



**3rd Year of SOTA**



**Mike Cartmill**  
**ACØPR**  
**Aug.'18-Aug.'19**



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## **MIKE CARTMILL'S, ACØPR, 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR OF SOTA**

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**This has been an exciting, but a long year of Summits on the Air. I was quite obsessed with finishing Mountain Goat, and finally achieved that goal in November. All I could do was plan, search, map out, scout out and go with every free moment I had—it was on my mind a lot. Ryan, K7ODX, was the first in Utah to finish in July, and I was second, but I actually wanted him to finish as he had been doing it for several years before I started and is the Utah manager. It felt awesome to make it. Two years and three months of activating, so many new places, and I had made it.**

**Because I was doing so many, I started feeling like I was pressing my luck with being alone, not getting hurt. Not that I was taking chances, in fact, I'm pretty cautious, but at times I would change plans if the summit was too far out, too remote, or too "iffy".**

**I didn't change much as far as equipment or gear goes. Just a few little tweaks here and there.**

**After MG I calmed down quite a bit, but after a break, I started back up again, just not at such a pace. I activated in two new associations—California W6, and Wyoming W7Y—just one**

**summit in each. With my main goal behind me, I stopped worrying about getting bonus points so much, so I would activate the desert ones in the winter and the high mountains in the summer, which made both more enjoyable.**

**This year I attempted a small DXpedition while I was in Peru in May. I took both qrp radios, my SOTA wire, a couple of cw keys and setup on the roof of the seminary. I tried in the morning**

**before work and in the evening after. I never made a single contact. I did get spotted from a Uruguayan station one time. I don't know if it was the interference of the city combined with**



**the low power, but it was not successful unfortunately—very disappointing. I'll try again on another trip. It wasn't a SOTA attempt as they have no association.**

**I don't know if in the future I will continue enough to have more books printed up, but I'm sure I'll continue with some more summits, maybe even a new one every once in a while.**

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# Shinob Kibe W7U/WS-124

**Stats: 8/28/2018**

**Points: 1 (total=908)**

**Elevation: 3,306 ft**

**QSO's: 12**

**Farthest: 1,422 miles (IN)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 8<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

**Trail report:** Shinob Kibe has a pretty decent trail at the north end. You do have to go through a residential neighborhood to gain access to the BLM area and trail. The trail is not readily seen from the base, but if you start up the "ATV road" just after passing into the area, you'll see it. The summit has an aerial navigational arrow in concrete at the top (where there is also a logbook).

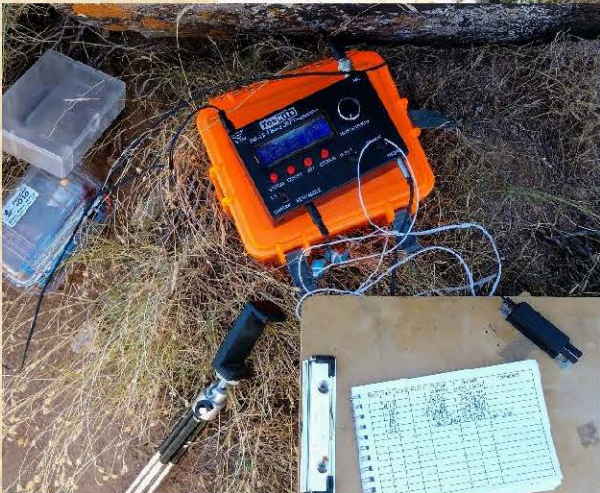
**The experience:** This was my second anniversary activation. It would have been nice to have it on a weekend with how hot it is. I had to wait until after



work and it was already in the mid 80's, but I also didn't want to wait for a weekend. The entrance has changed but they still left a small access open to get to the trail.

It was a pretty good hike, even if it was hot. I took a few pictures, but wanted to get on the radio because I saw there was someone else and I wanted to get a summit-to-summit. I didn't get him, but got one later one. Not many people on, but that's understandable for a Tues. mid afternoon. I was using the tiny bit of shade from a rock to work, and a guy came up on me. He was

curious, but I didn't talk with him much as I was in the middle of contacts. Only stayed on for a short time and then hiked back down.



# W7U/WS-124 SHINOB KIBE

## AUG. 28, 2018

**12 QSO's**  
**1 S2S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,422 MILES**  
**20 MINS. ON AIR**  
**4 WATTS**



# Hogback Mountain W7U/WS-054

**Stats:** 9/03/2018

**Points:** 4 (total=912)

**Elevation:** 7,006 ft

**QSO's:** 29

**Farthest:** 1,988 mi. (FL)

**Time on Air:** 25 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
**(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 1<sup>st</sup>



**Trail report:** Access is gained approaching Enterprise Reservoir. From Enterprise, use Highway 219 (Main St.) heading west. Then take Reservoir Rd. a few miles outside of town which heads south, and you park right off of this paved road well before reaching the reservoir itself. There is a watering area to the left (east) which is a great place to start the hike and has a few parking spots.

The hike from the road is about 1,400 vertical feet. It can be rough and there is some bush whacking required as well. If generally following the route on SOTA maps, you will come up on a large, tall rock formation fairly early in the hike. I would suggest going north around these rocks. I went south on the way up and north on the way back—the north has more vegetation but is a much easier route. The top is brushy with a few trees. The highest point is too brushy to set up in my opinion, but nearby is a more open area and a good shade tree if in summer.



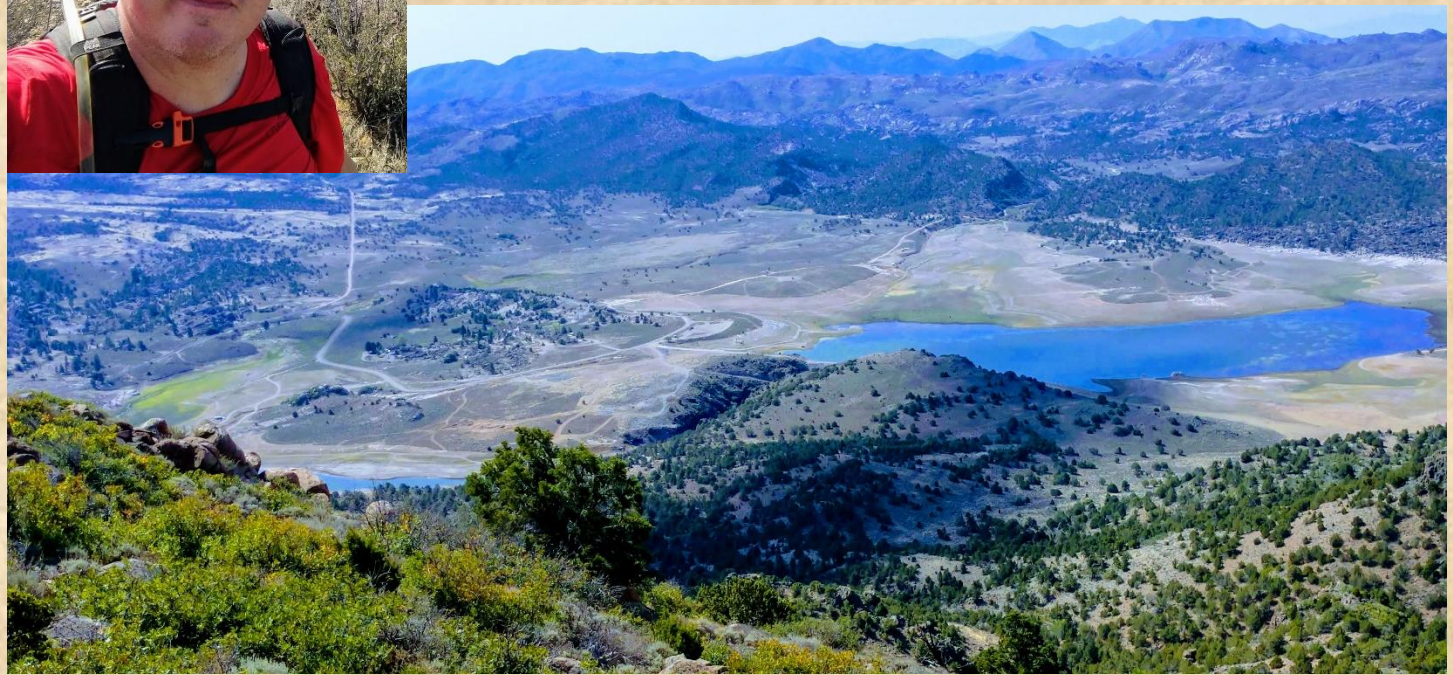
**The experience:** This is a mountain I have looked at numerous times and avoided because it looked to be a pretty rough hike, and it was. It kicked my butt. I should have gone an hour earlier for it to be cooler as well. It took me two hours, which I had planned for, but didn't think I would really need, but I did. I went from one shaded area to the next getting hot fast. It was great to be on top and there was a nice view of the reservoir. I set up in the shade and got on very quickly.



Lots of calls came fast, it is Labor Day after all. When I switched to 40 meters it was the same. The last call I took was a summit to summit with KX0R, George, in Colorado who seems to be on almost every day. I didn't want to stay around as I had a long hike down and it was getting hot. I was very careful, as always, especially coming down a mountain (more likely to have an injury). I slipped three times in loose rock to where it forced me to sit, and actually fell once (not serious). I had to rest really close to the end just because I was getting too hot. I took off my pack and



sat in what little shade there was. I drank water and splashed some on me. After 5 mins I was able to make the last push to get to the pickup. Rough one!



# W7U/WS-054 HOGBACK MT.

SEPT. 3, 2018

**29 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,988 MILES**  
**1 S2S**  
**25 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**



**20 METERS**  
**40 METERS**

Calculated Solar Conditions	
Bands	Day Night
80m-40m:	Fair Good
30m-20m:	Poor Poor
17m-15m:	Poor Poor
12m-10m:	Poor Poor

# Adam's Head W7U/SU-023

**Stats: 9/08/2018**

**Points: 8 (total=920)**

**Elevation: 10,426 ft**

**QSO's: 28**

**Farthest: 2,032 mi. (NJ)**

**Time on Air: 35 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Trail report:** Access is gained using Highway 22, also called John's Valley Road, and is about halfway between Bryce and Antimony. From there you take FR-125. There is one turn off before entering the canyon, but signs lead in the right direction. This is a dirt road, and like many mountain roads has rough parts and steep areas at times. Though not required, a 4x4 is certainly recommended or even an OHV. Popular area for recreation in good weather so lots of places to turn off and/or camp.

The hike starts at a trail head marked on topo maps, although on the ground it can be missed if not careful even with the sign. At the time of this writing, Google Earth is a bit misleading as the burn out area is mostly recovered with abundant aspens, but the trail is still evident all the way to the top. From the trailhead, it's about 1,000 vertical feet and 1.7 miles—a very nice hike, especially in fall. Although fairly well maintained, as evidenced by trees cut this season to

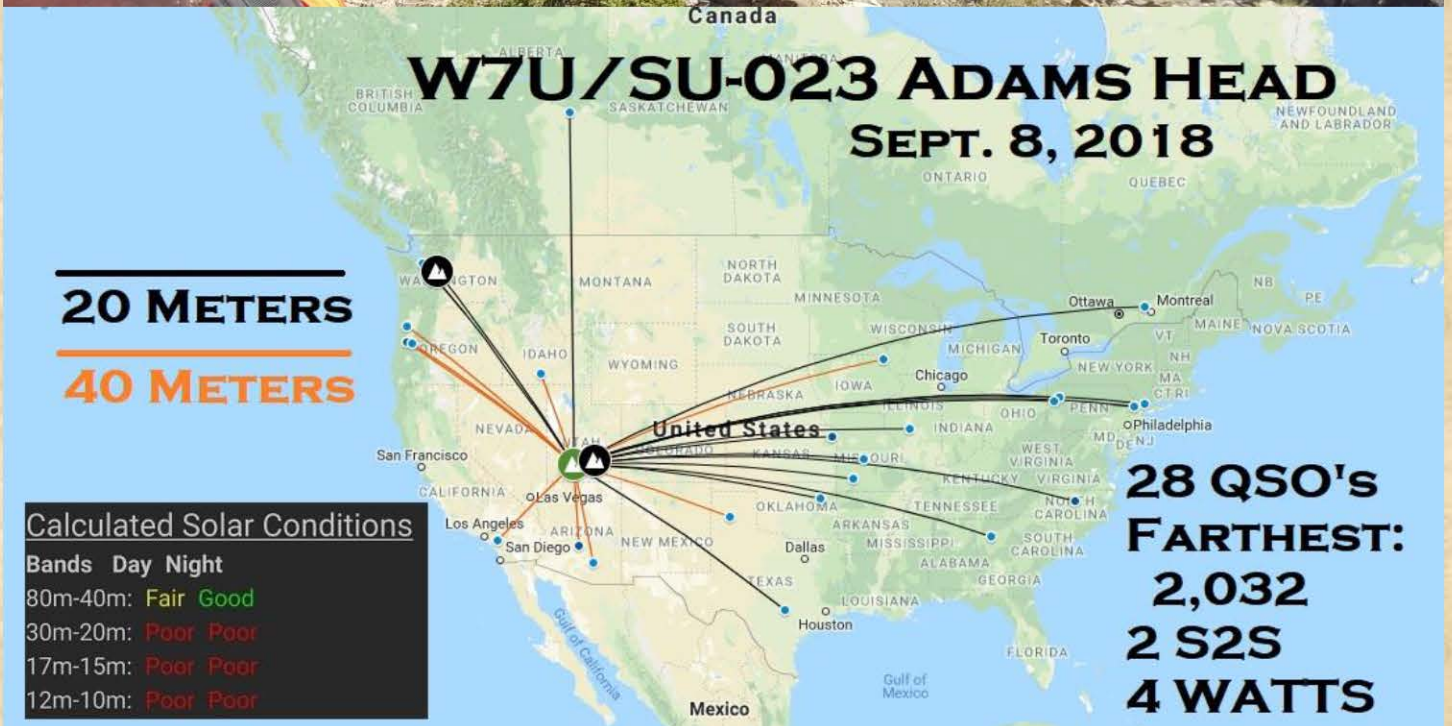
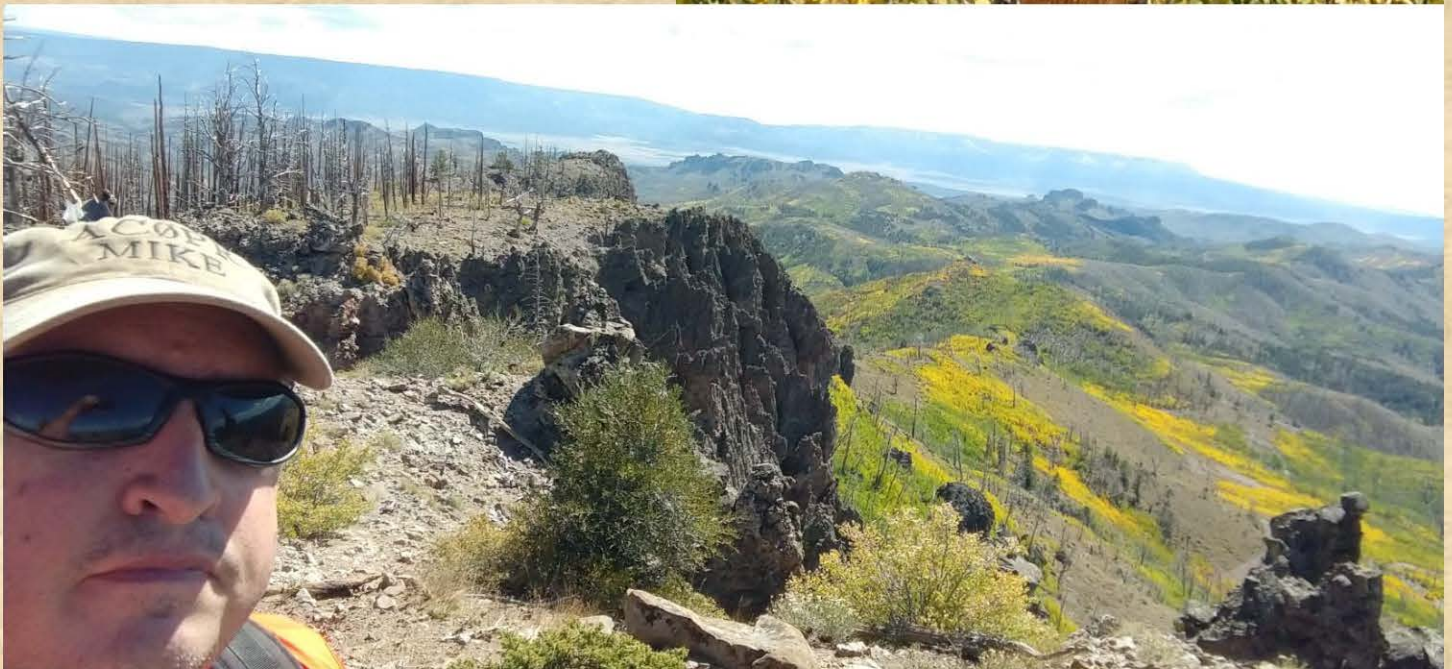
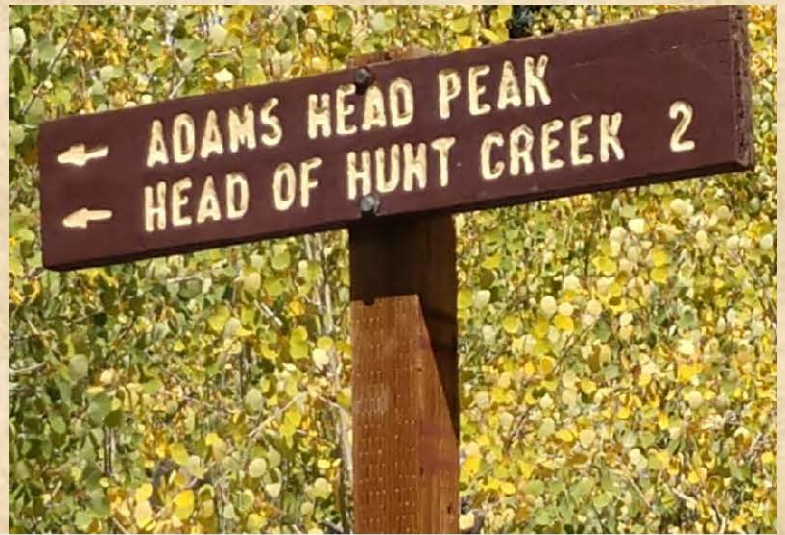


keep the trail open, with

the burn, trees continue to fall (some 4 or 5 at this time across the trail), but still passable. Two benchmarks at the summit. Trees and bushes for setting up a mast/antenna as well.

**The experience:** I was kind of surprised this had not been activated yet, since many in the area have been, but then again, this was an actual hike and not an easy drive up. It was really nice with the trees starting to change. I wasn't worried about the hike, since the previous one was more elevation and hotter, so I knew this would be ok. Very enjoyable. Lots of

good contacts quickly and a lot of fun. As this was a first activation, I took a lot of pictures and took my time some to enjoy it. I did have one more planned though, so didn't waste time either.



# Barney Top W7U/GA-004

**Stats: 9/08/2018**

**Points: 10 (total=930)**

**Elevation: 10,620 ft**

**QSO's: 19 (?)**

**Farthest: 1,884 mi. (VA)**

**Time on Air: 25 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 3<sup>rd</sup> (my 1<sup>st</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access is gained using Highway 22, also called John's Valley Road, and is about halfway between Bryce and Antimony. From there you take FR-132, also called Pine Lake Road, which leads to a popular campsite area. The turn off is well marked. Just

before the main campsite, there's another turnoff which leads to Barney Top. It is a rough road at times, but many trucks make the trip as there are antennas and towers at the summit and others collect wood as well. It leads all the way to the top, marked by the towers. Plenty of trees to use to setup.

**The experience:** This was the second of the day, and even though I was tired, it was a nice drive up summit. There were a few antenna workers at the top, but I didn't approach them and they just waved as



the left. Setup was easy and it was nice to have the ATV close with no hike after the earlier hike. There were a few darker clouds and a drop or two, but plenty of blue sky around them, so no problem. I didn't stay on long as I wanted to get back and make the trip home.

My backpack, strapped to the back of the ATV, had a broken zipper, so I used safety pins to close it up. With the roughness of the road, when I got back I grabbed the pack to put it in the pickup and one of the pins had opened up and



the pouch was open. There was one thing missing—the logbook with all my contacts for the day. Geesh! I hopped back on and rode back some 4 or 5 miles, but found nothing, it must have been much higher than that. I wasn't going to go all the way back up for it, it was getting late and I was ready to be done. I just turned

around and loaded up. I'm reconstructing the log with help from people on Facebook and our forum page, but still very frustrating!



### Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



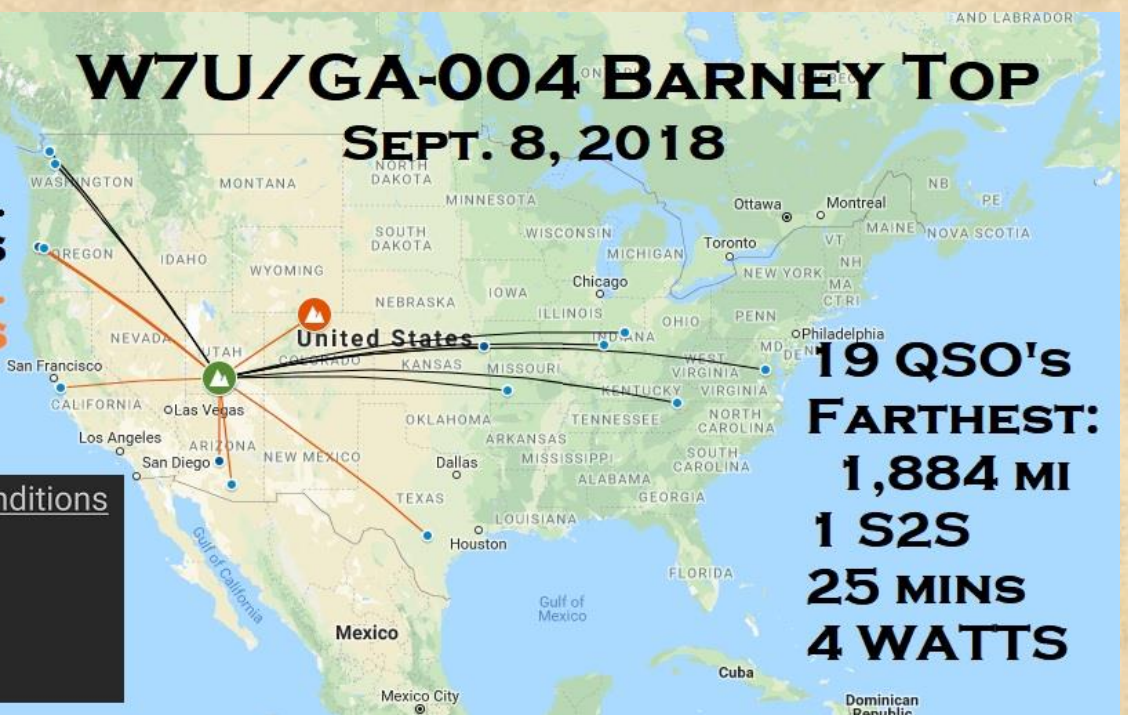
## W7U/GA-004 BARNEY TOP SEPT. 8, 2018

**20 METERS**

**40 METERS**

### Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



**19 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,884 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**25 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**

Dominican Republic

# Eightmile Hills W7U/IR-049

**Stats: 9/15/2018**

**Points: 4 (total=934)**

**Elevation: 6,685 ft**

**QSO's: 14**

**Farthest: 2,078 mi. (QC)**

**Time on Air: 12 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 2<sup>nd</sup> (my 1<sup>st</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access is gained from Highway 56 that runs through Cedar City. This splits off to Iron Springs Road (Rte 380) and is a very well-marked turn. From there you will note on maps that there is a road that runs to the north of the

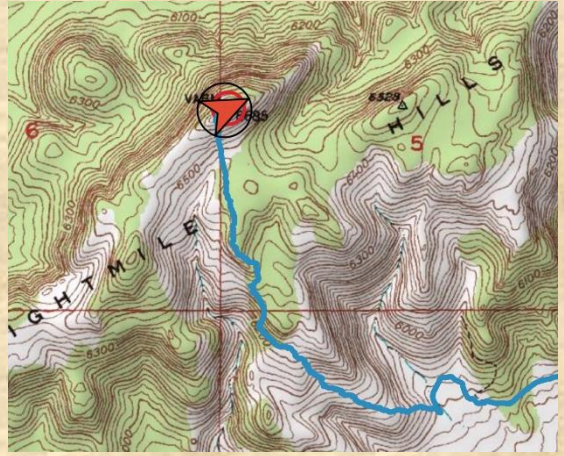
mountain and another to the southeast. The northern road is lined by private property with “no trespassing” signs, so from Iron Springs Rd. you take a little zag at 1600N and then left on 6625W. You take a right (west) on the first street you come to which is 1300N. This is a nice, paved, wide road and as you reach the end there are a couple of large, gray storage tanks. You head right to them and go on the dirt road that skirts the fence that surrounds them. Take a left and you



are on what is known as the Eightmile Hills Rd (not marked). Stay on this for 0.7 miles and there is a road that leads to the base of the mountain and into BLM land. (Be advised that there are numerous other farm and private roads that appear to lead to this point but they are either gated or posted).

The hike is rocky and from the road about 800 vertical feet depending on where you start. If you use the SOTA maps tracking page, do NOT follow the route I posted up, but rather use the return route as the ascent route. At the summit there are two benchmarks and rocks and trees for supporting a mast.

**The experience:** This was attempt three for the day. The first was blocked by private property, the second had the access road washed out by a new stream, and this was the last try. I was a bit concerned because by this time it was getting later in the morning (thus really warm), plus a high wind advisory had been issued, and I was planning on taking it easier with a 400ft. vertical hike (first choice) and this was 800ft. BUT, I




I didn't want to waste a Saturday. I finally made my way to the access road and got to hiking. After a few hundred vertical feet, I started heading towards what I thought was the summit, but it was a false summit (the bane of many hikers). That led me to a much rougher route until I got back on track and realized it was not the actual summit I wanted. It did get hot and, of course as per the advisory, very windy.

☰ Cedar City, UT 84720 🔍

🚗 ID ADVISORY FROM SAT 12:00 PM MDT UN

**74°**  
SUNNY/WIND  
84°/58°



I stayed on for only 12 minutes and just did 20 meters (wind was blowing too hard to unwind the entire wire). It was good while I was on. I didn't want to stay because of the heat and the wind so made it back down (a new route—much better) and got home.



**W7U/IR-049 EIGHTMILE HILLS**  
**SEPT. 15, 2018**

**20 METERS**

**14 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,078 MI**  
**12 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**

Calculated Solar Conditions	
Bands	Day Night
80m-40m:	Fair Good
30m-20m:	Poor Poor
17m-15m:	Poor Poor
12m-10m:	Poor Poor

# "Pink Sands" W7U/KA-021

**Stats:** 9/22/2018

**Points:** 4 (total=938)

**Elevation:** 6,824 ft

**QSO's:** 5

**Farthest:** 1,658 mi. (TN)

**Time on Air:** 12 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
**(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

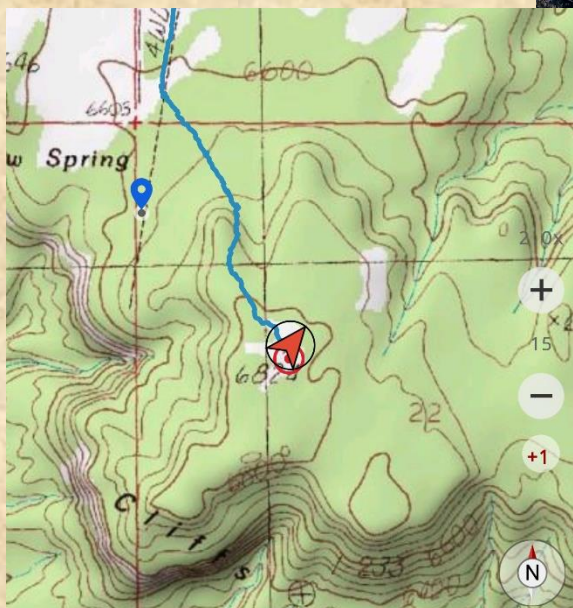
**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 1<sup>st</sup>



**Trail report:** Access is gained from Coral Pink Sand Dunes Road (43), which can be reached from Hwy. 89 to the north or coming to Hwy. 59 (UT)/Hwy. 389 (AZ) and up from the south. The southern route is the one I took. From the 389 in AZ, you exit on Cane Beds Rd for a few miles heading east until it turns north and eventually becomes 43. The mountain is directly west of Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park. There are two routes to the top, both really require an ATV or OHV, rocks, sand, etc. The shorter route can get a bit hairy, although the worst parts have a bypass. The route leads to about a 1/3 mile away from the summit and only a few hundred vertical feet. At the time of this



writing lots of trees had been cut down and shredded but they do not hamper the hike to the top. Plenty of trees and bushes to use for setup.

**The experience:** I hadn't really looked at or considered this summit until a few days ago. There was an Emergency Preparedness Fair in Hurricane and so I looked on that side of the state to do both the summit and the fair. I left early, especially since I had never been to that area before. Luckily the road was good all the way until the base.



The ATV trail was rough, even with it being lot of sand. If I were to do it again (which I won't), I'd try the long way that looks to be a little easier route. The hike was easy and the area was cool looking with the pink sand. Once I got on the radio, though, I barely got any contacts. The conditions were bad, but even then I usually do ok. I got five (one of which was a summit to summit in Georgia) and got tired of calling with no answer. Since I had the fair to get to, I packed up and headed for Hurricane.



# Andy Nelson Peak W7U/KA-001

**Stats: 9/29/2018**

**Points: 8 (total=946)**

**Elevation: 10,027 ft**

**QSO's: 17**

**Farthest: 2,073 mi. (NJ)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

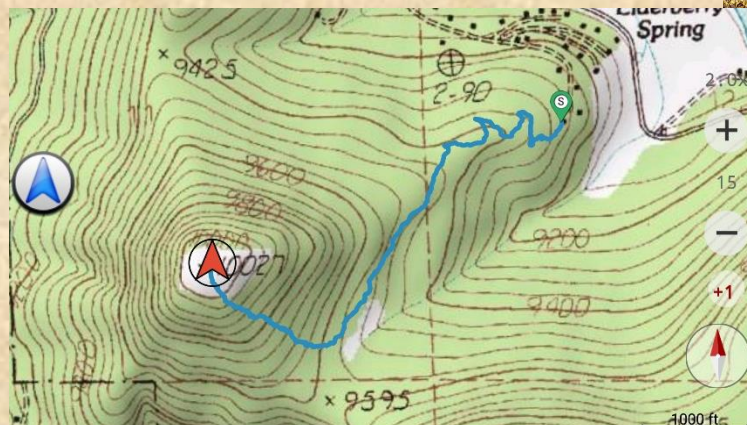
**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Trail report:** Access is gained from Highway 14 either from Cedar City or Highway 89. There is a turnoff clearly marked for Navajo Lake, and is Navajo Lake Rd., a very nice, paved road. There are two trails, Navajo Lake Loop Trail and Virgin River Rim Trail, (the first leads into the second) that reach the saddle between this summit and Navajo Peak. There are a number of trailheads. Once at or near the saddle (on Virgin River Rim Trail) you have the



leave the trail and head up the east side of the mountain. There's really no bushwhacking as it opens up some on



that side. The top is a bit barren, but there are places to setup using trees.

**The experience:** I started off not finding the access I wanted as seen from Google Earth. It turns out the water tank I was going to use as a reference has been gone a couple of years. I was very lucky that a cabin resident saw me looking a bit unsure and came out and asked what I was looking for. She was very friendly and when

she learned I just wanted to hike the trail, let me use her personal access trail on her property to get there. As the pictures show, very beautiful this time of year.

On the trail I saw very fresh deer tracks. After about 20 mins. I came up on them on the same trail. At the same time, a mountain bike rider was coming down above them, so they bolted and ran down the mountain. Cool though. It wasn't a tough hike, just like 700 vertical ft. overall. Nice views. A bit windy but a great first activation.



# Cooper Knoll W7U/GA-017

**Stats: 9/29/2018**

**Points: 8 (total=954)**

**Elevation: 9,065 ft**

**QSO's: 18**

**Farthest: 2,026 mi. (NJ)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

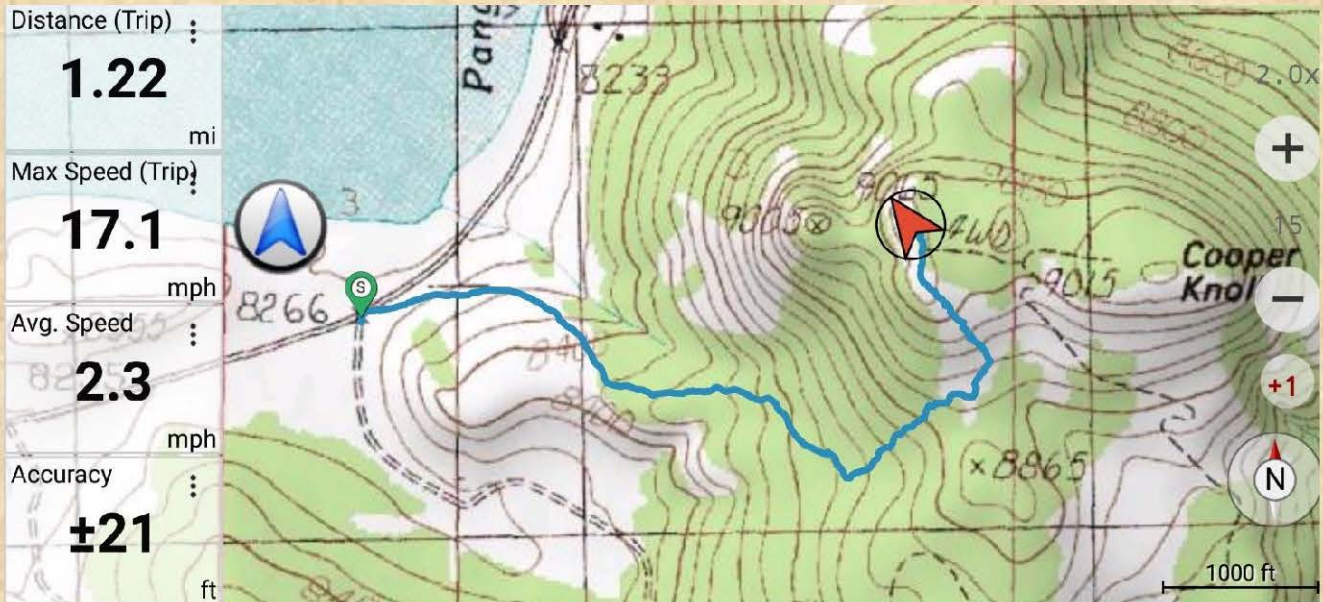
**Activation: 4<sup>th</sup> (my 2<sup>nd</sup>)**



**Trail report:** This summit overlooks Panguitch Lake, located right off of Hwy. 143, right in between the town of Panguitch and Cedar Breaks National Monument. FR-44 is the road that goes right at the base. There is a very rough ATV trail that leads to the top. It was rough enough that I stopped part-way up and hiked the rest.

**The experience:** This was the second of the day. As such, and as seems to be my practice lately. It was a little more rushed and I didn't take as many pictures. The first time I went to this summit I was a little off on the high point, but this time I made it there. It gave a really good view of the lake. It was still windy and starting to get into the afternoon so I didn't stay long. Not tons of people on the air, but plenty to keep it interesting and get the activation of course. The photo of the setup is after it was almost all the way down since I was rushing and forgot. Oh well. It's official and got me over the 950-point mark.





# Black Butte W7U/SU-063

**Stats:** 10/20/2018

**Points:** 8 (total=962)

**Elevation:** 9,580 ft

**QSO's:** 22

**Farthest:** 5,538 mi.  
(Germany)

**Time on Air:** 20 mins.

**Equipment:**

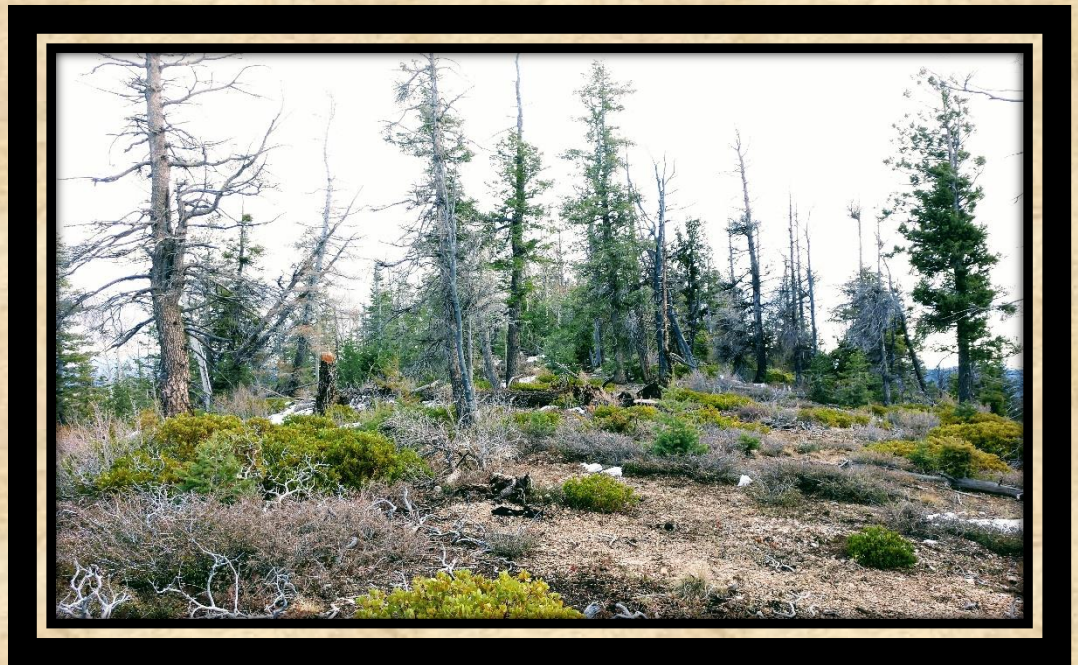
**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
(4 WATTS)

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> (my 2<sup>nd</sup>)



**Trail report:** Access is gained near Bryce Canyon National Park by taking Route 12 (which leads to the park) and leaving it on East Fork Rd (FR-87) some 12 miles, passing Tropic Reservoir. From there you take FR-211 until it forks off from FR-106 then you take 106 going up the mountain. Not long on 106 the road becomes much more an OHV route. FR-106 will get you within several hundred vertical feet of the summit. There are a few other seldom used ATV trails that can get you a little closer if desired.

There are two benchmarks on the summit, however, they are not at the highest point, which is covered with heavy vegetation. The benchmarks can be found within 20 feet of each other on the far western end of the top where it's a little more open with white



rock—I only came upon them because of the route I hiked up.

**The experience:** This was a first of three for a day of getting some points before the snows come and very much limit the possibilities of activating summits. I decided on this one first because it had hiking while the others are really just drive-up ones. It was cold enough to wear a coat on the ATV. Some snow on the route, but not enough to cause any problems. The ATV trail leads fairly close to the end so the hike was fast and easy. It was windy up top though. There were very low clouds but not a storm. Also I didn't run into any other people, kind of eerie.

I was really surprised to get Germany for the first time doing SOTA. I asked for a repeat on the callsign to be sure, but he sent back a "Roger,

roger!” so it was good. Very cool, especially with the poor conditions lately. I stayed on for about 20 minutes and packed up to get to the next one.



# "Pink Cliffs" W7U/KA-002

**Stats:** 10/20/2018

**Points:** 8 (total=970)

**Elevation:** 9,420 ft

**QSO's:** 11

**Farthest:** 1,860 mi. (NC)

**Time on Air:** 12 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
**(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

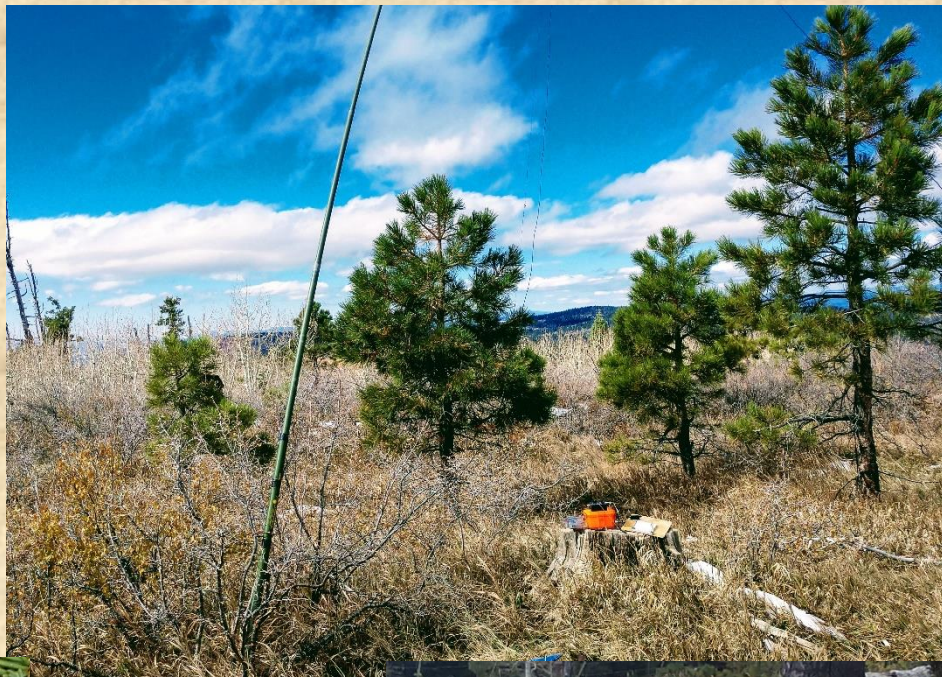
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> (my 2<sup>nd</sup>)



**Trail report:** Access is gained near Bryce Canyon National Park by taking Route 12 (which leads to the park) and leaving it on East Fork Rd (FR-87) some 12 miles, passing Tropic Reservoir. From there you take FR-092 as it forks off

toward the mountain. Near the end of that road before dropping off into a canyon, there is a parking area and a number of other roads. The first road in that area is FR-203 which leads to the correct mountain. There are some great views along the way. You leave FR-203 using FR-215 for a short while, then FR-608 is the last turnoff. There is a sign for "Pink Cliffs" which is what you want. Be sure and see the small loop at the top which allows you to see the cliffs and the benchmark before going to the highest point. There is a small



shack at the top with some solar panels, although it's not clear if it's a functioning site.

**The experience:** This was the second of three for the day, and it was very muddy and snowy, even challenging for the





ATV. At the turn off to go up to the cliffs it was obvious that no one had been there for quite a while, no tracks in the snow (other

than animal tracks). The day had been pretty cloudy until I reached near the top. I noticed it warmed up quickly and the snow was melting. That made me nervous because I barely made it through the roads, and now they were about to get worse. Because of that, I made it short (12 mins. on air). It was beautiful, but that's what made me leave quickly too. Since the trip back was downhill it was ok and I made it out, even if very muddy.



**W7U/KA-002 "PINK CLIFFS"**  
**Oct. 20, 2018**

**20 METERS**  
**40 METERS**

**11 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,860 MI**  
**12 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**

HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Good	Good
30n-20n	Fair	Fair
17n-15n	Poor	Poor
12n-10n	Poor	Poor

# Rainbow Point W7U/KA-005

**Stats: 10/20/2018**

**Points: 8 (total=978)**

**Elevation: 9,115 ft**

**QSO's: 14**

**Farthest: 1,494 mi. (MI)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 13<sup>th</sup> (my 2<sup>nd</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access is gained through Bryce Canyon National Park by taking Route 12 off of highway 89. Once you enter the park, Rainbow Point is the farthest view point in the park and is some 17 miles from the entrance. Naturally, this is a summit that can be reached by driving right to it. The main issue is finding a good spot to set up that doesn't interfere with any of the guests of the park. I chose a picnic area and used the fence to hold my mast and operated from the table.

**The experience:** This was the last of the day. I saved it for last since it was the easiest—a nice road right up to the high point. It's the highest, and farthest point in the National Park. Even at this time of year, there are plenty of visitors. With recent



STATION	REPORT	SENT	RECD	COMMENTS
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	
W7U/KA-005	599	599	599	

fires in the area, all the trails were closed off, but the area where I had setup before was still open so I used it again. It's just a picnic area. It is really nice to have a bench and table to work on—very relaxing. Either there weren't many on or conditions weren't great since I didn't get a lot of contacts, but of course, enough to get it

done. After that, a long ride home.



# "Hunters Hill" W7U/IR-010

**Stats: 10/27/2018**

**Points: 6 (total=984)**

**Elevation: 8,875 ft**

**QSO's: 18**

**Farthest: 4,901 mi.  
(England)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

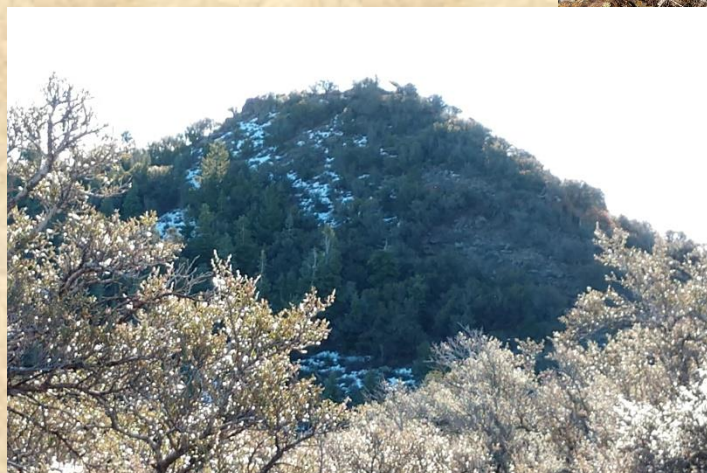
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



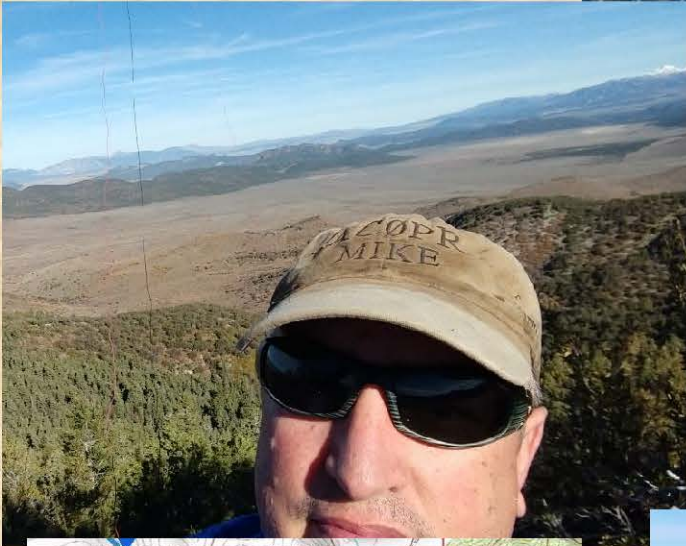
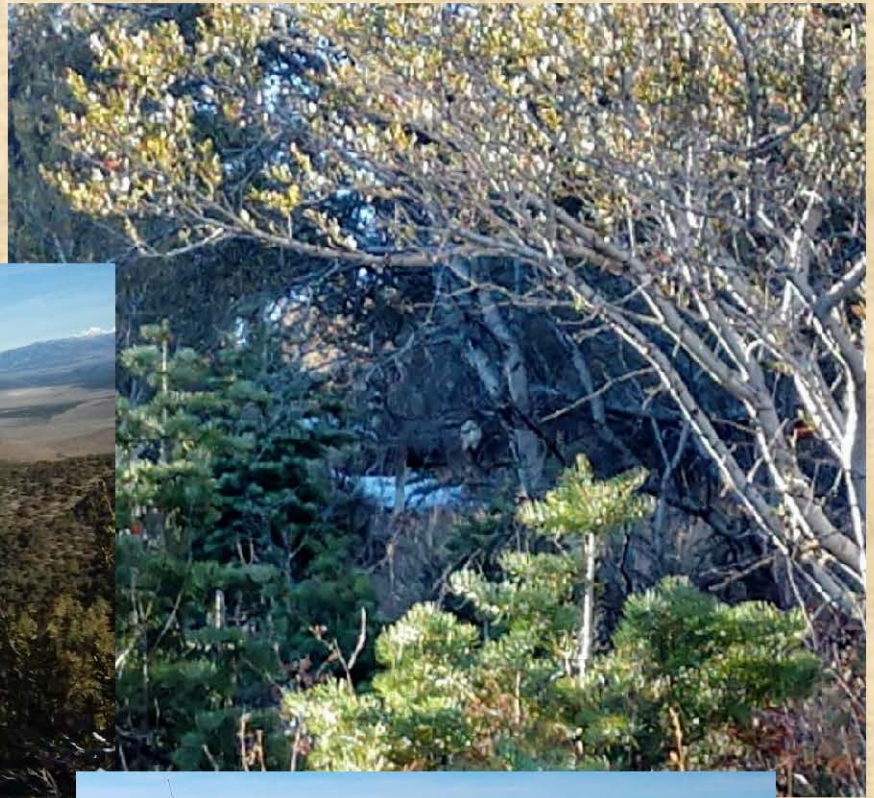
**Trail report:** Access is gained from Highway 20 which is between Beaver and Paragonah and is often used to go to Bryce Canyon National Park. From Highway 20 you can take one of two routes. I took Buckskin Road being a more established road. There are a number of routes to get to the base of the mountain, some have number designators, many do not. A study of topo maps and Google Earth will get you the best route. These roads are rough, rutted and narrow, most use some time of OHV (popular hunting area). The farthest reaching road can get you within 300 vertical feet. From there the hike is a bit rocky but quick. The summit is small but has rocks and trees for setup.

**The experience:** This was the first of two for the day. It turns out, this area is



HUGELY popular for hunting. It's the last Saturday of the season and there were hunters all over the place. I didn't have orange on, but did have bright colors. The ATV ride was pretty rough and long. While hiking up I came upon a group of hunters. I talked to them to make sure my plans didn't mess them up, but they were going to head down. One of the kids in the group had gotten a small buck.

The activity on the air was good. I got into England for the first time in SOTA and had a summit-to-summit contact into Virginia. I didn't stay on too long since I had a long way to go to get back and still had a second summit to do. I did see a doe on the way up. See it?



# "Spike Mountain" W7U/IR-031

**Stats: 10/27/2018**

**Points: 6 (total=990)**

**Elevation: 7,728 ft**

**QSO's: 24**

**Farthest: 6,961 mi. (New Zealand)**

**Time on Air: 25 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

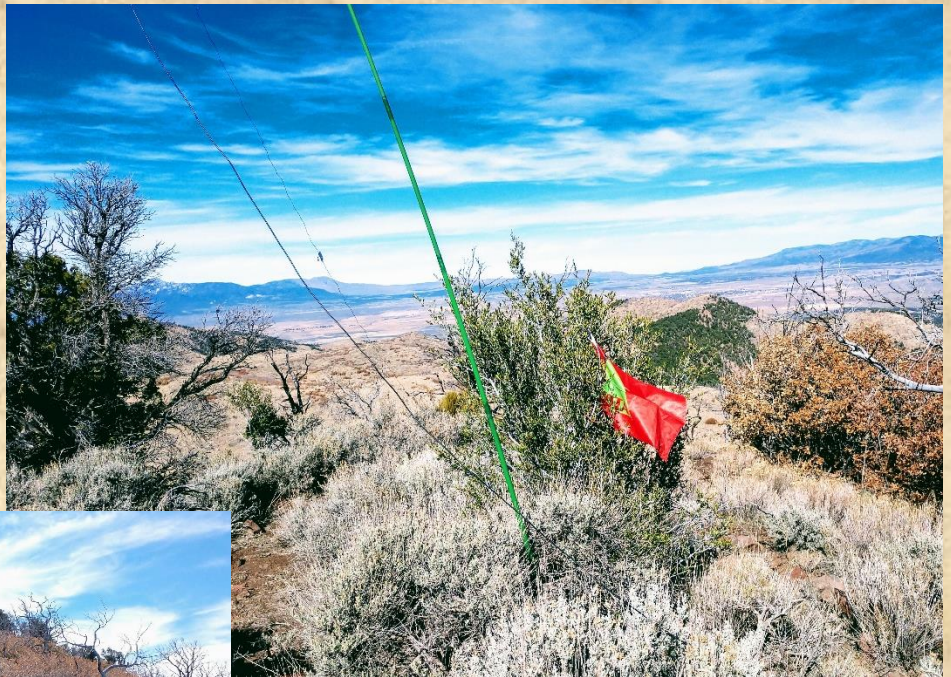
**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



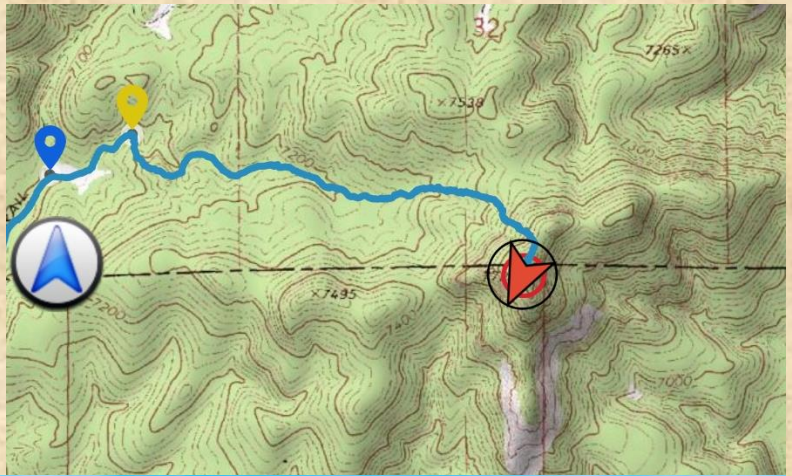
**Trail report:** Access is gained from the I-15 exit for Highway 20 which is between Beaver and Paragonah and is often used to go to Bryce Canyon National Park. From the exit you head north on the frontage road. There is a road that heads up Dennis Hollow and goes over the mountains (really the only decent road). You follow that to the other side of the mountains and then head north. Roads will lead to a canyon that leads to the base of the summit. It is definitely best to follow the bottom of the canyon all the way until the base, other routes are rocky, hilly, and have a lot of deadfall trees. The summit itself has some trees and rocks for setting up.



**The experience:** This was the second of the day. It's close to I-15, but it takes miles to get around to the backside (the only hikable side) and then to hike to the top. There was absolutely no one around this area. Once I realized the canyon floor was the best route, it went pretty well. Normally I like being high and following the ridgeline, but with this hike, that would have taken more than twice as long. I was tired by this point, it was actually getting hot, even in later fall and I was using up all my

water. I had to take lots of breaks on this one, but I wasn't about to stop—this was going to get me to 990 points. I scared up a little buck on the way up and follow elk tracks most of the way (didn't see him though).

The views were really nice and still lots of activity on the air. Got New Zealand again and had a summit-to-summit with George KX0R in Colorado. It was nice sitting in the shade and getting some good activity. As usual, once it was done and successful, it was totally worth it!



## W7U/IR-031 SPIKE MT. OCT. 27, 2018

**20 METERS**

**40 METERS**

**24 QSO's**

**FARTHEST:  
6,961 MI**

**25 MINS**

**4 WATTS**

**NEW ZEALAND**

**United States**

**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

# "Ft. Pearce Ridge" W7A/NM-120

**Stats: 11/01/2018**

**Points: 4 (total=994)**

**Elevation: 3,980 ft**

**QSO's: 26**

**Farthest: 2,247 mi. (NH)**

**Time on Air: 30 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Trail report:** Access is gained from Warner Valley Rd. which goes through a desert area and can be reached by Washington Fields Rd. or the Southern Parkway. You stay on Warner Valley Rd. for 5.8 miles until you see a sign that says "Ft. Pearce Trailhead" (there is a historical area just before that, but don't turn there). There is a nice gravel parking area for the trailhead.



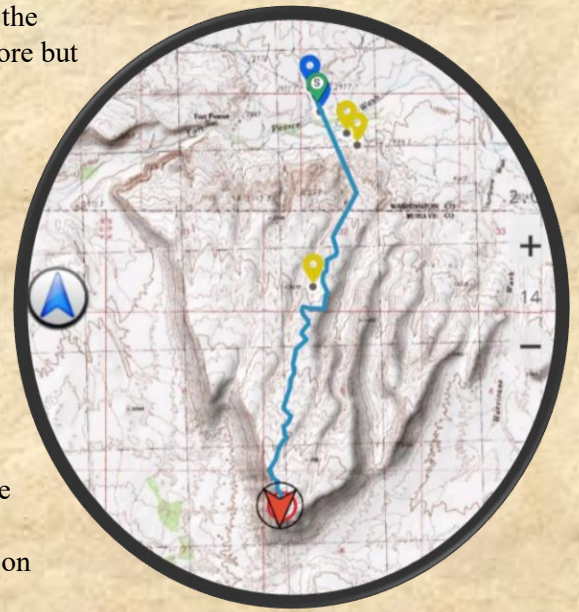
This is a popular dirt bike area. Because of that there are numerous trails around, but if you follow the "main" trail, you will reach the base and a trail that goes all the way to the top as seen on Google Earth. Once past

the main river bottom, full-sized vehicles are not allowed. The trail itself is really for a dirt bike or mountain bike, even an ATV will not make it (many places just one tire wide). I personally hiked it. It's about 3.4 miles from the parking area and a pleasant grade up most the way. You do have to leave the trail at the very last to reach the high point. Just rocks to use for setup. The summit is marked, barely, with some wire as is typical in the area and a few rocks. Nice views of the AZ strip.





**The experience:** This was an after-class activation since it's actually one of the closer ones to home. I left around noon. I had scouted out the area a little before but wasn't sure if I could ride the ATV to the top. Actually, not even close. I did get a little start, but it was really a good hike. The weather was just right, and there was no one around. The views at the top were impressive (quite a drop off). I set up and as soon as I was ready there was another activator already on in Colorado, KX0R, George, so I worked him first for a summit-to-summit (the only one I had). There were plenty of people on the air and so I got 26 contacts fairly easily. I didn't need to rush and enjoyed my time.



**W7A/NM-120 "FT. PEARCE"**  
**Nov. 1, 2018**

**20 METERS**

---

**40 METERS**

**26 QSO's**

**FARTHEST:**

**2,247 MI**

**1 S2S**

**30 MINS**

**4 WATTS**

**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

# Crater Hill W7U/SU-060

**Stats: 11/06/2018**

**Points: 1 (total=995)**

**Elevation: 5,220 ft**

**QSO's: 20**

**Farthest: 2,183 mi. (CT)**

**Time on Air: 25 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 2<sup>nd</sup> (my 1<sup>st</sup>)**

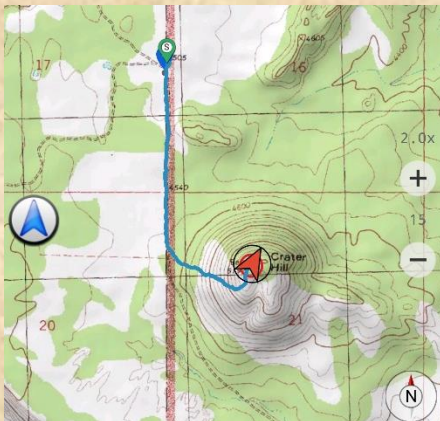


**Trail report:** This summit is just within the bounds of Zion National Park on the southwestern corner. Access is gained off of SR-9 that leads to the park. Just past the town of Virgin, you take Walton Wash Road. This is a good road up until you leave the canyon, but even then most vehicles can make it. At the top there are a number of parking areas for the Guacamole Trailhead. Topo maps and Google show a road that follows the edge of the park to the south—this is not the case. Once you reach the border of the park, there is a small parking area and from there no vehicles of any type are allowed (not even mountain bikes or pets).



type are allowed (not even mountain bikes or pets).

You follow the trail that heads due south along the fence line. It's easy and open and you can see the crater all the way. I waited until being almost completely parallel before heading up. It's about 600 vertical feet. The ground has a lot of pumice and plenty of rodent holes on a steep slope making for some frustrating steps. The top has a few dead trees that can be used for setup. Cool views.



**The experience:** This was an after work activation that I wanted to get in before my final Mountain Goat activation (hopefully this weekend). It's only a one-pointer, but I needed it to reach 100 unique summits for my next one, as well as to reach my goal for total contacts. This is a small volcano but it was steep and not easy to climb. The weather was beautiful though. I got a summit-to-summit with Keith, KR7RK, a friend from AZ. Another good one.



# W7U/SU-060 CRATER HILL

## Nov. 6, 2018

**20 METERS**  
**40 METERS**

### Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



**20 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,183 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**25 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**

Dominican Republic

# Ed Lamb Point W7A/NM-013 “MOUNTAIN GOAT SUMMIT”

**Stats: 11/10/2018**

**Points: 8 (total=1003)**

**Elevation: 7,058 ft**

**QSO's: 46**

**Farthest: 2, mi. (NH)**

**Time on Air: 70 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**Pixie & YouKits HB-1B  
grp cw (4 WATTS)  
Linked dipole  
Pico paddle  
LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Trail report:** Access is gained from Coral Pink Sand Dunes Road (43), which can be reached from Hwy. 89 to the north or coming to Hwy. 59 (UT)/Hwy. 389 (AZ) and up from the south. The southern route is the one I took. From the 389 in AZ, you exit on Cane Beds Rd for a few miles heading east until it turns north and eventually becomes 43. The mountain is directly east of Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park. You'll pass the park and turn on Hancock Road that turns east. The first road on the right is Sand Spring Road. It is about 8 miles to the summit from there, all sandy. There is a route to the top (#51) although you do have to leave the main route close to the top to reach the high point. If using an ATV or dirt bike, there is a challenging rocky part near the end.

The summit proper is on Kaibab Reservation and has a benchmark, however, there are no signs, fences, or indications when you pass into AZ and Kaibab which generally indicates open access. If there is concern you can activate just inside Utah BLM land which is within the activation zone (which is what I did to be safe). Either way, there are plenty of trees to use for setup.



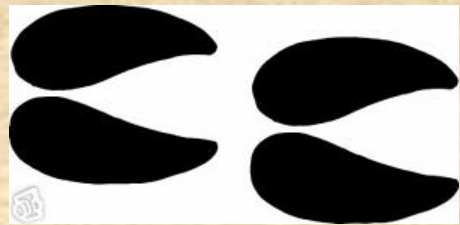
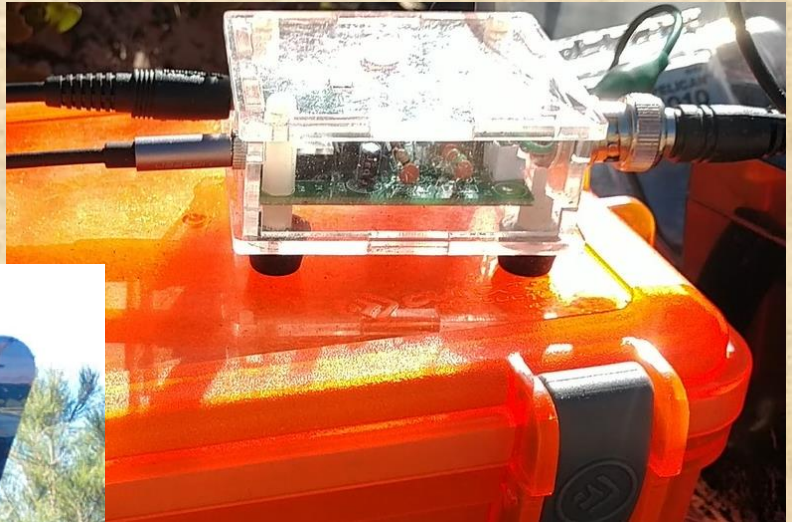
**The experience:** Mountain Goat summit, baby! It was a perfect day. A little cool, but it is November. I got to the parking area, downloaded the ATV and got going on the trail. It's right next to sand dunes, so the entire trail was really sand, and meant for ATV's or OHV's. It was a great trail until near the end—some rough red rock areas, but made it fine.

The plan was to put together a Pixie—a tiny radio that can be built in about an hour and puts out 1.2 watts—and then use that to get at least four contacts. I took an extra bag with the battery, soldering iron, a few tools, and the kit. It went fairly well, but at some point I put in a diode with the wrong polarization. What you do is build the kit and then hook it to the battery; this



is known as the “smoke test”. If you do everything right, no smoke and you hear signals, if not, you see a puff of smoke because a component burned out. That’s what happened.

I decided to still get my first contacts with a Pixie that I carry around as a backup. Got 8 contacts including a summit-to-summit with N0TA in CO, so way cool. Then I used my regular radio and continued on. I stayed longer than usual since I wanted to get to 41 contacts (for a grand total of 3,500) and ended up with 46. Gots lots of “congrats MG” from friends out there. It was a great day. Headed back home with no problem at all.



## MOUNTAIN GOAT SUMMIT! W7A/NM-013 Ed LAMB PEAK Nov. 10, 2018

**20 METERS**

**30 METERS**

**40 METERS**

**PIXIE (1 WATT)**

United States

**46 QSO's**

**FARTHEST:**

**2,079 MILES**

**3 S2S**

**PIXIE (1W)**

**HB-1B (4W)**

**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



## Activation Statistics: ACOPR

Score: 823 points, 180 bonus points, total points = 1003

Total summits activated = 161

Unique summits activated = 100

## My top activation chasers

Position	Chaser Callsign	Count
1	W7RV <b>TOMMY</b>	114
2	W0ERI <b>GARY</b>	110
3	W0MNA <b>MARTHA</b>	109
4	N57P <b>PHIL</b>	104
5	N4EX <b>RICH</b>	89
6	K6EL <b>ELLIOT</b>	69
7	NG6R <b>JERRY</b>	69
8	WB0KIU <b>BILL</b>	67
9	K6HPX <b>KEN</b>	58
10	KX0R <b>GEORGE</b>	58
11	K4MF <b>GARY</b>	57
12	K0LAF <b>CHAS</b>	56
13	W9MRH <b>MIKE</b>	56
14	WA2USA <b>DENNIS</b>	53
15	KR7RK <b>KEITH</b>	52
16	NW7E <b>MIKE</b>	51
17	KG3W <b>SCOTTY</b>	48
18	NE4TN <b>WALT</b>	46
19	VE2JCW <b>JEAN</b>	46
20	AC7P <b>DON</b>	40
21	K3TCU <b>GARY</b>	40
22	WW7D <b>DARRYL</b>	38
23	W2SE <b>BRUCE</b>	36
24	N2ESE <b>GARY</b>	35
25	AC1Z <b>BOB</b>	34

# Milestones achieved on the road to Mountain Goat:

161 Summits

68 First time ever for SOTA!

100 Unique summits

15 (approximate) failed attempts (access/  
weather/difficulty/equipment)

97% done solo

3,505 QSO's (all CW QRP)

Ave. 21.8 per activation

Most in one activation: 54

Farthest: 6,961 miles (New Zealand)

449 Chasers contacted

826 summit-to-summit  
points

2243 Chaser points

I'm : #2 in Utah

#82 in the USA

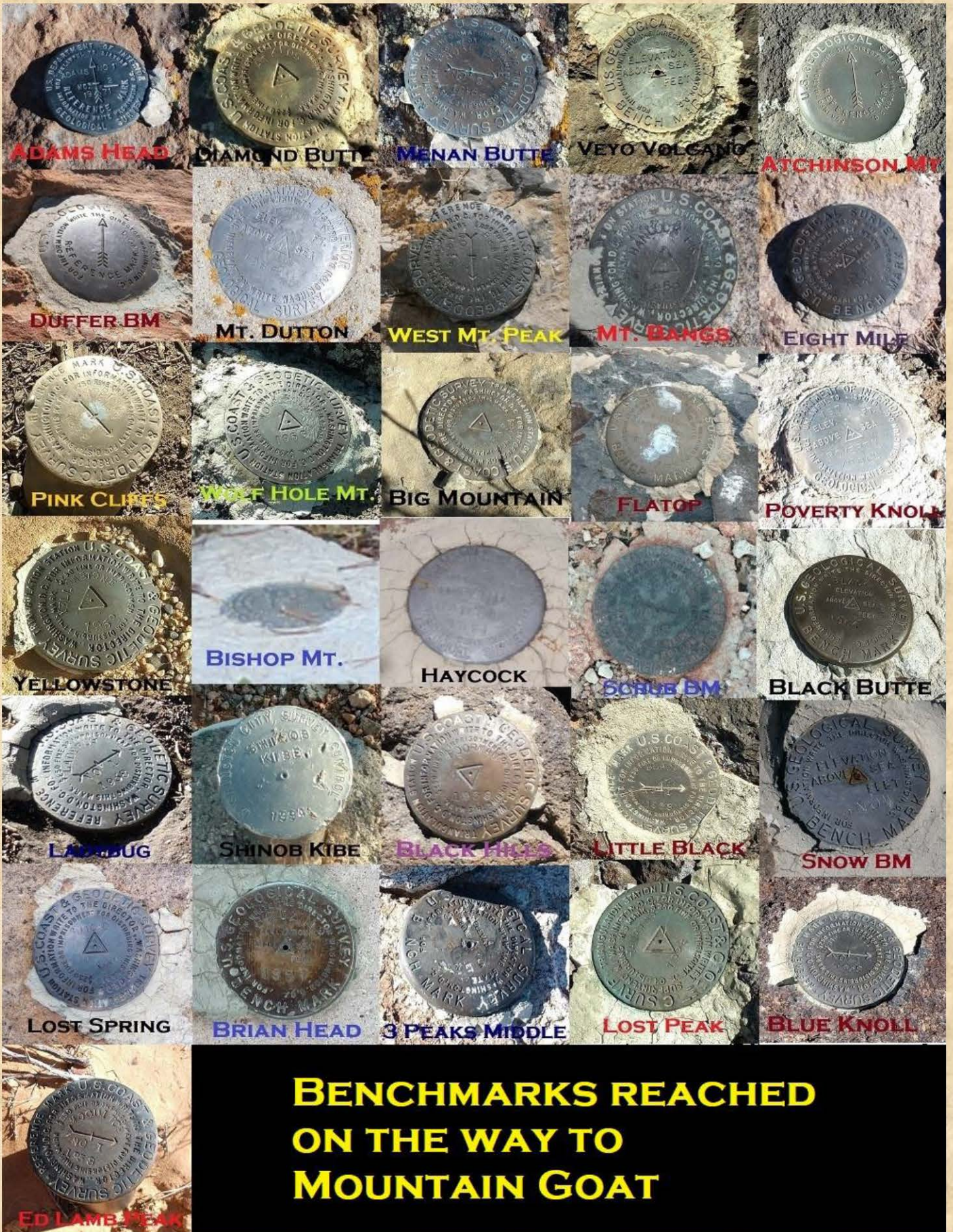
#419 in the World



## Lessons learned (some, general hiking knowledge):

- Activating solo means planning longer, going slower, and not taking risks.
- An OHV of some type aids greatly in many activations, making many more possible (and saving the pickup). (Thanks, Dad!)
- Multiple activations in a day can make for less enjoyable and rushed summits. Include time to enjoy the summit.
- No matter the amount of planning and preparation, a new place never seems to look like you thought it would.
- Google Earth doesn't show everything well (gates, road quality, best approach, etc.)
- Have a backup if possible, fully planned and ready.
- After figuring the time required to drive, hike, breaks, and setup, add at least another half hour to the alert time.
- Weather at home does not reflect weather on a summit.
- You're not done and safe until you're home and safe.
- Many summits have their own weather.
- Always double check pack and area before leaving.
- Following a pattern for packing, setup, operating, and take-down makes for a smooth trip.
- The route coming down always looks a little different than it did going up.
- Every step on the journey gets you closer, and each needs to be taken with care.
- There is no shame in cancelling and heading home.
- Planning summits based on bonus points can lead to lots of extra points, but also some tough activations and disappointing cancellations.
- Plan your route looking at the whole mountain if possible, once on it, the view changes and is limited.





**ADAMS HEAD**

**DIAMOND BUTTE**

**MENAN BUTTE**

**VEYO VOLCANO**

**ATCHINSON MT**



**DUFFER BM**



**MT. DUTTON**



**WEST MT. PEAK**



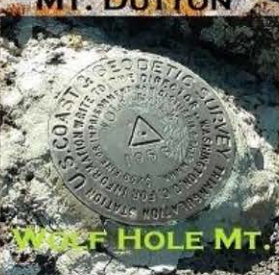
**MT. BANGS**



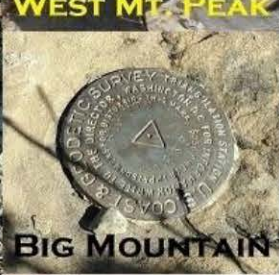
**EIGHT MILE**



**PINK CLIFFS**



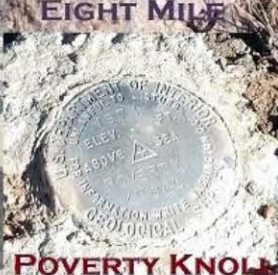
**WOLF HOLE MT.**



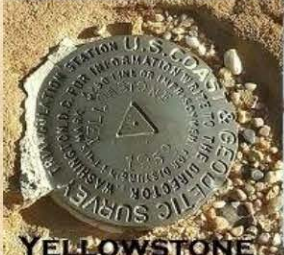
**BIG MOUNTAIN**



**FLATOP**



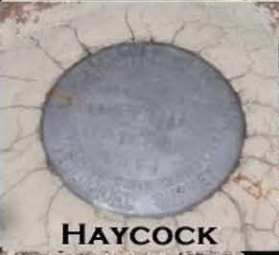
**POVERTY KNOLL**



**YELLOWSTONE**



**BISHOP MT.**



**HAYCOCK**



**SCHUE BM**



**BLACK BUTTE**



**LADBUG**



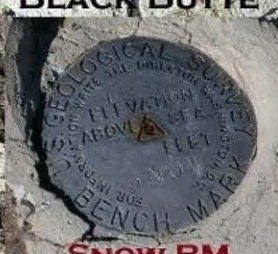
**SHINOB KIBE**



**BLACK HILLS**



**LITTLE BLACK**



**SNOW BM**



**LOST SPRING**



**BRIAN HEAD**



**3 PEAKS MIDDLE**



**LOST PEAK**



**BLUE KNOLL**



**ED LAMB PEAK**

**BENCHMARKS REACHED  
ON THE WAY TO  
MOUNTAIN GOAT**

# Veyo Volcano W7U/WS-113

**Stats: 11/21/2018**

**Points: 1 (total=1004)**

**Elevation: 5,239 ft**

**QSO's: 32**

**Farthest: 2,075 miles (QC)**

**Time on Air: 35 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

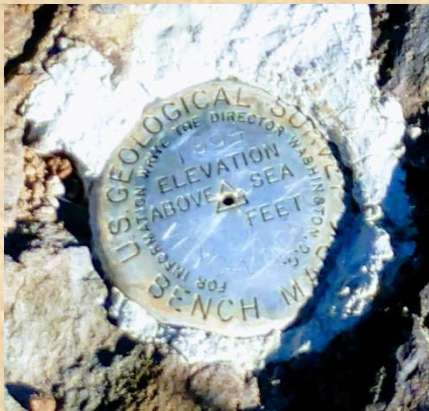
**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

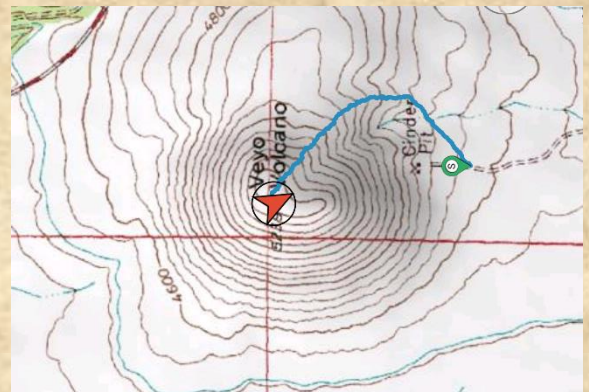
**Activation: 4<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

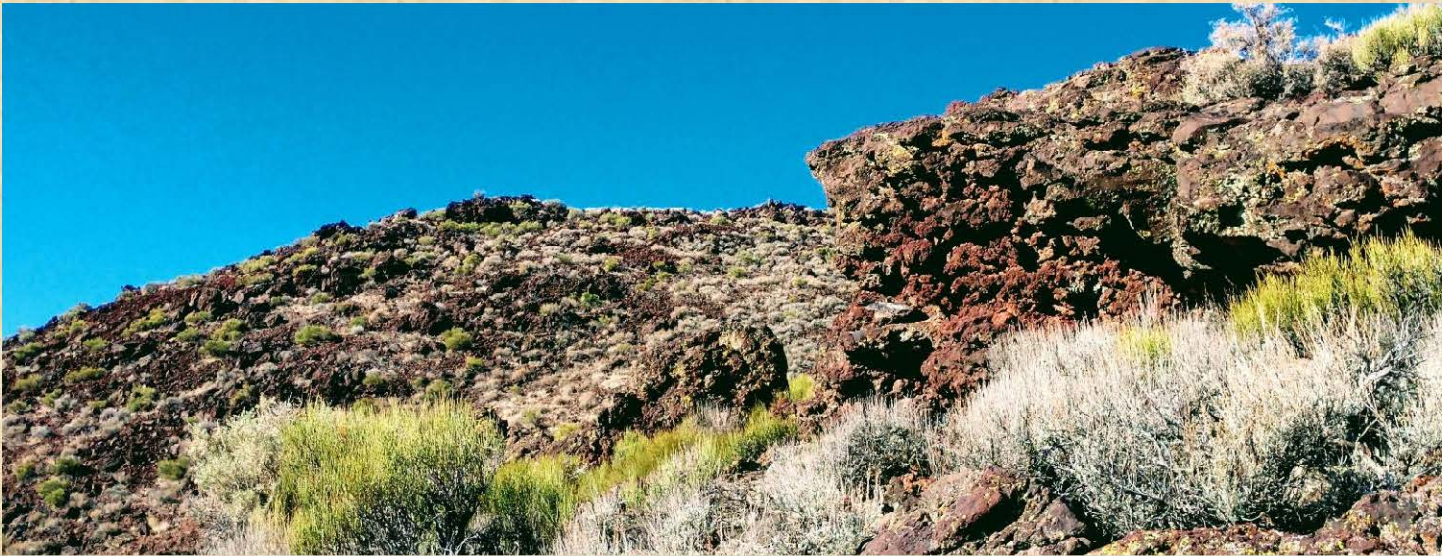
**Trail report:** I decided to go with a similar approach as last previously from the south where the slope is more gradual than straight up, but not so long from the east. There is a recreation access road, but no good place to park until you're at the south of the volcano, so I got off as far as possible. There is a small parking lot to the northeast of the volcano, however there is a barbed wire fence to negotiate if you park there and is a little more inclined. Careful footing is required with all the lava rock. Benchmark and geocache at the summit.

**The experience:** This was my first hike after Mountain Goat, and I just wanted a nice and easy, close-to-home summit. It was a beautiful day and a good hike. There were plenty of people on the air and



just nice to get out and about after taking a good week and a half off.





# W7U/WS-113 VEYO VOLCANO

Nov. 21, 2018

**20 METERS**

**40 METERS**

HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80m-40m	Good	Good
30m-20m	Fair	Fair
17m-15m	Poor	Poor
12m-10m	Poor	Poor



**32 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,075 MI**  
**3 S2S**  
**35 MINS.**  
**4 WATTS**

# Bloomington Hill W7U/WS-123

**Stats: 1/19/2019**

**Points: 1 (total=1005)**

**Elevation: 3,470 ft**

**QSO's: 32**

**Farthest: 6,874 miles  
(New Zealand)**

**Time on Air: 25 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

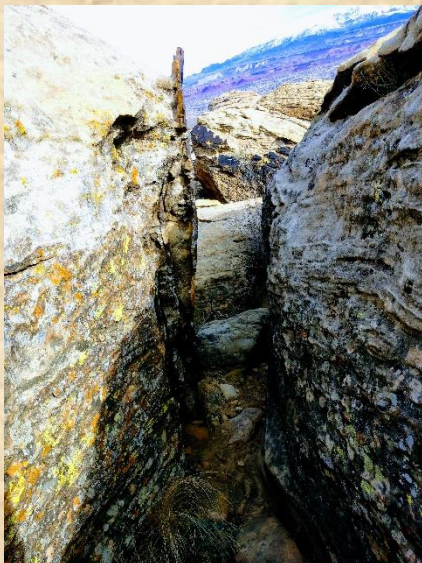
**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 10<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** The hike can either begin at the base of the hill or up much higher. There is a road that goes up to near the end, although it is better suited for a jeep or ATV. Personally, I chose to start hiking from the base. There are numerous trails in the area, the road begins to the south of the power station. Once at the end of the road, a hiking/bike trail continues. The most scenic route runs through the huge boulders slightly to the north. You eventually come up out of the boulders (following stacked-stone trail markers) to the top. There is another, more-traveled trail, but not as scenic.



**The experience:** With being a bit burned out and the holidays approaching, the end of the semester, bad weather, etc. I ended up taking a full two-month furlough from SOTA. It was a nice break and I felt no pressures to get out. With the weather finally breaking and a long weekend, I decided to go out again, just locally. It was a very nice hike and just the right amount of cool. Picture of a boulder I have to go through—it requires me removing my pack, but it's the best route.

There were tons of people on, in fact I got 31 of my contacts straight in a row in 17 minutes. I got John in New Zealand (ZL1BYZ) and Paul in Nova Scotia (VE1PVH), which was the first time ever I had contacted NS. That was all on 20 meters, only one on 40 meters.

On the way back down I ran into two older couples who had seen me taking down my setup and were quite curious. They thought it might be some illegal or something, but thought the idea of a radio setup was interesting, and we talked a while about a few other things as well. It was very good to get back out again.



**W7U/WS-123 BLOOMINGTON HILL**

**JAN. 19, 2019**

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**20 METERS**

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**40 METERS**

**32 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**6,874 MILES**  
**(NEW ZEALAND)**  
**25 MINS.**  
**4 WATTS**

Calculated Solar Conditions	
Bands	Day Night
80m-40m:	Fair Good
30m-20m:	Poor Poor
17m-15m:	Poor Poor
12m-10m:	Poor Poor

# Scrub Benchmark W7U/WS-071 and Winter Field Day

**Stats: 1/26/2019**

**Points: 4 + 3 bonus  
(total=1012)**

**Elevation: 6,786 ft**

**QSO's: 35**

**Farthest: 6,842 miles  
(New Zealand)**

**Time on Air: 150 mins.**

**Equipment:**

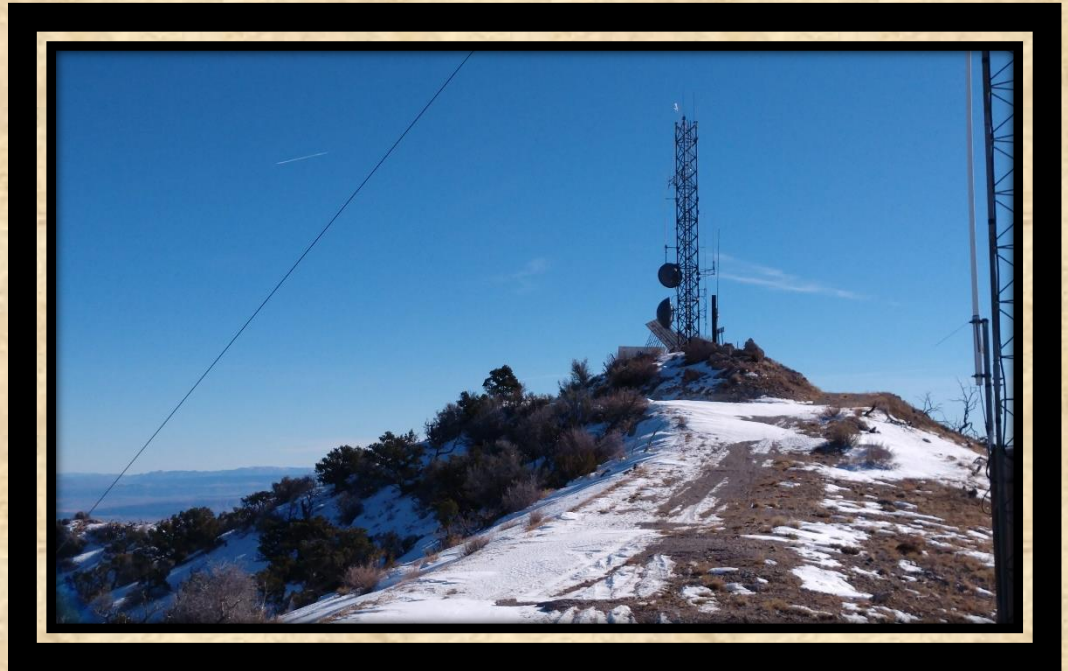
**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 5<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access to the base is by taking the Mojave Desert Joshua Tree Rd either from the Shivwits Reservation off Old Hwy 91 from the north or from I-15 to Old Hwy 91 from the south (AZ). Once at the base, there is a road that leads up the mountain (and a sign that tells you there's no outlet). I would have a 4x4 to enter this road. It can change quickly with no good place to turn around. It is a long, rough hike if on foot.

Know that there is a gate that crosses the road about 1/2 way up, but there is a bypass. I would not take my 4x4 pickup once the elevation changes greatly because of the very rough and steep road at times. There are two main antennas at and near the summit. As the name indicates, there is a physical benchmark at the actual summit. There are a number of places to set up once there. Great views of the Beaver Dam Mountains.



**The experience:** I wanted to try a new place for Winter Field Day this year having done Bloomington Hill and then West Mountain Peak last year. I knew the route up would be mostly clear as it faces the sun. It was a good ride to almost the top, but it was WAY windy once up there. It pushed me around some. Luckily I was dressed for it though. I hiked the last half mile or so and changed where I was going to setup because of the wind, which was quite strong.

I setup and got on the air for SOTA first just after 11am (WFD starting at 12). Got a good sequence of calls before switching over to WFD.

Winter Field Day went really slow, lots of stations who couldn't hear my 5 watts. I ended up with only 5 contacts for that. I had 35 in total including 4 summit-to-summit contacts. I stayed a lot longer than usual, but had a good time. Below, taking my now annual hot chocolate break before starting Winter Field Day. (Also new map that is auto-generated).



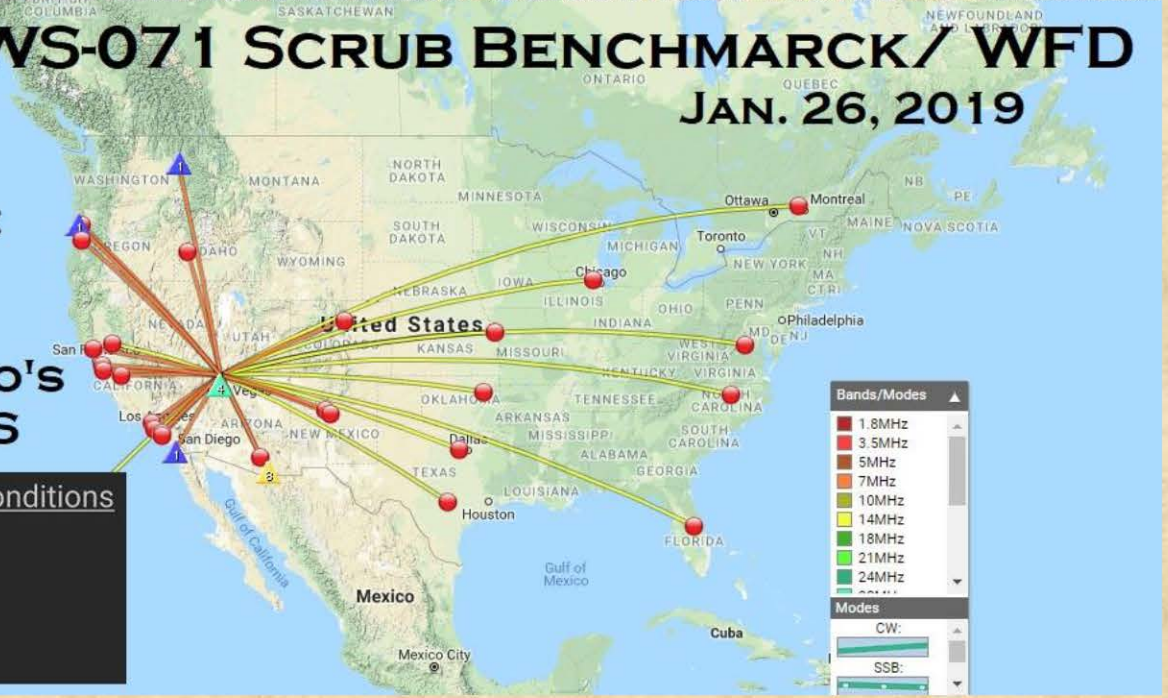
# W7U/WS-071 SCRUB BENCHMARK/ WFD

JAN. 26, 2019

**35 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**6,842 MI**  
**4 S2S**  
**5 WFD QSO'S**  
**4-5 WATTS**

### Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Fair	Fair
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



# Sand Mountain W7U/SU-061

**Stats:** 2/08/2019

**Points:** 1 (total=1013)

**Elevation:** 4,182 ft

**QSO's:** 18

**Farthest:** 2,249 miles (MA)

**Time on Air:** 20 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
**(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 8<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)



**Trail report:** This mountain is not far from town (St. George) and really close to Sand Hallow State Park (just to the south of it). It's just off of Southern Parkway, in fact when you pull off of it, you're already on the mountain and ready to head on up. The whole mountain is an ATV haven with sand dunes, trails all over, etc. That's its main use! There's a main trail that goes straight up to the upper end of the mountain, from there all it takes is a little maneuvering to reach the high point, which is not as it shows on the mapping program.

**The experience:** I went out after work to get on the radio and just be outside after a pretty long stretch of bad weather. It was fun as always and I went to the true high point where there's actually a benchmark. I took along Daniel's little drone to try it out, the wind blew it away quickly, so I



waited until I was completely done to use it at a little lower altitude.

It was a good activation with good activity. There were a number of people on the mountain as it was a good day. A few passed by a bit curious, but not enough to stop and find out what it all was.

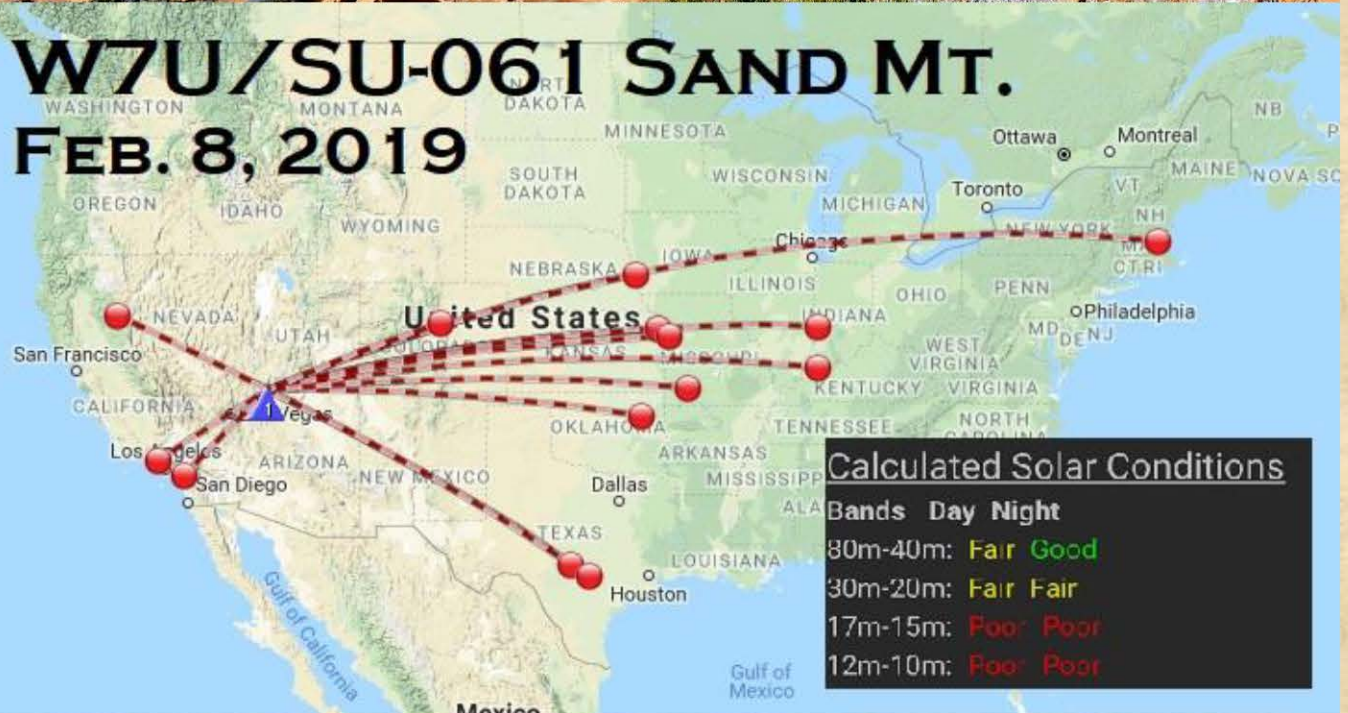






# W7U/SU-061 SAND MT.

FEB. 8, 2019



## Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands Day Night

80m-40m: Fair Good

30m-20m: Fair Fair

17m-15m: Poor Poor

12m-10m: Poor Poor

# Seegmiller Mountain W7U/SU-061

**Stats:** 3/30/2019

**Points:** 8 (total=1021)

**Elevation:** 6,220 ft

**QSO's:** 16

**Farthest:** 2,256 miles (NH)

**Time on Air:** 40 mins.

**Equipment:**

**Elecraft KX2 qrp cw  
(5 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 5<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Trail report:** Mt Trumbull

Loop is the road to access the side road leading up Seegmiller and is a pretty good most of the way. I approached from the north using the Southern Parkway (7), just on the Utah-Arizona border. The turnoff to go up the mountain is on the southern end of the mesa, BLM 1020. The sign is badly worn and nearly unreadable at this time however. From the turnoff it's almost 9 miles to the top. The route goes around a large gorge and takes a while. A 4x4 may not be required but is recommended. You can park below the tower and hike up or park on top and hike down and



back up again. There are a few antennas right near the summit but there is plenty of space to find a place to set up. (This is near W7A/NM-035 Wolf Hole Mt. and both can be done fairly easily in the same day).

**The experience:** It's been over a month since I went out—which feels like forever after going out once or more a week for so long. I didn't want to deal with bad weather or snow, so even though in the past I saved this for summer bonus season, I went now when I wouldn't have to deal with the heat. I used the KX2 instead of my Youkits HB-

1B since I'll be taking it to Peru and wanted to have some more experience with it. Not tons of activity, but still fun as always.



# W7A/AW-035 SEEGMILLER MT. MAR. 30, 2019



HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Good	Good
30n-20n	Poor	Poor
17n-15n	Poor	Poor
12n-10n	Poor	Poor

# West Mountain Peak W7U/SU-045

**Stats:** 5/25/2019

**Points:** 6 (total=1027)

**Elevation:** 7,680 ft

**QSO's:** 20

**Farthest:** 1,986 mi (FL)

**Time on Air:** 25 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 8<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Trail report:** Access

comes from Old Hwy 91. You take Beaver Dam Mountain Rd from there (just past the reservation border while heading south). This road leads up to the very top. It is fairly nice until the last bit before switchbacks to the summit, but still a 4x4 is highly suggested. The last part should be attempted with care, especially in less-than-ideal conditions. The ATV made it ok.

**The experience:** It's been a couple of months again since going out. I've missed it, but the obsession and drive is gone now that my goal was reached. It was still enjoyable and a very nice day. It was a contest day (which I didn't realize until I got up there), but as always, there are plenty of people who call. It was a bit noisy and I only stayed on the air for about a half



an hour, but that's my usual amount of time anyway. I also wanted to make a video since I haven't done one since January and I don't want to lose my group.





# W7U/SU-045 WEST MOUNTAIN PEAK MAY 25, 2019



**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

**20 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,986 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**

# "Flower Top" W7U/WS-089

**Stats: 5/29/2019**

**Points: 2 (total=1029)**

**Elevation: 6,494 ft**

**QSO's: 15**

**Farthest: 1,986 mi (FL)**

**Time on Air: 20 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 4<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access is gained from W. Center St. in Veyo which leads to Veyo Shoal Creek Rd (dirt) at the bottom of the canyon. Veyo Shoal Creek Rd is a well-maintained dirt road that can be taken all the way to the base of the mountain. Personally, I parked at the entrance of Dixie National Park and rode an ATV to the base, but certainly not required to reach it. The access is fairly easy and the ascent is only a few hundred feet. The ground is soft dirt with some scrub brush and many flowers in the spring. Some rock outcroppings on the

top allow for easy antenna set up.



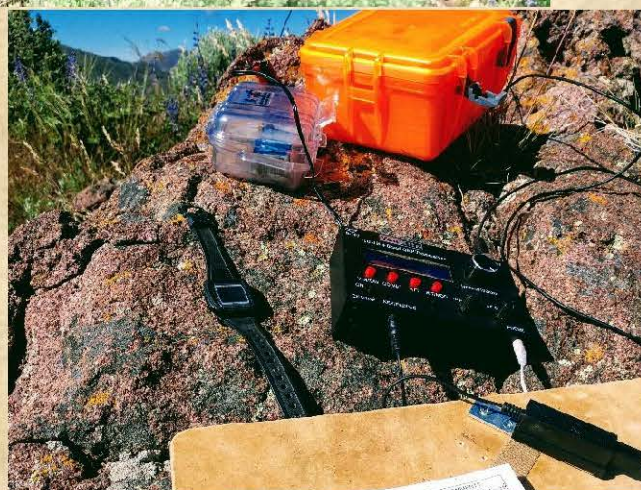
## **The experience:**

Even though this summit has bonus points associated with it in winter, it's not really supposed to, so I decided to wait until spring, like the first time I activated it, because it looks great and is usually covered with flowers. It had been stormy overnight so it was a bit muddy on the way up, but not terrible or dangerous.

There were indeed

plenty of flowers and it was nice. The wind was a bit strong at times, but it was still a really nice day. Not tons of action on the air, but it is in the middle of the week. It's a popular area (in Dixie National Forest), but I didn't see a single other person or car the whole time.





# Yellowstone Mesa W7A/NM-062

**Stats: 6/01/2019**

**Points: 6 + 3 bonus  
(total=1038)**

**Elevation: 5,651 ft**

**QSO's: 23**

**Farthest: 1,930 mi (FL)**

**Time on Air: 50 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 3<sup>rd</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

**Trail report:** Access is gained from Highway 59 in Utah, which becomes Highway 389 in Arizona. The turn off is a few miles south of Colorado City, AZ onto county road 239 which heads due south for about 11 miles. This



county road is a nice dirt road the entire way and can be taken by pretty much any vehicle. The road ends at an old gravel pit which is a

mere 150 yards to the high point, and it's basically just climbing out of the pit. There are three benchmarks at the top. Flat and rocky with a few short trees and a nice view from the edge.

There are rattlers in the area.

**The experience:** This is the first day of summer bonus and one of the places I like to go early. There's no real hike, which was also a plus since I hurt my leg working out yesterday, and didn't want a strenuous hike. It's at the end of a long, dirt road and is a pretty place for the desert. Being the first bonus day, I knew a lot of AZ people would be out, but I went earlier than most of them. I did get 3 summit-to-summit





contacts though with Steve, WG0AT, Pat, KI4SVM, and George, KX0R. I stayed a little longer to see if others would get on, but I didn't want to wait until it got hot so a little after 10am I packed up.



# W7A/NM-062 YELLOWSTONE MESA

## JUNE 1, 2019



**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

# Wolf Hole Mountain W7A/NM-035

**Stats:** 6/05/2019

**Points:** 6 + 3 bonus  
(total=1049)

**Elevation:** 6,416 ft

**QSO's:** 24

**Farthest:** 2,130 mi (NJ)

**Time on Air:** 30 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
(4 WATTS)

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 5<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)



**Trail report:** Access is gained through the Arizona Strip area, either from the north or the south. Coming from southern Utah, I approached from the north. BLM Rd. 1069 goes all the way through the area and is a well-maintained dirt



and/or gravel road. There is a large area to park just before starting up BLM 1038 (it is marked although the sign is worn) if you plan on using an ATV



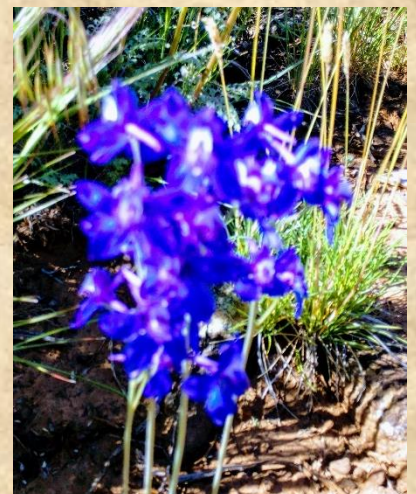
or other OHV (which isn't a bad idea). The road is fairly rough at times and would be slow going

without one.

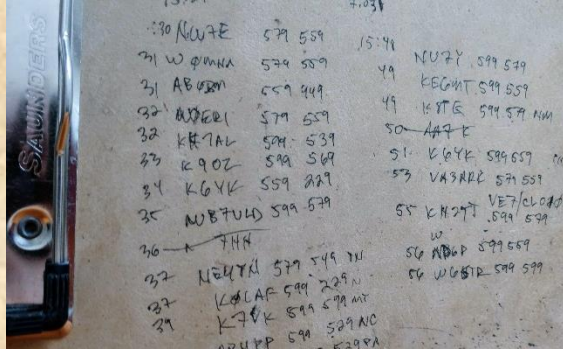


Once on BLM 1038 you follow it up all the way to the flat. You do have to leave it for another BLM road (1074) to head south to get within close distance of the summit. From the dirt road directly west of the summit it's only half a mile to the summit and a very gentle slope. There is a benchmark and registry at the top. The area is covered with trees and brush, but

no actual bushwhacking required with the spaces in-between them.



**The experience:** I normally do this one together with Seegmiller Mt., but wanted kind of an easy one when then weather had a lot inaccessible, so I did it before the bonus season. So it was just this one, but having done it twice before, I was very familiar



with the area and it was a nice day. No issues at all to reach the top and where I parked the ATV. The hike is not long and not very high at all. I set up in



the shade this time. It was a really nice activation with no rush and enough callers. Near the end I had a call for a summit-to-summit with VA3RRK (on VE7/CL-010) which wasn't expected, so a nice surprise. I didn't bring a logbook, so had to write on my clipboard.



# W7U/NM-035 WOLF HOLE MT.

JUNE 5, 2019

**20 METERS**

**40 METERS**



**24 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,130 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**

Calculated Solar Conditions	
Bands	Day Night
80m-40m:	Fair Good
30m-20m:	Poor Poor
17m-15m:	Poor Poor
12m-10m:	Poor Poor

# Starvation Point W7A/NM-134

**Stats: 6/08/2019**

**Points: 4 + 3 bonus  
(total=1056)**

**Elevation: 3,581 ft**

**QSO's: 25**

**Farthest: 1,947 mi (FL)**

**Time on Air: 55 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

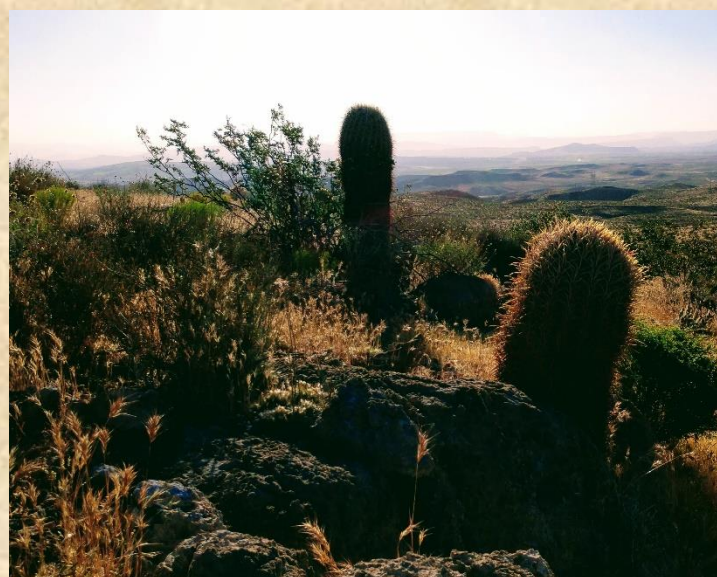
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 7<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Access is from I-15, taking the Black Rock Rd. exit (no services) which is the first as you enter AZ from UT, or the last one before reaching the Port of Entry going from AZ to UT. There is a road that goes all the way to the summit, but most of it is really Jeep trail. LOTS of ups and downs. The views are great once on top.

**The experience:** I almost did this one in April, but as I was getting ready for Peru, decided to not chance having



anything happen before the trip. It was a nice, clear day, but it was VERY windy. I

knew it was going to be an issue on my way up. I picked a large bush and grabbed a number of rock to help me steady the mast, but it wasn't nearly enough. After about five contacts, the antenna came down. It would come down at least three more times as I tried to get back on the air. It became really frustrating. I ended up stabilizing it with more large





rocks, but still had to wrap my arm around it to keep it from falling. I had quite a few calls, but my Morse code was not good as I was being moved around, kneeling and trying to rush to get as many as I could.

Saw a little rattler on the way in, but it was cool so it was slow moving. Always a beautiful area with good views.



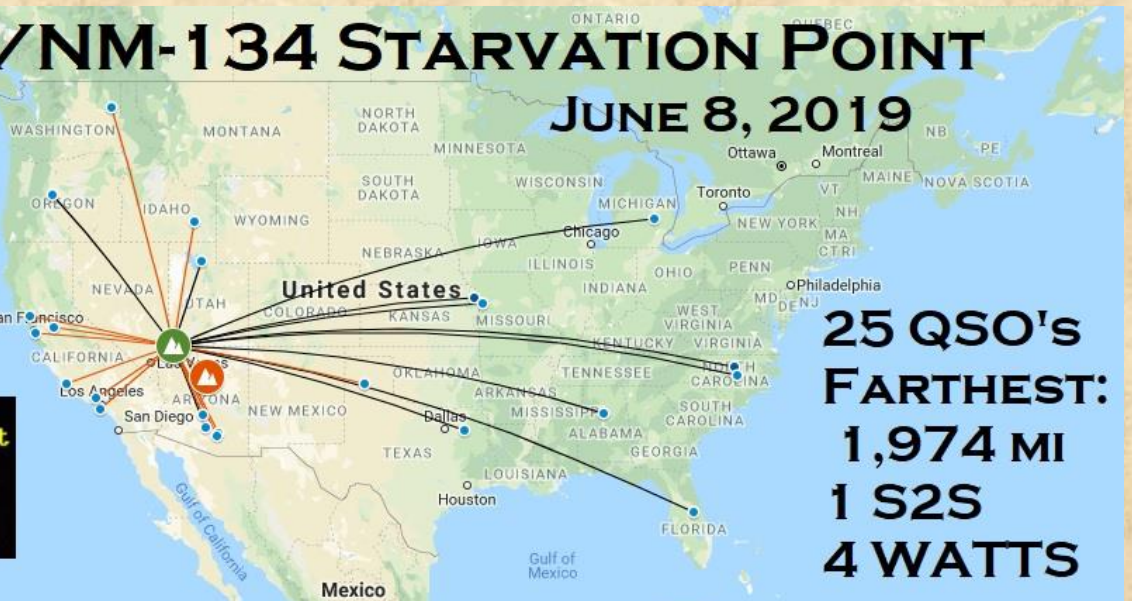
# W7U/NM-134 STARVATION POINT

## JUNE 8, 2019

20 METERS

40 METERS

HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Good	Good
30n-20n	Poor	Poor
17n-15n	Poor	Poor
12n-10n	Poor	Poor



**25 QSO's**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,974 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**

# Iron Mountain W7U/IR-028

**Stats:** 6/17/2019

**Points:** 6 (total=1062)

**Elevation:** 7,831 ft

**QSO's:** 26

**Farthest:** 2,089 mi (QC)

**Time on Air:** 35 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 4<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Trail report:** Iron Mountain is accessed using Highway 56 that runs between Cedar City and Newcastle by taking a road at the edge of the quarry pit and bypasses the train to the west. There is a dirt road that goes all the way to the top, although near the end it starts to get rough and narrower (a good place to hike from) as the road splits to the right for final ascent. There are numerous small buildings/antennas at the summit. Even so, there is ample room to setup a station and be out of the way. There is interference from the antennas.

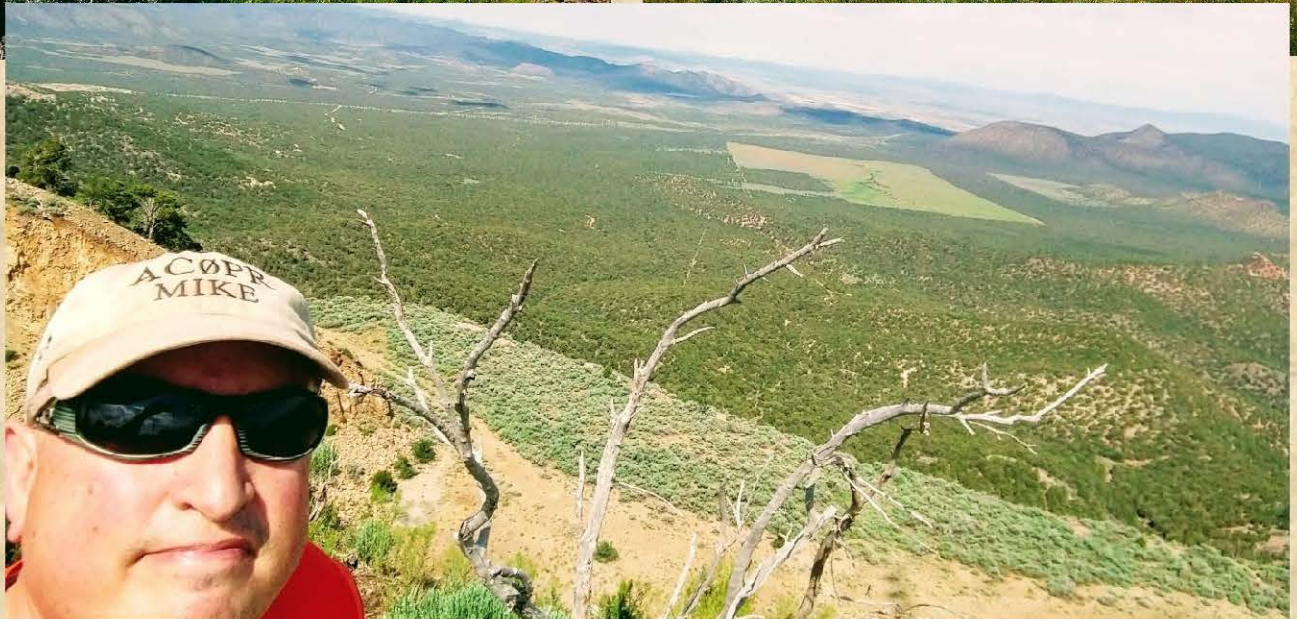
**The experience:** This is another summit I wanted to do in nice weather instead of doing for winter bonus. The parking spot I usually use was now marked with a sign of private property, so I just pulled off the road a bit instead at the base. The ride up



was nice. I was worried it would be muddy since it rained in the area last night, but it was good.

Getting on the radio, I heard lots of interference on 20m and so just started on 40 and moved to 30. I got plenty of contacts though and when I did try 20m I got more contacts than I thought, although I know there were others in there that I couldn't hear because of the noise. It was a good activation

and it puts me as tied as the top activator in Utah with Ryan, K7ODX, who was the first Mountain Goat in Utah (with me being the second).



# Big Mountain W7U/SU-051

**Stats:** 6/19/2019

**Points:** 4 (total=1066)

**Elevation:** 7,230 ft

**QSO's:** 36

**Farthest:** 2,119 mi (NJ)

**Time on Air:** 50 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 8<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Trail report:** From Hwy.

18 between Enterprise and Central, FR-198 turns off to the west. This is a pretty good road to the north of the mountain that leads all the way to the very top, where all the towers are located. Of course, for purposes of activation, you can park at the first tower reached (lower elevation) and hike down then proceed to the top to have an actual "hike" (few parking areas available until that is reached). The numerous towers cause a lot of QRN on certain bands.

In early spring the road is often snow-covered in parts and may be blocked (especially by regular pickup).



**The experience:** This was another summit I wanted to do in nice weather instead of trying for a winter bonus. It's fast and easy. On the way up I saw a buck in velvet, but I couldn't get a picture in time. I decided to do a video about my antenna system this time, so I got there early so I could take my time with the video. It ended up being a very





good activation. It was beautiful out and even with some interference from the antennas nearby, there was plenty of activity. I had 36 contacts and one summit-to-summit with George, KX0R (Geo in Morse code) in CO. Great day!



# "Mount Moo" W7U/WS-016

**Stats:** 6/21/2019

**Points:** 6 (total=1072)

**Elevation:** 7,660 ft

**QSO's:** 26

**Farthest:** 2,242 mi (NH)

**Time on Air:** 45 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 5<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Trail report:** From Central, Utah you take Rte. 35 on

the way to Pine Valley. From there take FR-253, a dirt road, just after the big "rock sign" that says Pine Valley.

There are two access roads, one on the east, right up to the base on its west side, and one that goes all the way around to from the west and ends up on the east at a higher elevation. I opted to go to the direct east as the drive to the west winding around would take almost as long as the hike up to the top. There is a good access road right up to the base. There is no visible trail other than cattle/game trails, but not too bad. There's a nice outcropping of rocks at the top to

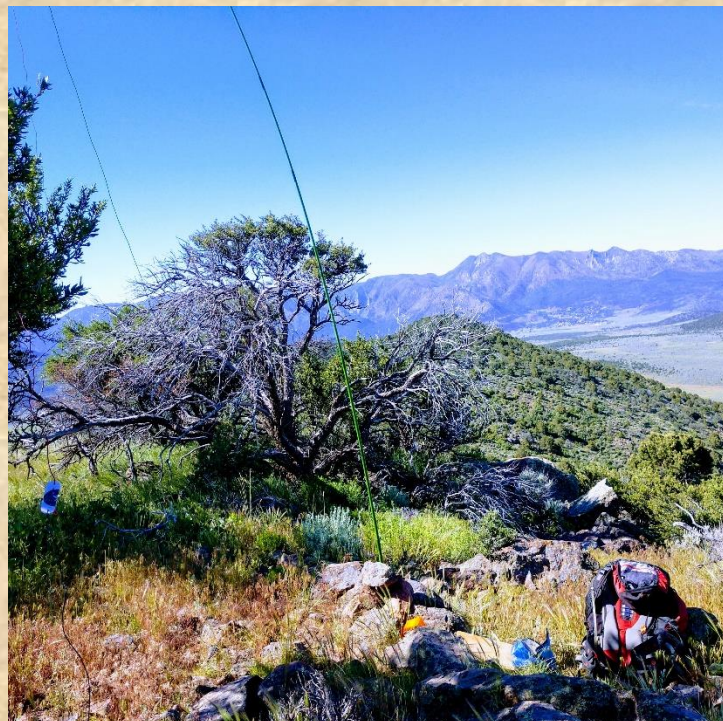
operate/take pictures.



## **The experience:**

I've been up this hill four times now. It's a very enjoyable hike and not difficult at all. I did it first early on as it's fairly close and

the easiest 6-pointer that isn't a drive-up. I got there a little early it was cool enough that I wore a hoodie all the way up and back. I did a quick try with a vertical antenna, but it didn't tune (I'm thinking it's the little tuner I have though). The bands were whacky. On 20m I got close like AZ, NV, CA but still got NH, PA, and FL—which is not normal. Two summit-to-summits (N6MKW in CA, and Paul, K9PM/P in AZ). Great day!



W7U/WS-016 Mt Moo

DATE	TIME	FREQ	MODE	STATION WORKED	REPORT		COMMENT
					SENT	RECD	
6/21/19	19	14.059	CW	AC4KMG	599	699	
	20			K6HPK	699	529	AZ
	21			K7IKI	599	539	
	21		?	NGWT	599	599	CA
	22			NGLR	599	599	CA
	23			NW2EMR	579	579	
	23			W6TDX	579	579	
	24			K15WA	559	559	TX
	24			K4MF	559	449	FL
	25			K6MW	599	599	WA
	25			K3TCU	559	339	PA
	26			KDICT	599	599	TX?
	28			K6QEB	599	579	CA
	28			KP7PK	599	659	
	29		?	K1LB	699	659	RI



# Harmony Highpoint W7U/IR-019

**Stats:** 6/24/2019

**Points:** 6 (total=1078)

**Elevation:** 8,390 ft

**QSO's:** 36

**Farthest:** 2,107 mi (QC)  
(an S2S)

**Time on Air:** 45 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw**  
(4 WATTS)

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 3<sup>rd</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Trail report:** Access is

gained through the town of New Harmony, go all the way through main street and to Harmony Dr. [Old State Hwy 144] until it enters Dixie National Forest and becomes FR-029 which is on the west side of town. Trying to gain, what appears to be, more direct access heading north

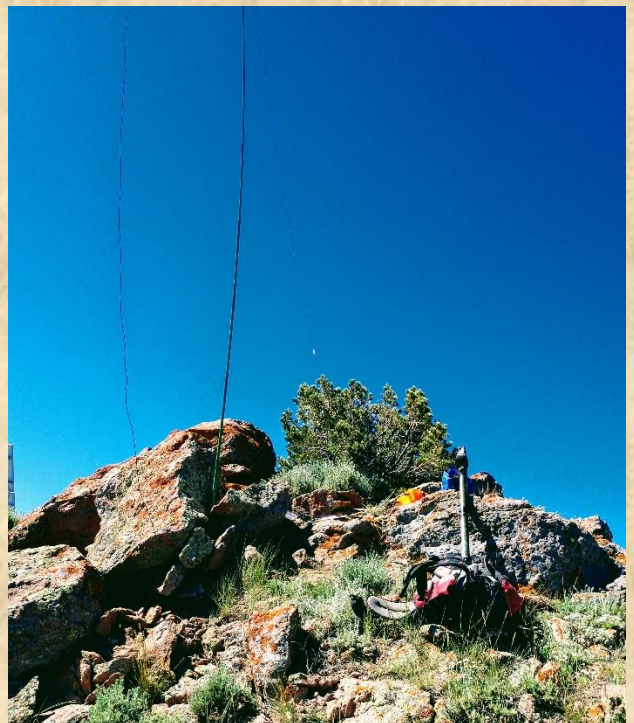


access road which will lead to the mountain road and is not



through the center of town will result in many "no trespassing" signs and a locked gate at the entrance of the mountain road. Once in the National Forest, there is a small dirt

access road which will lead to the mountain road and is not obvious or present on a number of maps (it is on the sotamap page), but you can see it off to the right (east). From this point I pulled over and used an ATV. (The entire route will be posted on the mapping page for clarification). This road leads to the mountain road that goes to the High Point.



There would be a number of challenging areas for a 4x4, but doable for an experienced mountain driver. Naturally, time of year needs to be taken into account (still had snow across the road in two small spots in May). It actually gets nicer higher up at times. No problem for the ATV. There is currently an older partial tower on the summit. The final approach is clear of trees and is not a bad climb, although the road does go all the way up. No benchmark that I could find.



**The experience:** This is the only day this week that isn't supposed to be really windy, so I went up today. It's a nice ATV ride. It was a very nice day. Once again I tried the vertical antenna with a different tuner, but it didn't work, so just stuck with my normal antenna. There were plenty of people on, which always makes it fun. I got two summit-to-summit contacts, one in Quebec with VE2/KB9ENS (my farthest) and another in NM with KE5AKL. Good activation!



# Flat Top Mountain South W7U/SU-050

**Stats:** 6/28/2019

**Points:** 4 (total=1082)

**Elevation:** 7,309 ft

**QSO's:** 39

**Farthest:** 2,255 mi (NH)

**Time on Air:** 45 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 4<sup>th</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Trail report:** Access is gained from Enterprise, UT, 200 E. then a dirt road

that goes up almost to the top. A 4x4 pickup can make it most of the way. There is a small turn off near the top to get to the base of what remains of the hike, an ATV is preferred or just hike that portion. In winter and spring these are often filled with snow. Once at the base, it is a pleasant hike, easy grade with grass and dirt until the very end when it becomes rocky. There are two benchmarks on the top.



**The experience:** This is another in my series of activating in good weather instead of trying for the bonus. Breezy, but very nice. There were tons of Mormon crickets all over. At the base of the mountain there is a new monument with a nice flag for an Army plane that

apparently crashed on the mountain. They had an article and info at the base of the flag along with pieces from the wreck. I saw six deer total this time, very nice looking.



On air there were lots of people and I had my first 20 calls within ten minutes, which is very good. Only because I searched for it, I got a summit-to-summit at the very end with WC6J in NV (W7N/TR-006). I did have a few issues though. My pole was

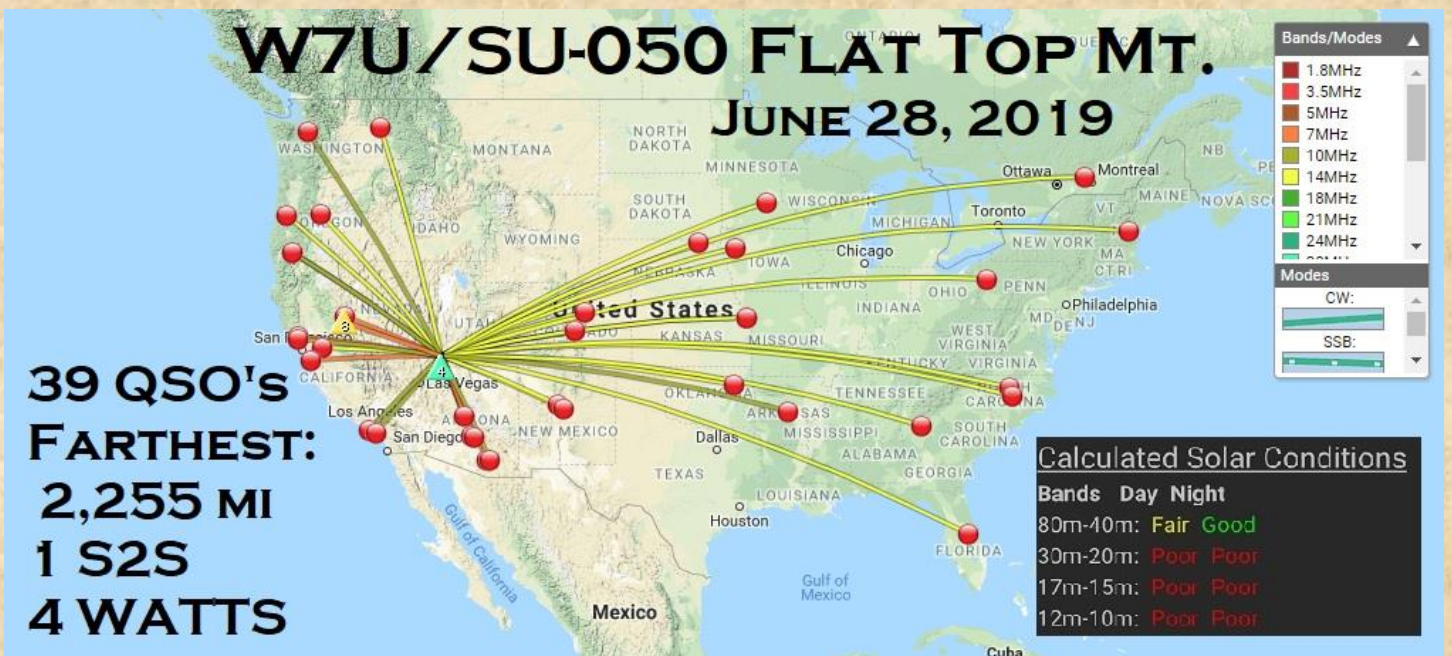




broken just before going down the mountain by a rock that slid on it. My antenna on one side is not connecting to make 40 meters (I think the winds did that), and then my mini tripod for videos is shot. Then on the way down I felt one of the crickets had gotten in my helmet and was freaking me out, so I quickly stopped and got it



out! Still a great day with lots of contacts though!



# "Scout Peak" W7U/WS-056

**Stats: 7/3/2019**

**Points: 4 (total=1086)**

**Elevation: 6,980 ft**

**QSO's: 29**

**Farthest: 2,124 mi (NJ)**

**Time on Air: 45 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw  
(4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200  
mAh)**

**Activation: 3<sup>rd</sup> (my 3<sup>rd</sup>)**



**Trail report:** There is a road that allows access up to the saddle of this mountain and the hike is quite enjoyable. It approaches from the north (200E in Enterprise). The road which goes around Ox Valley, in good weather, could be taken all the way to the saddle, although to get to that point a 4x4 is recommended for some of the last bit. Personally I went during early spring (March) and an ATV could not quite make it all the way because of snow. Once at the base or saddle it's rocky yet grassy with some scrub brush and no trail, but not bad at all.

**The experience:** This was a very pleasant hike in good weather. It didn't get too hot, warm yes, but



with the breeze, pretty nice. I saw four deer on the way in, close to 9am. Not a particularly pretty area, but it does have nice views and is pretty isolated. It didn't take long to get to the top, and when I got there, the first thing I did was get two summit-to-summit contacts, one in Idaho, K7MK and another in Nevada, Woody, K1LB. It was a good activation and a fast hike back down.





# W7U/WS-056 "SCOUT PEAK" JULY 3, 2019

**29 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,124 MI**  
**2 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**



**Bands/Modes**

- 1.8MHz
- 3.5MHz
- 5MHz
- 7MHz
- 10MHz
- 14MHz
- 18MHz
- 21MHz
- 24MHz

**Modes**

- CW:
- SSB:

**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

# Mount Helix W6/SC-352

**Stats: 7/10/2019**

**Points: 1 (total=1087)**

**Elevation: 1,373 ft**

**QSO's: 21**

**Farthest: 2,143 mi (FL)**

**Time on Air: 45 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

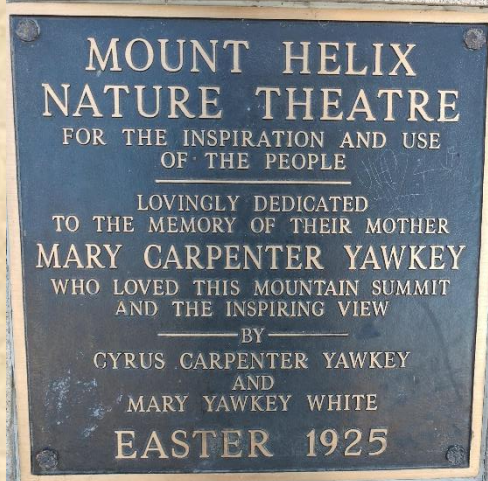
**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 29<sup>th</sup> (my 1<sup>st</sup>)**

**Trail report:** This is a park in the middle of Mesa, CA which is part of San Diego really. It's a drive up not far off of I-8 from which you take the Fuerte Dr. exit and head up the hill until Mt. Helix Dr. which winds up the hill

until you reach almost to the top and park and walk the rest of the way.



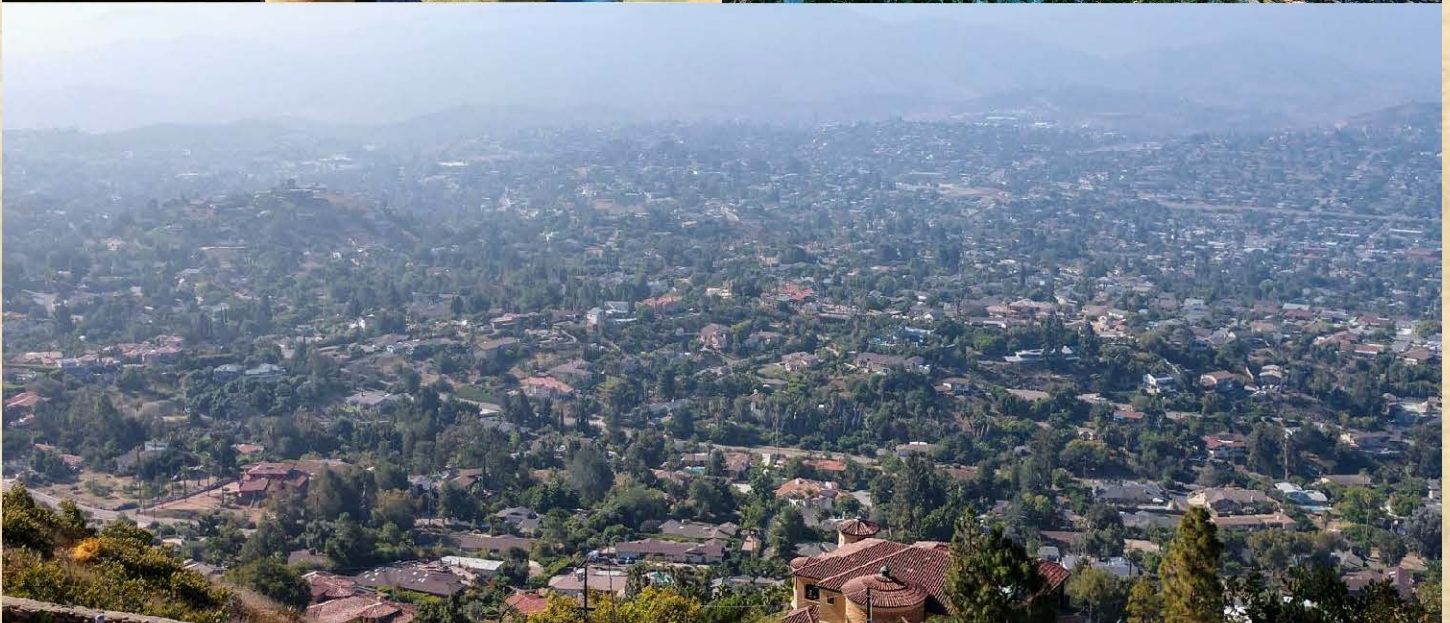
**The experience:** I took a break from my conference to activate it. My 1<sup>st</sup> one in the W6 association! It's a simple summit, just a hill really, and not much walking. It was covered with fog at the



beginning, and cleared up when I was done about an hour later. There were only a few people there, but one was a grounds worker with a blower which made it difficult to hear, but Joan asked them to hold off for a few minutes which helped. It was her first time with me on an activation as well. When other people are around, you almost always get strange looks. I didn't use the speaker so I wouldn't bother anyone else, but the wires and pole still attract attention.



Things went well on air. I still made it to FL with K4MF. Not tons of action, but just fine. My antenna is still giving me issues on 40m, high SWR which means there's a connection that isn't good somewhere, but I still made a number of contacts there, including one here in San Diego. While I'm self conscious with others around, I still enjoyed it and did just fine. Glad to get an activation in California.



# Navajo Point W7U/IR-002

**Stats: 7/17/2019**

**Points: 10 (total=1097)**

**Elevation: 10,575 ft**

**QSO's: 24**

**Farthest: 2,063 mi (QC)**

**Time on Air: 35 mins.**

**Equipment:**

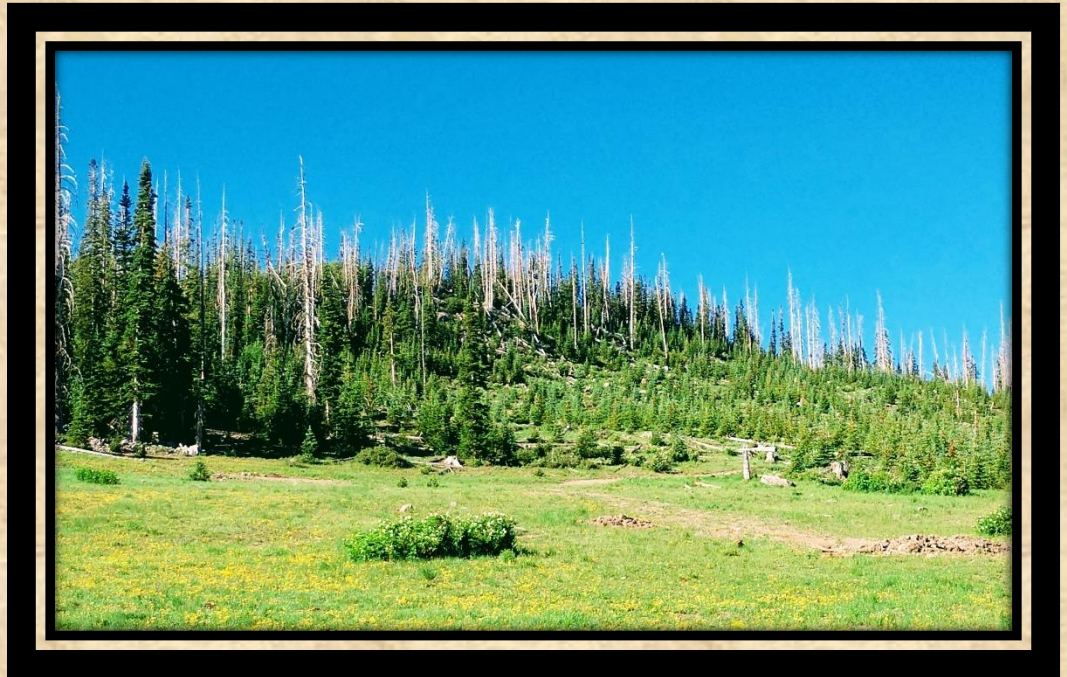
**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

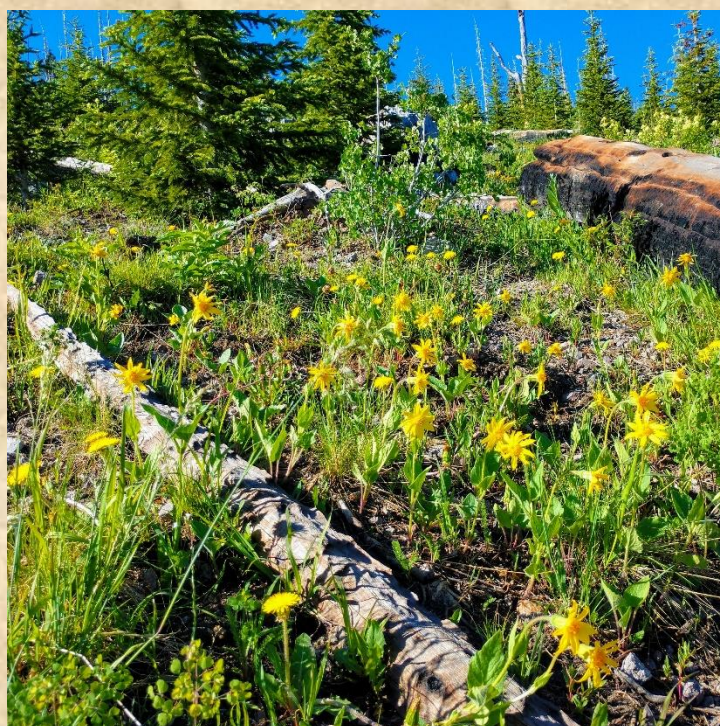
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 8<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** Navajo Point

is easily accessed by dirt road when there is no snow. There are ATV trails that get fairly close, but even with a 4x4 pickup I opted to park much lower down. The final approach has no trail and has numerous fallen trees to overcome. Bear and cougar country. Nice little area at the summit clear enough to operate (facing south). Mountain a ski area in winter. Very close to Brian Head summit (W7U/SU-016). In winter access through Cedar Breaks National Monument may be closed.



**The experience:** It's always good to get out of the heat and go up to the high mountains. The high for the day was about 70 degrees, in fact I had to wear a hoodie when I first got there. This is a simple hike, a few hundred feet. The top is pretty bushy with plenty of trees, so a wire antenna can get caught, but it went just fine. I used a new antenna I made over the weekend (has 4 bands instead of 3 like the previous one).

On air, it wasn't overly busy, but I did get 24 contacts including one S2S (summit-to-summit) with George, KX0R in CO (which is nice because it counts both my summit points as well as his, so my 10 points helped me get over 1,000 summit-to-summit points. I didn't stay too long since I was headed to a second summit nearby.



# W7U/IR-002 NAVAJO POINT JULY 17, 2019

**24 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**2,063 MI**  
**1 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**



**Bands/Modes**

- 1.8MHz
- 3.5MHz
- 5MHz
- 7MHz
- 10MHz
- 14MHz
- 18MHz
- 21MHz
- 24MHz

**Modes**

- CW
- SSB

**Calculated Solar Conditions**

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m	Fair	Good
30m-20m	Poor	Poor
17m-15m	Poor	Poor
12m-10m	Poor	Poor

# Brian Head W7U/SU-016

**Stats: 7/17/2019**

**Points: 10 (total=1107)**

**Elevation: 11,307 ft**

**QSO's: 16**

**Farthest: 1,660 mi (TN)**

**Time on Air: 30 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

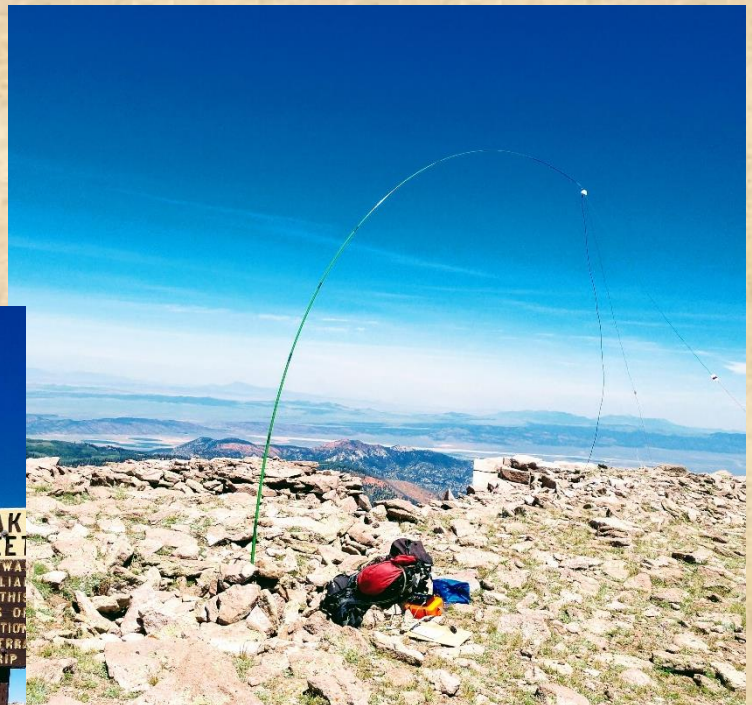
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 26<sup>th</sup> (my 4<sup>th</sup>)**



**Trail report:** This is a very easy accessed summit as Brian Head is a popular ski resort town. From I-15 you can either take SR-14 from Cedar City then 143 or from Parowan take Highway 143. There is a road that goes all the way to the summit in good weather. Most vehicles can make this route. At the top there is a parking area and a stone shack which marks the actual highest point of the summit.

**The experience:** I got to the base of the mountain pretty early (compared to my alert posted time) so I hiked up from the lower parking area. I did feel the altitude some (it's at 11,000 ft.). There was still



snow around even in the middle of July. It was SO windy once on top. It pushed me around a little. My antenna mast was bent pretty far over by the wind and the antenna was close to the ground. It was hard to hear even with headphones with the strong wind. I did get three S2S contacts (George, KX0R in CO, Keith, KR7RK in AZ, and K7DJL, Kris in ID).



With the wind and getting later, I didn't stay too long. It was a good day overall, and the many S2S contacts made it a very good day. The hike back down was fast and easy.



# W7U/SU-016 BRIAN HEAD JULY 17, 2019

**16 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,660 MI**  
**3 S2S**  
**4 WATTS**

### Calculated Solar Conditions

Bands	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor



# Wood Benchmark W7I/SI-084

**Stats:** 8/02/2019

**Points:** 6 (total=1113)

**Elevation:** 7,780 ft

**QSO's:** 13

**Farthest:** 1,986 mi (FL)

**Time on Air:** 15 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 1<sup>st</sup>



**Trail report:** Also known as Samaria High Point. Access is gained by taking the Woodruff/Samaria exit from I-15 and heading west on Woodruff Ln. This comes to a tee and becomes a good dirt road, you take a right (north), Google calls this 300 W, but that's not what the road sign says (it's like 10500, but I didn't write it



there is an information board and a parking area at the entry. Known as Gardner Canyon Rd. If



down). This continues for a but then turns west again (no other option) and heads to the base of the mountain. You pass the last farm just before the base. Just after that you pass over a cattle guard and you will be on BLM land. Currently



you happen to have some kind of ORV, this is the place to use it. Other experienced mountain road drivers can continue on the road which is rocky further up and does have some challenges.

You do pass a spring with fresh water along the way. The road splits at one point with an obviously downward route which you will pass and continue





upwards. It will eventually lead to a little saddle after passing below the summit. There is a fence and two gates, no signs or other markers. One of the gates was open when I arrived. From this point it is a short hike and about 300 vertical feet. The hike is grassy and pleasant, many wild flowers in summer. At the top there is a benchmark and registry (3-4 names



per year). No trees, but a few rocks to support a mast.

**The experience:** This was a stop on the way to Rexburg. It took longer than expected and with being warm, late, and traveling, I didn't do the next summit right nearby (I probably should have even with the conditions). As always, a new place is exciting yet cause some



apprehension. I almost parked inside the fenced area, as it was open, but then thought if it were closed behind me with the lock that was there, my ATV would be trapped, so I moved it out. The hike was nice. Not tons of contacts, but I didn't stay long. It's been a while since I had a never-activated summit done—felt good.



# “Ed” Teton Area W7Y/TT-173

**Stats: 8/5/2019**

**Points: 4 (total=1117)**

**Elevation: 7,030 ft**

**QSO's: 7**

**Farthest: 1,974 mi (NH)**

**Time on Air: 10 mins.**

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation: 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Trail report:** This summit is just across the Idaho-Wyoming border

in the Targhee National Forest. Access from the Idaho side is off of Hwy. 20 that runs between Ashton, ID and St. Anthony, ID. (There appears to be no simple, direct route from the WY side). Hwy 32 is the most direct route and winds around miles of farmland. At Lamont you leave 32 and head north until 700 North and turn right (east). Not long after this



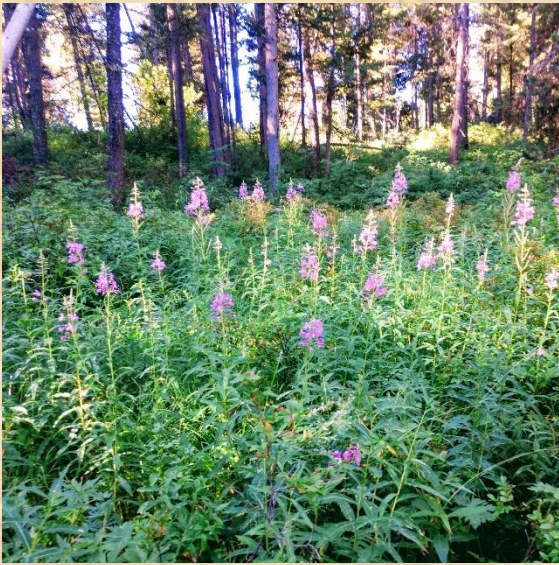
turn the paved road turns to a good dirt road. You continue on this route until you enter the National Forest, clearly marked. Very soon you'll reach an intersection with a sign. You keep to the right (towards Coyote Meadows)

on route 265. You stay on 265 from this point for 7.1 miles (you enter WY at 6.4 miles—no sign currently). This will put you directly north of the summit. The hike from here is only about a ½ mile, but it is heavily wooded. If early morning, lots of dew on the grass and bushes. The top is a little more open, but still lots of bushes. There is cell service from the summit. No views, really, too much vegetation. Still pretty area, huckleberry bushes, wild flowers in summer.



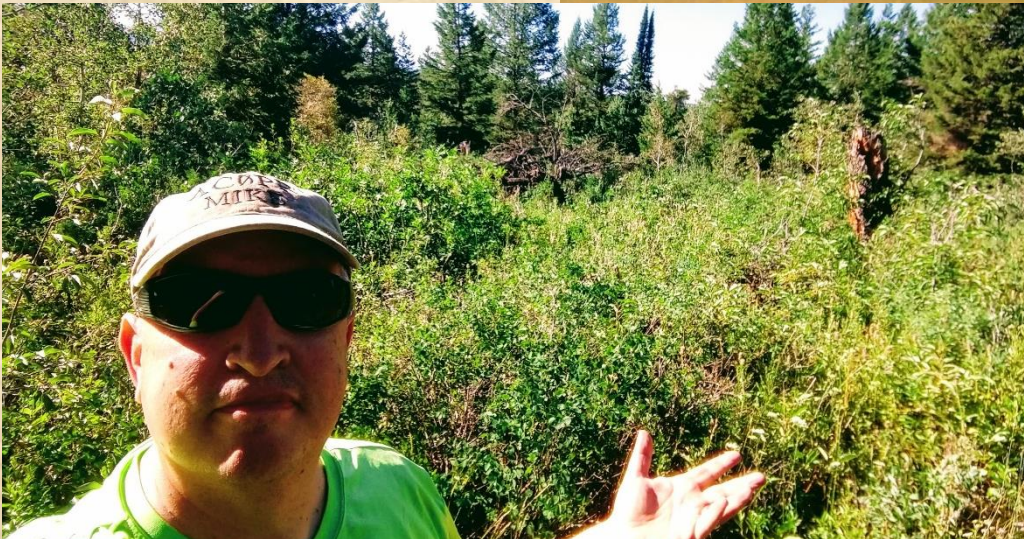
Maps and Google Earth show a route that circles around and gets right to the summit, at the time of this writing, there is nothing—all completely grown over.

**The experience:** This was first ever Wyoming activation! It was also a never-before activated summit. Dad went with me and we made our way fairly easily into the forest area. Only saw one good doe (well, we think, coming in and going out). It was more heavily wooded than expected from satellite recon, but not so bad I had to duck



and weave at every step. I put leg gaiters on for the morning dew, but I was soaked after a few hundred yards. I had an HT and Dad was on the radio in the pickup. I was a little concerned about bears when I saw the many huckleberry bushes, but no other large animals sighted. The top was very brushy and I had lost

communication with Dad, so stayed on for only 10 mins., but got it activated and enjoyed the forest. (The top [below])



# W7Y/TT-173 "ED TETON AREA" AUG. 5, 2019

**7 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,974 MI**  
**10 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**



# Warm River Butte W7I/ER-093

**Stats:** 8/5/2019

**Points:** 4 (total=1121)

**Elevation:** 6,613 ft

**QSO's:** 11

**Farthest:** 1,984 mi (FL)

**Time on Air:** 10 mins.

**Equipment:**

**YouKits HB-1B qrp cw (4 WATTS)**

**Linked dipole**

**Pico paddle**

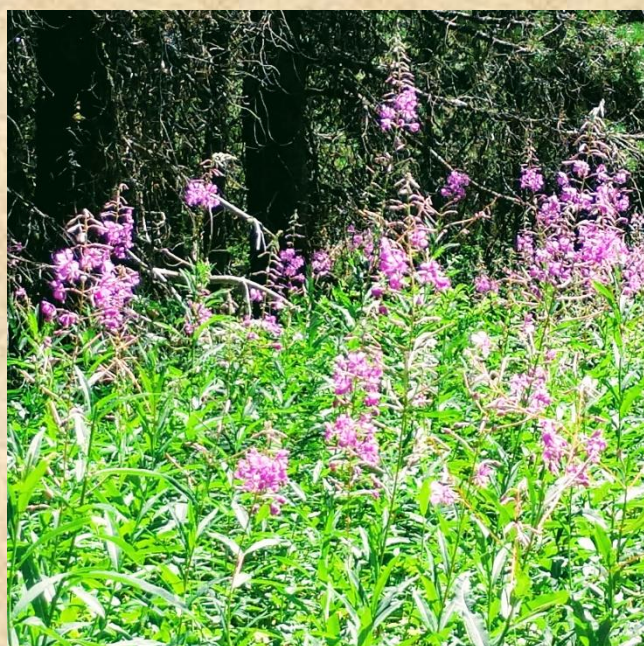
**LiPo battery (2200 mAh)**

**Activation:** 3<sup>rd</sup> (my 1<sup>st</sup>)



**Trail report:** This summit is accessed most easily from

Ashton, ID (off of Hwy. 20) and taking State Hwy. 47. You continue on the route until just after crossing the Warm River bridge. The route continues up to Mesa Falls, but this is the intersection to leave 47 and head to the right towards the Warm River Campground. Before reaching it, however, you turn right at the bridge onto Fish Creek Rd. all the way to the base of the butte (on the far east side of the butte). The road is paved, but in need of repair at the time of this writing. At this point you need to leave the road to the left (north) to head up the butte. The road is dirt and gets quite rough on the way up. It can be hiked, or reached with an ATV, but it would be very slow going with a pickup to reach the top. The road does go all the way up however. At the top there are beautiful



views of the area and of the Teton Mountains in WY.

There is an old tower base, but not much else. There

is good cell coverage at the top.

**The experience:** This was almost an afterthought being the second of the day. Since my earlier activation was quite short, and we were most of the way there, Dad and I decided to go for this summit as well. It was pretty straight forward. Once we started on the dirt road to the top, I wanted to not risk the pickup and use the ATV. It was a good decision as quickly it would have been very rough otherwise. I reached

the top quickly and got set up. I radioed to Dad in the pickup that I was there and getting ready. I only stayed on for 10 mins. again, but it was worth it and very nice. Glad we did it.



# W7I/ER-094 WARM RIVER BUTTE

## AUG. 5, 2019

**11 QSO'S**  
**FARTHEST:**  
**1,984 MI**  
**10 MINS**  
**4 WATTS**



**Bands/Modes**

- 1.8MHz
- 3.5MHz
- 5MHz
- 7MHz
- 10MHz
- 14MHz
- 18MHz
- 21MHz
- 24MHz

**Modes**

- CW:
- SSB:

HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Poor	Poor
30n-20n	Poor	Poor
17n-15n	Poor	Poor
12n-10n	Poor	Poor

## Third Year Totals:

38 Summits (15 Uniques—10 of which 1<sup>st</sup> time for SOTA)

847 QSO's (all CW QPR [low power])

214 Points (202 + 12 bonus points)

## Cummulative totals:

183 Summits (104 Uniques—70 of which 1<sup>st</sup> time for SOTA)

4,029 QSO's (all QPR [low power])

1,121 Points (929 + 192 bonus points)

Farthest QSO: 6,961 miles to New Zealand

Most QSO's on a summit: 54

Chasers worked: 505

Chaser points: 2,834

Ranked 74 in USA

Current top activator of Utah (2<sup>nd</sup> top chaser of Utah)

My top activation chasers

Position	Chaser Callsign	Count
1	W0ERI <b>MARTHA</b>	125
2	W0MNA <b>GARY</b>	125
3	NS7P <b>PHIL</b>	119
4	W7RV <b>TOMMY</b>	114
5	N4EX <b>RICH</b>	98
6	NG6R <b>JERRY</b>	82
7	K4MF <b>GARY</b>	75
8	K6EL <b>ELLIOT</b>	74
9	WB0KIU <b>BILL</b>	67
10	K6HPX <b>KEN</b>	66
11	K0LAF <b>CHAS</b>	65
12	KX0R <b>GEORGE</b>	64
13	W9MRH <b>MIKE</b>	61
14	KR7RK <b>KEITH</b>	60
15	NW7E <b>MIKE</b>	60
16	WA2USA <b>DENNIS</b>	57
17	K3TCU <b>GARY</b>	54
18	VE2JCW <b>JEAN</b>	54
19	NE4TN <b>WALT</b>	53
20	KG3W <b>SCOTT</b>	52
21	AC7P <b>DON</b>	45
22	W2SE <b>BRUCE</b>	42
23	WW7D <b>DARRYL</b>	42
24	AC1Z <b>BOB</b>	37
25	N6PKT <b>RICHARD</b>	37

## Activator Results

aspirations and working towards a goal at your own pace. However, it can be fun to see h

g your SOTA logs.

USA - Utah

-All Dates-

-All Bands-

-All Modes-

Position	Activator Callsign	Summits	Points	Seasonal Bonus	Total Score	Avg. points per Expedition	View Log
1	AC0PR	183	929	192	1121	6.13	<a href="#">View</a>
2	K7ODX	142	938	132	1070	7.54	<a href="#">View</a>
3	KH7AL	79	429	57	486	6.15	<a href="#">View</a>
4	W7GA	59	374	42	416	7.05	<a href="#">View</a>
5	N0KVN	44	268	33	301	6.84	<a href="#">View</a>
6	W5MTN	23	160	12	172	7.48	<a href="#">View</a>
7	K7JTO	12	86	18	104	8.67	<a href="#">View</a>
8	K0ESX	13	70	18	88	6.77	<a href="#">View</a>
9	KE4TH	10	70	0	70	7.00	<a href="#">View</a>
10	WB7ULD	9	46	0	46	5.11	<a href="#">View</a>
=10	K0YO	6	43	3	46	7.67	<a href="#">View</a>
12	WB7ULF	8	44	0	44	5.50	<a href="#">View</a>



