

FOXPRO AR4 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

(Preliminary)

Congratulations on the purchase of your new FOXPRO AR4 wildlife caller! The AR4 has been designed as a compact high-efficiency wildlife caller that utilizes the user's existing audio playback device. Personal cassette players, CD players, and MP3 players can be connected to the AR4 producing excellent quality sounds at suitable loudness levels for attracting animals from great distances.

FEATURES

- 1) Front and rear speakers for maximum flexibility in reproducing a variety of sounds, both high and low tones.
- 2) Powerful amplifiers for maximum loudness when needed.
- 3) AUX output jack allows for remote control of a decoy or camera.
- 4) External speaker jack.
- 5) Operates on 8 "AA" batteries, either NiMH or alkaline types.
- 6) Built-in coaxer sound operated by the remote control
- 7) Included remote transmitter controls volume up and down, mute, AUX, and coaxer sound.
- 8) Five year warranty.

OPERATION

Since the AR4 is shipped from the factory with no batteries installed, the first step is to install 8 "AA" batteries. These may be alkaline or rechargeable types. We strongly recommend high-capacity NiMH rechargeable batteries over alkaline types for maximum performance, particularly when using loud volume levels. To install batteries, remove the battery door on the side of the caller which is held in place with a knurled thumbscrew. Orient the batteries as per the directions shown in each cavity within the holder. Note that the battery polarity alternates. Replace the battery door after the batteries are installed.

Make sure that at least one of the speaker selector slide switches is set to the right. Connect the supplied patch cable from the headphone jack of your audio playback device to the AR4 audio input jack. The volume control setting on your playback device will determine the loudness of the sound coming from the AR4 speaker. Best results occur with the headphone level set fairly high, but not to the point of distortion. The loudness level of the sound is then controlled by the AR4 volume control. Click the volume control switch to the "On" position, and rotate the knob to about 10 O'clock. Press the "Play" button on your audio playback devices. You may need to adjust both volume levels until you have reached your desired level.

USING THE AR4 REMOTE

You may switch to remote control operation at any time by pushing any button on the remote transmitter. Since the AR4 enters remote control mode with the volume at

minimum, you will need to increase the volume level to hear any sound. To do this, press and hold the VOLUME UP button on the transmitter until the sound is playing at an appropriate level. To reduce the sound loudness, press and hold the VOLUME DOWN button. The sound may be silenced by momentarily depressing the MUTE button. A second button press will restore the sound level. The AUX button is used to control a device such as the FOXPRO Jack-in-the-Box Decoy. The first button press will start the decoy, and the next will stop it. A momentary press on the COAXER button will silence the sound, and start the rodent coaxer sound. The next COAXER button press will stop the coaxer sound and restore the sound from the external audio player. The remote button functions are shown on a diagram on the AR4 side label. Remember to set the AR4 antenna to the vertical position when using the remote control function.

ABOUT THE AR4 SPEAKERS

This caller incorporates two different types of loudspeakers. The front speaker is a high efficiency horn with maximum sensitivity in the frequency range necessary to reproduce small animal distress sounds. Distress sounds of rabbits, small rodents, birds, canines, and many others are best produced by using the front horn only with the rear cone speaker turned off. This will also ensure maximum battery life as playing both speakers requires almost twice as much battery power. The rear cone speaker is best suited to sounds that have significant lower frequency content. These sounds would include bear growls, mountain lion roars, certain owl hoots, and some other large mammal sounds. The rear speaker, however, is not as efficient as the front horn. Because of this, it will not play as loud as the horn. Understand that not all calling sounds will benefit greatly from playing both speakers at once. If you elect to do this, remember that battery life will be reduced.

BATTERIES AND CHARGING

Your FOXPRO AR4 operates on 8 “AA” batteries. Alkaline batteries will work, but for best results we recommend NiMH rechargeable batteries. The AR4 is shipped with an 8-cell holder for use with either of these types. Individual NiMH cells installed in the holder can be slow-charged only with the FOXPRO FX Series standard wall charger. To prevent heat build-up, always remove the battery door when charging. Failure to do this can shorten the life of the batteries. **Limit charge time to 10 hours when using this charger. Never attempt to charge alkaline batteries!** Severe damage may occur that is not covered by the warranty. The LCD display will indicate “LO” if there is not enough energy in the batteries for reliable operation. The AR4 green Low Battery LED will blink to show weak batteries and will illuminate to show that a charger is connected. Battery run time is directly related to how loud you play the AR4. Using both speakers at the same time rather than only the most appropriate one will have a negative impact on run time. With one speaker playing, expect 6 to 15 hours of run time, depending on the loudness setting. With both speakers playing, expect 3 to 10 hours. Remember too that very loud volumes are rarely needed, as animals hear much better than we do.

“AUX” CONNECTORY FUNCTION

The AR4 is equipped with an auxiliary jack labeled “AUX”. The purpose of this jack is to allow for the connection of certain external devices and to be able to turn these devices on and off with the AR4 remote control. However, there are some strict electrical limits involved with this connector. If these limits are exceeded, damage to your AR4 will result. This damage is not covered by the warranty.

The electrically inclined will want to know that the jack is connected to the drain of an internal Field Effect Transistor with a maximum current rating of 2 Amperes. The “tip” polarity of the 3.5mm jack is positive, while the sleeve is negative. If the external device is connected with the polarity reversed, an internal protection diode within the FET will conduct, causing this device to stay on constantly. The maximum voltage applied to this jack must never exceed 15 volts.

Typical uses for this jack would be to control the FOXPRO Jack-in-the-Box Decoy, or to start and stop a video recorder. Instructions on connecting various devices to the “AUX” jack are beyond the scope of this manual. You are urged to seek help from a knowledgeable professional before connecting any unapproved device to this jack. Remember that damage to your AR4 caused by improper use of the “AUX” jack is not covered by your warranty, nor will FOXPRO be liable for damage to any device connected to this jack.

USING THE EXT AUDIO JACK

This 3.5mm jack allows for the connection of an external playback device such as a cassette player, CD player, MP3 player, or other similar product. Connect the supplied 3.5mm patch cable from the headphone or speaker jack of the external player to the “EXT AUDIO” connector on the AR4. Turn the volume control of the external player to a moderate level and then control the volume from the AR4 volume control or from the remote control. With the remote control you can adjust the volume and mute the sound. You may need to experiment with the volume setting on the external player to ensure that enough drive is obtained without excessive distortion.

USING EXTERNAL POWER SOURCES

Caution! Never connect anything other than a FOXPRO approved charger to the charge jack without first removing the internal batteries! Doing so will surely cause damage to the AR4 as well as to the batteries. This damage is not covered by the warranty.

The design of the AR4 permits the use of certain external power sources so long as some precautions are observed. The 8-cell internal battery pack will serve about 98 percent of users about 98 percent of the time. This makes for a caller that is compact and lightweight, is highly portable, and has very good battery life. However, we recognized that there may be times when extended run-times and additional loudness are more important than light weight and absolute portability. You can have the best of both

worlds with the AR4. By connecting a large external 12 volt battery to the charge jack, you can operate the AR4 and obtain run-times measured in days rather than hours. The internal NiMH battery pack supplies 9.5 volts to the power amplifier, while an external battery can supply up to 15 volts. This additional voltage will offer an increase in power output to the speaker equating to additional loudness. But there is a double-edged sword involved here. By giving the user the ability to get more power from the amplifier, there is also a much greater chance of causing damage to the built-in speakers. For this reason, we recommend using our large external horn speaker (SP108) if you really need to, say, call crows from the next county. Not only is this speaker more efficient, it will have no problem dealing with the extra power. If you must use extreme volume without the external speaker, use only the front horn. The rear cone speaker is somewhat more delicate than is the horn. Please be careful with the volume control and remember these cautions when using an external battery:

- 1) NEVER connect an external battery to the charge jack without first removing the internal batteries.
- 2) NEVER connect a battery or power supply capable of delivering more than 15 volts to the charge jack.
- 3) NEVER charge the external battery while it is connected to the AR4.
- 4) ALWAYS use a 5 amp (max) fuse in the positive battery lead.
- 5) ALWAYS act responsibly with the volume control to prevent speaker damage.
- 6) For maximum possible loudness, use our optional SP108 external horn speaker.

LIMITED WARRANTY STATEMENT

Your FOXPRO wildlife caller is warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship that diminish its usefulness for a period of five years from date of purchase. Return the unit prepaid and packaged securely **along with proof of purchase** to the address below. Include a note describing the defect or problem. This limited warranty is void if the unit is physically damaged, used in a manner contrary to intended use, or otherwise abused, either intentionally or unintentionally. Also specifically excluded are batteries and damage caused by attempts to charge batteries not intended to be recharged, and water damage.