



PiWxRx

A NOAA weather Alerting System

Installation and operation

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Document Revision History

Date	Version	Description
November 2022	4.3	Fixed USB bug, added more email posting methods & options
	4.3.1	Fixed software revision on HTML landing page, added originator
	4.3a.2	Added HTML server description
	4.4	Added String substitution and debug sections
May 2023	4.4.1	Added parameters for HTTP and SIP ports
June 2023	4.4.2	Added email body templating
July 2023	4.4.2	Added section on forwarding, corrected tables
	4.4.2	Added software version as substitution string
August 2023	4.4.2	Removed section on Pi Hardware
October 2023	4.4.2a	Added more installation details, reorganized chapters
January 2024	4.4.2b	Added example for HTTP Get

Table 1 Revision History

Distribution

Rev	Distribution
All	For amateur use only.

Table 2 Distribution

Reference Documents

- [1] gnu.org, "General Public Licence," [Online]. Available: <https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.en.html>. [Accessed 25th February 2018].
- [2] National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, "NOAA Weather Radio Alerts," [Online]. Available: https://www.weather.gov/grb/nwr_same. [Accessed 24 May 2020].
- [3] Network Working Group, "RFC 2543: SIP: Session Initiation Protocol," 2002.

Glossary of Terms

PBX	Private Branch Exchange. A node in a telephone network that provides connectivity for a series of local extensions to a set of trunks.
VOIP	Voice over Internet Protocol. A system where telephone calls are placed, and audio is exchanged using the Internet Protocol.
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. Originator of weather broadcasts in the US.
SAME	Selective Area message Encoding.
POE	Power over ethernet.

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Disclaimer

This document is a preliminary release for a product still in development and may be subject to change in future revisions. The software may be subject to unpredictable behaviour without notice. You are advised to keep a can of RAID™ Ant, Roach and Program Bug killer handy. Spray liberally on the affected area when needed. In emergencies, Ivermectin has been suggested as an alternate.

The following changes were made in Rev 4:

1. Bulletin Codes moved to SameDB.json file.

In previous versions, the bulletin codes were hard-coded in the source. They are now in a new JSON stanza 'Bulletins', which is loaded at run time, and is easier to add or revise codes.

2. Split Site SIP messaging removed

Previous versions required SIP messaging to support the decoding, which enabled a 'split site' decoder where raw messages could be sent to another instance of the receiver for decoding. Now the message is dispatched according to the selected method instead.

3. CLI switches removed

In previous versions the functions of the XML file were duplicated as command line switches. This had been removed and all parameters must now be configured in the XML file.

4. Beacon message removed

The beacon message that was sent on startup has been removed, and in turn the messaging stanza has been deprecated. The latitude/longitude is no longer required.

5. New fields in the forwarding stanza

The previous station callsign has been replaced by an 'originator' field in the forwarding stanza of the XML file. It is recommended that this reflects the calls sign of the originating station, not the amateur who owns it.

6. New posting method

The previous posting method was limited to websites that supported the SOAP protocol. This has been expanded to include a simple HTTP post as well.

7. Single XML file

The previous scheme of two different XML files, one for the RTL dongle and a second for a USB device, have been merged into a single file. Examples for different audio sources are contained in the file and can be enabled with a text editor. The documentation has also been improved.

8. Default configuration

To aid in testing, the disk is shipped with a file reader enabled and a sample audio file that contains a tornado watch message. This should aid in setup and debugging.

Update Rev 4.1:

1. Rework of File reader

The file reader utility, previously used for testing only, is now able to connect to sound devices managed by ALSA, the Advanced Linux Sound Architecture. It has been tested with both a simple audio dongle and an RA-40 from Master's communications.

2. Elimination of second runtime library

The second object library, libpiwxrxUSB.so, has been eliminated. Its purpose was to support devices which sample at 48Ks/sec, to facilitate use of ALSA utility programs. As this functionality is now included in the file reader, this library is no longer necessary.

3. Found a missing final delimiter in some broadcast messages. Added a test for a non-ascii character at the end of message as an interim fix.

Update Rev 4.2

Source code on the distribution disk reflected original release 4.0, Updated code to include new file reader introduced in 4.1.

Update Rev 4.3

1. Fixed USB audio drop out. Particular to the Raspberry Pi, the USB and ethernet share the same port. Activity on ethernet would cause a buffer overrun condition to occur and the audio to stop. Previously the only recovery method was to restart it, now it recovers and logs a message to the console.
2. Added the ability to supply a custom subject line in the e-mail forwarding mode to the XML setup file. Parameter must be supplied as there is no default. The originator field is appended to the subject line.
3. Fixed bug on e-mail forwarding when no authorization is required. Previously omitting the 'authuser' and 'authpasswd' fields would cause the mailer to crash when not using authorization. These fields are now ignored unless authorization is specified.
4. In the email forwarding mode, the protocol parameter is used to specify the message formatting method. The possible values are listed below, the default is html.
 - 'html' the message content is formatted as 'text/html' with
 tags for line endings
 - 'plain' the message content is formatted as 'text/plain' with a newline at the line endings

Update Rev 4.3a

Updated the software revision on the HTML landing page, and added the originating station.

Update Rev 4.4

1. Added a string parser to the email subject line to enable message fields to be inserted at will. Subject line is no longer fixed. Docs updated to reflect change. Updated xml configuration file to add agency and originator.
2. Added subject line to dump mode for verification.
3. Added a deemphasis filter to codecs module that can be enabled as a debug mode in the preliminary release. Full release will have an xml parameter for it.

Update 4.4.1

1. Added a new XML parameter to the PBX stanza in the XML file to enable the return port to be specified, enabling more than one instance of the receiver to be realized on the same machine. Previously it was hard coded to 6060, which is now the default if not specified.
2. Added a new command line switch to specify the HTTP port number, default is 8082. Must be unique for each instance.

Update 4.4.2

1. Added a templating scheme to the e-mail body. When not specified, the default method is utilized.
2. Added software version number to the substitution strings.

Hardware Installation

The NOAA Weather Receiver (PiWxRx) is a standalone addition to the Meshphone network to receive and decode weather alert messages sent by NOAA [2], the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration. Its name came from the original code that ran on a raspberry Pi, but due to unavailability of this platform it has been tested on several others, including X86 systems running Ubuntu Linux, and the Odroid C4.

The receiver consists of hardware and software components. In all installations an audio source is required either an RTL-SDR or USB radio interface can be used. The software has been tested with several different types of SDR, as well as an inexpensive audio dongle, or a more amateur oriented device such as an RA-35, -36 or -40.

Raspberry Pi or other SBC

When using a raspberry pi or similar SBC, the following are required:

1. Raspberry Pi or SBC with ethernet and USB.
2. RTL-SDR dongle and powered USB hub
3. USB sound card device.

Only one RTL-SDR dongle per system is supported, but multiple copies of the USB sound card can be utilized. There is no physical limit, but some operating systems will only support up to 3 at a time.

X86 or other systems

Any x86 system running either Raspbian or Ubuntu can also be utilized. Either one of the hardware types can be used, however only one RTL-SDR dongle is recommended.

Installing the Software

The software is distributed as a tarball. There are currently several versions available:

Version	JDK Required	Recommended platform
PiWxRx.tar.gz	1.08	Raspberry Pi or other SBC with a slow SD card
PiWxRx86.tar.gz	1.08	X86 compatible platform running JDK1.08
PiWxRx86_JDK11.tar.gz	1.11	X86 compatible platform running JDK1.11
PiWxRx_Odroid.tar.gz	1.11	Odroid C4 running Ubuntu MATE software

For all platforms, expand the tarball and copy the contents to /etc/PiWxRx. You may need super-user privileges to do that. For the raspberry Pi version only:

- Copy the contents of the 'lib' directory to /usr/local/lib
- Change to the JNI directory, and type 'make install'

Installing on a different platform

The receiver is not restricted to the Raspberry pi or an SBC. There are two main components to the software, the heavy lifting is written in Java, and the time-critical components are in the C language. The java code is machine independent and should run on the recommended platform, Table 3 lists the Java versions that have been tested.

JDK Version	Java version	Issues
8	1.08	Standard for raspberry pi and some X86 systems
11	1.11	Differs only in the e-mail support libraries

Table 3 Supported Java versions.

The C code is usually precompiled. If a different platform is to be used, the run time library and file reader must be recompiled. The library code is contained in the JNI directory and should be complete.

Enter the JNI directory:

```
make clean
make
make install
```

The file reader, which reads both disk files and USB devices, is in its own directory. It needs the ALSA and USB development libraries to compile. If you do not have them do the following:

```
sudo apt-get install alsa-utils libasound2-plugins
sudo apt-get install libusb-1.0.0-dev
```

In the filereader directory:

```
make clean
make
```

Testing the software

The code is preconfigured to use an audio file as its source for testing purposes. It is recommended to run this first, to ensure that it is working correctly. Then, customize it for your hardware and forwarding scheme. From the command line, run the shell script to start the software as follows:

```
./runpiwx.stdout
```

If any errors occur, they will be shown on the console. To stop the software type <control/C> at any time. Call the extension that you configured and test for audio. If there is none, move the antenna or change the gain.

You should see three decodes of the same message. The software will not terminate, so use the <control/C> mode to exit.

Installing the piwxrx service

Once the receiver is running correctly, you can set it up to be invoked automatically at start up and run as a service. First, add the service to the system:

```
sudo cp piwxrx.service /etc/systemd/system
```

Then enable it, by entering the following:

```
sudo systemctl enable piwxrx
```

You can restart it any time and check its status to ensure that it is running correctly:

```
sudo service piwxrx restart
sudo service piwxrx status
```

Running more than one instance

More than one instance can be run on a single machine as of release 4.4.1. There are three parameters that need special attention, the SIP, RTP and HTTP port numbers. For the first instance, these can be defaulted. Subsequent instances MUST have their own XML file, primarily as the PBX extension will be different.

In the XML file, the sipport and rtpport parameters in the PBX stanza must be specified (see Table 7). The default for the SIP port is 6060, subsequent instances can use 6061, 6062, etc. The default for the RTP port is 12557, any other value can be specified, the simplest is just to add one.

On the command line, the HTTP port number is specified by the -H (see Table 15). The default is 8082, subsequent instances can use 8083, 8084, etc. These are not cast in stone, and if they are already in use elsewhere it may be specified for the first instance as well.

Configuration XML file

After the initial installation and testing with the preconfigured data file, the next step is to customize it for your application. All parameters are contained in PiWxRx.xml, Table 4 lists the sections of the file.

XML Tag	Contents
system	Identifies the system library, and IP network
source	Identifies the audio source
pbx	Identifies the connection to the PBX
forwarding	Specifies the forwarding method for alert messages

Table 4 PiWxRx Configuration XML Tags

System Tag

```
<system jni="yes" ipnet="10" libname="piwxrx"/>
```

The system stanza determines the run time library which contains the PBX codec and NOAA modem, and the IP network to use. It should not normally need to be modified, it is listed here for documentation purposes.

Parameter	Contents	User modifiable fields
jni	enable/disable audio	Determined by the hardware type
libname	audio run time library	
ipnet	IP network	set to the first octet of the IP network address, normally 10 for the AREDN network

Table 5 System XML Tag Parameters

Source Tag

```
<source cmdline="/usr/bin/rtl_fm -M fm -f 162.4M -g 38 -"/>
<source cmdline="JNI/filereader -l -f JNI/rx48.raw" />
<source cmdline="JNI/filereader -l -uc 1 -g 0" />
```

The source tag identifies the name of the child process to run to obtain the audio source, and its parameters. Two are supported, GNU radio rtl_fm for the RTL-SDR dongle, and the filereader for either a disk file or also audio source. The first example is for an SDR dongle, the second is to read a disk file, and the third to use an external sound card device.

Parameter	Contents	User modifiable fields	Explanation
cmdline	USB or test file mode	filereader	name of program
		-l	required
	Test File name	-f xxx.yyy	rx48.raw
	ALSA Device	-ui xxxx yyyy	vendor ID xxxx & Product ID yyyy
		-uc n	sound card number n
	SDR Dongle	rtl_fm	
		-f <frequency in MHz>	164.4M or 164.55M
		-M <mode of operation>	fm
		-g <RF gain>	0-50, tailor to suit
		-	Must be specified
codec	Codec number	0 – G711 μ Law, 8-G711 ALaw	
afgain	Audio gain in dB	0, 6, 12, or 18.	

Table 6 Source XML tag parameters

There are two main sources that are supported:

1. RTL-SDR dongle with gnu radio RTL-FM code.
2. USB ALSA device, such as RA-20, RA-40, etc.

If using the RTL-SDR dongle, ensure that you have the software installed. Consult the appropriate web page for instructions.

For USB, there are two methods to identify the device. One by its ID (-ui), the other by its card number (-uc). To discover the ID, type 'lsusb' at the command line. You will see the device ID for the C-Media device, enter those as -uc xxxx yyyy. This works if you only have one card in your system but will not for more than one. In that case, find the card number using 'aplay -l', and specify it as -uc n.

PBX Tag

The PBX tag identifies the parameter for the PBX extension. Several types have been tested, including Asterisk and FreePBX.

```
<pbx ext="5284" url="10.66.49.34:5060" secret="ve6vh"
  rtpport="12557" msgext="5289"></>
```

The pbx stanza determines the extension configuration:

Parameter	Contents	User modifiable fields
ext	PBX extension number	Determined by PBX configuration
secret	SIP password	
url:port	PBX URL or IP and port number	mypbx.local.mesh:nnnn or x.y.a.b:nnnn
sipport	Sip port number	Port where sip client listens. Default is 6060.
rtpport	port number for RTP audio	normally set to 12557, can be modified if needed
msgext	SIP messaging extension	target extension for SIP messages, if configured.

Table 7 PBX XML tag

The port number identifies where the PBX listens for SIP traffic. The default if not specified is 5060, however it can vary with other systems and MUST be specified. Table 8 lists those systems that have been tested.

System	Version	Port number
Asterisk	All versions using SIP	5060
FreePBX	All	5160

Table 8 Port numbers for different PBX types

Forwarding Tag

The forwarding stanza is used by the message interpreter to determine how to decode a received message and where to forward it. Each receiver has a decoder built in; and it can be configured in one of four modes:

Forwarding method	Decoding	Purpose
dump	none	raw message is dumped to stdout
sip		raw message is sent by SIP messaging to 'msgext'
email	full	decoded message is e-mailed
post	all fields except SAME	partial message is posted to a web site

Table 9 Forwarding Methods

The forwarding tag takes the following form:

```
<forwarding
  originator="XLF339"
  database="SameDB.json"
  method="dump"

  serveraddr="10.48.197.216"
  port="8080"

  toaddress="to@messageRx.com"
  replyaddr="noreply@piwxrx.org"
  subjectline="Message from PiWxRx at @O"
  bodytemplate="emailbody.xml"

  auth="no"
  authuser="mailuser@piwxrx.org"
  authpasswd="s3cretw0rd"

  protocol="http"
  pagename="PIWxRxWeb/alertservice"

  xmlcmd="alertpost.xml"
  webmethod="postsame"

/>
```


There are some mandatory parameters, others are specified depending on the forwarding method.

Method	Parameter	Purpose	Example
All methods	originator	originating station	callsign of the originating station
	database	name of the SAME JSON database file for message decoding	SameDB.json
	method	Forwarding method	dump, sip, email or post
sip	msgext	target extension (in PBX stanza)	specifies where to send the sip message
email	serveraddr	IP address of email server	10.x.y.z
	port	port address	Normally 25.
	toaddress	Email address of where to send the message	someone@somehere.com
	replyaddress	Address to use if the recipient tries to reply to the message	noreply@somewhere.com
	subjectline	Subject of the message	Message from...
	bodytemplate	Specify a custom message body, if omitted the standard format is used	emailbody.xml
	auth	yes/no	yes, if authentication is required by email server
	authuser	username for authentication	Configuration dependent
	authpasswd	password for authentication	
	protocol	Specify message content formatting. Default is html.	html or plain. html uses tags, plain inserts a new line character
All posts	serveraddr	IP address of email server	10.x.y.z
	port	port address	Normally 80, or 8080
GET only	protocol	specifies posting protocol	http
	pagename	Name of server page	page name at the server
SOAP only	protocol	specifies posting protocol	soap
	pagename	Name of server page	page name at the server
	xmlcmd	Name of file containing SOAP prototype	filename.xml
	webmethod	name of posting method	xxxxx

Table 10 Forwarding Parameters

Forwarding Methods

Dump Mode

The dump mode sends the formatted message to the console. This is useful for debugging and initial setup, but not intended for long term use.

SIP Mode

The formatted message is sent to the extension specified in the 'msgext' parameter of the PBX tag. This method is intended as a transport to pass an undecoded message to a downstream interpreter. No special formatting is supported.

Email mode

The message is sent to address specified in the forwarding tag. The subject line can be either a plain text string or may contain string substitution fields. These are identified using a 2-byte syntax, the first is always '@', and the second can be one of those indicated in Table 14.

Character	Field	Contents
O	Originator	Originating station from the forwarding XML tag
A	Agency	Name of agency decoded from the local SAME database
B	Bulletin	Decoded bulletin type, from the SAME database
T	TimeofIssue	Time issued in UTC
D	DateofIssue	Date issued in UTC
P	PurgeTime	Length that bulleting remains in effect
N	SAME code	Text translation of SAME code
n	New line	Inserts a new line into the message
v	Version	Inserts software version and revision

Table 11 Email substitution fields

The body of the message can either be a default built-in format or can be overridden by using a body template. This is a separate XML file that takes the following form:

```
<EmailBody>
  <Header>@A has issued a @B bulletin at @T local time on @D @n@n</Header>
  <Detail>@N</Detail>
  <Trailer>This bulletin is in effect for the next @P hours @n@n</Trailer>
  <PostScript>This is a rebroadcast of a NOAA</PostScript>
</EmailBody>
```

There are four required entries, if any is missing the default method is used instead.

Tag	Contents
Header	Appears as the first line of the message.
Detail	Repeated for every interpreted SAME code in message
Trailer	Last line of the message
PostScript	Appended to the end of the message.

Table 12 Body template fields

Posting to a Website

Two methods of posting are supported, an HTTP get and the SOAP (simple object access protocol) post. In both modes an access is made to a web page that receives a message that is parsed into fields, but the SAME codes are not interpreted.

Using the HTTP Get method

The HTTP Get method generates a Get command to the specified page name is initiated, with the fields in Table 13 as parameters. This is the least secure method, but adequate for closed networks, and is supported by all platforms.

Field	Contents
Originator	Originating station from the forwarding XML tag
Agency	Name of agency decoded from the local SAME database
Bulletin	Decoded bulletin type, from the SAME database
TimeofIssue	Time issued in UTC
DateofIssue	Date issued in UTC
PurgeTime	Length that bulleting remains in effect
Areas	Undecoded SAME codes separated by spaces

Table 13 Website posting fields

An example of the message parameters is shown below, this was taken from the message that is shipped with the code for testing purposes. The fields within <> are specified in the XML configuration file, the rest are partially interpreted.

```
http://<serveraddr>:<port>/<pagename>?Originator=VBU996
&Agency=The National Weather Service
&Bulletin=Tornado watch
&TimeofIssue=15:17&DateofIssue=2025/5/12&PurgeTime=05:00
&Areas=011001 024009 024017 024021 024031 024033 024037 051013
```

Using the SOAP method

The SOAP mode is intended for more complex websites such as Microsoft's ASP.NET, Apache SOAP or PHP post. The parameters are specified in a separate XML file which is filled in on the fly.

A string substitution technique is employed to enable parts of the message to be inserted into the SOAP XML prototype file. Substitutions are identified using a 2-byte syntax, the first is always '@', and the second can be one of those indicated in Table 14.

Character	Field	Contents
U	URL	URL of the server from the XML configuration file
O	Originator	Originating station from the forwarding XML tag
A	Agency	Name of agency decoded from the local SAME database
B	Bulletin	Decoded bulletin type, from the SAME database
T	TimeofIssue	Time issued in UTC
D	DateofIssue	Date issued in UTC
P	PurgeTime	Length that bulleting remains in effect
R	Areas	List of affected areas separated by spaces

Table 14 String substitutions

A sample XML file is as follows:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<soap:Envelope
  xmlns:soap=http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
  <soap:Body>
    <PostSame xmlns="@U">
      <Originator>@O</Originator>
      <Agency>@A</Agency>
      <Bulletin>@B</Bulletin>
      <TimeofIssue>@T</TimeofIssue>
      <DateofIssue>@D</DateofIssue>
      <PurgeTime>@P</PurgeTime>
      <Areas>@R</Areas>
    </PostSame>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

Sample C# Code

A sample of the C# code to receive the above is shown below. In this case the webmethod parameter must be specified as 'PostSame'.

```
[WebService(Namespace="http://www.va6edn.org/services",
            Description="VA6EDN Alert Posting Service")]
public class AlertService : WebService
{
    [WebMethod]
    public string PostSame(string Originator, string Agency,
                          string Bulletin, string TimeofIssue, string DateofIssue,
                          string PurgeTime, string Areas)
    {
        .. insert processing code here...
    }
}
```

Customizing the decoder database

The decoder uses the JSON file specified in the forwarding section of the XML file. The database contains five fields as shown in the following example:

```
{
  "Agencies": [
    [ "EC/GC/CA", "Environment Canada"],
    [ "NWS", "The National Weather Service" ]
  ],
  "DateOffset": 1,
  "HourOffset": 7,
  "Bulletins" : [
    [ "BZW", "Blizzard warning" ],
    [ "DSW", "Dust storm warning" ],
    [ "FSW", "Flash freeze warning" ],
    [ "FZW", "Frost warning" ],
    [ "HUA", "Hurricane watch" ]
  ],
  "Locations" : [
    [ "071100", "Jasper National Park"],
    [ "071110", "Jasper Nat. Park near Pocahontas"],
    [ "071120", "Jasper Nat. Park near Jasper"],
    [ "071130", "Jasper Nat. Park near and south of Sunwapta Falls"]
  ]
}
```

Field	Contents	Default
Agencies	An array of abbreviations and agency names	none
DateOffset	An offset to be added when calculating the effective date	US – 0; Canada – 1
HourOffset	Number of hours before GMT	1
Bulletins	A 3-character designator for the bulleting type	none
Location	An array of SAME codes and area names.	

Command line arguments and debugging

The software contains several debug features that dump messages to the console. This is primarily for development purposes but can be used to enable some preliminary features as well. The 'piwxrx' files contains the following:

```
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH="/usr/local/lib"
java -cp "./bin:/usr/local/lib/*" PiWxRx -d 800 -X PiWxRx.xml
```

The command line switches and arguments are listed in Table 15

Switch	Argument	purpose
-h	None	Help on the command line arguments
-i	IP Net	Specifies which IP net to use. For systems with more than one NIC
-l	JNI Library	Specifies the name of the JNI library
-n	No load	Does not load library, only runs Java code.
-X	XML File	Specifies the name of the XML configuration file.
-d	Debug flags	Specifies the debug modes
-H	HTTP port	Specifies the port for the built-in HTTP Server. Default is 8082.

Table 15 Command line switches

Note that the XML parameters overwrite everything except the debug flags. This field is a binary field made up of a combination of bits that can be specified together. Enabling a Debug modes will affect the ability of the receiver to decode messages as it severely degrades the real time performance. The

Flag	Hex	Debug data source
DEBUG_NONE	0x0000	Debugging not enabled.
DEBUG_MSGS	0x0001	Minimal operational messages.
DEBUG_OSC	0x0002	Oscillator values.
DEBUG_LPF	0x0004	Output of the I channel LPF.
DEBUG_DEMOD	0x0008	Demodulator output.
DEBUG_UDP	0x0010	Asterisk PBX UDP information.
DEBUG_WRITE	0x0020	Writes to stdout pipe
DEBUG_BITSHIFT	0x0040	Demodulator byte assembly bit shifter
DEBUG_BYTEOUT	0x0080	Demodulator output.
DEBUG_SYNC	0x0100	Sync (preamble) correlator.
DEBUG_JNI	0x0200	Calls to Java Native Interface
DEBUG_USB	0x0400	USB device reads and status
DEBUG_FEATURE	0x0800	Enables experimental features

Table 16 Debug mode flags

The feature debug is reserved for experimental features. In the Rev 4.4 pre-release it enables the PCM de-emphasis feature.

Web Server

The software has a web server that responds to specified port (default 8082) at the IP address of the receiver. It contains four pages, which are not dynamically updated:

1. Status page
2. SIP settings and status
3. Settings for the audio source and codecs.
4. Forwarding settings.

Changes can be made to a running receiver, but they are temporary and are overwritten at the next restart. For permanent changes, please update the PiWxRx.xml file.

Status Page

Figure 1 illustrates the status page.

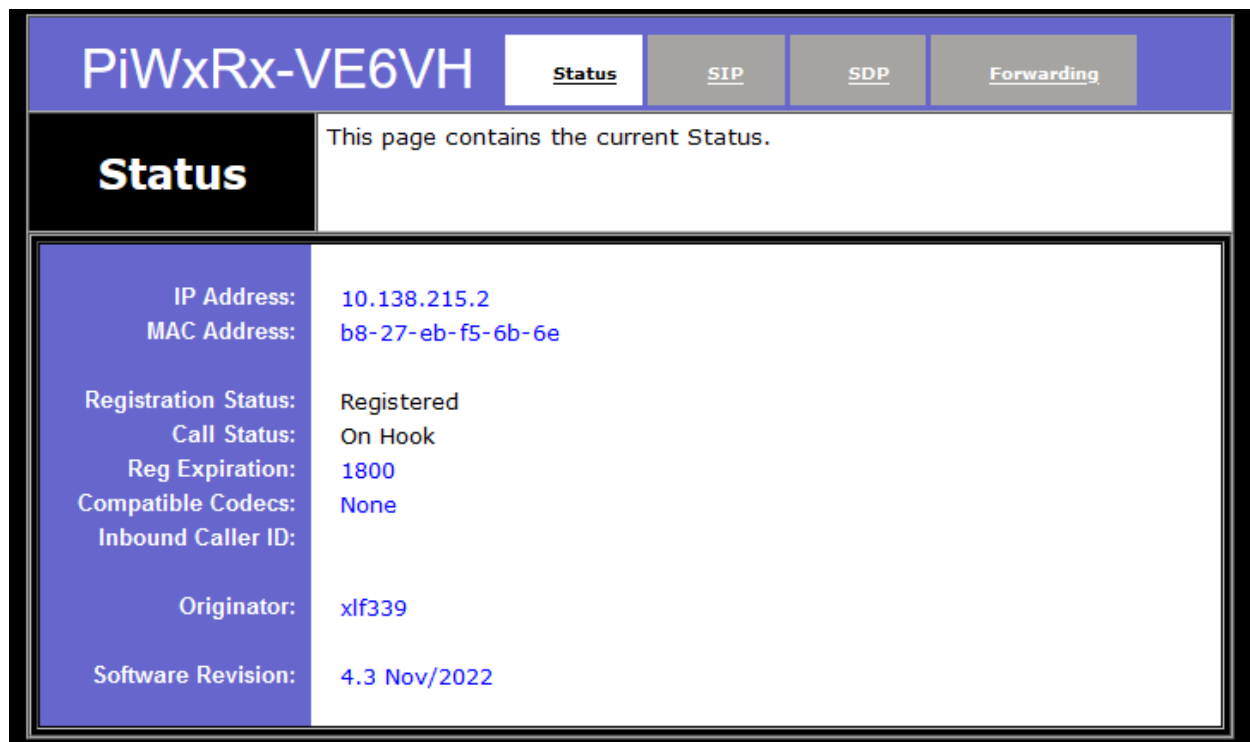


Figure 1 Web Server status page

The fields are relatively straightforward; The registration and call status reflect the current inbound call, if any. To update it the page must be refreshed with an F5.

The originator field is taken directly from the xml file.

SIP Settings

Figure 2 illustrates the SIP settings.

PiWxRx-VE6VH [Status](#) [SIP](#) [SDP](#) [Forwarding](#)

SIP This page shows the SIP setup parameters

PBX Extension:	5184
PBX URL:	ve6vh-pbx.local.mesh:5060
Registration Status:	Registered
Call Status:	On Hook
Reg Expiration:	1800
Compatible Codecs:	None
Inbound Caller ID:	

Figure 2 SIP settings

The PBX settings indicate where the receiver is registering, and the extension number. The other settings are the same as the status page.

Audio Source and Codecs

Figure 3 illustrates the audio source and codecs.

PiWxRx-VE6VH [Status](#) [SIP](#) [SDP](#) [Forwarding](#)

SDP/RTP This page is for the SDP/RTP protocol parameters

Source Command Line:	/usr/bin/rtl_fm -M fm -f 162.4M -g 30 -
Codec Type:	G711 uLaw Select
Audio Gain:	0 dB Gain Select

[Submit](#) [Cancel](#)

Figure 3 Audio Source and Codecs

The audio source reflects the command line used to establish the process that generates the audio. In this case, the RTL dongle is being used on 162.4MHz with an RF gain of 30 dB.

The codec type and audio gain can be modified from the drop-down lists, but they will not take effect until the next inbound call.

Forwarding Settings

Figure 4 illustrates the forwarding settings.

PiWxRx-VE6VH	
<div> <div>Status</div> <div>SIP</div> <div>SDP</div> <div>Forwarding</div> </div>	
Forward	This page sets up the forwarding method
Forwarding:	<input type="radio"/> Disabled <input checked="" type="radio"/> Enabled
Forwarding Method:	post
Protocol:	http
Server Address:	10.48.197.216
Server Port:	8080
To Address:	to@messageRx.com
Reply Address:	noreply@piwxrx.org
Authentication:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Required <input type="radio"/> Required
User name:	mailuser@piwxrx.org

Figure 4 Forwarding Settings

These are for display only and cannot be modified. In this case the receiver is posting using the http protocol to site at the server address and port shown.

The remaining fields pertain to the e-mail forwarding method only. For more information see the section 'Forwarding Tag' in the xml command file description.

PiWxRxWeb

PiWxRxWeb is a website that responds to an http post from a receiver and writes the data to a SQL database. Users can setup an account on the site to receive alerts by SAME code, which are delivered by email. The web server installation requires three components:

1. Apache web server
2. Apache Tomcat java web server
3. MySQL or MariaDB SQL database server

The first step is to install all the software. To test that the web servers are functional, try the following:

localhost:80	Verifies operation of the Apache server
localhost:8080	Verifies operation of the Tomcat server

Following the installation of the software, two additional steps are required:

1. Setup server.xml to find the database and parameters for e-mail.
2. Setup the SQL tables and populate them.

Server.XML

This file requires two stanzas that need to be customized. The first identifies the database and table that contains the user login information. The fields to be modified are listed in Table 17

```
<!-- this realm handles the SQL database -
  <Realm className="org.apache.catalina.realm.JDBCRealm"
    connectionURL="jdbc:mysql://10.48.197.216:3306/piwxrx?user=user&
    ;password=pwd&useSSL=false&serverTimezone=UTC"
      driverName="com.mysql.cj.jdbc.Driver"
      roleNameCol="role"
      userCredCol="password"
      userNameCol="callsign"
      userRoleTable="roles"
      userTable="users">
        <CredentialHandler algorithm="MD5"

      className="org.apache.catalina.realm.MessageDigestCredentialHandl
er"/>
  </Realm>
```

Field	Content
Server URL	URL of the SQL server and port. In the example it is 10.48.197.216
user	Login user name to the database
password	Login password to the database

Table 17 Server login XML parameters

The second contains operational parameters for the web server. All fields need to be customized.

```
<Context docBase="PIWxRxWeb" path="/PIWxRxWeb" reloadable="true"
    source="org.eclipse.jst.jee.server:PIWxRxWeb">
<Environment name="PiWxRxSQLurl" type="java.lang.String"
    value="jdbc:mysql://10.48.197.216:3306/piwxrx?user=user&passw
    ord=pwd&useSSL=false&serverTimezone=UTC"/>
<Environment name="sipportal" type="java.lang.String"
    value="sipportal@va6edn-server.local.mesh"/>
<Environment name="repladdr" type="java.lang.String"
    value="noreply@va6edn-server.local.mesh"/>
<Environment name="smtp host" type="java.lang.String"
    value="va6edn-server.local.mesh"/>
<Environment name="smtp port" type="java.lang.String" value="25"/>
<Environment name="usesmtpauth" type="java.lang.Boolean"
    value="false"/>
<Environment name="mailuser" type="java.lang.String" value="user"/>
<Environment name="mailpasswd" type="java.lang.String"
    value="passwd"/>
</Context>
```

Field	Content
PiWxRxSQLurl	URL of the database, login user name and password. Same as Realm.
sipportal	Email address of the sip portal
repladdr	Content of the reply address field on all e-mails
smtp host	Name of the SMTP server
smtp port	Port address of the SMTP server
usesmtpauth	True if authorization is required, false otherwise
mailuser	User name for authorization
mailpasswd	Password for authorization

Table 18 Web Server XML Parameters

Make the appropriate changes to the file, copy it to the /etc/tomcat/conf directory, and then copy the web archive, PIWxRxWeb.war, to the /etc/tomcat/webapps directory.

When all the configuration is complete, restart the tomcat service, and it will unpack the java files and start the website. It can be invoked by:

Localhost:8080/PIWxRxWeb

Note that any time the server or service is restarted, tomcat will unpack the archive file. If you make changes that are meant to be permanent, then modify this statement to:

```
<Host appBase="webapps" autoDeploy="true" name="localhost"
unpackWARs="false">
```

Setting up the SQL database

There are 7 tables that need to be setup on the SQL Database, this task should be undertaken before starting the web server.

Table	Populated by	Contents
areanames	User	4- digit SAME codes and area names
location		6-digit SAME codes and location names
receivers		Receivers that are posting to PiWxRxWeb
samemessages	Receivers	Messages posted by receivers
subscriptions	Subscribers	Callsigns of subscribers and areas of interest
users		Users on the system
roles		Roles for users

Table 19 SQL Database tables

If you have an appropriate tool, the file piwxrxWebSQL.sql will create all the files. If not, they will have to be created individually.

Populating the database

The three user tables show in Table 19 are part of the message decoding system and have to be populated before the system will operate. The area names table contains an abbreviated version of the same code, specifying a larger area that can encompass more than one code.

A comprehensive list for all areas does not exist, but this can be built from several web sites.

For example, the map in Figure 5 shows area codes for Jasper National Park, and Figure 6 shows area codes for Albany, NY.

PiWxRx weather alerting system installation and operation

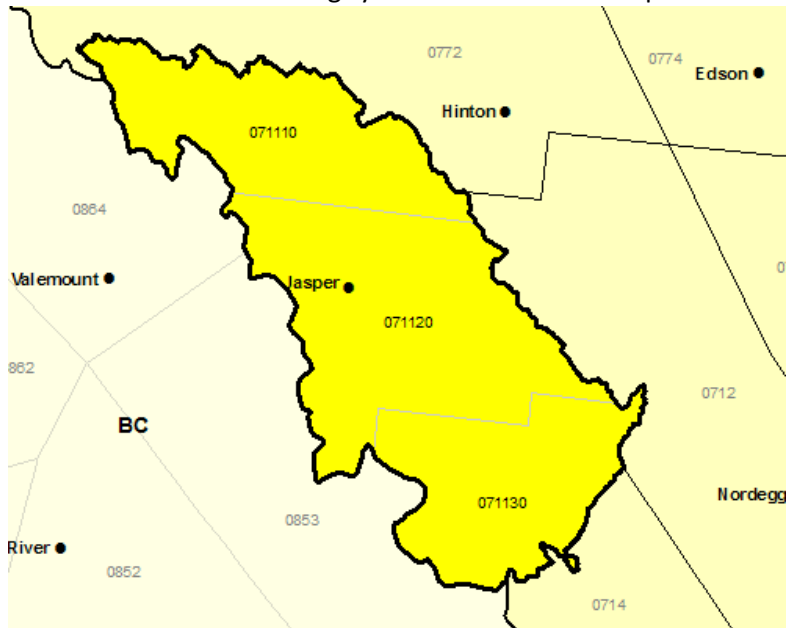


Figure 5 SAME Area codes for Jasper National Park

The area names table will have one entry for all the regions:

AreaCode	AreaName
0711	Jasper National Park

But the location codes table subdivides this into the regions on the map, with a placeholder for messages that apply to the entire area.

LocationCode	LocationName
071100	Jasper National Park
071110	Jasper Nat. Park near Pocahontas
071120	Jasper Nat. Park near Jasper
071130	Jasper Nat. Park near and south of Sunwapta Falls

In the state of New York all codes begin with 0360. Therefore, the area names table will have one entry for all, and the location codes table will contain the full 6-digit codes.

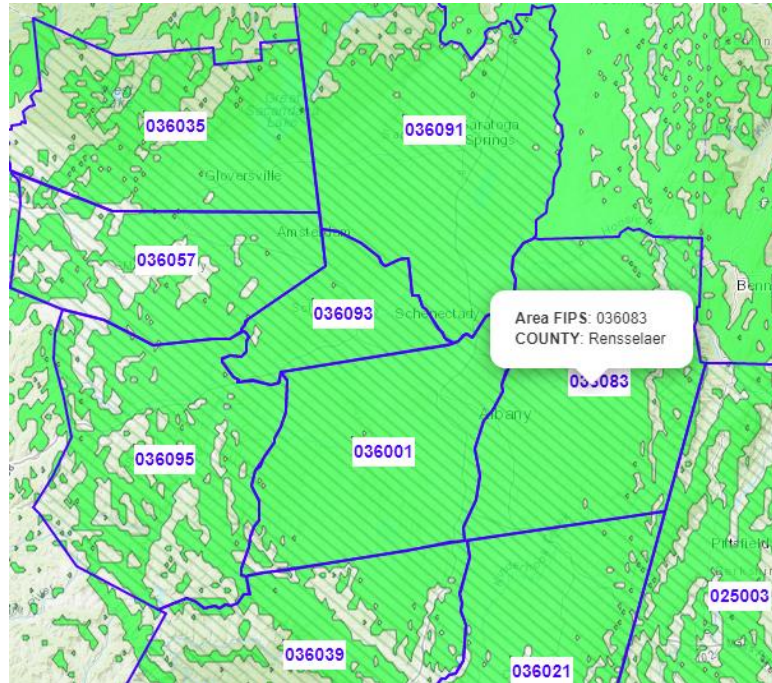


Figure 6 SAME codes for NY

036001	Albany
036003	Buffalo
036003	Call Hill
036005	New York City
036007	Binghamton
036007	Elmira
036007	Honesdale

The receivers table is also hand-populated, it contains data about the callsign, location, frequency and lat/long of the receiver.

VDC816	Brooks	162.4	50.53416667	-111.9158333
XLF339	Calgary	162.4	51.06027778	-114.1702778
XOF962	Cooking Lake	162.475	53.36111111	-112.9025
VBX254	Crowsnest Pass	162.55	49.53166667	-114.1936111

Positive latitudes are degrees N, negative longitudes are degrees W.

Configuring PiWxRx

To post to the site, PiWxRx needs to be configured with the server, web page and forwarding parameters. Any number of receivers can post to the site as each is treated separately.

The following fields must be setup in PiWxRx.xml:

```
<forwarding
  originator="xlf339"           ; unique between receivers
  database="SameDB.json"       ; name of JSON database
  method="post"                ; use posting method

  serveraddr="10.48.197.216"    ; IP address of your web server
  port="8080"                  ; Apache tomcat port

  toaddress="to@messageRx.com" ; mail fields are not used, but

  replyaddr="noreply@piwxrx.org" ; leave alone for now
  auth="no"
  authuser="mailuser@piwxrx.org"
  authpasswd="s3cretw0rd"

  protocol="http"              ; must be set as is
  pagename="PIWxRxWeb/alertservice" ;

  xmlcmd="alertpost.xml"       ; only used by SOAP
  webmethod="postsame"         ; leave alone for now

/>
```


Navigating the site


The main landing page of the site is located at <server name>:8080/PIWxRxWeb. This page offers a link to the login page, or to set up an account.

Welcome to the PiWxRx Weather alert site

If you have already set up an account, then please [log in](#) using your user name and password.

If you have not yet set one up, please visit the [Create an account](#) page first.

If you have an account, click the link and log in with your user name and password. If not, click the create link and enter the fields shown in Figure 7.

A screenshot of a web form titled "Please Enter your details:". The form contains six input fields stacked vertically: "Callsign:", "Password:", "First Name:", "Last Name:", "Email Address:", and "Meshphone number:". Below the last field is a button labeled "Create Account".

Please Enter your details:	
Callsign:	<input type="text"/>
Password:	<input type="password"/>
First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Email Address:	<input type="text"/>
Meshphone number:	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Create Account"/>	

Figure 7 Create an account parameters

Fill in the fields above. Meshphone numbers should be included, but are restricted to the local PBX, and if you plan to use SIP messaging, you must have the email to SIP portal installed, and your PBX must support messaging. As of this time, sending an SIP message to a remote PBX is not supported.

Once logged in, you can navigate to one of four pages:

1. **Alerts.** View up to the most recent 10 alert messages from receivers on the system.
2. **Setup.** Set up the SAME codes of interest, and where to send the messages.
3. **Manage Account.** Change your password or manage your subscriber record.
4. **Log Out.** Log out of the website.

The subscription setup page on the site enables SAME codes to be added as required; the first 4 digits of the area are selected, which will include all subdivisions of this area as well. A sample of a configuration is shown in Figure 8.

Subscribing to SAME codes

The setup page is invoked from the main menu of the website after logging in, as show in Figure 8. Four items need to be specified:

1. Where to send the message, e-mail or phone¹, or both.
2. Which SAME codes are to be watched.
3. Whether to include the bulletin in the email message subject
4. Whether to use plain text for e-mail messages

SAME Area code Subscription

Please select how you would like to be alerted:

☒ Send a copy of the alert message to my meshmail

☐ Do not include bulletin in subject line
 ☐ Send email in plain text format

☒ Send a SIP message to my meshphone

Update

SAME codes to which you are subscribed.

Same Code	Name	Remove
0714	Banff National Park	Remove
0724	City of Calgary	Remove
0725	Okotoks - High River - Claresholm	Remove

Available codes in your area.

Same Code	Name	Add
0711	Jasper National Park	Add
0712	Nordeg - Forestry Trunk Road Highway 734	Add
0713	Rocky Mountain House - Caroline	Add
0715	Kananaskis - Canmore	Add
0721	Red Deer - Ponoka - Innisfail - Stettler	Add
0722	Airdrie - Cochrane - Olds - Sunde	Add
0723	Drumheller - Three Hills	Add

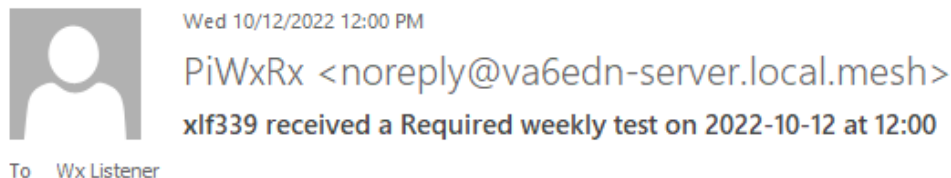
Figure 8 Subscribing to SAME codes

¹ Requires a separate e-mail to SIP portal

Sample e-mail

Figure 9 shows a sample of the fully decoded message sent as an e-mail message, including the bulletin in the subject line, SMS messages use the subject line only.

An option is provided to shorten the subject line, when checked the subject does not contain the decoded bulletin for e-mail, however the SMS message remains the same.



Environment Canada has issued a Required weekly test bulletin at 11:00 local time on 2022/10/12
For the following areas:

Kananaskis - Canmore
M.D. of Bighorn near Canmore Exshaw and Ghost Lake
Kananaskis Improvement District near Kananaskis Village
Airdrie - Cochrane - Olds - Sundre
Rocky View Co. near Airdrie and Crossfield
Rocky View Co. near Bottrel and Madden
Rocky View Co. near Cochrane
Drumheller - Three Hills
Rocky View Co. near Irricana Beiseker and Kathym
City of Calgary
Okotoks - High River - Claresholm
Rocky View Co. near Bragg Creek and Tsuu Tina Res.
M.D. of Foothills near Priddis and Brown-Lowery Prov. Park
M.D. of Foothills near Turner Valley and Black Diamond
M.D. of Foothills near Okotoks and De Winton
Brooks - Strathmore - Vulcan
Rocky View Co. near Chestermere Dalroy and Dalemead
Wheatland Co. near Strathmore Lyalta and Carseland

for the next 01:00 hours

Figure 9 Interpreted Weather Alert Message