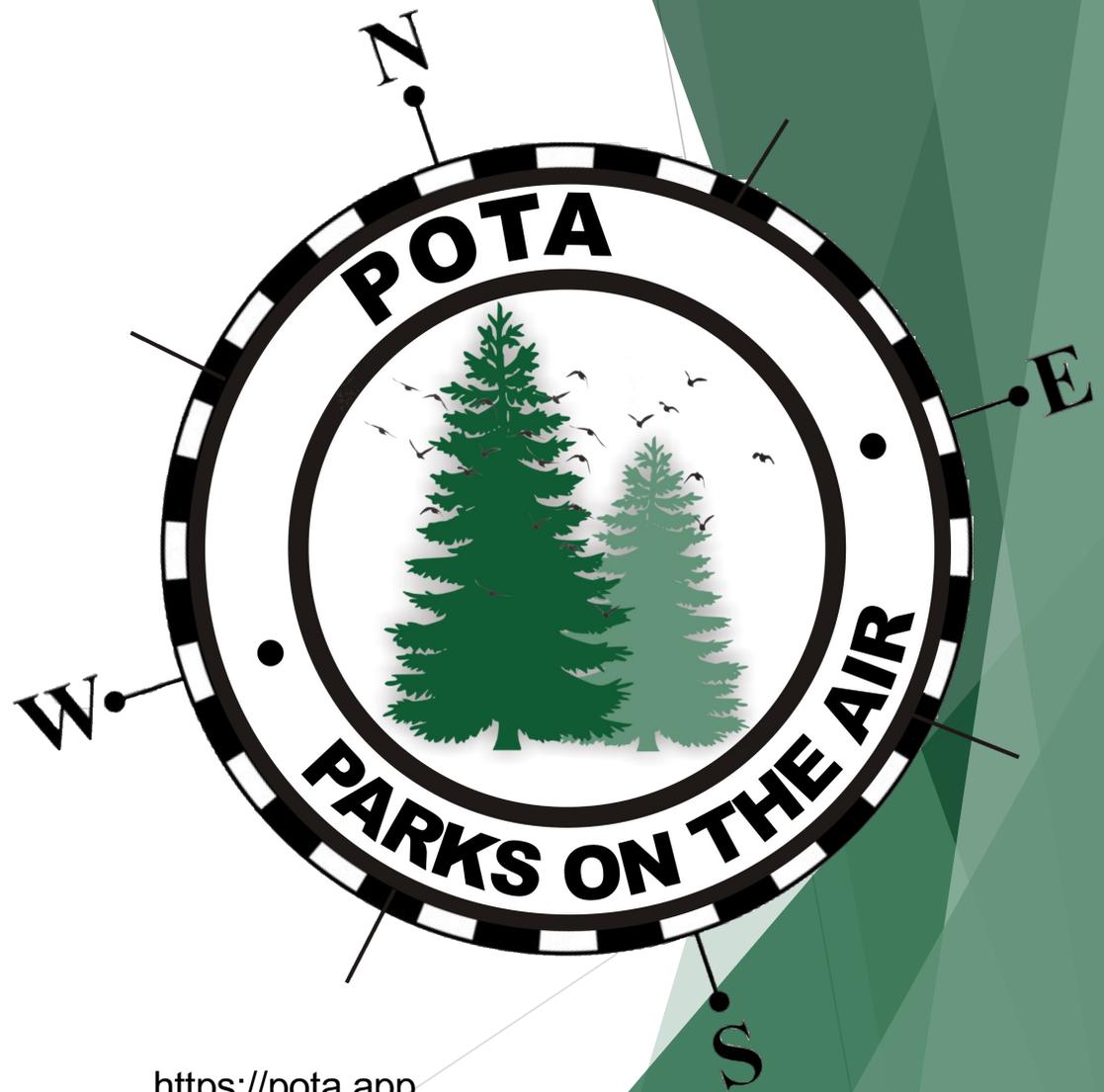
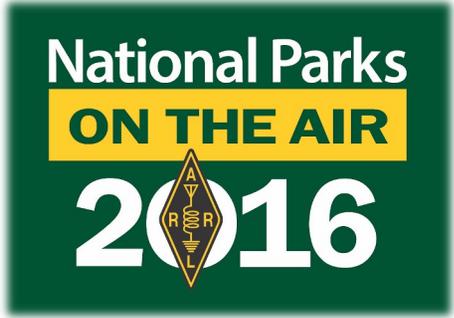


Parks On the Air

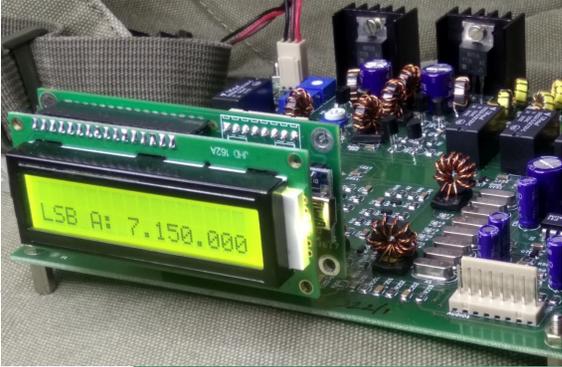
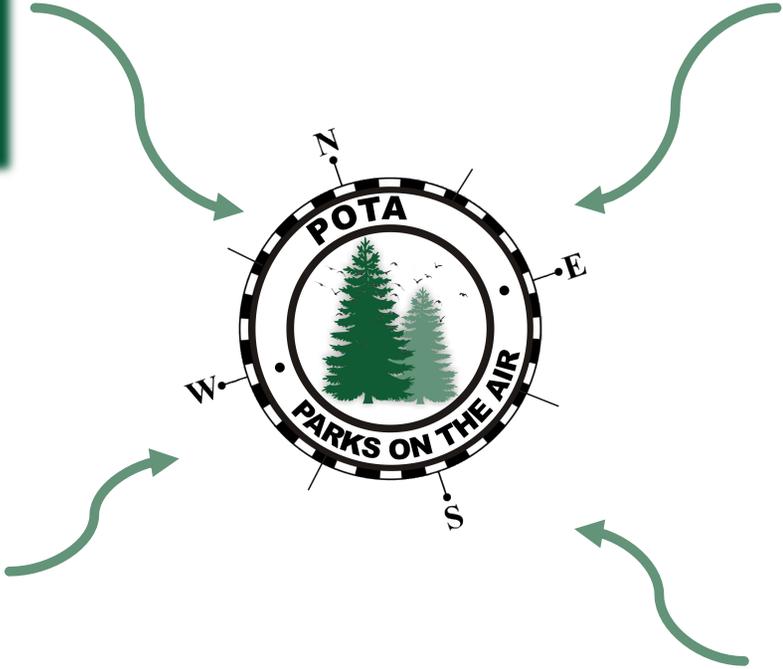


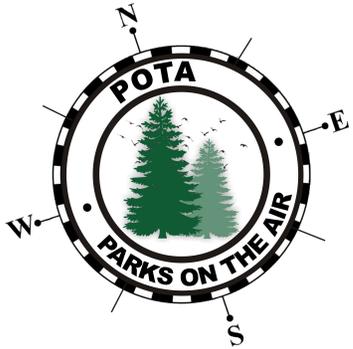
<https://parksontheair.com>

<https://pota.app>



DXPeditions





Why would you want to do this?

It's Fun!



Michael-KØEZE US-4411 Browns Canyon Nat'l Monument

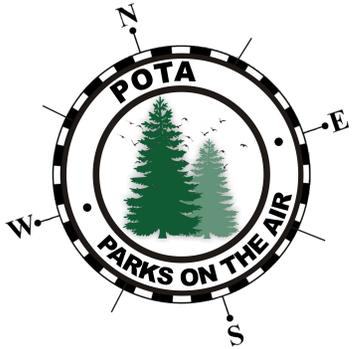
And some things never get old:

"Thanks for the new one!"

"Thanks for activating!"

"Thanks for the park to park!"

"ATNO"



Why would you want to do this?

It's Easy!

- ▶ You can hunt from your home shack. Parked in your chair! Being outside is optional!

- ▶ You can activate from your car with the mobile you already have

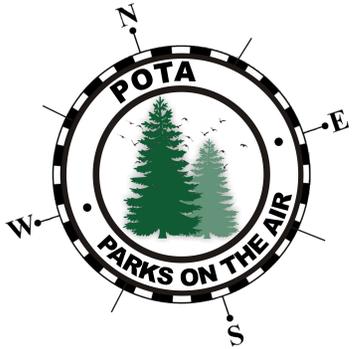


Junie
N1DUC

Mochi
Hunting
station



Bob
WØHTH
US-1214
Cheyenne
Mtn State
Park

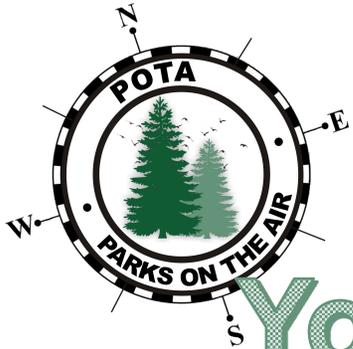


Why would you want to do this?

Conditions are Better!

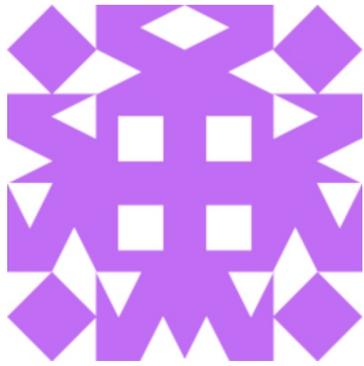
- ▶ Usually low noise
- ▶ Unique challenges
- ▶ The park is likely more picturesque than your shack wall
- ▶ A great opportunity to be an ambassador for amateur radio





Why would you want to do this?

You Can Earn Certificates!



K0EZE

Michael McGinnis

Palmer Lake, CO

Other callsigns:

All-Time Statistics

	Activator	Hunter
Activations	428 / 434	----
Parks	260 / 261	1184
QSOs	11801 / 11824	2237

Awards



Bronze Activator



Silver Activator



Gold Activator



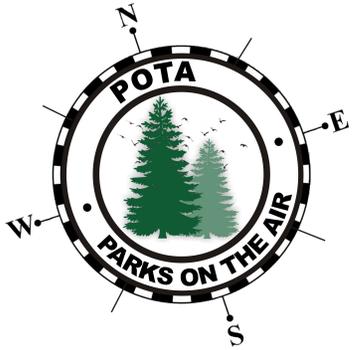
Platinum Activator



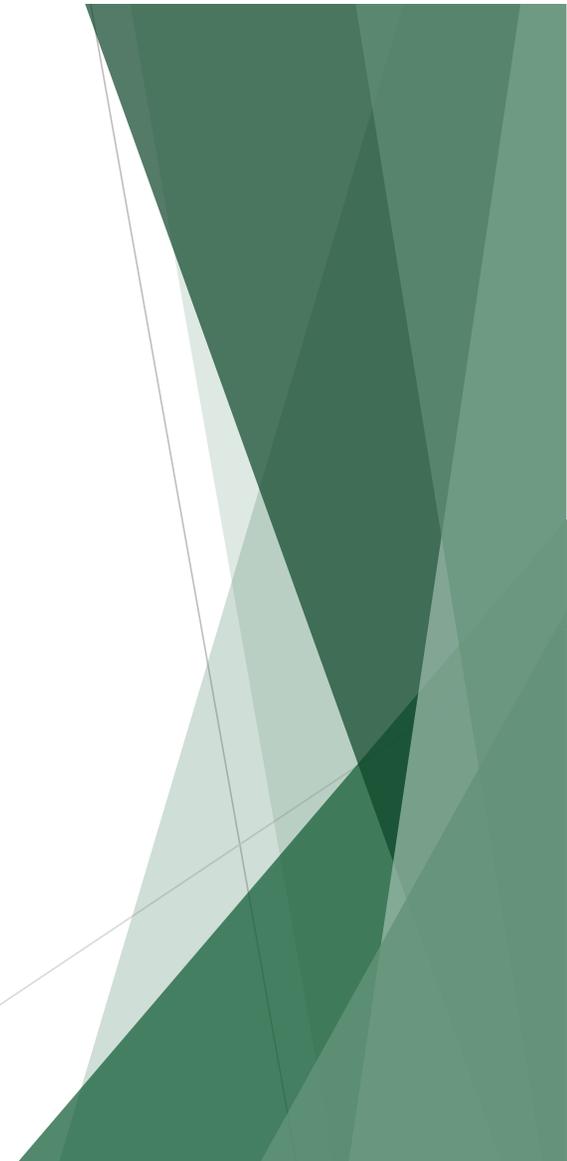
Diamond Activator

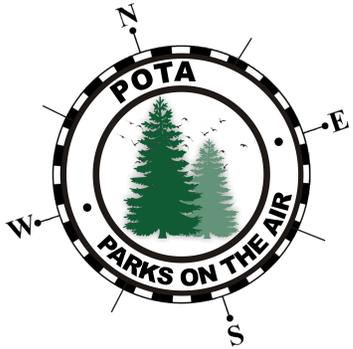


Sapphire Activator



POTA
IS NOT A
CONTEST!





How Does it Work?

Two terms you need to know

Activator

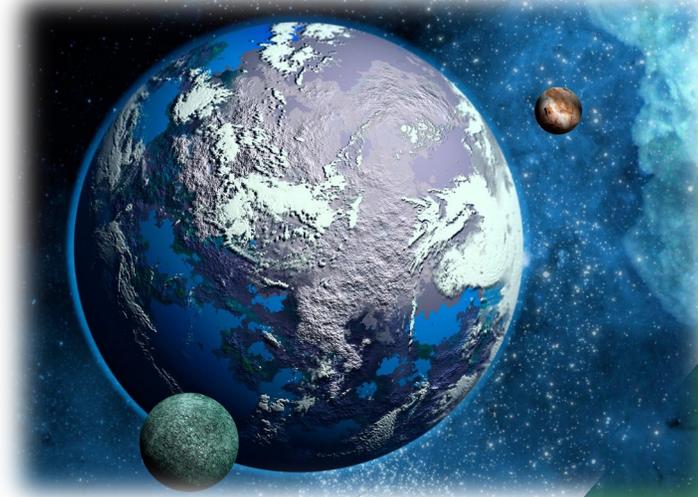
Running the station in the park

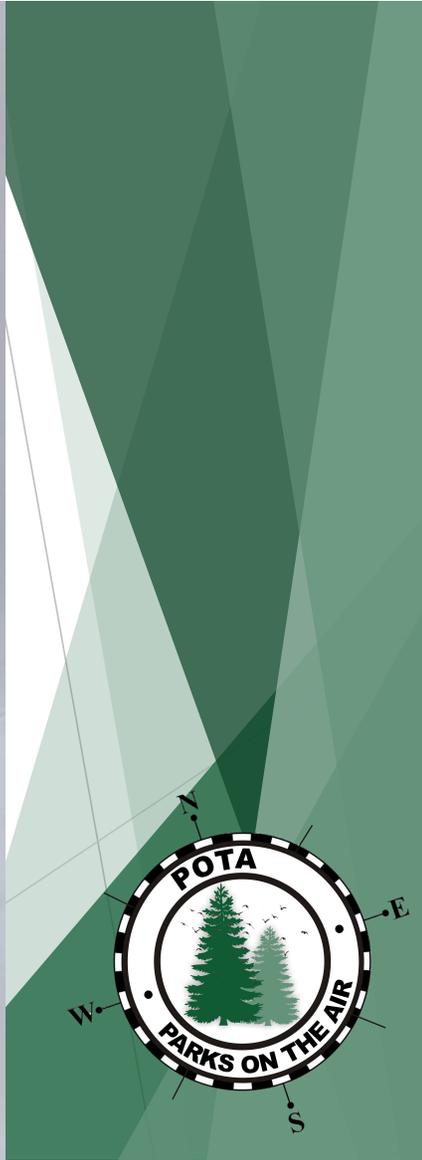


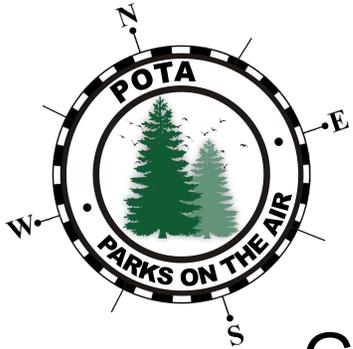
Tricia-KØTRD US-1247 Sylvan Lake, CO

Hunter

Running a station anywhere







How Does it Work?

Good news: The rules are few and simple!

- ▶ Follow the law
- ▶ Follow the **DX Code of Conduct**
- ▶ Follow the Golden Rule

And if you're an Activator:

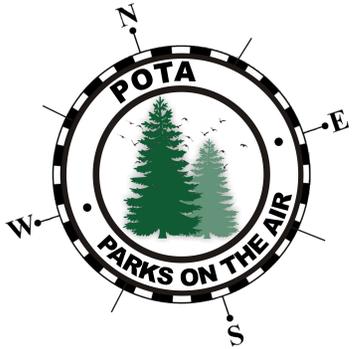
- ▶ You must register at <https://pota.app>
- ▶ You and your equipment must be in the park
- ▶ You need to submit ADIF logs after the activation is over



More of how does it work?

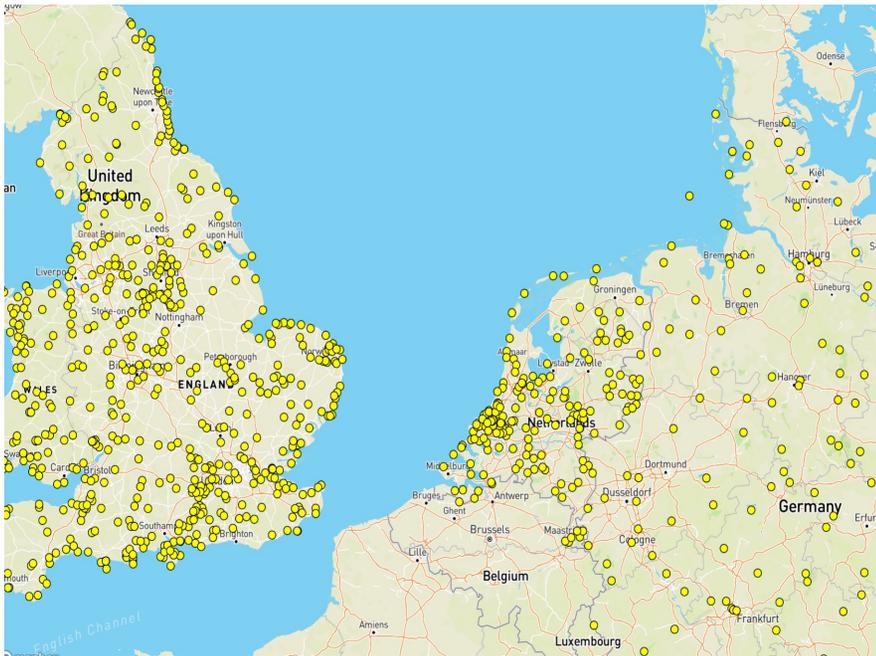
- ▶ Property owned by a State/Provincial or Federal/National agency.
- ▶ No city or county parks or “lands.” We do not include parks that have part/shared ownership, sponsorship, or are operated by private organizations or local governments
- ▶ Check official agency website
- ▶ Have fun



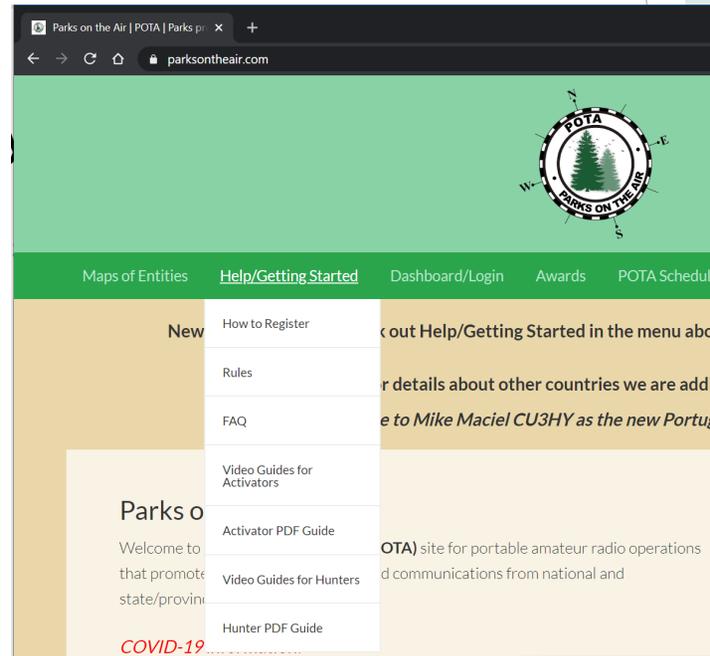


I Already Love It! Where do I go from here?

<https://pota.app>



<https://parksontheair.com>





[Maps of Entities](#) [Help/Getting Started](#) [Login](#) [Awards](#) [POTA Scheduler](#) [POTA Spots](#) [Shop](#) [Contact Us](#)

New to the program? Check out [Help/Getting Started](#) in the menu above for rules and guides for participating.



Over 500,000 unique hunter call signs (participants)!! Thanks ALL POTA volunteers! 73 W3AAX

Parks on the Air ®

Welcome to the **Parks on the Air® (POTA)** site for international portable amateur radio operations that promote emergency awareness and communications from national/federal and state/provincial level parks.

Volunteers →

See list of program volunteers and view open positions

Awards →

See current available awards

Getting Started →

Learn how to participate in POTA

Support Parks on the Air

Please consider making a contribution to defray our overhead costs and keep our site ad-free. Thank you for your support!

Payment accepted via PayPal. Just click the "Donate" button below; you can contribute any amount you choose.

Donate

The Internal Revenue Service recognizes Parks on the Air, Inc. as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity. Gifts are tax deductible in the U.S.A. No goods or services were forwarded or offered in exchange for this contribution.

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 Looking for program rules, activator/hunter guides? Look for their dedicated pages via the menu!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 [Getting Started with POTA](#)
 - a [Getting Started for Hunters](#)
 - b [Getting Started for Activators](#)
- 2 [Getting Started Video Guide](#)

Getting Started with POTA

Parks on the Air® (POTA) started in early 2017 when the ARRL's National Parks on the Air special event ended. A group of volunteers wanted to continue the fun beyond the one-year event, and thus, POTA was born.

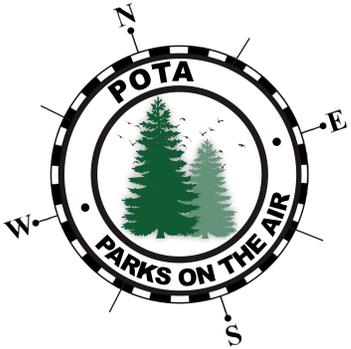
General information about the program is available at parksontheair.com, so we highly recommend checking out the information there. You may also want to join the [POTA Slack Channel](#) or the [POTA Facebook group](#), where you can easily interact with the POTA community online. POTA also maintains accounts on [Twitter](#) and [Mastodon](#) if you prefer to interact on those social media platforms.

Once you're ready to start, just remember that the golden rules of POTA are to have fun and keep it simple. We want to give you as much flexibility as possible, to have fun your way.

Getting started with POTA can happen via one of two paths — as an "activator" who heads out into the parks or as a "hunter" who is trying to contact someone in a park. The easiest way to participate in POTA is as a hunter, so we'll start there.

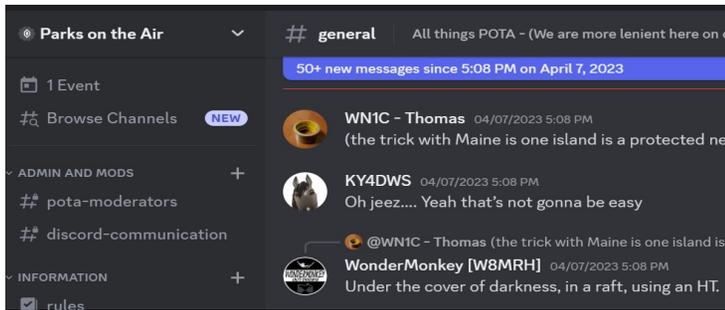
Getting Started for Hunters

Hunters are the individuals located anywhere, who contact the activators in the park. As a hunter, the

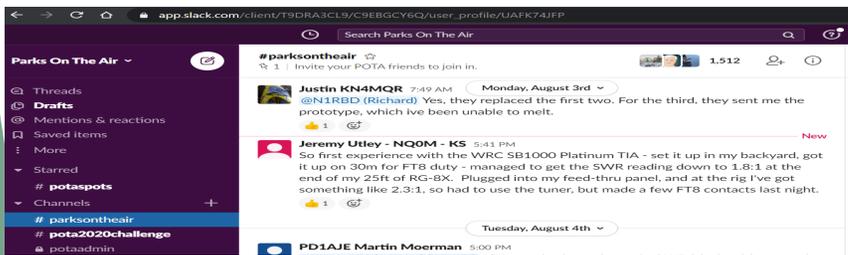


I Already Love It! Where do I go from here?

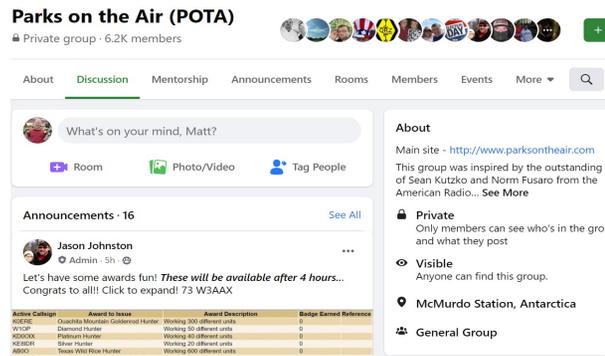
<https://discord.gg/2H5YkPXs>



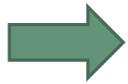
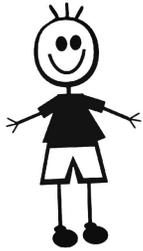
<https://parksontheair.slack.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/parksontheair>



Award Category	Award Name	Award Description	Badge Earned Reference
ACEE	Quachita Mountain Golden Hunter	Working 300 different units	0
WCP	Diamond Hunter	Working 50 different units	0
ND00X	Platinum Hunter	Working 40 different units	0
NE00X	Silver Hunter	Working 20 different units	0
AB00	Texas Wild Blue Hunter	Working 800 different units	0



Map Search for Callsigns & Parks SPOTS ACTIVATIONS DOCS W0HTH

We are working on fixes for the various statistics issues with minor changes each day. We'll work through them all eventually. Thank you for your patience.

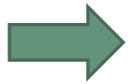
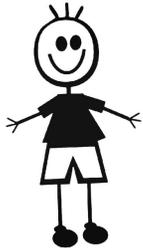
DX Entity Location (State / Province / Region / Area)

A map of Colorado showing numerous yellow circular markers representing call signs. Major cities like Denver, Colorado Springs, and Fort Collins are labeled. The map includes a 50 km scale bar and navigation controls on the right side.

50 km

© mapbox

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap Improve this map



Map SPOTS ACTIVATIONS DOCS W0HTH

We are working on fixes for the various statistics issues with minor changes each day. We'll work through them all eventually. Thank you for your patience.

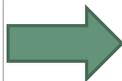
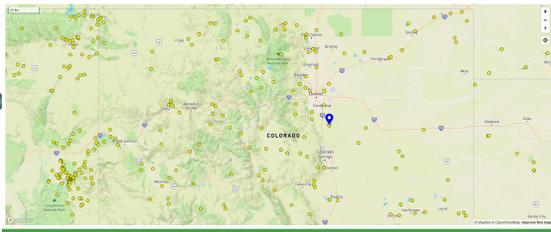
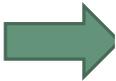
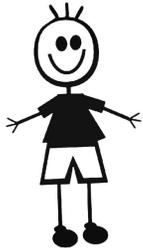
DX Entity Location (State / Province / Region / Area)

A map of Colorado showing numerous yellow circular markers representing call sign locations. Major cities like Denver, Colorado Springs, and Fort Collins are labeled. The map includes a scale bar (50 km), a search bar, and navigation controls. The word "COLORADO" is prominently displayed in the center of the state.

50 km

© mapbox

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap Improve this map



Add Activation

Activator
N3NWV

Reference
K-1387



Start Date (UTC)
2021-09-16

Start Time (UTC)
00:00

End Date (UTC)
2021-09-16

End Time (UTC)
23:55

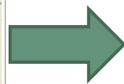
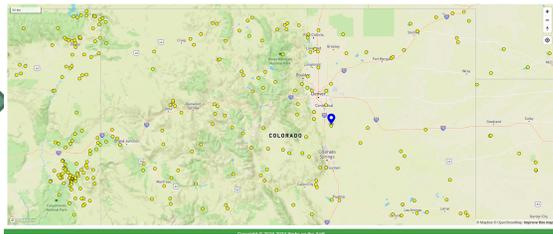
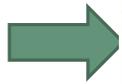
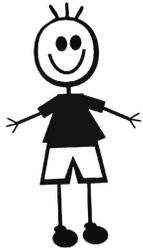
Frequency
Several

Comments

CANCEL

SAVE

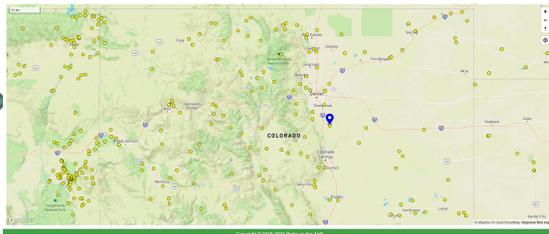
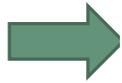
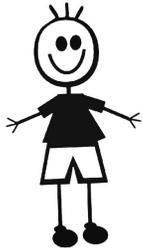




Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
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End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55

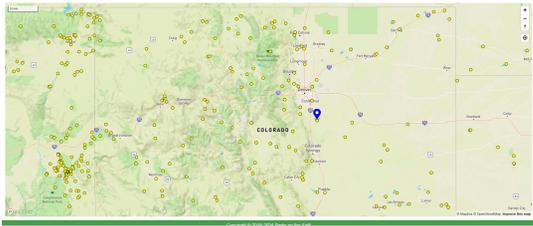
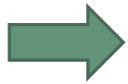
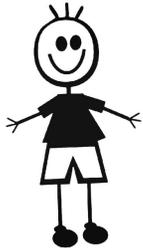




Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
Start Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	Start Time (UTC) 00:00
End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55





Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
Start Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	Start Time (UTC) 00:00
End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55

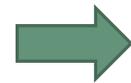
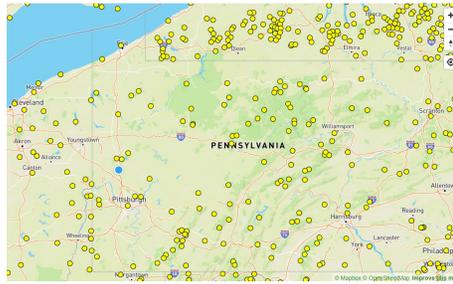
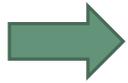
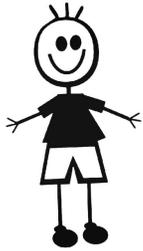


Home ADD SPOT

Active Spots
Data will automatically refresh every 60 seconds.

VA2SG @ VE-0973 VE-0973, Parc de la Riviere-du-Moulin Regional Park CA-QC 7029.8 kHz CW N4ZR RBN 16 dB via N4ZR-# Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC RE-SPOT	N4SOC @ K-0702 K-0702, Cowpens National Battlefield US-SC 7217 kHz KB4XT 57 in Alabama Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC RE-SPOT
KN4SNI @ K-2750 K-2750, Pilot Mountain State Park US-NC 14312 kHz AE4WX	KE1AK @ K-6986 K-6986, Simmons Mill Wildlife Management Area US-RI 7295 kHz KX4MI

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Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
Start Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	Start Time (UTC) 00:00
End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55

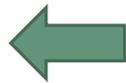


Home

Active Spots

Data will automatically refresh every 60 seconds.

VA2SG @ VE-0973	N450C @ K-0702
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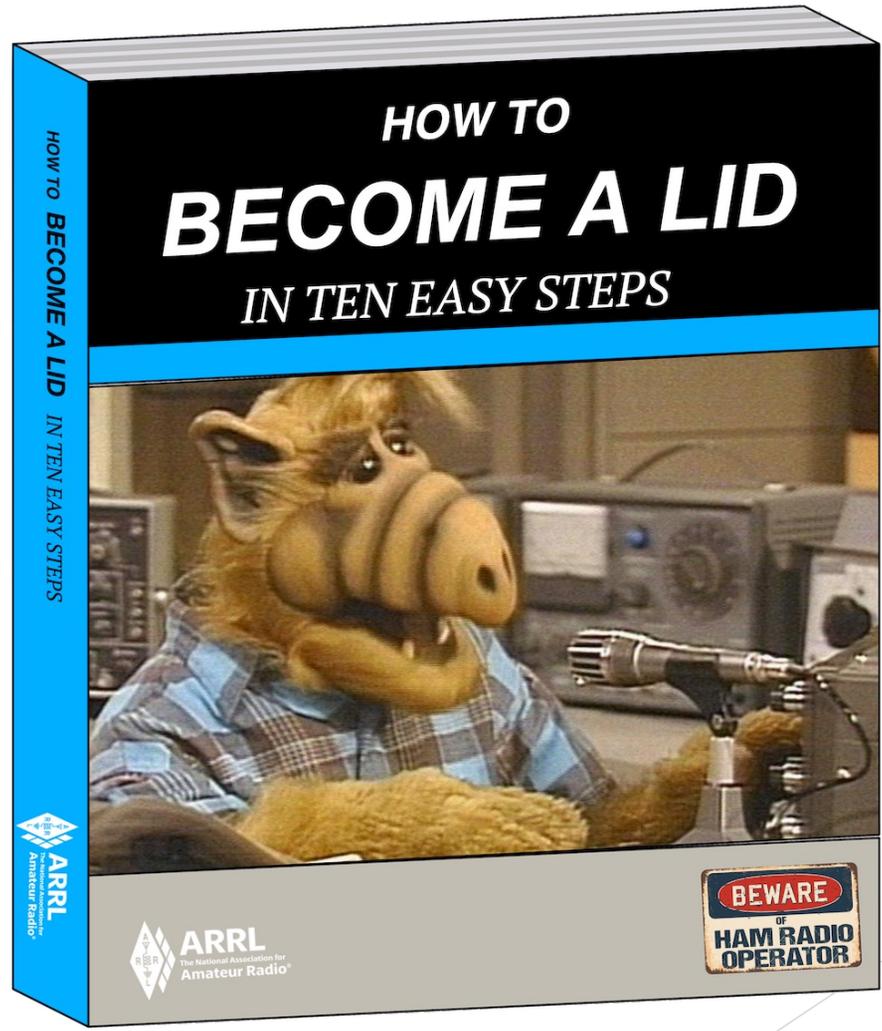


File Edit Settings Clear CallBook List Search Awards eLogs Recall Net View Help

Find

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Snt	Rec
126	W0HL	2020/02/23 19:06	55	55
125	W8NWX	2020/02/23 19:05	59	59
124	KW4CZ	2020/02/23 19:04	55	55
123	WF8B	2020/02/23 19:03	59	59
122	W8APS	2020/02/23 19:02	55	55
121	KG4VVK	2020/02/23 19:02	59	59
120	W3ENK	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59
119	WA8DE	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59
118	NU8M	2020/02/23 19:01	55	56
117	W1OPR	2020/02/23 18:58	55	55
116	K4KZF	2020/02/23 18:58	57	57
115	KG4CDR	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59
114	N2OMC	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59
113	N1JTK	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59
112	KD9MQV	2020/02/23 18:56	57	58
111	KM4EOG	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59
110	W8RJC	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57
109	N8BEG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57
108	N2YG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	59
107	N4SOC	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59
106	W8SMN	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59

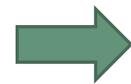
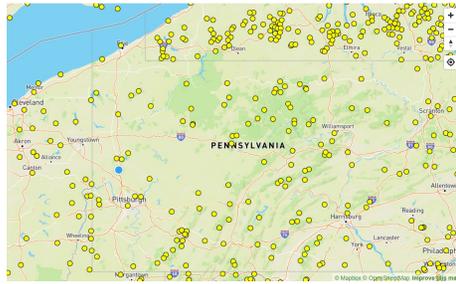
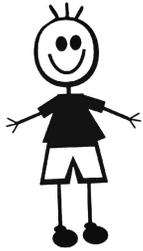
K-3383



HOW TO BECOME A LID IN TEN EASY STEPS

HOW TO **BECOME A LID** IN TEN EASY STEPS





Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
Start Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	Start Time (UTC) 00:00
End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55

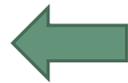


Home

Active Spots
Data will automatically refresh every 60 seconds.

<p>VA2SG @ VE-0973</p> <p>VE-0973 Parks in the Blue du Mont, Belmont Park</p> <p>CA 000</p> <p>7479.9 MHz</p> <p>QW</p> <p>N4CR</p> <p>RBN 16.48 via HA29F</p> <p>Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC</p> <p>RE-SPOT</p>	<p>N4SOC @ K-0702</p> <p>K-0702 Governor Nelson State Park</p> <p>US 000</p> <p>7977 MHz</p> <p>W4AV</p> <p>ST-1, Hoboken</p> <p>Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC</p> <p>RE-SPOT</p>
<p>KM4SM @ K-2750</p> <p>K-2750 East Mountain State Park</p> <p>US 000</p> <p>14312 MHz</p> <p>K4JWV</p>	<p>KETAK @ K-6986</p> <p>K-6986 Simpson Mt. State Management Area</p> <p>US 000</p> <p>7205 MHz</p> <p>K4AK</p>

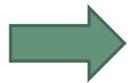
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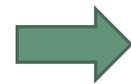
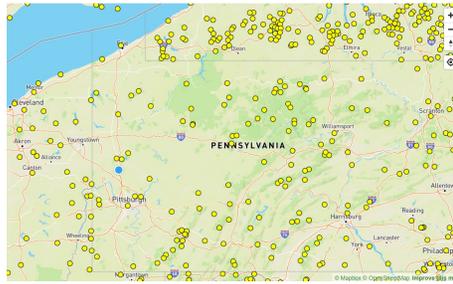
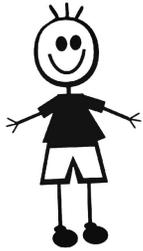


File Edit Settings Clear CallBook List Search Awards eLogs Recall Net View Help

Recent Contacts

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Srt	Rec	ST	SIG_INFO
126	W0HL	2020/02/23 19:06	55	55	MO	
125	WBWVG	2020/02/23 19:05	59	59	IL	
124	KW4CZ	2020/02/23 19:04	55	55	NC	
123	WF8B	2020/02/23 19:03	59	59	OH	
122	WB4PS	2020/02/23 19:02	55	55	MI	K-3383
121	KG4VDK	2020/02/23 19:02	59	59	TN	
120	W3ENK	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59	NC	
119	W4BDE	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59	OH	
118	NJ8M	2020/02/23 19:01	55	56	MI	
117	W1OPR	2020/02/23 18:58	55	55	ME	
116	K4KZF	2020/02/23 18:58	57	57	FL	
115	K34CDR	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59	GA	
114	NZ0MC	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59	MD	
113	N1JTK	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59	CT	
112	KD9MOV	2020/02/23 18:56	57	58	IL	
111	KM4EOG	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59	GA	
110	W8RJG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57	MI	
109	N8BEG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57	MI	
108	N21G	2020/02/23 18:55	59	59	NF	
107	N4SOC	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59	NC	
106	W8SMN	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59	OH	





Add Activation

Activator N3NWW	Reference K-1387
Start Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	Start Time (UTC) 00:00
End Date (UTC) 2021-09-16	End Time (UTC) 23:55

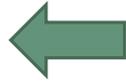


Home

Active Spots
Data will automatically refresh every 60 seconds.

VA25G @ VE-0973 VE-0973 Parks In/Out of the Mount Rushmore Park CA 000 7079 MHz CW NACR RBW 16.48 via N429F Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC RE-SPOT	N450C @ K-6702 K-6702 Governor National Battlefield US 90 7071 MHz CW ST - Nebraska Last heard 1 min ago at 14:29 UTC RE-SPOT
KM4SM @ K-2750 K-2750 East Mountain State Park US NC 14312 MHz CW K4MM	KETAK @ K-6986 K-6986 Scissors Mt. State Management Area US MI 7205 MHz CW K4MM

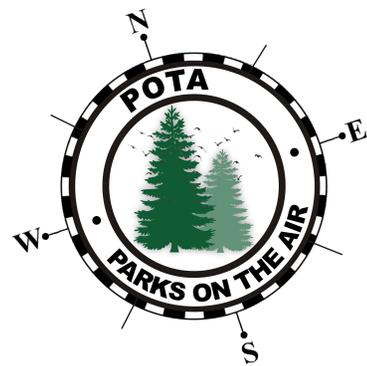
Copyright © 2019 QTH Parks on the Air



File Edit Settings Clear CallBook List Search Awards eLogs Recall Net View Help

Recent Contacts

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Srt	Rec	ST	SIG_INFO
126	W0HL	2020/02/23 19:06	55	55	MO	
125	WBWVG	2020/02/23 19:05	59	59	IL	
124	KW4CZ	2020/02/23 19:04	55	55	NC	
123	WF8B	2020/02/23 19:03	59	59	OH	
122	WB4PS	2020/02/23 19:02	55	55	MI	K-3383
121	KG4VDK	2020/02/23 19:02	59	59	TN	
120	W3ENK	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59	NC	
119	W4BDE	2020/02/23 19:01	59	59	OH	
118	NJ8M	2020/02/23 19:01	55	55	MI	
117	W1OPR	2020/02/23 18:58	55	55	ME	
116	K4KZF	2020/02/23 18:58	57	57	FL	
115	K3ACDR	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59	GA	
114	N2OMC	2020/02/23 18:57	59	59	MD	
113	N1JTK	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59	CT	
112	KD9MOV	2020/02/23 18:56	57	58	IL	
111	KM4EOG	2020/02/23 18:56	59	59	GA	
110	W8RJG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57	MI	
109	N8BEG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	57	MI	
108	N2VIG	2020/02/23 18:55	59	59	NY	
107	N4S0C	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59	NC	
106	W8SMN	2020/02/23 18:54	59	59	OH	



KOTRD Tricia Olson

Colorado Springs, CO

Other calllogs:

All-Time Statistics

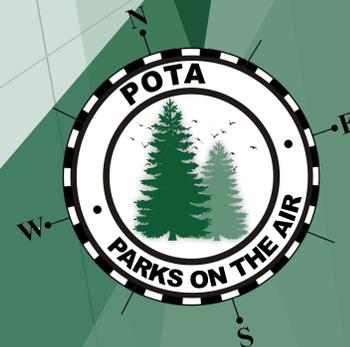
Activator	Hunter
Activations	58 / 59
Parks	27 / 27
spots	2147 / 2152
	1215

Awards



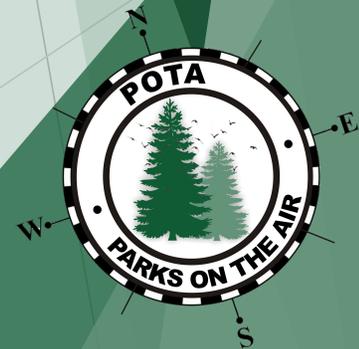
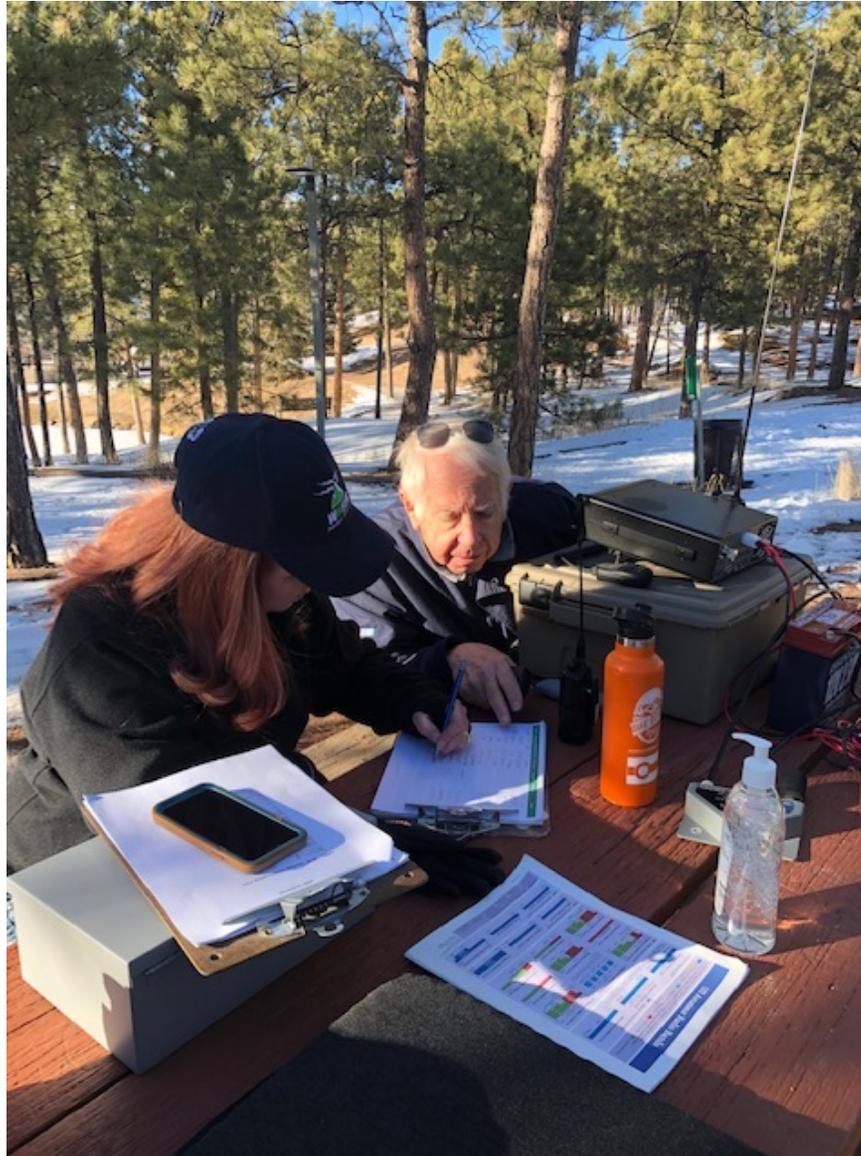
POTA is great for clubs too!

KØTRD Tricia with NCØJW Jim



Details for Clubs

- Need a club account
- Need a couple of club members
- Use the club call on the air
- Log files contain both the <STATION_CALLSIGN> and <OPERATOR> ADI tags
- Both the club and the operator get credit for the QSOs
- Dupes are counted based on the club callsign



What does POTA consider a QSO?

Every unique combination of:

- ▶ UTC Date make sure you do not cross “date line” into another day
- ▶ Callsign
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Mode
- ▶ Park designators



What does POTA consider a QSO? Every unique combination of:

- ▶ UTC Date
- ▶ Callsign
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Mode
- ▶ Park designators

SSB – CW – FT4



What does POTA consider a QSO? Every unique combination of:

- ▶ UTC Date
- ▶ Callsign
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Mode
- ▶ Park designators

SSB – CW – FT4

AM – FM – SSB



What does POTA consider a QSO?
Every unique combination of:

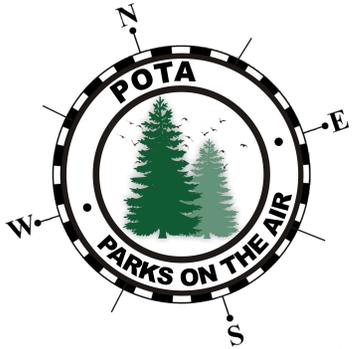
- ▶ UTC Date
- ▶ Callsign
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Mode
- ▶ Park designators

SSB – CW – FT4

AM – FM - SSB

FT8 – PSK31 – RTTY - OLIVIA





Hunters make the whole thing work

"It's no fun calling CQ and getting crickets in return"

-Every Ham

- ▶ Create an account at <https://pota.app>
- ▶ Watch the spotting page at <https://pota.app> (or spin the VFO!)
- ▶ Call the activators!
 - ▶ **Following the DX Code of Conduct**
- ▶ Track your progress and see your awards back at pota.app

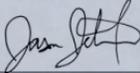
Glandularia
Tampensis



That
Robert Fenkel
W0HTH

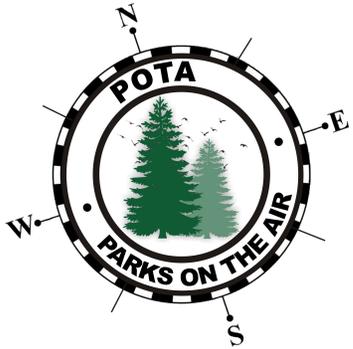
has submitted proof of working
2000 unique reference areas
in the Parks on the Air program,
this certificate is hereby
presented in recognition of this
outstanding achievement.

2000 Hunter Award


Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

01/30/2024
Date

Photo: Public Domain

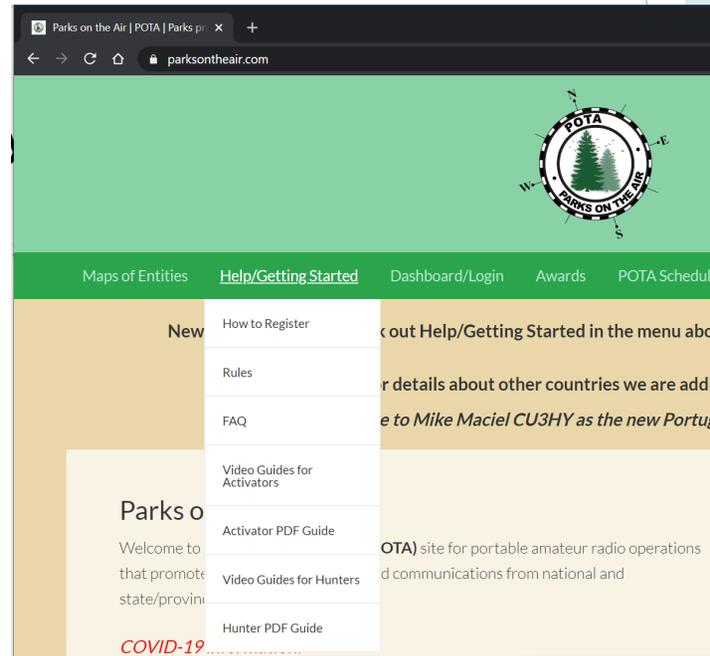


Now I Really Love It! Where do I go next again?

<https://pota.app>



<https://parksontheair.com>



We are working on fixes for the various statistics issues with minor changes each day. We'll work through them all eventually. Thank you for your patience.

Active Spots Data will refresh in 52 seconds. || At a park now? ADD SPOT

Band: All 55 **Mode:** SSB 29 **Program:** All 55 **QRT:** Show 55 **Hunted:** Show 55 **Sort:** Frequency

<p>KF9R @ US-10247</p> <p>US-10247 Lawrence Creek State Nature Preserve</p> <p>US-IN</p> <p>7255 kHz</p> <p>VA3IMW</p> <p>59 ON</p> <p>Last heard 2 mins ago at 22:39 UTC</p> <p>RE-SPOT 44</p>	<p>WD4ITE @ US-8204</p> <p>US-8204 Yorktown National Battlefield</p> <p>US-VA</p> <p>7259 kHz</p> <p>VE9CF</p> <p>5x9 into Saint Antoine, NB</p> <p>Last heard 8 mins ago at 22:33 UTC</p> <p>RE-SPOT 10</p>	<p>K4MI @ US-8204</p> <p>US-8204 Yorktown National Battlefield</p> <p>US-VA</p> <p>7259 kHz</p> <p>W8JDZ</p> <p>59 OH</p> <p>Last heard 4 mins ago at 22:37 UTC</p> <p>RE-SPOT 6</p>
--	---	---

<p>WB7URZ @ US-8204</p> <p>US-8204 Yorktown National Battlefield</p> <p>US-VA</p> <p>7259 kHz</p> <p>VE9CF</p> <p>5x9 into Saint Antoine, NB</p>	<p>K3JRZ @ US-1414</p> <p>US-1414 Ridley Creek State Park</p> <p>US-PA</p> <p>7270 kHz</p> <p>N4DH</p> <p>No spot information</p>	<p>N3QB @ US-1414</p> <p>US-1414 Ridley Creek State Park</p> <p>US-PA</p> <p>7270 kHz</p> <p>VE9CF</p> <p>European SW station clobbering you guys</p>
---	--	--

We are working on fixes for the various statistics issues with minor changes each day. We'll work through them all eventually. Thank you for your patience.

Active Spots Data will refresh in 12 seconds. ||

At a park now? [ADD](#)

Band: All 69 Mode: SSB 35 Program: All 69 QRT: Show 69 Hunted: Show 69 Sort: Frequency

W9TPJ @ 🗨️

- 📍 US-1260 John Audubon Park
- 🏠 US-KY
- 📡 7194 kHz
- 👤 W9TPJ
- 💬 audubon
- 🕒 Last heard 5 r

All 69

CW 10

FT4 1

FT8 23

SSB 35

DATA 24

PHONE 35

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 1

KE8BIT @ US-11673 🗨️

- 📍 US-11673 Great Council State Park
- 🏠 US-OH
- 📡 7210 kHz
- 👤 W0CGC
- 💬 [57]
- 🕒 Last heard 13 sec ago at 18:20 UTC

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 9

KG4ATD @ US-2905 🗨️

- 📍 US-2905 Lee State Park
- 🏠 US-SC
- 📡 7230 kHz
- 👤 KY4EJ
- 💬 59 NC
- 🕒 Last heard 26 mins ago at 17:54 UTC

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 18

OE3BIY @ AT-0217 🗨️

- 📍 AT-0217 Enzesfeld-Lindabrunn-Hernstein Protected Landscape Area
- 🏠 AT-NO
- 📡 14218 kHz
- 👤 YT5SMT
- 💬 thx for qso, 73
- 🕒 Last heard 13 sec ago at 18:20 UTC

KB0WLF @ US-10873 🗨️

- 📍 US-10873 White River Trace State Conservation Area
- 🏠 US-MO
- 📡 14240 kHz
- 👤 N2BTD
- 💬 55
- 🕒 Last heard 12 mins ago at 18:08 UTC

KM4NRY @ US-3844 🗨️

- 📍 US-3844 Jordan Lake State Recreation Area
- 🏠 US-NC
- 📡 14250 kHz
- 👤 K1BZ
- 💬 No spot information
- 🕒 Last heard 1 min ago at 18:19 UTC

We are working on fixes for the various statistics issues with minor changes each day. We'll work through them all eventually. Thank you for your patience.

Active Spots Data will refresh in 54 seconds. ||

At a park now? [ADD S](#)

Band: All 70 Mode: SSB 33 Program: All 70 QRT: Show 70 Hunted: Show 70 Sort: Frequency

📻 W9TPJ @ US-1260



- 📍 US-1260 John James Audubon State Park
- 🏠 US-KY
- 📡 7194 kHz
- 👤 W9TPJ
- 💬 audubon
- 🕒 Last heard 7 mins ago at 18:15 UTC

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 1

📻 KE8BIT @ US-11673



- 📍 US-11673 Great Council State Park
- 🏠 US-OH
- 📡 7210 kHz
- 👤 W0CGC
- 💬 [57]
- 🕒 Last heard 2 mins ago at 18:20 UTC

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 9

- Time
- Activator
- Frequency
- Mode
- Reference
- Park Name
- Region
- Spotter

📻 KG4ATD @ US-2905



- 📍 US-2905 Lee State Park
- 🏠 US-SC
- 📡 7230 kHz
- 👤 KY4EJ
- 💬 59 NC
- 🕒 Last heard 28 mins ago at 17:54 UTC

RE-SPOT 🔄 🕒 18

📻 OE3BIY @ AT-0217



- 📍 AT-0217 Enzesfeld-Lindabrunn-Hernstein Protected Landscape Area
- 🏠 AT-NO
- 📡 14218 kHz
- 👤 YT5SMT
- 💬 thx for qso, 73
- 🕒 Last heard 2 mins ago at 18:20 UTC

📻 KB0WLF @ US-10873

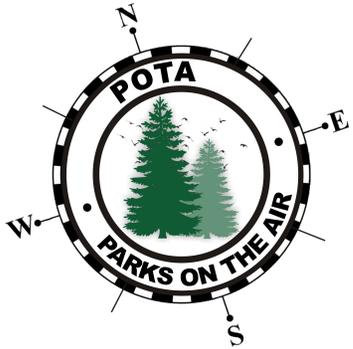


- 📍 US-10873 White River Trace State Conservation Area
- 🏠 US-MO
- 📡 14240 kHz
- 👤 N2BTD
- 💬 55
- 🕒 Last heard 14 mins ago at 18:08 UTC

📻 KM4NRY @ US-3844

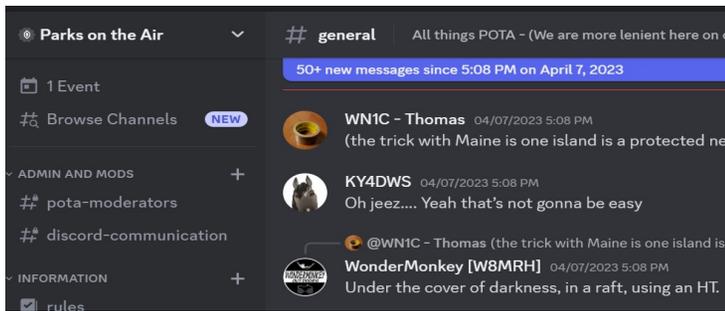


- 📍 US-3844 Jordan Lake State Recreation Area
- 🏠 US-NC
- 📡 14250 kHz
- 👤 N5SRC
- 💬 55 AR
- 🕒 Last heard 43 sec ago at 18:22 UTC

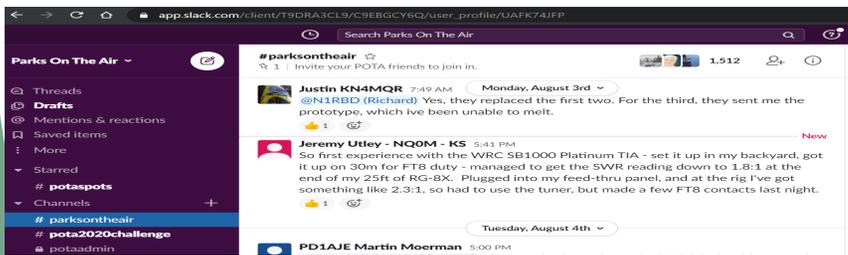


Now I Really Love It! Where do I go next again?

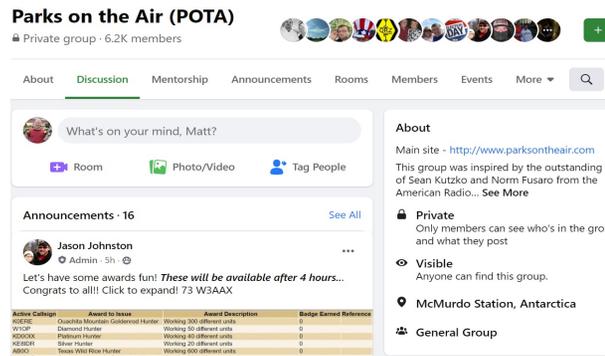
<https://discord.gg/2H5YkPXs>



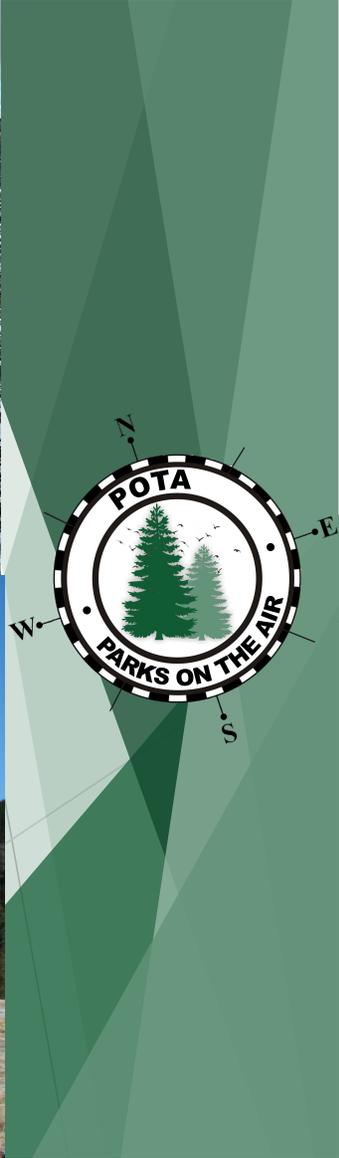
<https://parksontheair.slack.com>



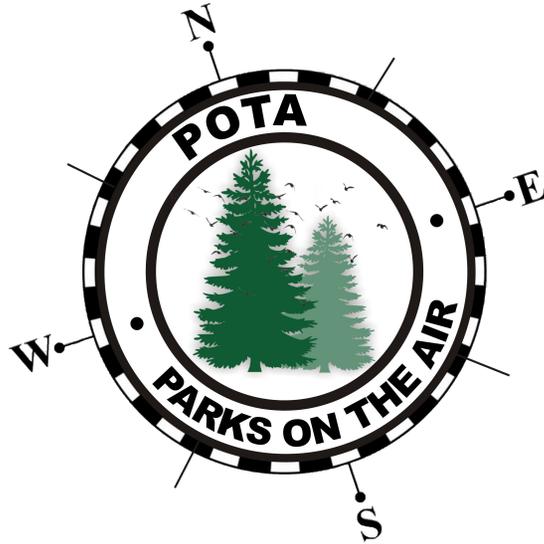
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/parksontheair>

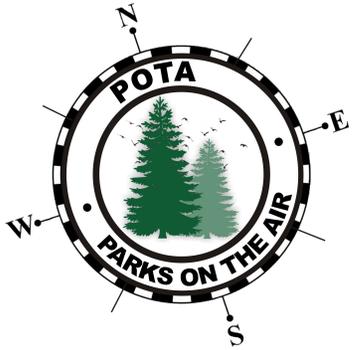


Active Challenge	Awards to Issue	Award Description	Badge Earned Reference
KC9E	Quackto Mountain Golden Hunter	Working 300 different units	0
W1CF	Diamond Hunter	Working 50 different units	0
N200XX	Platinum Hunter	Working 40 different units	0
N200XX	Silver Hunter	Working 20 different units	0
AB00	Texas Wild Blue Hunter	Working 800 different units	0



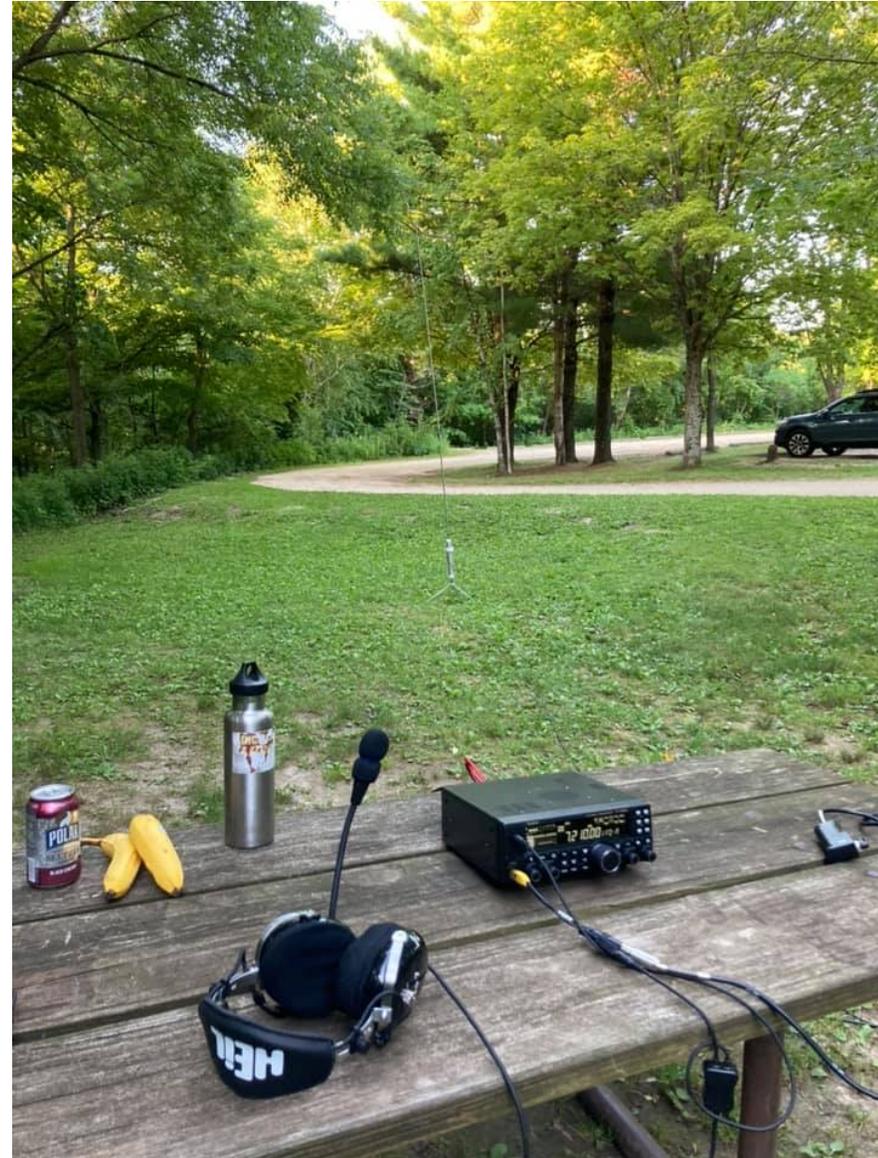
Portable Operations for POTA





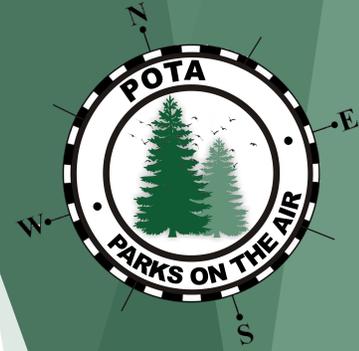
Portable Stations

- Power
- Radios
- Antennas
- Computers



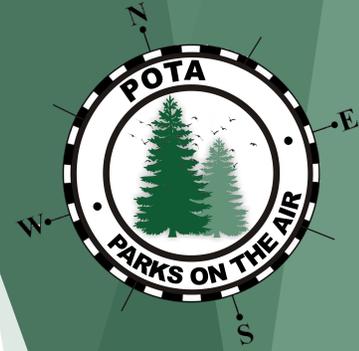
Power

- ▶ You might have electricity available
 - ▶ Pavilions
 - ▶ Campgrounds
 - ▶ Bring your power supply unit
 - ▶ Watch the voltage drop on long extension cords
 - ▶ WØHTH - Bob - Chaco Canyon NM



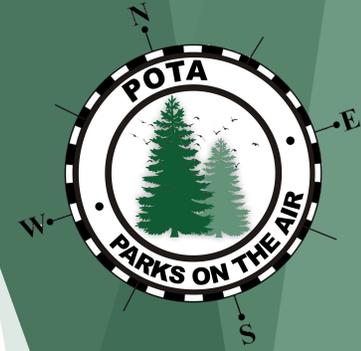
Power

- ▶ You might have electricity available
 - ▶ Pavilions
 - ▶ Campgrounds
 - ▶ Watch the voltage drop on long extension cords
- ▶ Generators
 - ▶ Noisy /smelly / irritating to others
 - ▶ Via your camper
 - ▶ Unreliable
 - ▶ RFI problems



Power

- ▶ You might have electricity available
 - ▶ Pavilions
 - ▶ Campgrounds
 - ▶ Watch the voltage drop on long extension cords
- ▶ Generators
 - ▶ Noisy /smelly / irritating to others
 - ▶ Via your camper
 - ▶ Unreliable
 - ▶ RFI problems
- ▶ Battery power
 - ▶ Perhaps with solar recharge
 - ▶ LiFePo4 vs Lead acid



Batteries are the most common



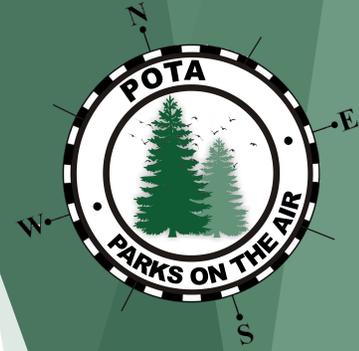
LiFePo4

- ▶ Voltage profile works well
 - ▶ Starts at 13.6V and runs 12.8V until nearly depleted
- ▶ Can use the full capacity
- ▶ Lifespan is 1000's of cycles and 10's of years
- ▶ High charge density (low weight / watt-hours)
- ▶ Lowest total cost of ownership
- ▶ One of the safest chemistries available. Lithium Iron Phosphate



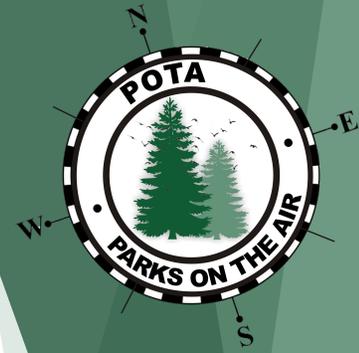
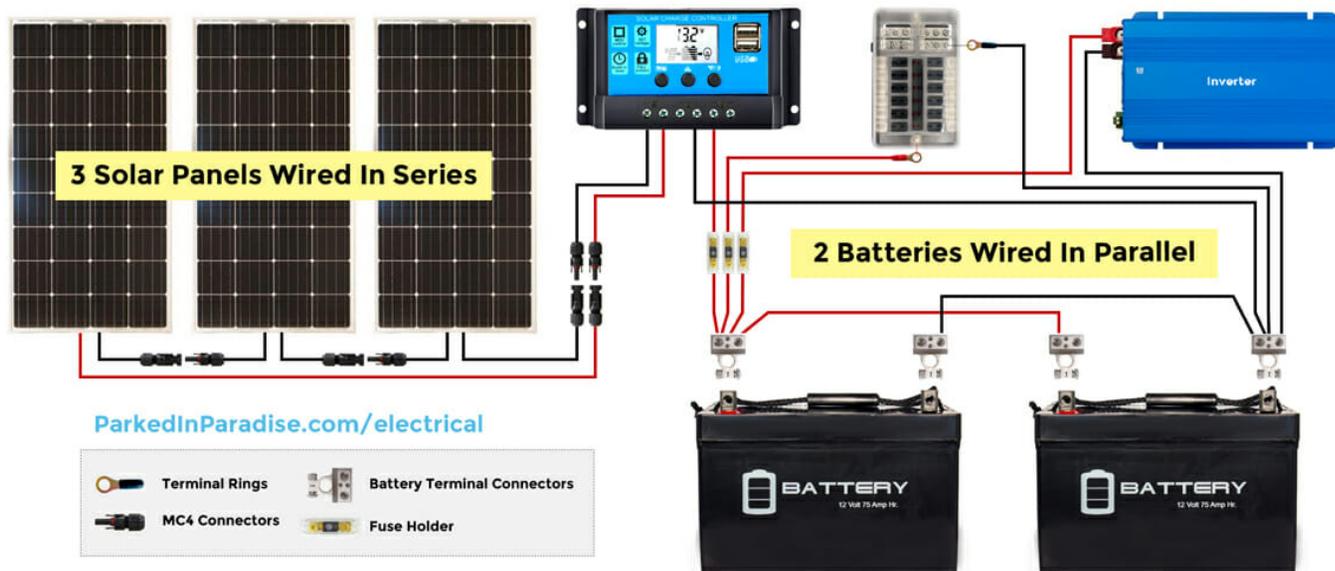
Sealed Lead Acid

- ▶ Voltage is a problem for many radios
 - ▶ Starts at 12.5V and drops to under 11.7 very quickly
- ▶ Can use at most 50% capacity (usually much less due to voltage)
- ▶ Lifespan is 2-300 cycles and 5 years
- ▶ Doubles as your boat anchor
- ▶ Lowest upfront cost
- ▶ Can leak, but proven durable enough for automotive use over decades



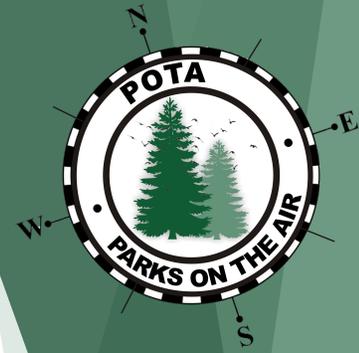
Solar generation extends battery life

- ▶ Typically need 2W of solar for every 1W RF output to maintain battery (full sun)
- ▶ Divide by the fraction of the day with full sun to figure round-the-clock numbers



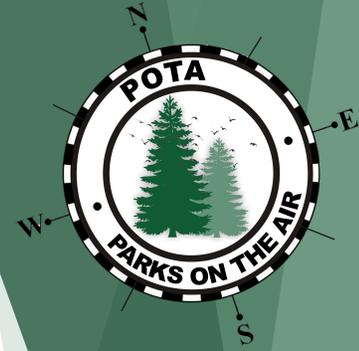
Radios!

- ▶ Almost any radio will work



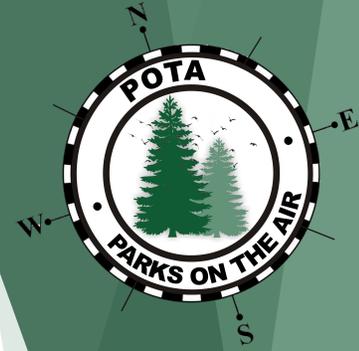
Radios!

- ▶ Almost any radio will work
- ▶ Things that are handy to have:
 - ▶ Built in tuner
 - ▶ Built in CW keyer
 - ▶ Built in PC interfaces
 - ▶ More bands (shack in a box)



Radios!

- ▶ Almost any radio will work
- ▶ Things that are handy to have:
 - ▶ Built in tuner
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- ▶ All else being equal – QRO works better than QRP
 - ▶ But remember ERP is what counts



Radios!

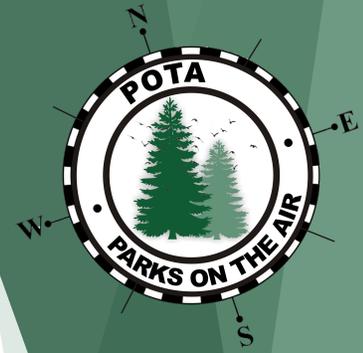
- ▶ Almost any radio will work
- ▶ Things that are handy to have:
 - ▶ Built in tuner
 - ▶ Built in CW keyer
 - ▶ Built in PC interfaces
 - ▶ More bands (shack in a box)
- ▶ All else being equal – QRO works better than QRP
 - ▶ But remember ERP is what counts
- ▶ **Use a radio that you're willing to use outside, with bugs and bug spray and a top-heavy insulated cup of coffee**



Antennas



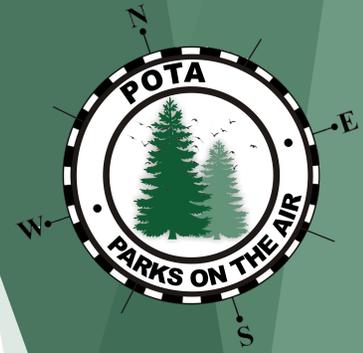
- ▶ Again – anything can work
 - ▶ Don't let “perfect” become the enemy of “good”



Antennas



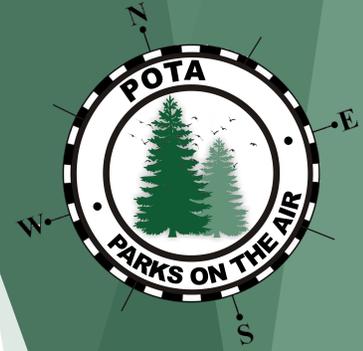
- ▶ Again – anything can work
 - ▶ Don't let “perfect” become the enemy of “good”
- ▶ Footprint might matter



Antennas



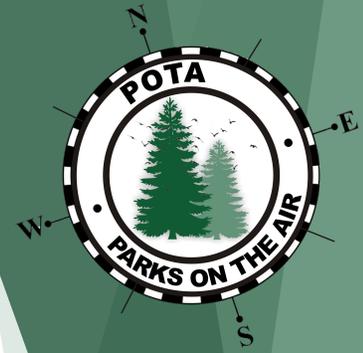
- ▶ Again – anything can work
 - ▶ Don't let “perfect” become the enemy of “good”
- ▶ Footprint might matter
- ▶ Deployment time/ease might matter

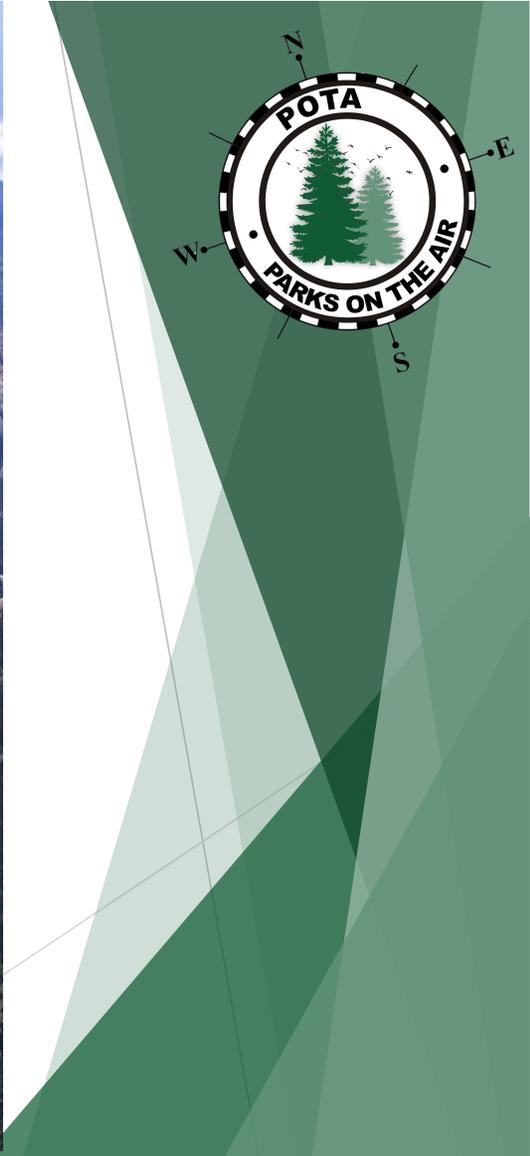


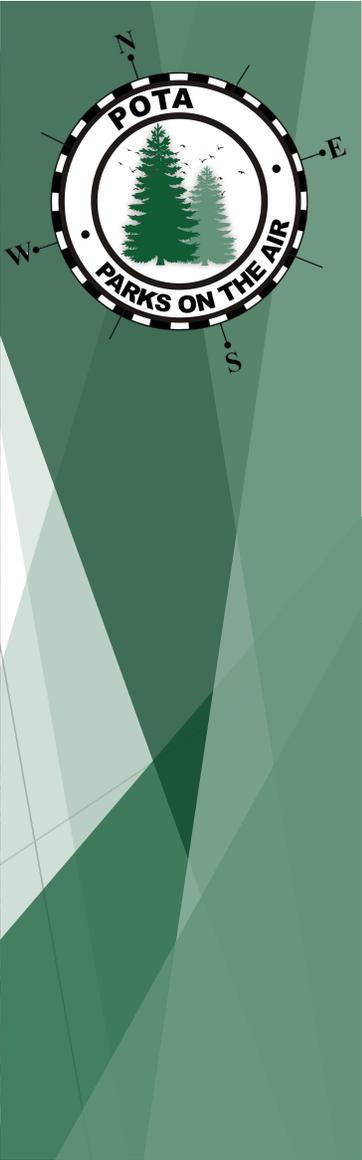
Antennas



- ▶ Again – anything can work
 - ▶ Don't let “perfect” become the enemy of “good”
- ▶ Footprint might matter
- ▶ Deployment time/ease might matter
- ▶ Take-off angle probably matters



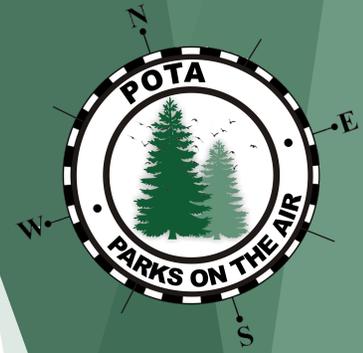




Antennas

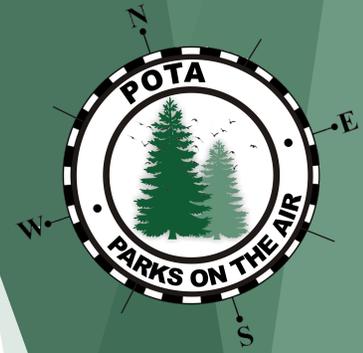


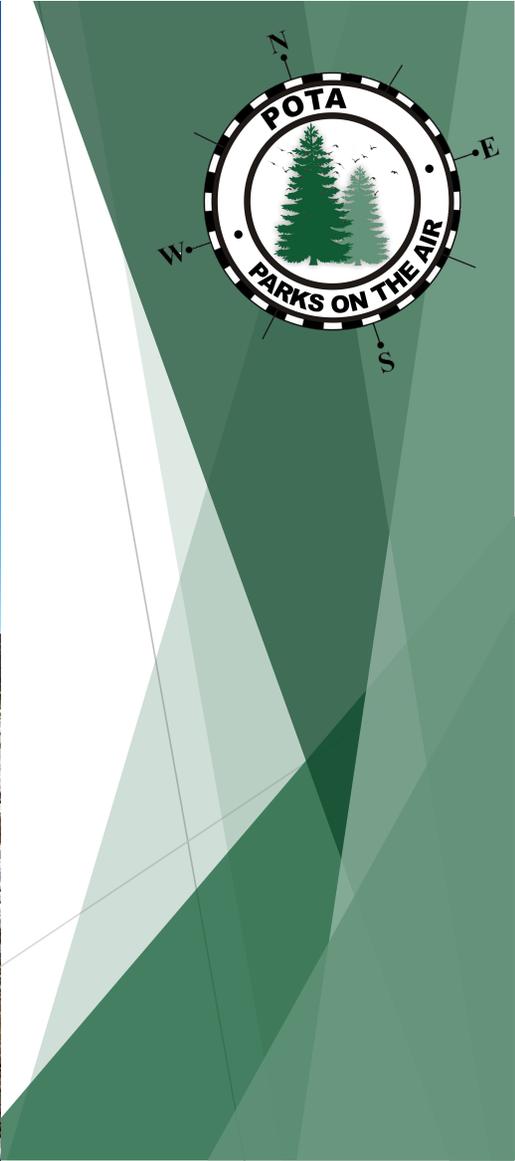
- ▶ Again – anything can work
 - ▶ Don't let “perfect” become the enemy of “good”
- ▶ Footprint might matter
- ▶ Deployment time/ease might matter
- ▶ Take-off angle probably matters
- ▶ Power handling, durability, and aesthetics tend to matter less than at other times



Antennas

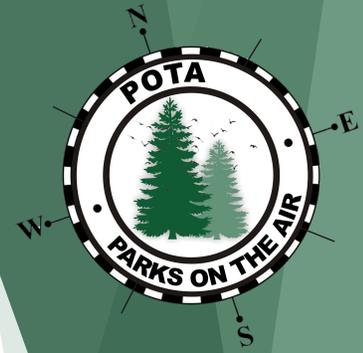
- ▶ Mobile setups count
- ▶ Magnetic mount antennas are quick and easy
- ▶ Can be used from the picnic bench too
 - ▶ Long coax
 - ▶ Faraday cloth
 - ▶ Metal window screen



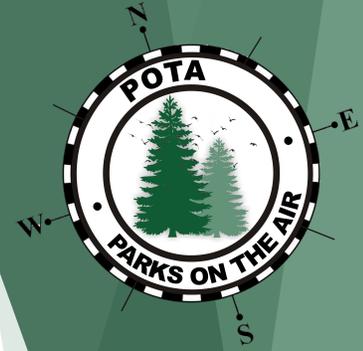


Faraday Cloth

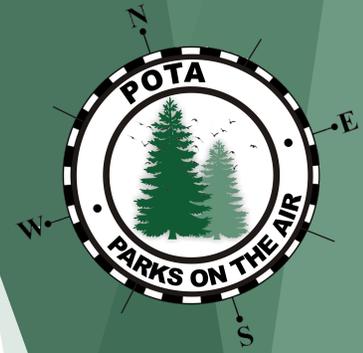
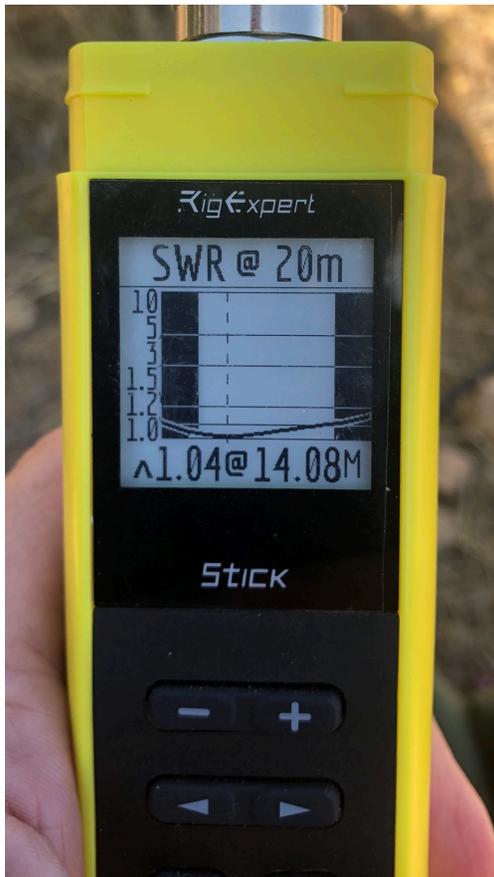
- Radials are not a resonant element
- But do affect SWR as a ground plane
- Contact with Earth is the goal
- Highest current flows about $1/16$ wavelength from the antenna base



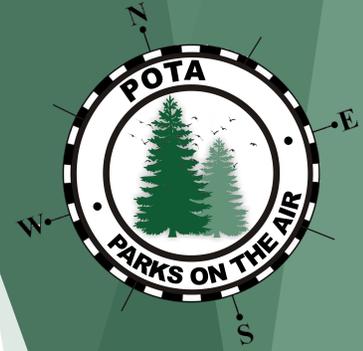
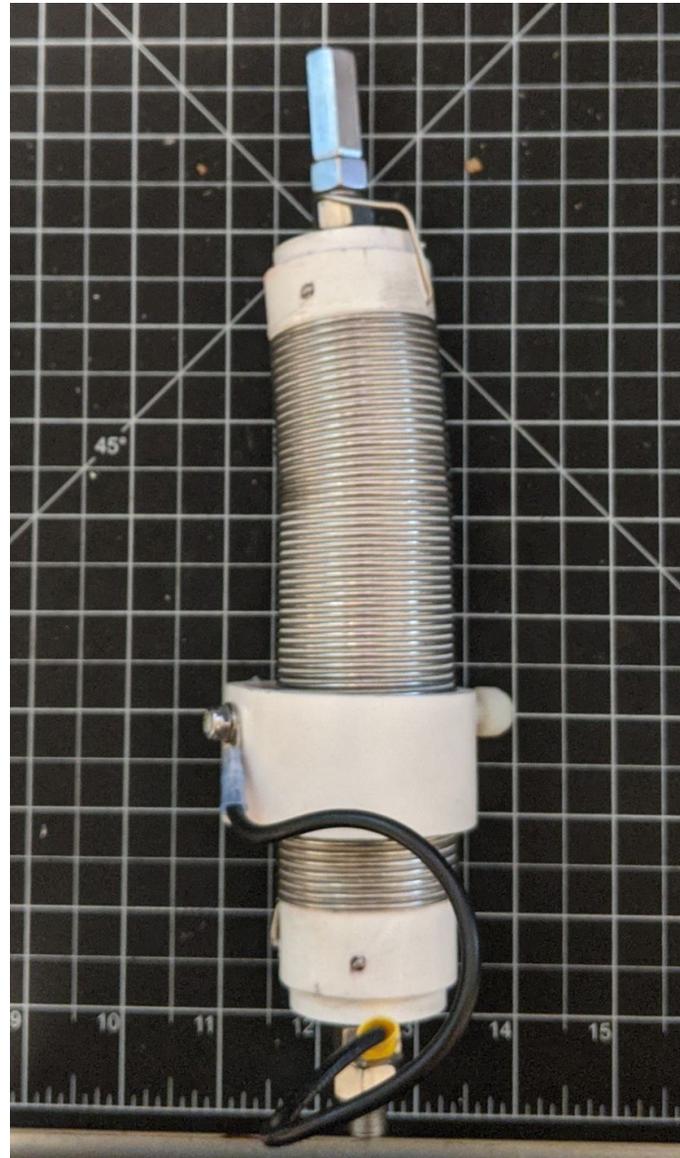
Tripod based self-supporting



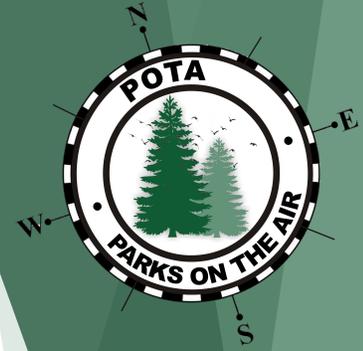
Wolf River Coil



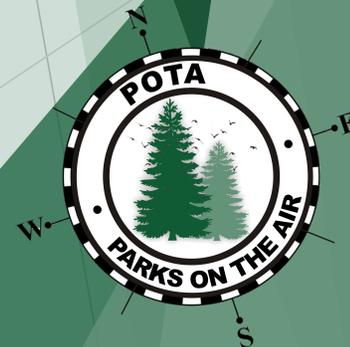
Wolf River Coil



Resonant, Multi-band Antennas



End-fed Wire Antennas



Get on up there!

- ▶ Tim – WØOOD
- ▶ Launcher par extraordinaire



Just happy to wind up that EFHW



Antenna Masts

- Popular where use of trees is prohibited by either rule or nature
- Can be easier to achieve height if throwing a weight isn't your thing
- Gives you a straightforward option for running multiple elements



Antenna Masts Mounting

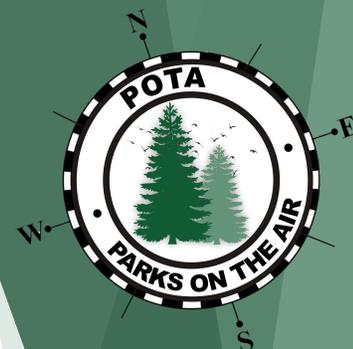
- Guy ropes work, and they aren't the pain that you might imagine
- Your car is more than heavy enough to support a very large mast
 - Trailer hitch mount
 - Drive-on mount
 - Sticking up out of the passenger window





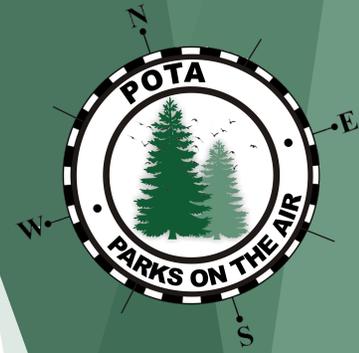
Computers in the field

- ▶ 100% Optional (well – 50% anyway)
- ▶ Needed for digital modes
- ▶ Something connected needed for self-spotting
 - ▶ Or a reliable friend who knows your schedule
- ▶ Electronic Logging
 - ▶ Required by all of the programs
 - ▶ More accurate if connected to the radio
 - ▶ Live callsign lookup for personalized QSOs



Computers in the field

- ▶ Power can be an issue over long periods
 - ▶ Automotive chargers can run from your rig battery
 - ▶ Watch the RFI though
- ▶ Solid state storage makes them all but vibration proof
- ▶ Screen glare + sunshine = migraine headache
 - ▶ Matte screen protectors are awesome
- ▶ If you have a non-resonant antenna you should own stock in a ferrite bead company
 - ▶ Not all USB cables are created equal!





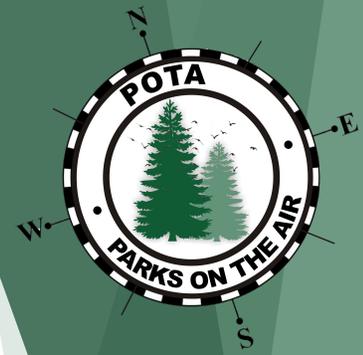
Finally!

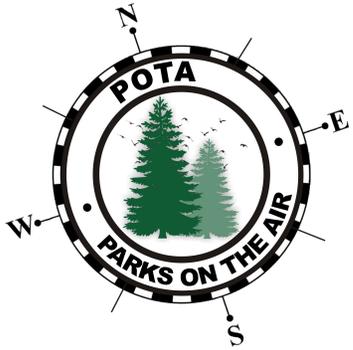
Last piece of advice: learn to POTA in steps

- If you can, visit the place you plan to activate before your actual activation
- Google Earth



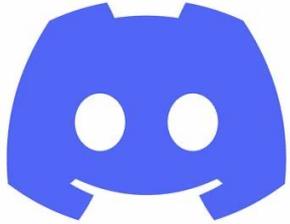
- Setup your kit in the back yard and make sure you have everything (and it works)
- Make a checklist based on your test setup so everything gets into the car
- **Start close to home, when the weather is good, and the activation is all you have planned**





I Already Love It!
Where do I go from here?

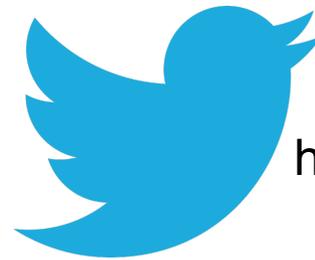
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/parksontheair>



<https://discord.gg/2H5YkPXs>



<https://twitter.com/POTAspots>



<https://parksontheair.slack.com>

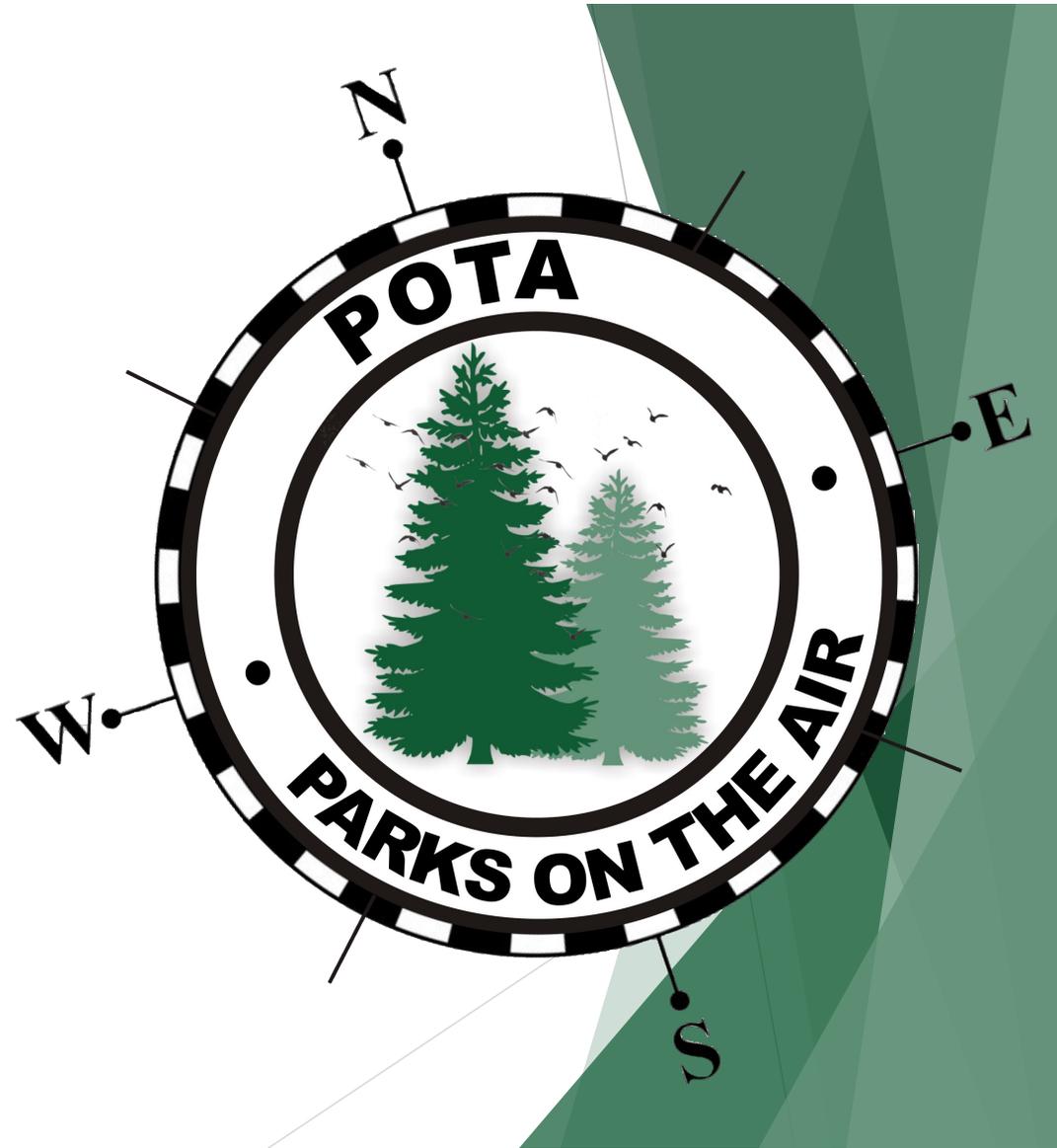


<https://www.instagram.com/parksontheairinc/>

And Now

.....

**The
Stats!**



Accounts

60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0

2022

2023

2024



Activators

60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0

2022

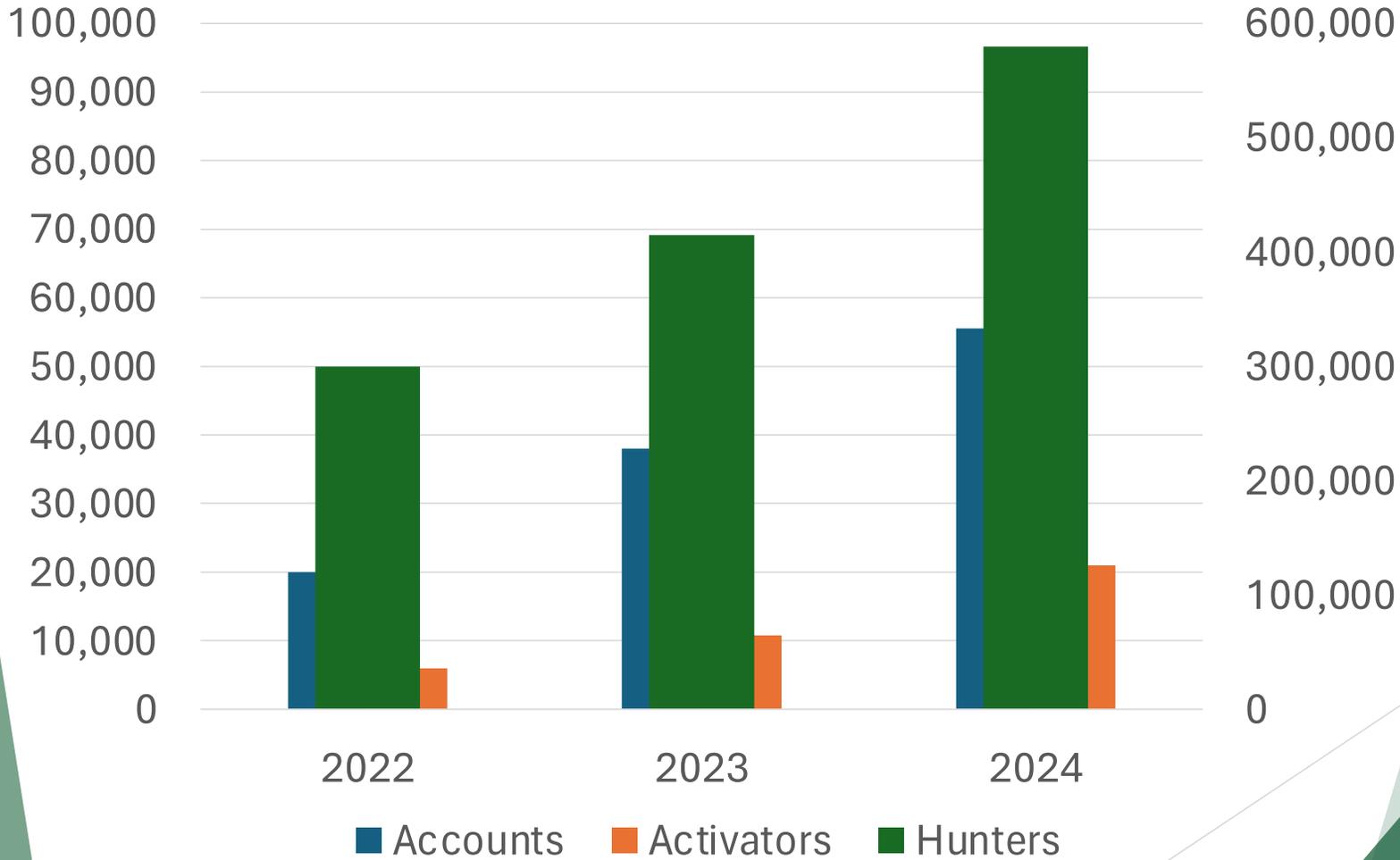
2023

2024

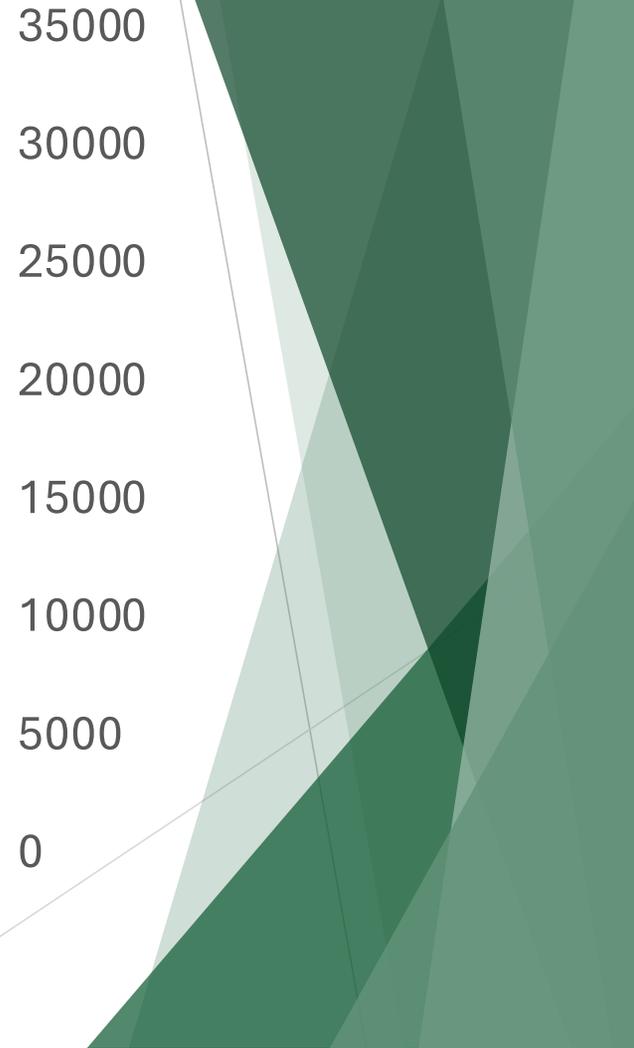
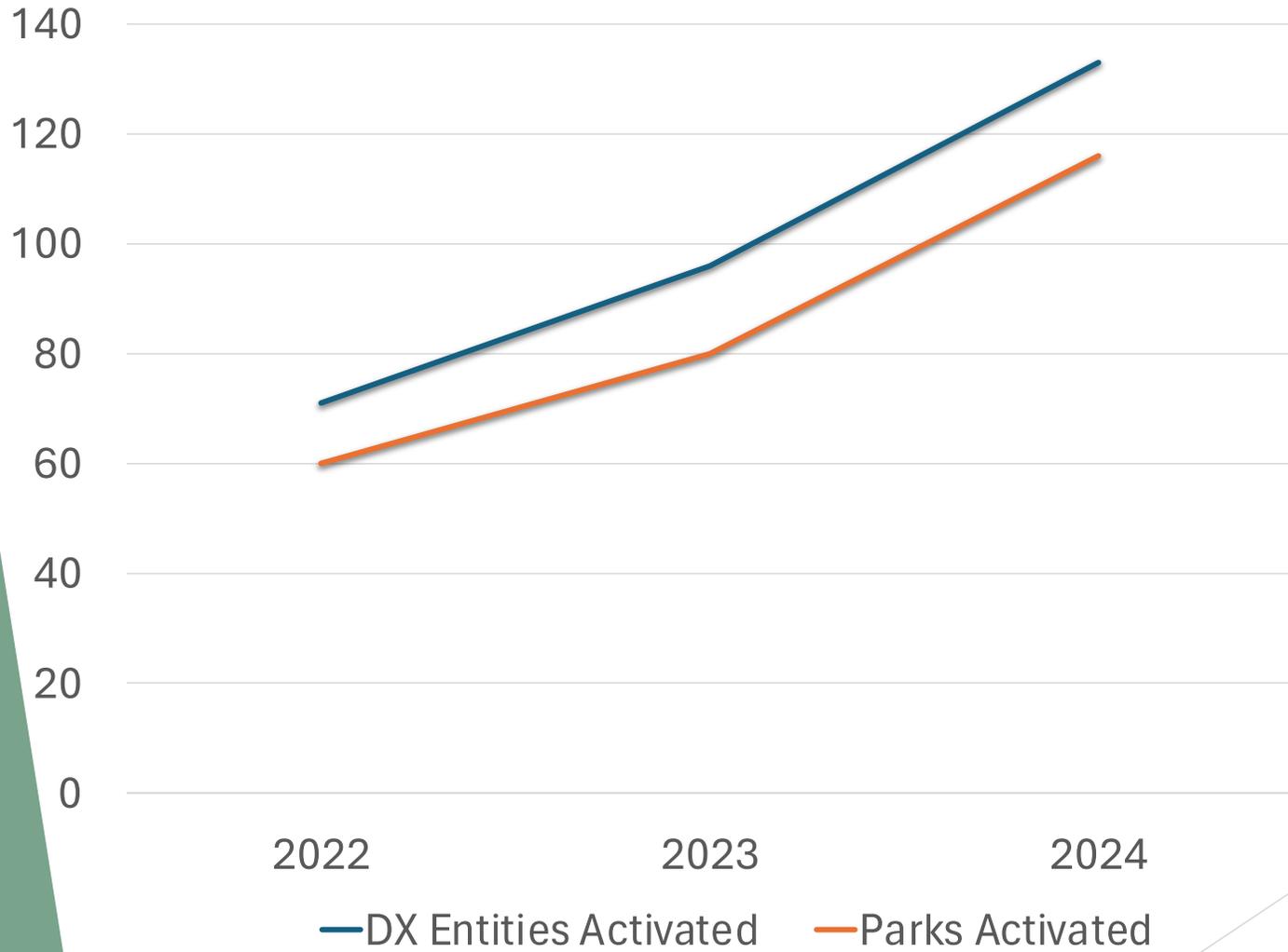
■ Accounts ■ Activators



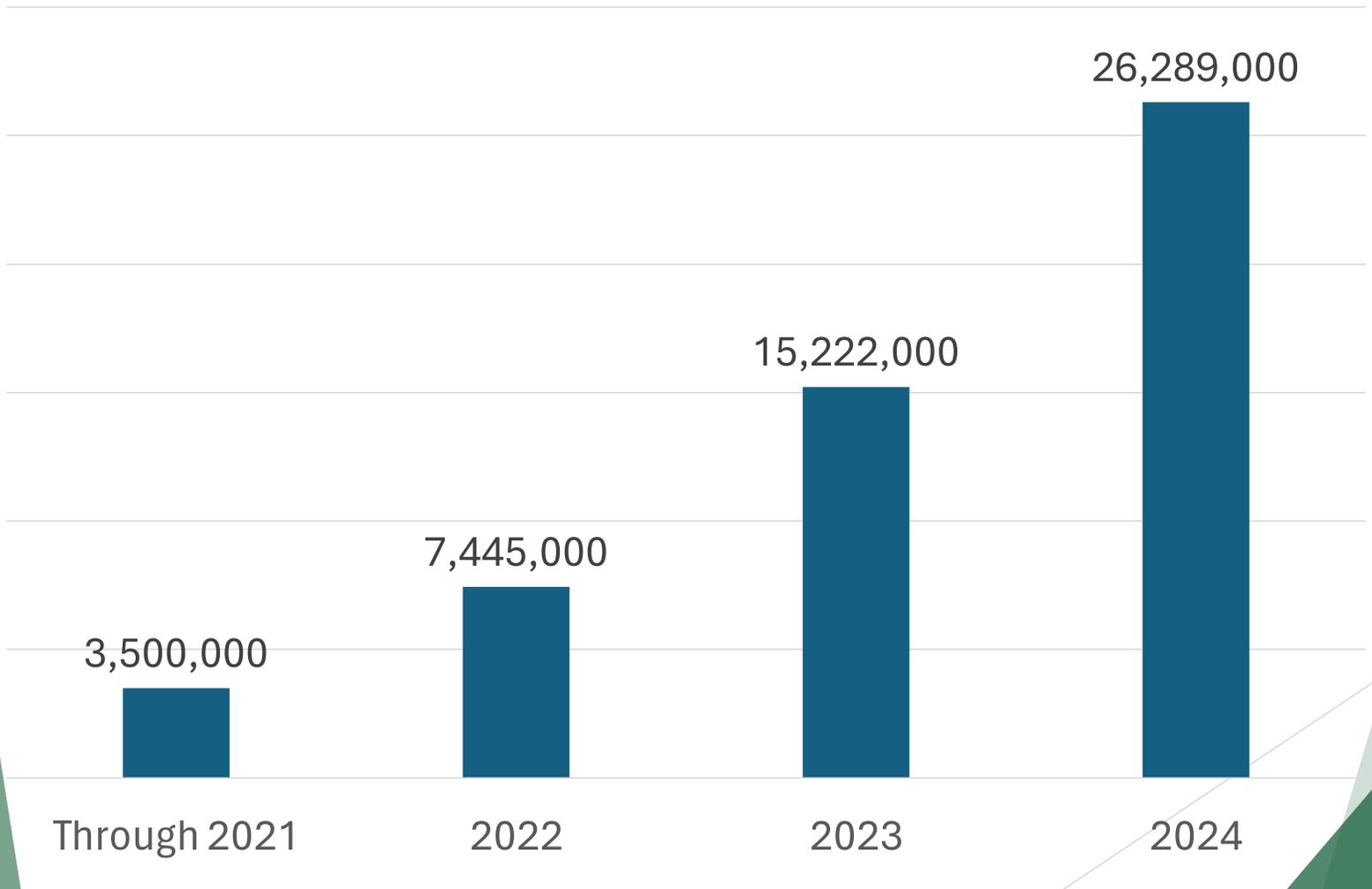
Hunters



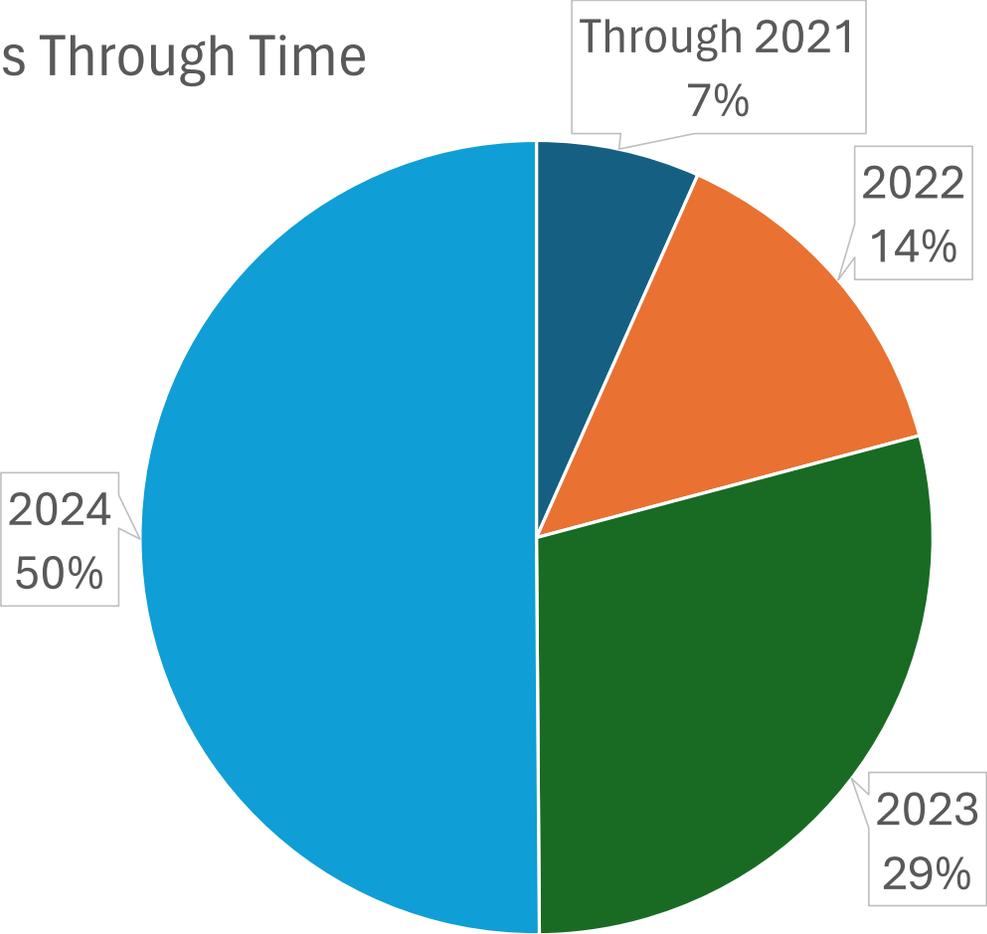
Parks Everywhere



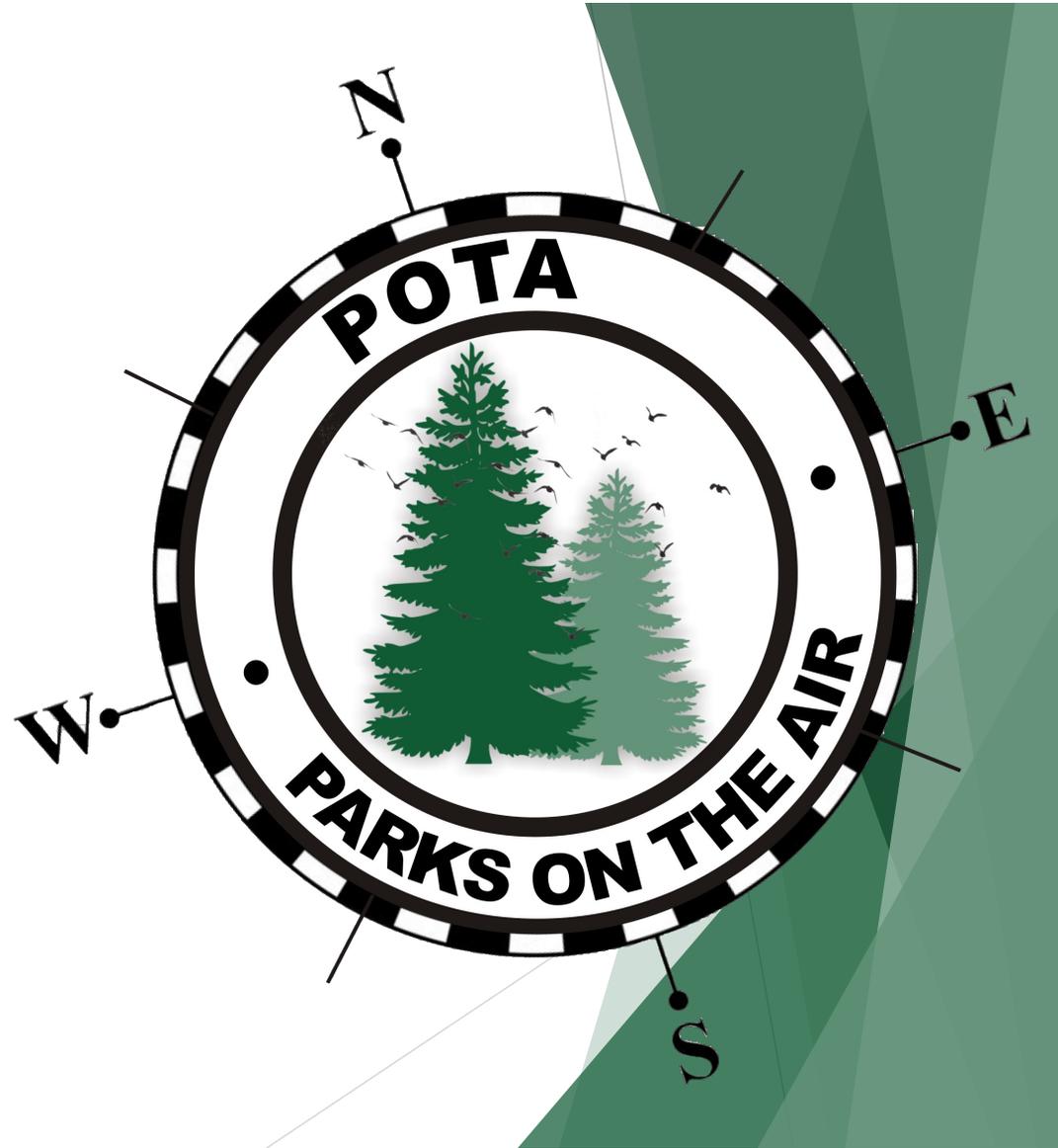
QSOs



POTA QSOs Through Time



■ Through 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024



Thanks

