2017 – Northwestern Division Mid-Year Report

To

The ARRL Board of Directors

Director Jim Pace, K7CEX --- Vice Director Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ

**Membership Statistics:** While membership statistics show a reduction in new memberships as of June 2017, the Northwestern Division is actually predicting a slight increase from the mid-term stats, by the end of the year.

**Committee Memberships:** Director Pace continues to chair the A&F Committee, along with his service as the Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors for the ARRL Foundation, as well as serving as member of the E&E Committee. Vice Director Altus continues to serve on the Sub-Committee on Education, license review Sub-Committee and recently has been appointed to the Program and Services Committee.

**Hamfests and Club Meetings:** Director Pace and Vice Director Altus continue with their aggressive travel and meeting schedule within the Division. The Division Convention at Seaside Oregon, attended by CEO Gallagher, was quite the success, with nearly 3,000 attendees. The Idaho State Convention, attended by President Roderick, also had an uptick in attendance (figures not available at the time of this writing). Both conventions showed a new surge of excitement for Ham Radio and new memberships. Fairbanks, Washington State Convention, NW DX Convention and PNW VHF Conference will take up a great deal of the balance of the season.

August 21, will be a busy day for the NW Division, as preparations are underway for the total eclipse of the sun – impacting the Oregon Section. Unfortunately, although the phenomena will be quite interesting to observe, the event comes in the middle of our ‘wildland fire season’. Oregon Emergency Management and Oregon State Police are predicting extremely crowed highways; Air Traffic Control is establishing plans through Notices to Airmen within the path of the eclipse to regulate but allow increased air traffic; and the lack of hotel/motel rooms (having been scooped up two years in advance), find land owners renting out spots in their fields, for camping – setting the stage for unintended fires that will have limited access for Fire Suppression Units; Plans are underway to pre-position ground and air units to mitigate some of the impact. Some ARES units in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, will be on standby to provide important communications where needed.

Respectfully Submitted

James D. (Jim) Pace, K7CEX

ARRL Northwestern Division

Director