Airtime Billing Policy for North Star Science and Technology, LLC

Just so there is no confusion about how the airtime invoices are being calculated, here is what North Star is doing.

For each calendar quarter, North Star prints out a usage report from the www site that provides the exact number of messages received through the system for each ESN (i.e., collar serial number). Based on that number, North Star can determine exactly how much airtime was used per collar and per account holder. The exact number of messages per account holder is then added up for each month in the quarter, and airtime is billed based not on how your collars were programmed but on how much data you actually received through the system. So you ONLY PAY FOR THE DATA THAT YOU RECEIVE. The monthly rates are shown below. If your collar was programmed to collect, for example, 8 locations per day, but in practice it actually only successfully transmitted 6 per day, you are only charged for the 6 locations per day that you actually received.

Partial months are prorated. Also, in cases where you actually received some number of locations other than what is posted below (e.g., 7 transmissions per day), you will be charged a monthly amount between the posted fees for 6 and 8 transmissions per day.

If a collar is provisioned on the system and it is not transmitting, you are only charged $5 per month per collar to keep it provisioned on the system. If you do not want to pay the $5 per month for a non-transmitting collar, you can ask North Star to decommission it. Once it is decommissioned, there will not be any further charges for that collar, ever. However, if you ever want to use that collar again, you will be charged a $75 activation fee to re-provision it on the system.

Collars that remain provisioned on the system and do not transmit for 12 sequential months will be decommissioned summarily. This is because we have over 1,000 collars provisioned on the system, and we get charged to keep them there. If the collars are not being used, we need to limit our liability for the costs that they generate to us. And it is not our responsibility to track down each researcher to determine why the collars are not being used. After 12 months of inactivity, they will be decommissioned. If, at a later time, the client decides to use the decommissioned collars, a $75 re-activation fee will be charged.

The account holder is responsible for all testing time, both at our shop and while the collar is in your possession. However, we do try to limit the amount of testing time that is actually charged to the account holder.

If a client would like, you can ask North Star to provide its notes and calculations that were used to determine your invoice amount.

Monthly Rates	
24 transmissions per day	$120 per month
12 transmissions per day	$80 per month
8 transmissions per day	$63 per month
6 transmissions per day	$48 per month
4 transmissions per day	$41 per month
3 transmissions per day	$36 per month
2 transmissions per day	$33 per month
1 transmission per day	$30 per month
< 1 transmission per day	Custom pricing (ask)