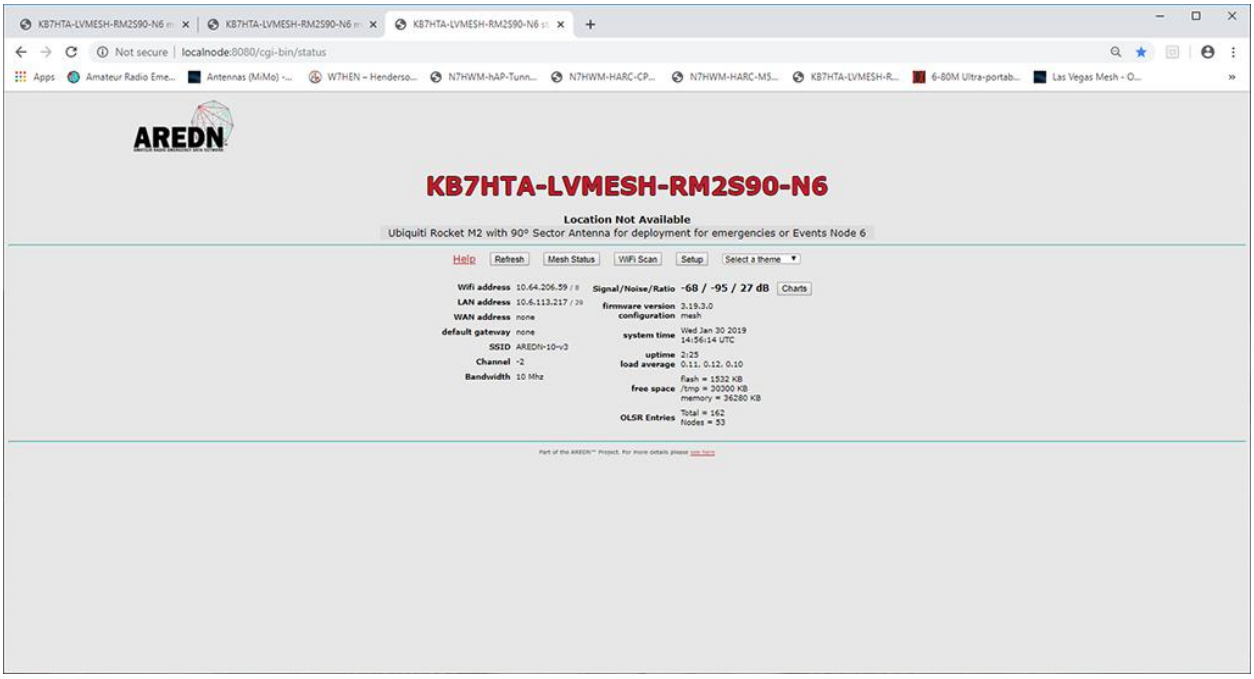
Link Test -- Apex Peak to Beacon Hill

Friday November 15, 2019, Richard, KO0OOO and Tom, KB7HTA journeyed up to Apex as part of a team to test the feasibility of a link between Apex Peak and Beacon Hill, which is on North end of the Moapa Valley. The other members of the team Wayne (photo above), N7HWM and Steve, KJ6WCS, drove to a spot next to the I-15 near Beacon Hill, Northeast of Glendale, NV. On site, Wayne and Steve setup a tripod with an Ubiquiti Rocket M2 attached to a 90° sector antenna (16 dBi) and LVMesh power box. They attached a laptop computer to the LAN port of the POE powering the node and began looking for connections.

Meanwhile, Richard (photo above) and Tom installed an Ubiquiti Rocket M2 attached to a 24 dBi dish onto a tower and pointed it toward Beacon Hill. After running the Ethernet cable into the shack, attaching the POE and connecting the LAN cable to the network switch, the link test between the two nodes began.

Wayne and Steve tested the link from their location to Apex and into Las Vegas Valley, while Richard and Tom completed additional work on Apex Peak. The link was tested by connecting to various nodes in Las Vegas and downloading camera photos. Wayne described the link as functional, but slow. See the node status page below.



In summary, the team felt the test was a success, however the link between Apex Peak and Beacon Hill will require a node equipped with a dish (24 dBi) vs a sector antenna (16 dBi) used for the test. The increased gain of the dish will more than quadruple the signal between the two sites, which should provide a reliable and speedy link.