast	Group Cal
Auto Repeater Off	12	3175	None	Southern Plains	Group Cal
Basic information	13	3176	None	Southwest	Group Cal
-Optional Setting	14	3177	None	Mountain	Group Cal
Alarm Setting	15	3189	None	TriSt IL, IN, WI	Group Cal
Local Information	16	31121	None	First Coast NEFL	Group Cal
Hot Key	17	8951	None	TAC1	Group Cal
-Digital	18	310	None	TAC310	Group Cal
Radio ID List	19	311	None	TAC311	Group Cal
-Talk Groups	20	312	None	TAC312	Group Cal
Prefabricated SMS	21	313	None	TAC313	Group Cal
Receive Group Ca Encryption Code	22	314	None	TAC314	Group Cal
⊟-Digital Contact List	23	315	None	TAC315	Group Cal
- 120000	24	316	None	TAC316	Group Cal
2000140000	25	317	None	TAC317	Group Cal
4000160000	26	318	None	TAC318	Group Cal
-6000180000	27	319	None	TAC319	Group Cal
80001100000	28	3777215	None	COMM1	Group Cal
1000011200(29	3777216	None	COMM2	Group Cal
1200011400(30	3100	None	Bridge (BM USA)	Group Cal
1400011600(31	1776	None	ÚSA	Group Cal
1600011800(32	3185	None	CACTUS	Group Cal
1800012000(33	8484	None	DILLO	Group Cal
Friends List	34	113	None	UA Eng 1	Group Cal
- Digital APRS Inforr	35	123	None	UA Eng 2	Group Cal
Analog	36	119	None	UA All Lang 1	Group Call
	37	129	None	UA All Lang 2	Group Call

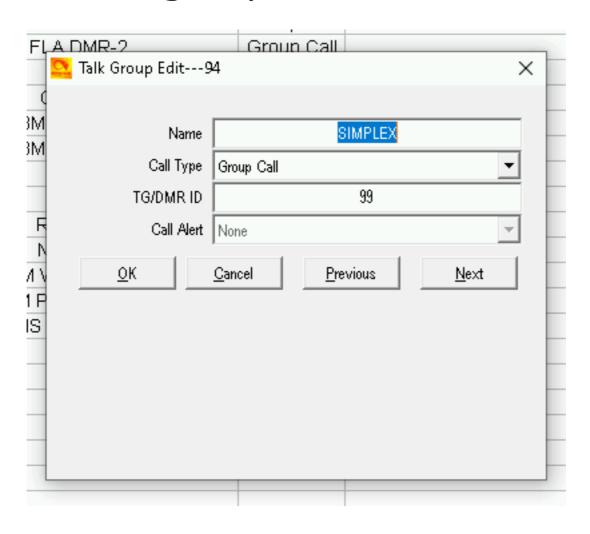
Individual Talkgroup

Maps name to TG number



Simplex Talkgroup

Standard: Talkgroup 99



Set up Channel List

- Many radios will require each channel name to be unique
- Prepend repeater callsign, city or unique code to channel name

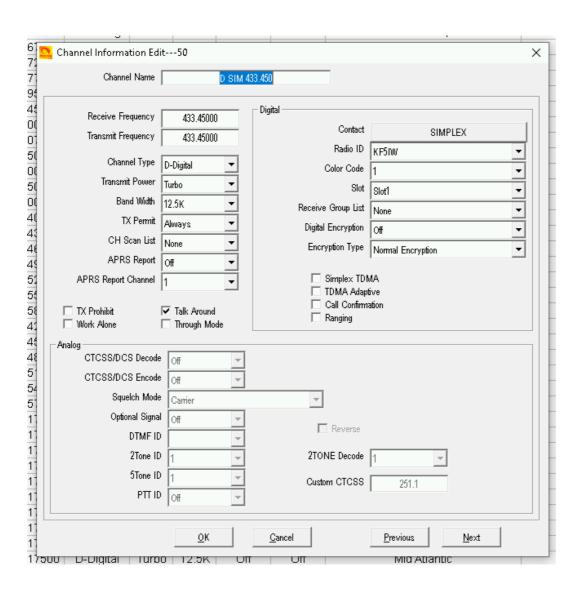
19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19	0 0	•										
868UVE Public	No.	Receive Frequency	Transmit Frequency	Channel Type	Power	Band Width	TCSS/DC Decode	TCSS/DC Encode	Channel Name	Contact	Radio ID	Optiona Signal
Channel	41	147.28500	147.88500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	W1RP 147.285	WW	KF5IW	
Zone	42	147.34500	147.94500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	NT4TS 147.345	WW	KF5IW	
Scan List	43	442.45000	447.45000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	WB2FAU 442.450	WW	KF5IW	
FM	44	443.42500	448.42500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	Sanibel 443.425	WW	KF5IW	
Auto Repeater Off	45	444.22500	449.22500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	SAR Net 444,225	WW	KF5IW	
-Basic information	46	444.67500	449.67500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	W4LCO 444.675	WW	KF5IW	
Optional Setting	47	444.72500	449.72500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	KN2R 444.725	WW	KF5IW	
Alarm Setting	48	444.77500	449.77500	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	136.5	WT4T 444.775	WW	KF5IW	
-Local Information	49	444.95000	449.95000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	100.0	NX4Y 444.950	WW	KF5IW	
Hot Key	50	433.45000	433.45000	D-Digital	Turbo	12.5K	Off	Off	D SIM 433.450	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
-Digital Radio ID List	51	441.00000	441.00000	D-Digital	Turbo	12.5K	Off	Off	D SIM 441.000	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
	52	446.07500	446.07500	D-Digital	Turbo	12.5K	Off	Off	D SIM 446.075	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
Talk Groups Prefabricated SMS	53	446.50000	446.50000	D-Digital	Turbo	12.5K	Off	Off	D SIM 446.500	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
Receive Group Ca	54	446.00000	446.00000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 446.000	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
-Encryption Code	55	446.50000	446.50000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 446.500	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
⊟-Digital Contact List	56	447.00000	447.00000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 447.000	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
120000	57	146.40000	146.40000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 146.400	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
2000140000	58	146.43000	146.43000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 146.430	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
-4000160000	59	146.46000	146.46000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 146.460	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	
6000180000	60	146.49000	146.49000	A-Analog	Turbo	25K	Off	Off	A SIM 146.490	SIMPLEX	KF5IW	

Simplex Channels

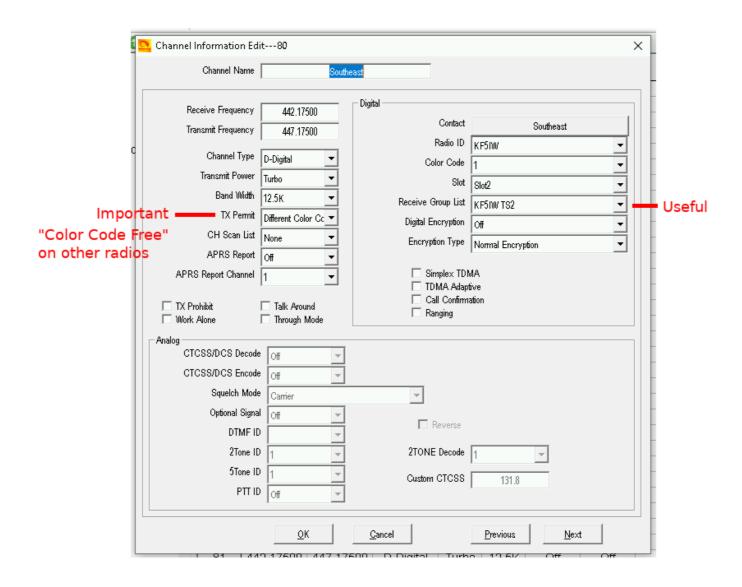
- In professional radio services, Talk-Around refers to operating simplex on a repeater output channel. This facilitates communications when out of range of a repeater. This is frowned upon in the Amateur community as it can interfere with repeater operations.
- Do not use 146.520 or 446.000 as these are the standard analog frequencies.

Recommended DMR Simplex Frequencies								
70cm	441.000	446.500	446.075	433.450				
2m	145.790	145.510						
TG99 / CC1	. / TS1 / Admit C	riteria: Always / I	n Call Criteria: T	X or Always				

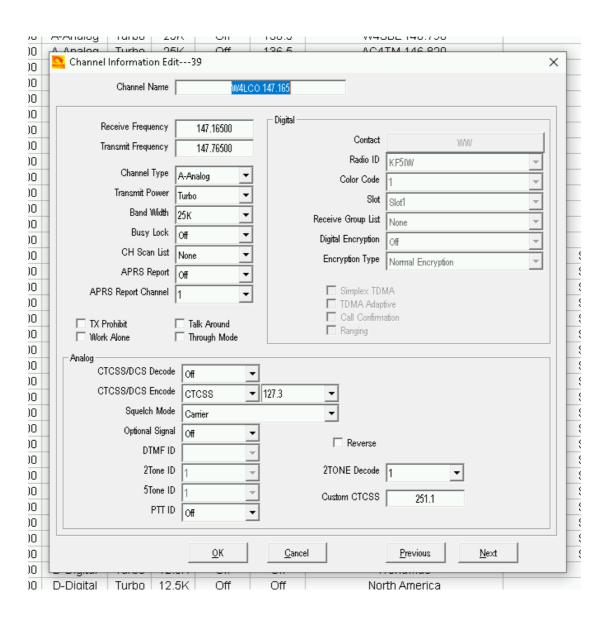
DMR Simplex Channel



DMR Repeater Channel

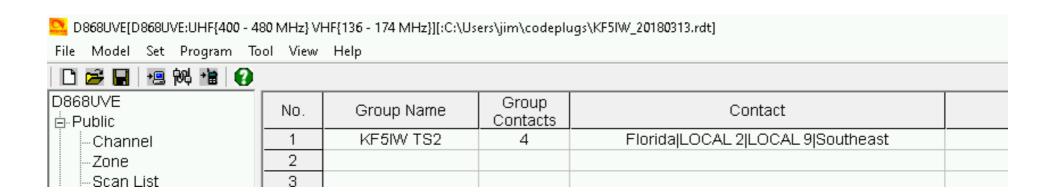


Analog Channel



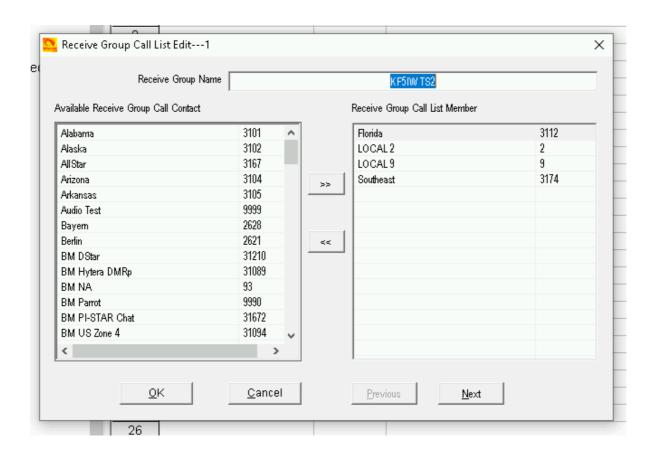
Digital Receive Group

- Allows you to receive a set of talkgroups that are on the same timeslot
- Not to be confused with "digital monitor" or "promiscuous mode"



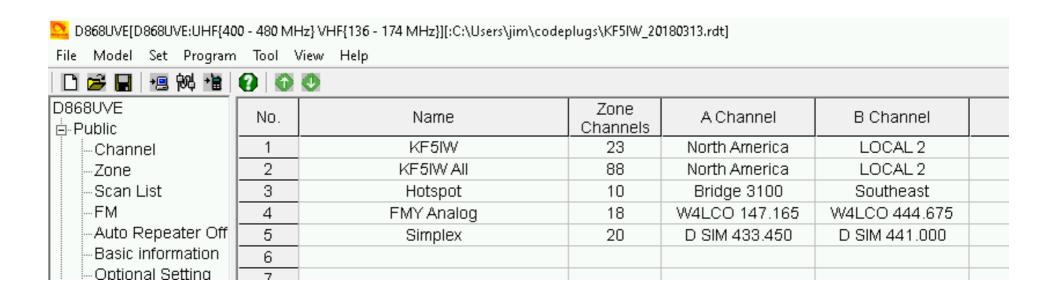
Digital Receive Group

- Add as many talkgroups as you wish
- Must be on the same timeslot



Zones

- Logical grouping of channels
- Many transceivers are limited to 16 channels per zone



Zone Strategy

- Think of how you'll use your radio
- Recommend one repeater per zone
- Have a "most popular" zone
- Other zones dedicated to TAC, regions, states
- Analog zones
- Simplex zone(s)

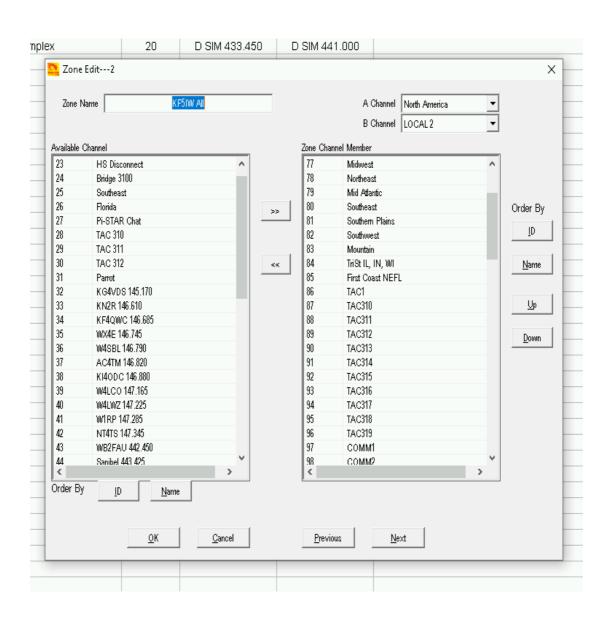
Zone Strategy (Common)

Chan	TG	Chan	TG
1	Worldwide	7	Florida
2	BM Worldwide	8	Local 2
3	North America	9	Local 9
4	BM North America	10	TAC 310
5	Bridge	11	TAC 311
6	Southeast	12	TAC 312

Zone Strategy (Regions)

Chan	TG	Chan	TG
1	Midwest	8	Florida
2	Northeast	9	Local 2
3	Mid-Atlantic	10	Local 9
4	Southeast	11	TAC 310
5	TX/OK Regional	12	TAC 311
6	Southwest	13	TAC 312
7	Mountain		

Setting up a Zone



Contact List

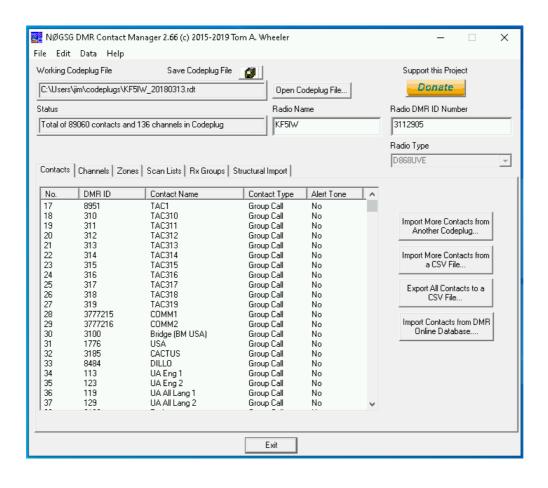
- Not necessary, but really nice to have
- Provides mapping from DMR ID to callsign, name and location data
- Available from KF5IW.com and RadioID.net

Contact List

868UVE - Public	No.	TG/DMR ID	Call Alert	Name	City	Call Type	Repeater Number	State/Prov	Country	Remarks
- Channel	60001	3119092	None	David S Fenderso	Le Mars	Private Call	KB0STE	Iowa	United States	
-Zone	60002	3119093	None	Daniel K Bonjour	Fayette	Private Call	KDOBIJ	lowa	United States	
Scan List	60003	3119094	None	Daniel K Bonjour	Fayette	Private Call	KDOBIJ	lowa	United States	
FM	60004	3119095	None	Tim C Sylvester	Webb	Private Call	KGOCK	lowa	United States	
-Auto Repeater Offset F	60005	3119096	None	Joseph H Hoepfne	Clarksville	Private Call	AE5EI	lowa	United States	
-Basic information	60006	3119097	None	Troy Duff	Marshalltown	Private Call	ADOTD	lowa	United States	
- Optional Setting	60007	3119098	None	Bob Trettin	Waterloo	Private Call	WODTD	lowa	United States	
-Alarm Setting	60008	3119099	None	Kenneth S Yeoman	Grundy Center	Private Call	KE0KXK	lowa	United States	
Local Information	60009	3119100	None	Randy Nelson	Mt. Union	Private Call	WBOVHB	lowa	United States	
Hot Key	60010	3119101	None	Timothy Kilbride	Victor	Private Call	KOTSK	lowa	United States	
Digital	60011	3119102	None	Paul Mccoy	Davenport	Private Call	K7PEM	lowa	United States	
Radio ID List	60012	3119103	None	Paul Mccoy	Davenport	Private Call	K7PEM	lowa	United States	
Talk Groups	60013	3119104	None	Alessandro Achil	Calmar	Private Call	KE0ADU	lowa	United States	
-Prefabricated SMS	60014	3119105	None	Larry Klodt	Waterloo	Private Call	NOAKF	Iowa	United States	
-Receive Group Call Lis	60015	3119106	None	Derek Hawk	Oskaloosa	Private Call	NONO	lowa	United States	
Encryption Code	60016	3119107	None	Marshall Dias	Ottumwa	Private Call	WOOTM	lowa	United States	
⊟-Digital Contact List 120000	60017	3119108	None	Tom Bicket	Reinbeck	Private Call	AEOTB	lowa	United States	
20000	60018	3119109	None	Scott Lowe	Reinbeck	Private Call	WAOTPN	lowa	United States	
-4000160000	60019	3119110	None	Randy Nelson	Mt. Union	Private Call	WBOVHB	lowa	United States	
-6000180000	60020	3119111	None	Randy Nelson	Mt. Union	Private Call	WBOVHB	lowa	United States	
-80001100000	60021	3119112	None	Randy Nelson	Mt. Union	Private Call	WB0VHB	lowa	United States	
-100001120000	60022	3119113	None	Richie Thompson	Humboldt	Private Call	KOHU	lowa	United States	
120001 140000	60023	3119114	None	Daniel Mcglone	Council Bluffs	Private Call	KBOTDW	Iowa	United States	
140001 160000	60024	3119115	None	Don Fiala	Thurman	Private Call	WBOYLA	lowa	United States	
160001 180000	60025	3119116	None	Larry Vandewater	Greenfield	Private Call	NOBKB	lowa	United States	
180001200000	60026	3119117	None	Les Blanchard	Altoona	Private Call	WAOC	lowa	United States	
Friends List	60027	3119118	None	Joel Myers	Dallas Center	Private Call	AJ0EL	lowa	United States	
Digital APRS Information	60028	3119119	None	Don Fiala	Thurman	Private Call	WBOYLA	lowa	United States	
-Analog	60029	3119120	None	Nick Verootis	Council Bluffs	Private Call	KONHV	lowa	United States	

Other Tools

N0GSG Contact Manager



For More Information

- KF5IW.com
- K4USD.org
- DMR-MARC.net
- RadioID.net
- N0GSG.com
- BridgecomSystems.com
- Google
- Facebook

Questions?

