

## UHF Radio Instructions

The “**Flinders Ranges by Bike**” (FRBB) cycle trail is a 200km circuit that links Rawnsley Park (Wilpena Pound) in the south to Gum Creek Station (Blinman) in the north.

It is a requirement for groups using the FRBB trail that each group of riders carries and is competent to use a 5 watt UHF battery powered UHF radio. The UHF radio is a valuable means of contacting assistance while riding the trail– but there is no guarantee that you will be able to contact help by UHF radio.

- A 5w UHF radio must be carried by each group  
The radio must be tested prior to departure. While you are transmitting on your radio you cannot receive a response – so you should transmit a message and then wait say 10 seconds for a response. If no response then try again to transmit a message. When you are satisfied that the radio is working properly the radio should then be turned off to conserve the battery. The radio should then only used when reporting to a FRBB member or calling for assistance.
- As a general rule UHF radio is reliable only in ‘line of sight’
- The range of UHF is considerably extended by using ‘repeater’ towers on higher peaks to re-transmit the signal

### UHF Radio Channel Allocation

Below you will find a list of UHF Radio channel allocations. There are many channels that have been established by law including the Emergency channel 5 and the data transmission channels 22 and 23.

- 1 to 8 - These channels, which are established by law, can be used when sending a signal to a repeater which will help increase the communication distance
- 5 - This channel, which is established by law, can be used by anyone but only in an emergency situation
- 9 - Used for conversations
- 10 - Used by 4WD enthusiasts, clubs, convoys and in national parks
- 11 - Calling channel. This channel, which is established by law, is used to call or locate another station. Parties will then switch to another channel to continue with their conversation
- 12 to 17 - Used for conversations
- 18 - Holiday maker’s communication channel (e.g. when in a convoy)
- 19 to 21 - Used for conversations
- 22 and 23 - These two channels are used for data transmissions and is established by law. Voice transmissions are not allowed on these two channels
- 24 to 30 - Used for conversations
- 29 - Highway [Communications](#) which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users
- 31 to 38 - These channels, which are established by law, are received by a repeater and re-transmitted on channels 1 to 8 to help increase the communication distance
- 35 - Can be used in case of Emergencies also
- 39 - Used for conversations
- 40 - Highway [Communications](#) which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users

## UHF Radio Instructions

1. FRBB recommend that you use Channel 4 when using the trail.  
Most of the station owners use channel 4 for communications. There is a repeater tower on Mt Caernarvon that is able to be reached from most of the higher ground along the FRBB trail.
2. The section of trail south of Wilpena Pound is hidden from Mt Caernarvon. You should be able to reach Rawnsley Park on Channel 13 when south of Wilpena Pound
3. In the event of no response you should try another channel  
The most likely channels to get a response are:  
Southern section – Channel 7  
Northern Section – Channel 3 or 8  
Near Wilpena Resort – Channel 20

In the event of an accident attempt to contact a FRBB member on UHF radio or by messenger (do not leave an injured person alone – remember that a FRBB member will raise the alarm if you do not reach your destination by the prescribed time)