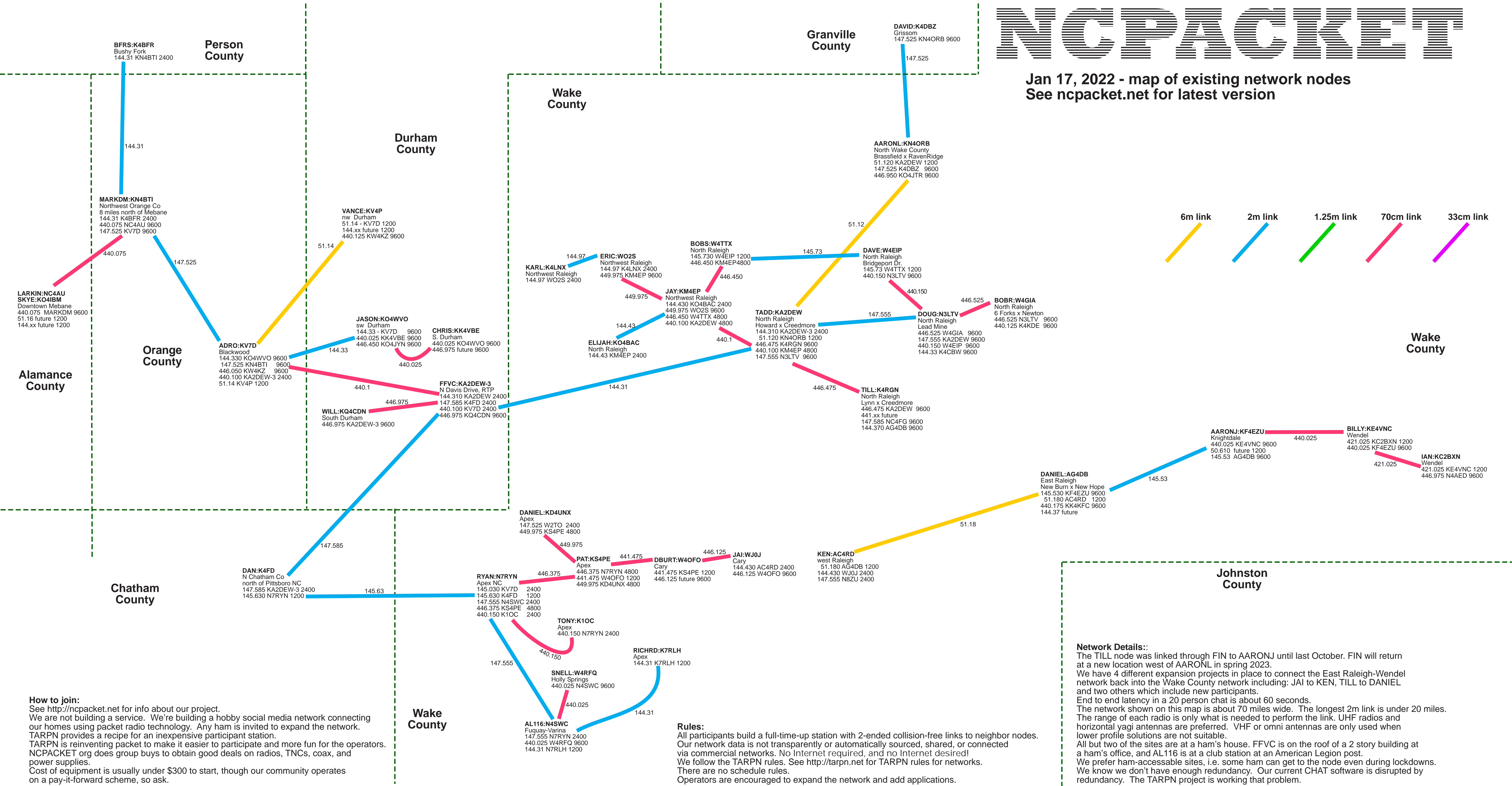


NCPACKET

Jan 17, 2022 - map of existing network nodes
See ncpacket.net for latest version



How to join:
See <http://ncpacket.net> for info about our project.
We are not building a service. We're building a hobby social media network connecting our homes using packet radio technology. Any ham is invited to expand the network. TARPn provides a recipe for an inexpensive participant station. TARPn is reinventing packet to make it easier to participate and more fun for the operators. NCPACKET org does group buys to obtain good deals on radios, TNCs, coax, and power supplies. Cost of equipment is usually under \$300 to start, though our community operates on a pay-it-forward scheme, so ask.

Rules:
All participants build a full-time-up station with 2-ended collision-free links to neighbor nodes. Our network data is not transparently or automatically sourced, shared, or connected via commercial networks. No Internet required, and no Internet desired! We follow the TARPn rules. See <http://tarpn.net> for TARPn rules for networks. There are no schedule rules. Operators are encouraged to expand the network and add applications.

Network Details::
The TILL node was linked through FIN to AARONJ until last October. FIN will return at a new location west of AARONL in spring 2023. We have 4 different expansion projects in place to connect the East Raleigh-Wendel network back into the Wake County network including: JAI to KEN, TILL to DANIEL and two others which include new participants. End to end latency in a 20 person chat is about 60 seconds. The network shown on this map is about 70 miles wide. The longest 2m link is under 20 miles. The range of each radio is only what is needed to perform the link. UHF radios and horizontal yagi antennas are preferred. VHF or omni antennas are only used when lower profile solutions are not suitable. All but two of the sites are at a ham's house. FFVC is on the roof of a 2 story building at a ham's office, and AL116 is at a club station at an American Legion post. We prefer ham-accessible sites, i.e. some ham can get to the node even during lockdowns. We know we don't have enough redundancy. Our current CHAT software is disrupted by redundancy. The TARPn project is working that problem.