

NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Equipment Advisory: 22-05

June 21, 2022



To: Wildland Fire Community

From: Bill Yohn, Vice Chair, NWCG Equipment Technology Committee (ETC)

Subject: BKR5000 Series Radio Firmware Update



Issue: BK Technologies service bulletin, <https://bktechnologies.com/service-portal/assets/images/BKSB-10761.pdf>, recommends model BKR5000 radio firmware be updated.

Action: Check the firmware version of your radio (below). Do not use BKR5000 radios with a firmware version other than 5.8.58. Failure to update the firmware may cause the radio to lock-up.

Additional Information: BK Technologies BKS-1075, <https://bktechnologies.com/service-portal/assets/images/BKSB-10752.pdf>, addresses the potential for the radio to “lock-up” during any normal operations. If assigned to an incident, check with the Communications Unit to check out a cache radio. Once at your home unit, have the radio updated with firmware version 5.8.58 (BK P/N BKR-FW-5.8.58).

This Equipment Advisory (EA) is different from the previously issued ETC-EA-2022-04: BK Radio Not Powering Up When Switched to the On Position, <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-ea-2022-04.pdf>.

To check the version of firmware in your radio do the following:

- Open the Main Menu
- Open the Version Menu
- Use the NEXT or PREV buttons to view the installed revisions
 - Version information includes:
 - Radio Name (if programmed): Radio name.
 - Date: Date of release.
 - Release: Overall release code.
 - Software: Release code for ARM.
 - DSP: Release code for DSP.
 - File Format: Currently installed file format.
 - **BSP: Release code of installed BSP firmware.**
 - PCB Revision: Installed printed circuit board revision number.
 - Date of Manufacture: Date of manufacture.

Contact: Kim McCutchan, Chair, NWCG Wildland Fire Radio Standards and Use Subcommittee at kim.mccutchan@usda.gov or by phone (208) 387-5856.