

I am A. T. Jensen (KD7FKK), filing for WASAR (Washington Air Search and Rescue) as secretary of that organization. A dependable, robust GPS system is essential to the efficacy of our training and SAR (Search and Rescue) operations. WASAR has provided our State of WA Emergency Services SAR Coordinator with 20 Garmin Etrex units which are issued to search aircraft at the beginning of a sortie. Immediately upon landing, each unit's tracks are downloaded and reviewed. The resulting plots are then used in planning for each following phase of a search. GPS units are also used as navigation aids in our personally owned and CAP-owned search aircraft. Any degradation from a ground based system such as Lightsquared is considered unacceptable from the life safety standpoint of our operations. WASAR opposes the Lightsquared proposal.