

## GMRS Radio Usage

**Objectives:** Our Fleecer Mt. field area is a large region roughly 6 by 6 km where much of the mapping in EPS 118 is held. Hand-held radios are provided by the Instructor to support communication in the interest of field safety and to assist students if they should encounter difficulties while mapping such as GPS issues or to ask geological questions of the Instructor who may be in other areas than a specific group of students but can offer guidance when it matters most.

**FCC License:** These radios use a licensed call sign and all communications must be made in a professional manner and only for the purposes intended for the course.

**Call Sign Protocols:** The FCC license call sign is: **WQGB880**. After saying the call sign, then say Unit \*\* to Unit 1 if you want to try and call the Instructor. I suggest that 2 mapping groups combine and use 1 radio for each “supergroup” of 4 students.

**Limitations:** GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) are line of sight with a maximum range under the best of circumstances of 18 miles.

**Daily Radio Transmissions:** The Instructor will initiate GMRS radio calls to each mapping group at pre-determined intervals at 10:00 am, 12:00 noon, and 2:00 pm. At 4:00 pm. the driver of each vehicle will call the Instructor to verify that all students in their party have returned, that they have been able to start the engine on their vehicle and that there are no mechanical problems needing assistance. Upon checking in they will begin their trip back to base camp. During the day, the Instructor will check in with each mapping group and give a report on lightning risk. If the risk becomes high, he will request that all mapping groups return from the field to base camp for further instructions.

**Locator Map:** The map below is loaded onto each pen tablet as a DRG base map. When reporting your location in terms of Letter and Number coordinates, clear whatever DRG map you may be using in mapping, load this Locator Map and tell the Instructor your coordinates, eg G-3. Please have your current coordinates ready by the time of each scheduled radio transmission.

