NOAA SARSAT Report to GMDSS Meeting

18 January 2024

The calendar year 2023 save totals are as follows:

349 lives saved in the U.S. during CY 2023

Rescues at sea: 254 people rescued in 83 incidents.

Aviation rescues: 44 people rescued in 22 incidents.

Terrestrial rescues: 51 people rescued in 40 incidents.

Number rescued in United States since 1982: 10,455

**Space Segment Status as of 4 January 2024**

**Low-Earth Orbiting Spacecraft Status**:

US LEOSAR’s; (3) (NOAA 15, 18 and 19) all operating beyond life expectancy.

METOP - ‘B’ (1) US contribution operated by EUMETSAT

RF COSPAS- (2) 14 and 15 (15 Undergoing testing) with 2-3 additional launches scheduled

**Geo-Stationary Spacecraft status:**

14 Geostationary Spacecraft (with 2 undergoing testing) (2) of which are two (GOES Eats and Goes West) are US contributions

**Mid-Earth Orbiting Spacecraft status:**

Distress Alerting Satellite System (USA): 21 FOC

SAR Galileo (EC): 23 FOC

SAR GLONASS (Russian): 1 undergoing testing, 2 FOC

SAR BDS (China): 6 available for ground segment testing

(not included in US tracking scheduling)

SAR GPS (USA): On scheduled to begin launches in 2026

**US Ground Segment Status as of 4 January 2024**

Alaska NOAA Command and Data Acquisition Station (FCDA), Fairbanks, Alaska

2 - 4th Generation LEO/MEOLUTs

Guam Joint Region Marianas Navy Facility

2 - 4th Generation LEO/MEOLUTs

Up graded Phased Array expected operational late spring 2024

Hawaii USCG COMSTA, Honolulu, Hawaii

2 - 4th Generation LEO/MEOLUTs

1. 6 antenna MEOLUT – Currently being refreshed.

Up graded Phased array expected Operational early Spring 2024

Florida USCG COMSTA, Maimi Florida

2 - 4th Generation LEO/MEOLUTs

1 - 6 antenna MEOLUT - Currently being refreshed.

Phased array Contracting Effort underway

Southwest- Holloman AFB, New Mexico

1 - Phased array

Undergoing testing (expect FAT in Feb; Operational in Spring 2024)

NSOF - Suitland Maryland

US Mission Control Center

2 GEOLUTs & 1 test GEOLUT

1 Test LEOLUT

1 Test LEO/MEOLUT

1 Test Phased Array under development (Rabbit Ear strengthening beginning in Jan 2024)

**Beacon Status:**

More than 771,149 U.S. beacons in the NOAA Registration Database as of January 4, 2024

143,483 ELTs

295, 227 EPIRBs

332,174 PLBs

265 SSAS

118, 986 DoD devices registered in JSETS

Estimated worldwide beacon population at the end of 2022:

2,006,000 (+2.8% annual increase)