



# POTA: Getting Started with Parks on the Air

Dale Henninger – W0DHz

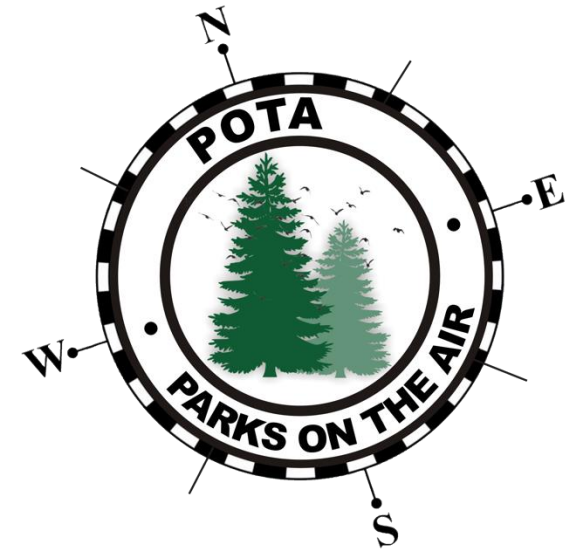


# What is POTA?

## Wikipedia

Parks on the Air (POTA) is an international radiosport award program that encourages licensed amateur radio operators to visit, enjoy and operate portable equipment in a variety of parks and public lands, always respecting other park users and local regulations.

POTA issues awards to participants based on a wide range of criteria including the total number of radio contacts made, number made on each amateur radio band, and for different modes of communication including voice, Morse code or FT8.



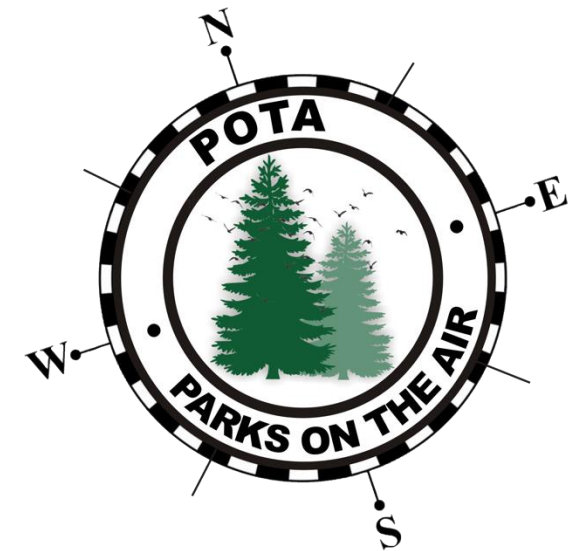
# What is POTA?

## ChatGPT

Parks on the Air (POTA) is an amateur radio activity that encourages portable operations in designated parks around the world. The program is similar in concept to other "on the air" programs, such as Islands on the Air (IOTA) and Summits on the Air (SOTA), but focuses specifically on parks.

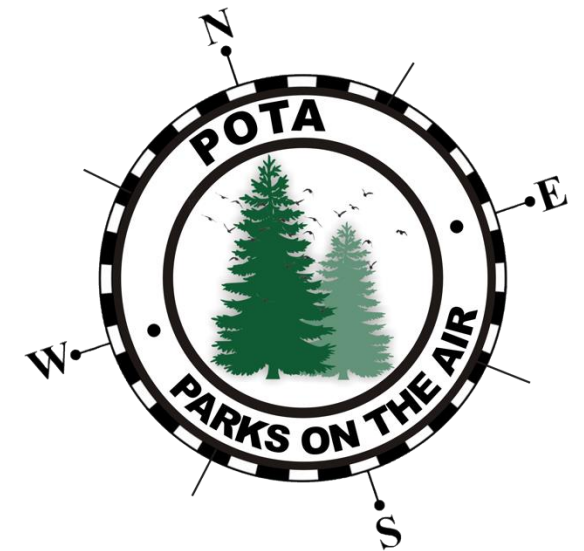
The primary goals of POTA are:

- Promotion of Public Awareness - Introducing the public to ham radio and demonstrating the capabilities of the amateur radio service.
- Radio Amateur Skill Enhancement - Encouraging hams to improve their skills, especially in portable operations.
- Stewardship - Encouraging hams to act as stewards of the parks they activate by following best practices and principles of Leave No Trace.

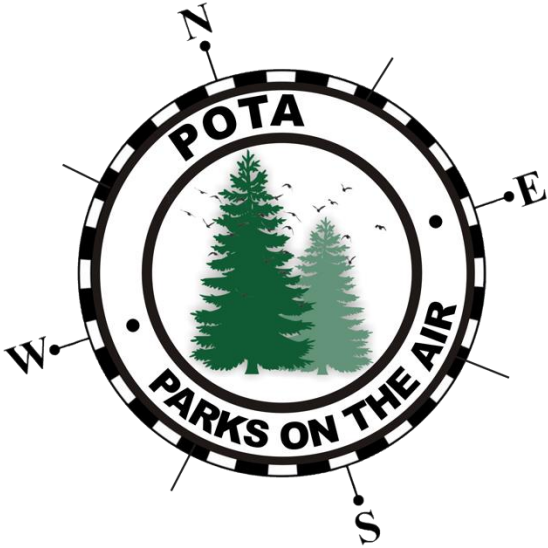
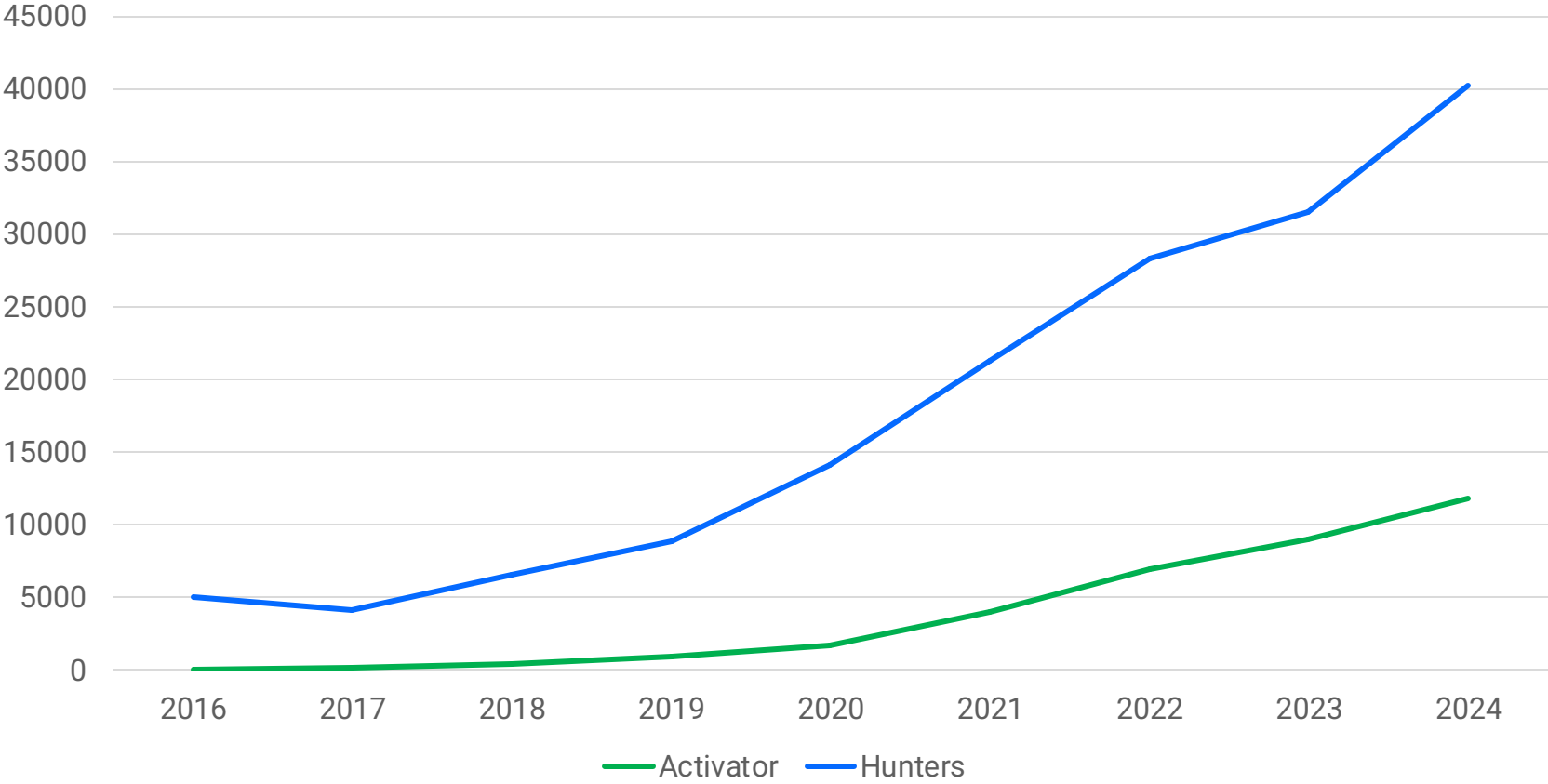


# History of POTA

- NPOTA 2016 – National Parks on the Air Program  
ARRL celebration of 100 years of the national parks program  
POTA Addicts Created
- POTA Addicts Unite!
- 2018 - 501(c)3 Nonprofit was formed: Parks on the Air



# POTA Growth



# Why POTA?



## Have Fun!

Get outdoors / Enjoy Radio!



## Become a Better Operator

Kill that mic fright with transaction style contacts – Prepare for contest operation



## Learn to Operate Pileups

You get to be the DX / DXpedition



## Build / Operate Field Kits

Quick Deploy / Emergency Ops Prep



## Learn CW

CW is very popular in POTA



# POTA Resources

[Facebook](#)

[POTA.APP](#)

[Documentation](#)

# POTA App – Main Website

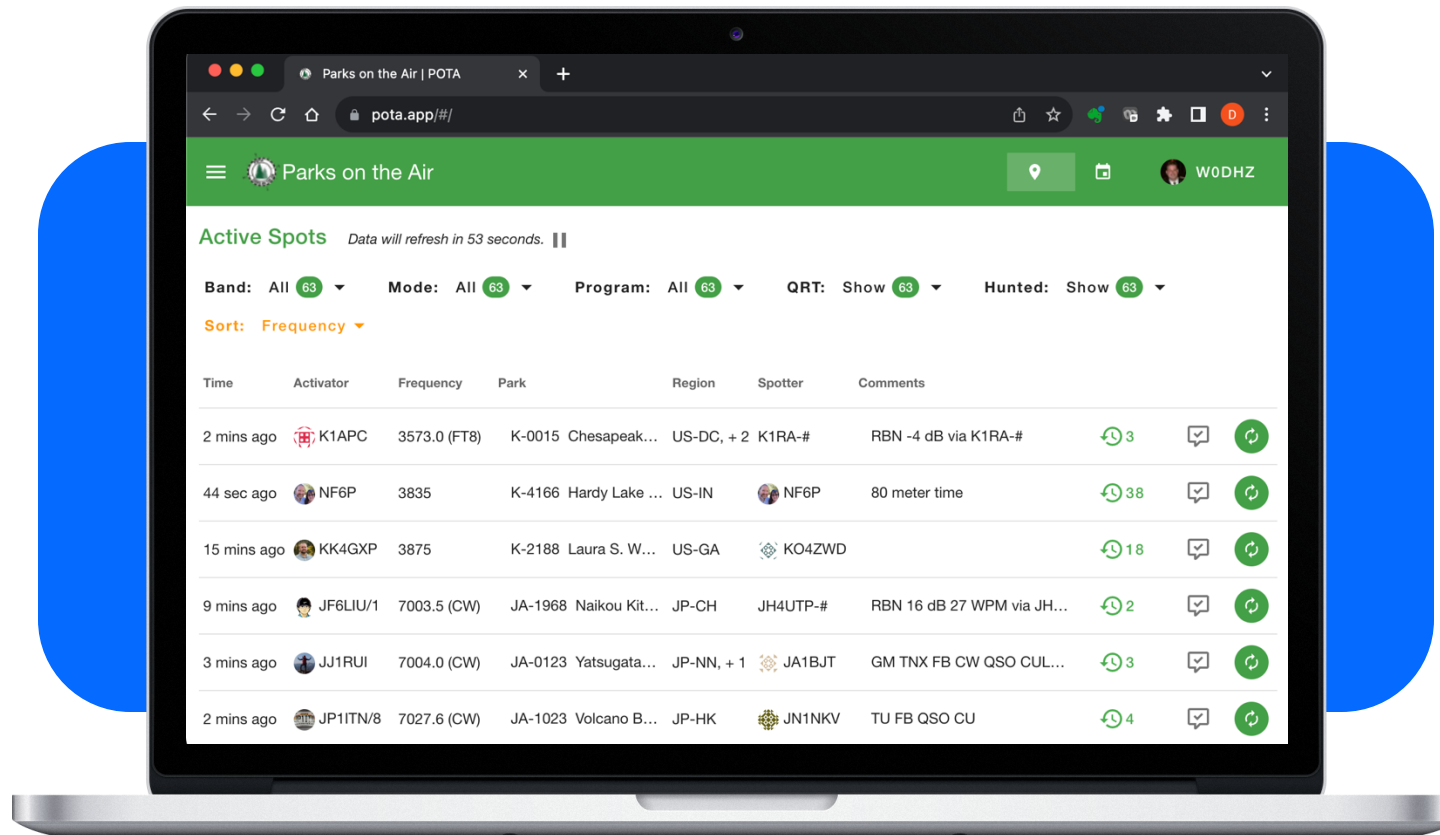
<http://pota.app>

## POTA Spots Page

Who is on the air now

## Stats / Awards

Your stats and awards



## Activations

Scheduled activations

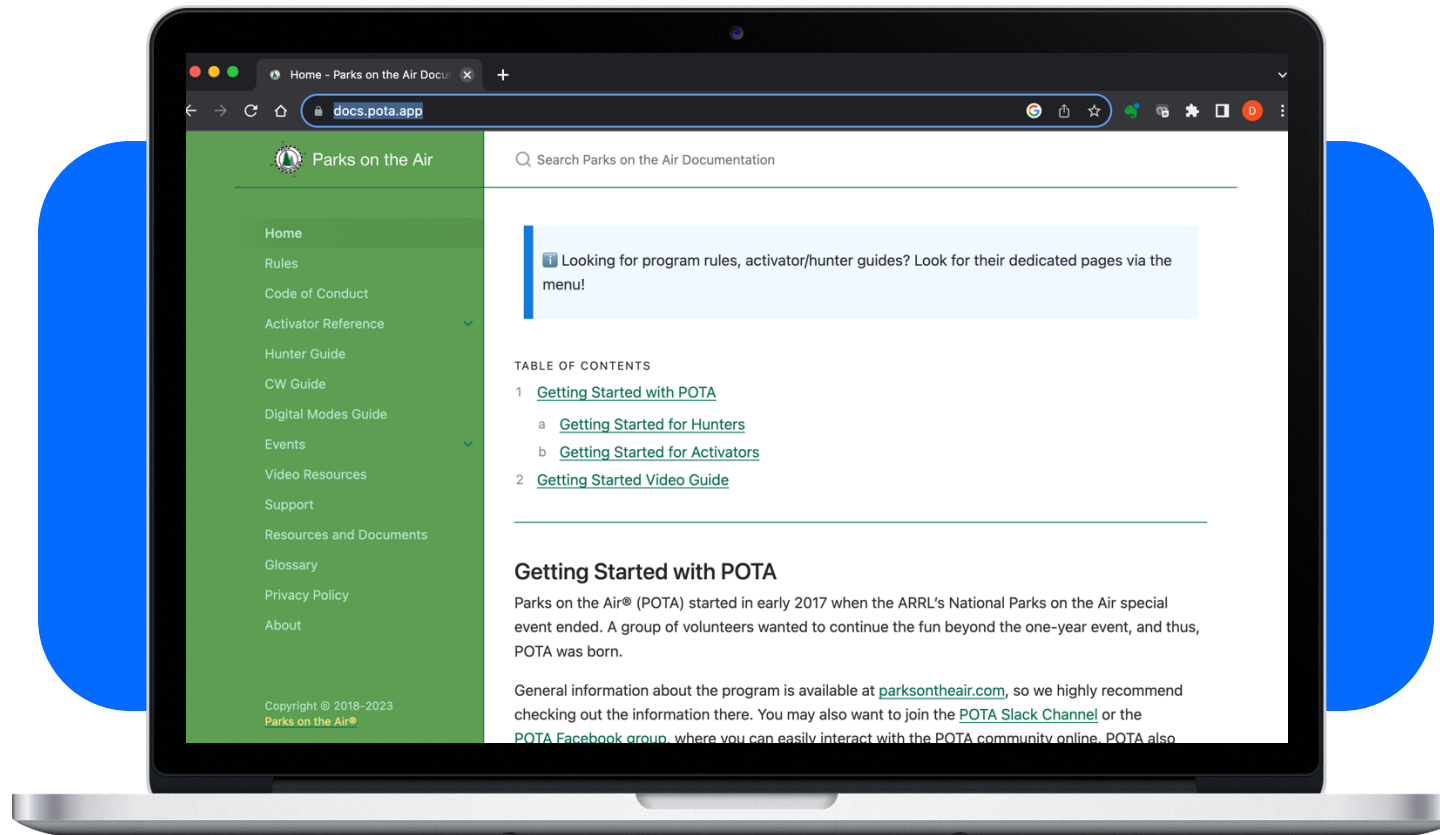
## Log Upload

Log upload interface



# POTA Documentation

<https://docs.pota.app/>

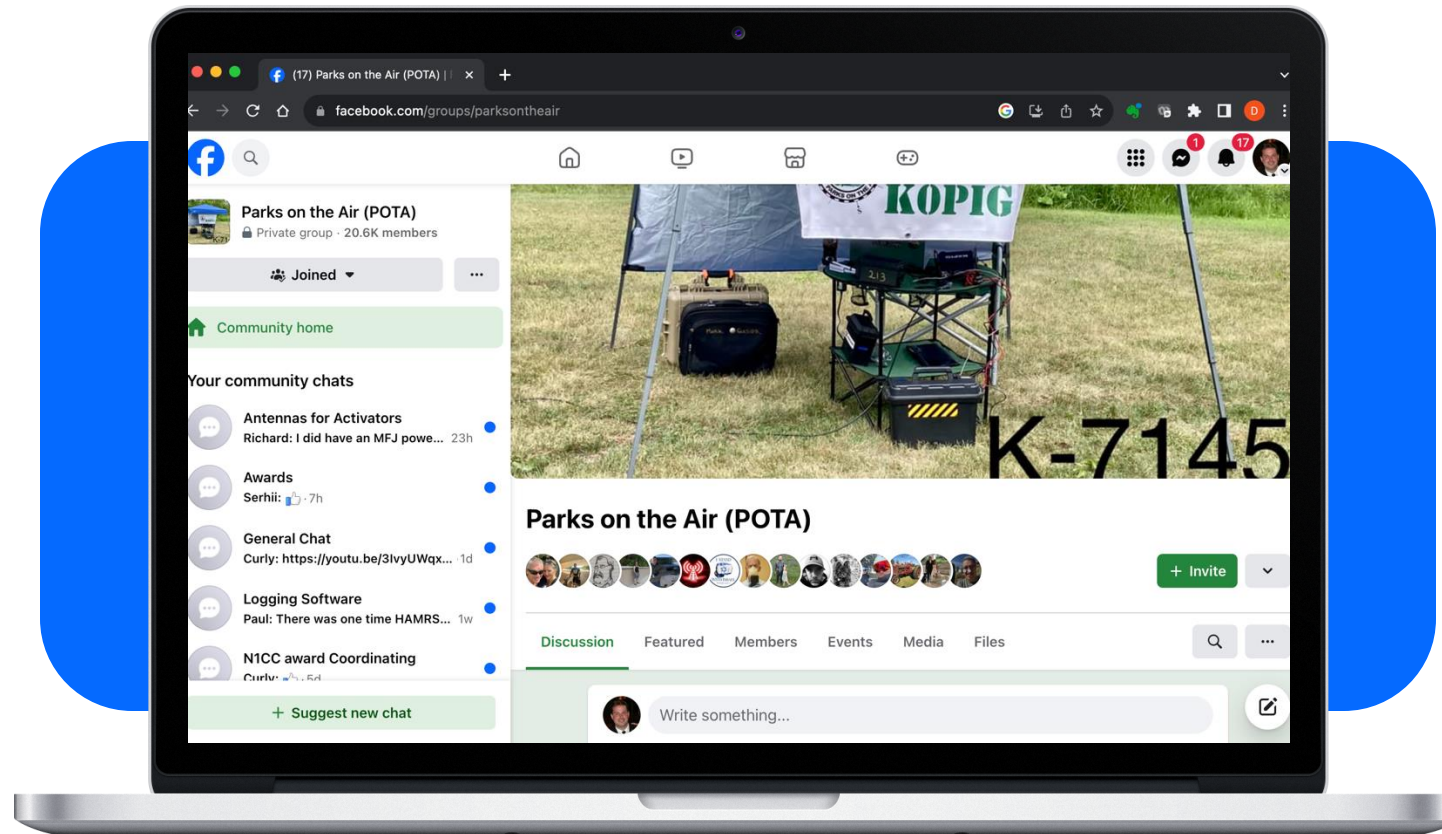


# POTA Documentation

**PLEASE READ POTA  
DOCUMENTATION  
FRONT TO BACK  
BACK TO FRONT  
UP AND DOWN  
LEFT AND RIGHT**

# Facebook POTA Page

<https://www.facebook.com>



# Terminology

ACTIVATION

HUNTER

PARK

3-FER

ACTIVATOR

P2P CONTACT

2-FER

LATE SHIFT

## POTA Terminology

# PARK

A national or state park, forest, trail, or wildlife area that has been added to the POTA Park entity list.

The list/map of Parks can be found on the <http://pota.app> website.

Each park is assigned a number such as **US-2482**.

City/County parks are not included at this time.



W0DHz

## POTA Terminology

# ACTIVATOR

Operator who visits a POTA Park for the purpose of "Activating" the park.

The Activator must have their person, radio, and antenna all within the park boundaries at the time of the activation.



W0DHz

## POTA Terminology

# HUNTER

Operator who makes a contact with an Activator who is activating a park.

A Hunter could be at their home QTH, a portable location (non-POTA park), or mobile.



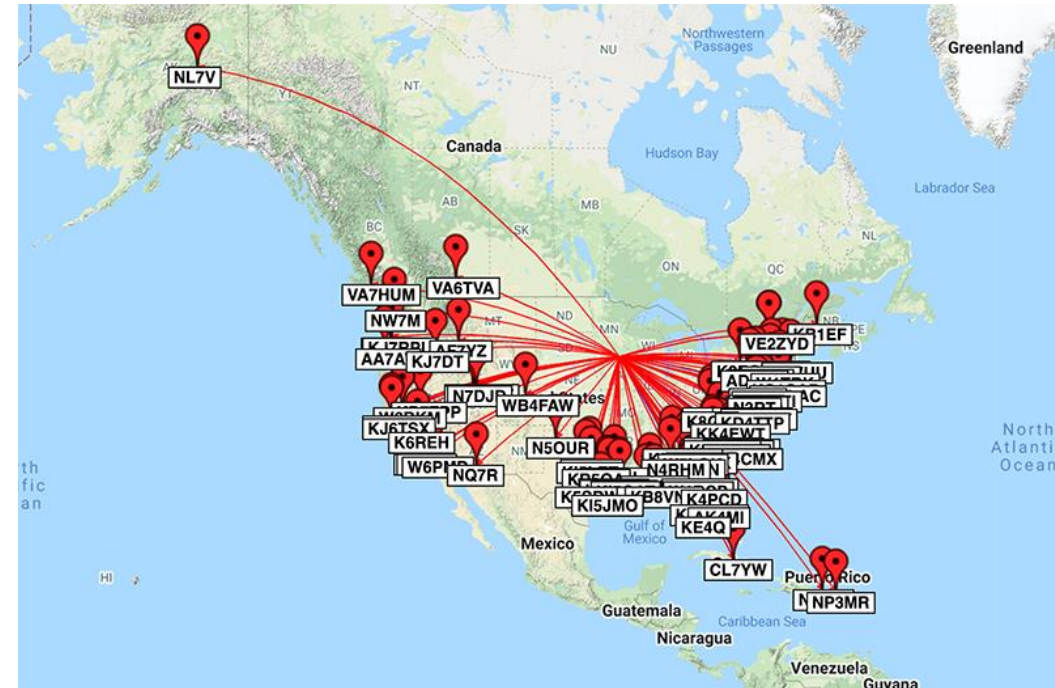
## POTA Terminology

# ACTIVATION

The event in which an Activator goes to a park for the purpose of Activating the park.

A Park activation consists of all the contacts that are made during a single Zulu day.

The activator completes a successful activation after 10 contacts are completed.



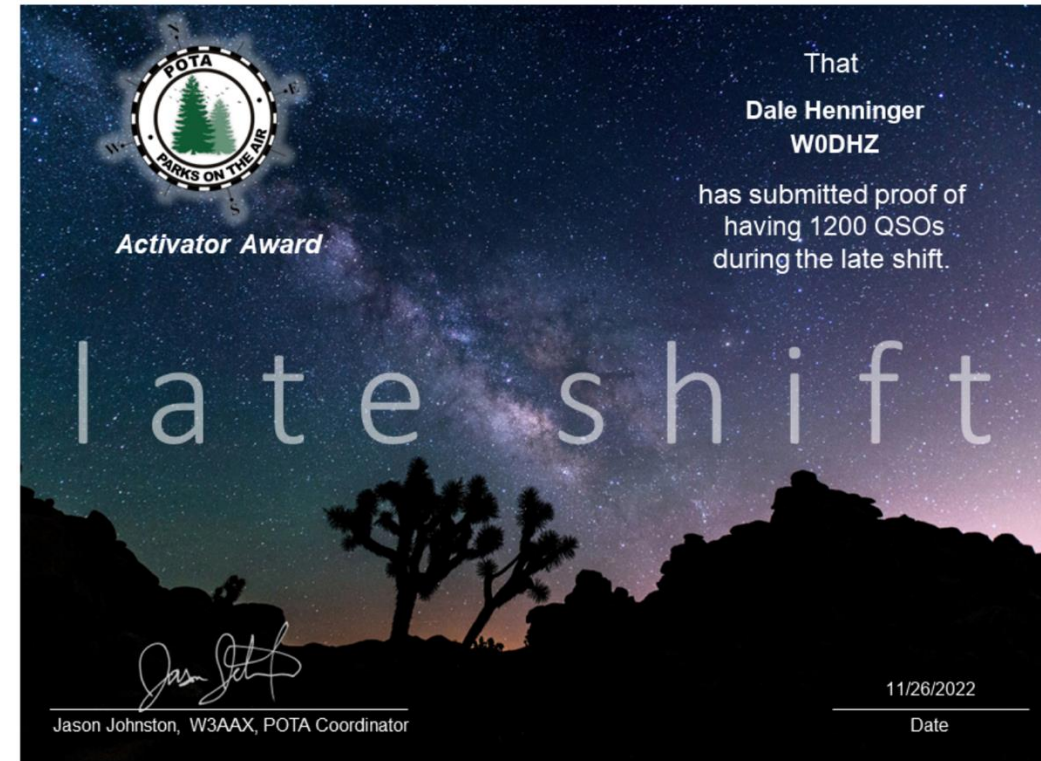


## POTA Terminology

# LATE / EARLY SHIFT

Late Shift - For US Central Time, the late shift begins at 00:00 UTC. (6pm / 7pm)

Early Shift - For US Central Time, the late shift begins at 08:00 UTC. (2am / 3am)



Early Shift Award Times:

8:00 UTC to 14:00 UTC

Late Shift Award Times:

0:00 UTC to 8:00 UTC

POTA Terminology

# PARK TO PARK (P2P) CONTACT

Contact made between two Activators during an activation of their respective parks.

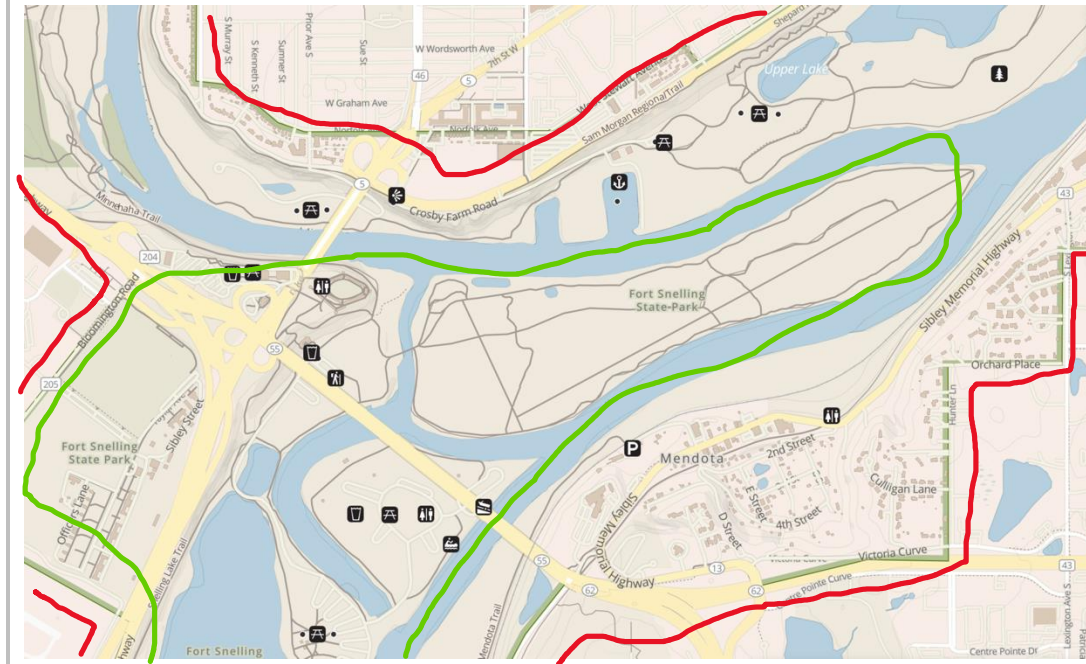


## POTA Terminology

# 2-FER / 3-FER

It is possible to make a POTA contact where the Activator is in multiple park entities at the same time. This contact will count as two individual POTA contacts, one for each park.

Ex: US-2482 – Fort Snelling State Park is inside/overlapped by US-3381 – Mississippi River National Recreational Area



# Activation Styles

PAVILION

PICNIC TABLE

MOBILE

PARKING LOT

CAMPSITE

POTA Activation Styles

# PARKING LOT

Operating from the hatch of your car, or from inside of your car with a portable antenna deployed.



## POTA Activation Styles

# MOBILE

Operating from inside your car with a mobile antenna mounted on your car.

Some operators complete “Roves” by traveling between and activating multiple parks within the same zulu day.



KC3WPW

POTA Activation Styles

# PICNIC TABLE

Make yourself comfortable at a picnic table or pavilion within the park.



W0DHz

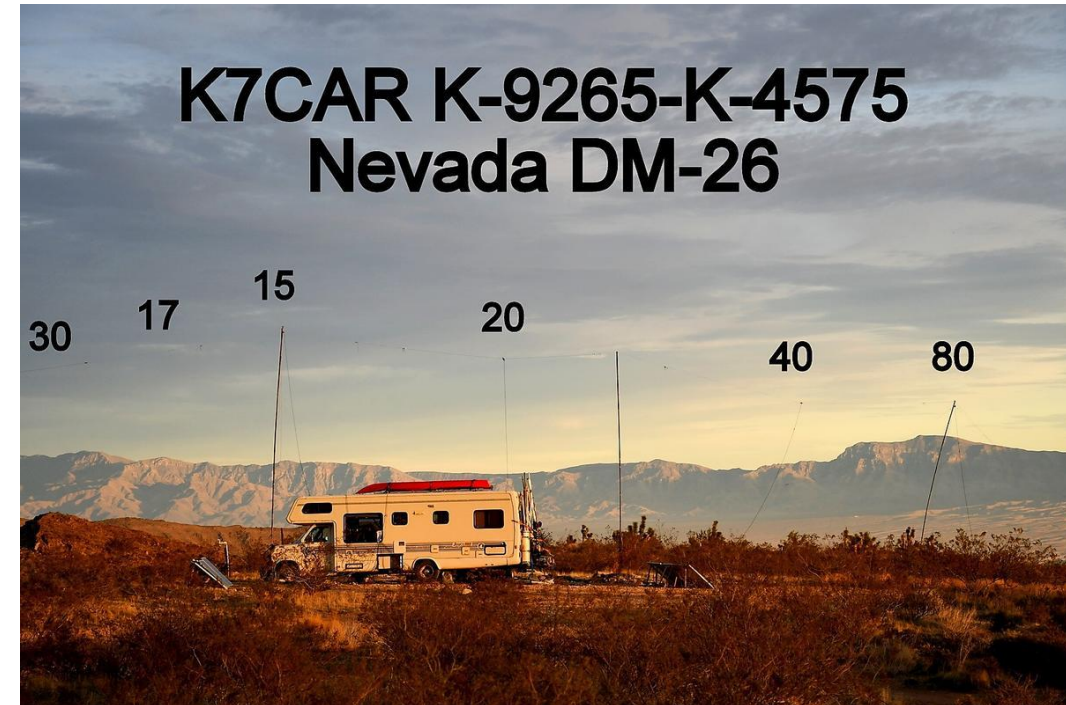
## POTA Activation Styles

# CAMPSITE / RV

Operating from a campsite.

Picnic table, portable table, RV, or tent.

Usually results in multiple activations over several days.





POTA Activation Styles

# BACKPACKING

Some POTA Parks are accessible only via a hike.

QRP Low Power / Small Battery



K4SWL

# POTA Equipment

Antenna

Battery

Radio

Headset

POTA Equipment

# 100w RADIOS

Icom IC-7300

Yaesu FT-991

Yaesu FT-891



POTA Equipment

# QRP RADIOS

Icom IC-7300

Elecraft KX3



POTA Equipment

# BATTERIES

LiFePO<sub>4</sub> – Most popular batter for portable operations

Lightweight, maintains voltage through battery discharge cycle, no maintenance, and safe to transport.

Bioenno Power / LiTime / Dakota Lithium / Miady

~\$300 for 30Ah (Excellent for 100w)

3000+ Charge Cycles / 10+ Year Warranties



POTA Equipment

# ANTENNAS

Verticals (Wolf River Coils / BuddiStick)

- Fast to deploy
- No dependance on trees
- Low impact / Leave no trace
  
- My antenna of choice



POTA Equipment

# ANTENNAS

EFHW (PackTenna / Chameleon)

- Multiple bands can be a positive feature
- Can be harder / slower to deploy
- Requires a mast or lines in trees



POTA Equipment

# ANTENNAS

Ham Sticks / Mag Mounts / Screwdriver/Tarheels

- Fast Deploy
- May be a compromised solution
- Great for multi park roves





POTA Equipment

# ANTENNAS

Dipoles (BuddiPole / Wire Dipoles)

- Can be harder / slower to deploy
- Can be difficult to switch bands
- Requires a mast or lines in trees



POTA Equipment

# ACCESSORIES

Headset

Foot/Hand PTT Switch

Laptop



# POTA Mechanics

LOGGING

MODES

BANDS

EXCHANGE

# POTA Bands



**160 / 80 / 60 / 40 / 20 / 15 / 10 / 6**

40 / 20 / 17 / 15 / 10 Most popular with POTA



**30 / 17 / 12 – WARC Bands**

POTA is not a contest – WARC band operations is permitted



**UHF / VHF Bands**

Bring your HTs!



**All amateur radio bands are allowed!**

Provided that you have operating privileges



# POTA Operating Modes



**SSB**



**CW**



**Digital**

FT-4 / FT-8 most popular ( PSK31 / RTTY / Others)



**Satellites**

This is the only type of repeater contact that is allowed. Land repeaters are not allowed.



# POTA Operating Styles



## Run – Call CQ POTA

Call CQ POTA and commence the pileup!



## Search / Pounce – Make P2P

Contact other POTA Activators who are calling CQ POTA



## Run – Call CQ – Other Contests

Any contact will qualify for a POTA contact, you do not have to call CQ POTA



## Search / Pounce – Other Contests

Contact others calling CQ, even if it is not POTA



# POTA EXCHANGE

## Activator

CQ Parks on the Air

W0DHz at park

US-2482



W6ABC

W6ABC you are 59  
from park US-2482

In Minnesota

QSL?



QSL – Thanks for the contact, 73!

W0DHz Parks on the Air

QRZ



QSL

You are 59

here in California

QSL?

## Hunter

# POTA Logging



## Computer Logging

Recommended as logs must be submitted in ADIF format by the activator.



## Paper Logging

Reliable low-tech option, but you must enter into ADIF format for upload.



# POTA Logging – Required Fields (ADIF)



## **STATION\_CALLSIGN or OPERATOR**

The callsign of the activator.



## **CALL**

Callsign of the person you are contacting.



## **QSO\_DATE / TIME\_ON**

The date and time of the contact.



## **BAND / MODE**

The band the QSO took place and the mode.



## **SIG\_INFO / MY\_SIG\_INFO**

SIG\_INFO is the park reference number of the person you contacted if they are in another POTA park – Park to Park Contact. MY\_SIG\_INFO is optional and is your park reference number..

# POTA Logging – N3FJP

Windows

POTA Template

Other Contest Logs

CAT/RIG Interface

<https://www.n3fjp.com/>

The screenshot shows the N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log 7.0.9 application window. The title bar includes the application name and the website URL www.n3fjp.com. The menu bar contains File, Edit, Settings, Clear, CallBook, List, Search, Awards, eLogs, Recall, Net, View, and Help. A 'Find' button is located in the top left of the main area. The main display is a table titled 'Recent Contacts' with 6,343 listed QSOs. The table columns are: Rec#, Call, Date / Time, Bnd, Mode, Frequency, Power, Snt, Rec, Comments, Off, Country, ST, and Name. Below the table is a 'Ready to begin!' status bar and a 'Log Contact' button. The interface includes several input fields for logging a contact: Call, Sent, Rec, SIG\_INFO, MY\_SIG\_INFO, MY\_CITY, MY\_CNTY, MY\_STATE, and MY\_GRIDSQU. There are also dropdown menus for Name, State, Country, Frequency, Power, Mode, and Band. A 'Comments' field is available for text entry. On the right side, there are fields for Date and Time On, with the current time displayed as 2:36:00 AM (02:36:00 UTC). The bottom right corner of the window shows 'LogData.mdb'.

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Bnd	Mode	Frequency	Power	Snt	Rec	Comments	Off	Country	ST	Name
6343	WB8ZNL	2023/10/02 00:23	20	SSB	14.317		59	58	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:23	USA	FL	GEORGE
6342	K1CWB	2023/10/02 00:22	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:22	USA	MA	Claude
6341	AE6Z	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317		57	57	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:22	USA	CA	CHRISTOPHE
6340	KE8SZL	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317		58	58	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	OH	Tony
6339	W4WHQ	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	NC	Peter
6338	KI4YZN	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	TN	William
6337	KI5LXO	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	OK	Brady
6336	AC5GL	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317		59	54	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	TX	BRIAN
6335	KK7BTT	2023/10/02 00:19	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	ID	Antonio
6334	VA7VZ	2023/10/02 00:18	20	SSB	14.317		57	58	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:19	Canada		Guy L.
6333	KG7FDW	2023/10/02 00:18	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:18	USA	TX	Harry
6332	KI5NBN	2023/10/02 00:17	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:17	USA	NM	Robert
6331	KJ5ATL	2023/10/02 00:17	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:17	USA	NM	Mary Elaine
6330	W7NUN	2023/10/02 00:16	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	AR	Matthew
6329	AI7MO	2023/10/02 00:16	20	SSB	14.317		55	57	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	WA	John
6328	KM4RJF	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317		57	55	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	FL	Brannon
6327	KI5MM	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:15	USA	TX	MARVIN
6326	KI5GTR	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317		59	59	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:15	USA	AR	Les
6325	W4TTO	2023/10/02 00:14	20	SSB	14.317		59	54	W0DHZ Activation - K-2484	00:14	USA	NC	Joseph

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VePKcyP8ppw>

Matt Heere's video on setting up N3FJP for POTA



# POTA Logging – HAMRS

Windows / Mac OS / Linux  
iPhone / Android

Created specifically for POTA

No CAT/RIG Interface

<https://hamrs.app/>

The screenshot shows the HAMRS Logbooks interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the HAMRS logo, 'Logbooks', and a search bar with 'Enter Callsign' and a 'Lookup' button. The main heading is 'Fall River - K2338' with a 'QSOs: 41' indicator. Below this, there are several input fields for logging a QSO: 'THEIR CALLSIGN', 'RST SENT' (59), 'RST RCVD' (59), 'THEIR PARK', 'COMMENTS', 'TIME' (16:07), 'DATE' (Mar 29, 2021), 'MY PARK' (K-2338), 'MY CALLSIGN' (KBOICT), 'FREQUENCY' (14.270 MHz), 'BAND' (20m), and 'MODE' (SSB). There are 'Clear' and 'Save' buttons. Below the form is a table of log entries.

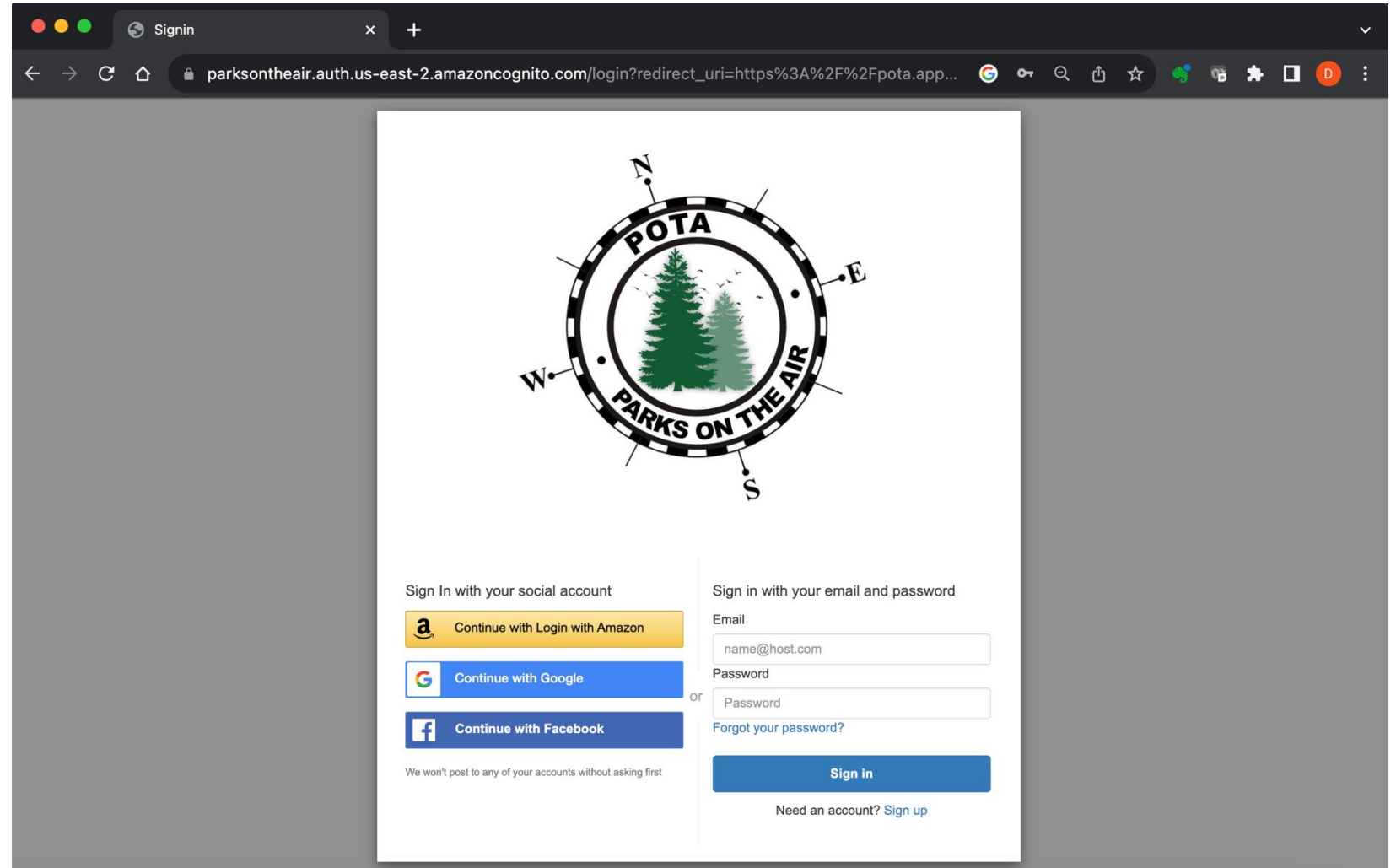
TIME ON	CALLSIGN	RST ↑	RST ↓	FREQUENCY	MODE	THEIR PARK	
18:44	KC7U	55	57	14.270	SSB		⚙️
18:44	K4CAQ	44	53	14.270	SSB		⚙️
18:43	KK4VU	57	57	14.270	SSB		⚙️
18:42	W4JFA	57	57	14.270	SSB		⚙️
18:41	KA1ANW	57	55	14.270	SSB		⚙️

# POTA Hunting Getting Started



# POTA Website – Sign Up <https://pota.app>

Your existing contacts  
may be waiting!



# POTA Website – Log In <https://pota.app>

Default Spots Page

Filter Band

Sort Frequency

Start Hunting Contacts!

Hunters do not need to submit logs to POTA / only Activators submit logs

The screenshot shows the POTA website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the POTA logo and a user profile for W0DHz. Below the navigation bar, there's a section for "Active Spots" with a refresh indicator. The filter options are: Band: 20M (8), Mode: All (33), Program: All (33), QRT: Show (33), Hunted: Show (33), and Sort: Frequency. The main content is a table of active spots with columns for Time, Activator, Frequency, Park, Region, Spotter, and Comments. The table is sorted by frequency, showing spots from 2 mins ago to 16 mins ago.

Time	Activator	Frequency	Park	Region	Spotter	Comments			
2 mins ago	W8S	14021.0 (CW)	K-9754 Swains Island Marine S...	US-KH8	ND7K-#	RBN 11 dB 27 WPM via ND7K-#	🔄 55	📧	🔄
1 min ago	DS4HMU	14065.0 (CW)	HL-0481 동구리호수공원 Donggu...	KR-CN	BH4XDZ-#	RBN 6 dB 20 WPM via BH4XDZ-#	🔄 1	📧	🔄
4 mins ago	K1NOT	14074.0 (FT8)	K-3255 Rasar State Park	US-WA	KL7RA-#	RBN -5 dB via KL7RA-#	🔄 2	📧	🔄
2 mins ago	KD2YAR	14080.0 (FT4)	K-0888 Musconetcong River N...	US-NJ	K1RA-#	RBN -13 dB via K1RA-#	🔄 10	📧	🔄
55 sec ago	WE4DX	14082 (FT4)	K-3241 Pacific Beach State Park	US-WA	KA7BZG		🔄 58	📧	🔄
13 mins ago	W0ADL	14295	K-7260 Northern Highland Ame...	US-WI	KD5OZJ	55 in LA	🔄 3	📧	🔄
11 mins ago	W6AGZ	14318	K-0645 Glen Canyon National ...	US-AZ, +1	W6AGZ	53 OR	🔄 1	📧	🔄
16 mins ago	KD9MRC	14308	K-7260 Northern Highland Ame...	US-WI	KD9MRC	Qrt	🔄 32	📧	🔄

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

The screenshot shows the 'My Awards' page on the POTA website. The page header includes a green navigation bar with the 'My Awards' title and a user profile icon for 'W0DHZ'. A dropdown menu is open, showing options like 'View Profile', 'My Awards' (highlighted), 'My Stats', 'My Activations', 'My Hunter Log', 'My Log Uploads', 'My Account', and 'Sign Out'. The main content area is titled 'Earned Awards' and contains a table of award records.

Date First Granted	Award Name	Description	Badge	Endorsements	Repeat/Kilo Reference	Park Name	Operator	Rove Date
2023-07-16 03:57	Oasis Activator	Activated a single entity 20 times			K-3381	Mississippi River National Recreation Area		
2023-07-16 03:57	Oasis Activator	Activated a single entity 20 times			K-2482	Fort Snelling State Park		
2023-06-24 16:49	Wiggins Acalypha Hunter	Working 700 different units						
2023-06-18 18:10	Oasis Hunter	Worked a single entity 20 times			K-4575	Old Spanish National Historic Trail		
2023-06-05 21:23	Worked All States	Working 50 states / Dist of Columbia						
2023-02-07 05:46	Operator to Operator	Making multiple, non-duplicate, QSOs with the same activator	50				Kent O'Sell K7CAR	
2023-01-23 12:26	Texas Wild Rice Hunter	Working 600 different units		PHONE				
2023-01-01 07:47	Kilo	1000 QSOs from the same entity as an activator			K-2482	Fort Snelling State Park		

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

W0DHz

Search for Callsigns & Parks

SPOTS ACTIVATIONS W0DHz

View Profile

My Awards

My Stats

My Activations

My Hunter Log

My Log Uploads

My Account

Sign Out

## W0DHz

### Dale Henninger

Inver Grove Heights, MN

Other call signs:

### All-Time Statistics

	Activator
Activations	94 / 94
Parks	36 / 36
QSOs	6482 / 6482

## Awards



Bronze Activator



Silver Activator



Gold Activator



Bronze Hunter



Silver Hunter



Gold Hunter



Platinum Hunter



Diamond Hunter



Sapphire Hunter



Arizona Agave Hunter



Enrubio Hunter



Ouachita Mountain Goldenrod Hunter



# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

# W0DHz

## Dale Henninger

Inver Grove Heights, MN

Other callsigns:

## All-Time Statistics

	Activator	Hunter
Activations	150 / 150	----
Parks	51 / 51	994
QSOs	10039 / 10039	1837

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

## Hunted Parks

EXPORT CSV

<b>Alaska</b>	8 QSOs with 5 unique parks ▾
<b>Barbados</b>	2 QSOs with 1 unique parks ▾
<b>Brazil</b>	2 QSOs with 1 unique parks ▾
<b>Canada</b>	96 QSOs with 65 unique parks ▾
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	1 QSOs with 1 unique parks ▾
<b>Hawaii</b>	7 QSOs with 5 unique parks ▾
<b>Japan</b>	2 QSOs with 2 unique parks ▾
<b>New Zealand</b>	1 QSOs with 1 unique parks ▾
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	4 QSOs with 3 unique parks ▾
<b>United States of America</b>	1714 QSOs with 910 unique parks ▾

## Hunted Bands

	160m	80m	60m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	4m	2m	1.25m	70cm	Other	All Bands
<b>CW</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>DATA</b>	0	6	0	41	15	198	24	9	1	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	309
<b>PHONE</b>	0	4	0	147	0	1130	170	23	1	49	0	0	2	0	2	0	1528
<b>Total</b>	0	10	0	188	15	1328	194	32	2	62	2	0	2	0	2	0	1837



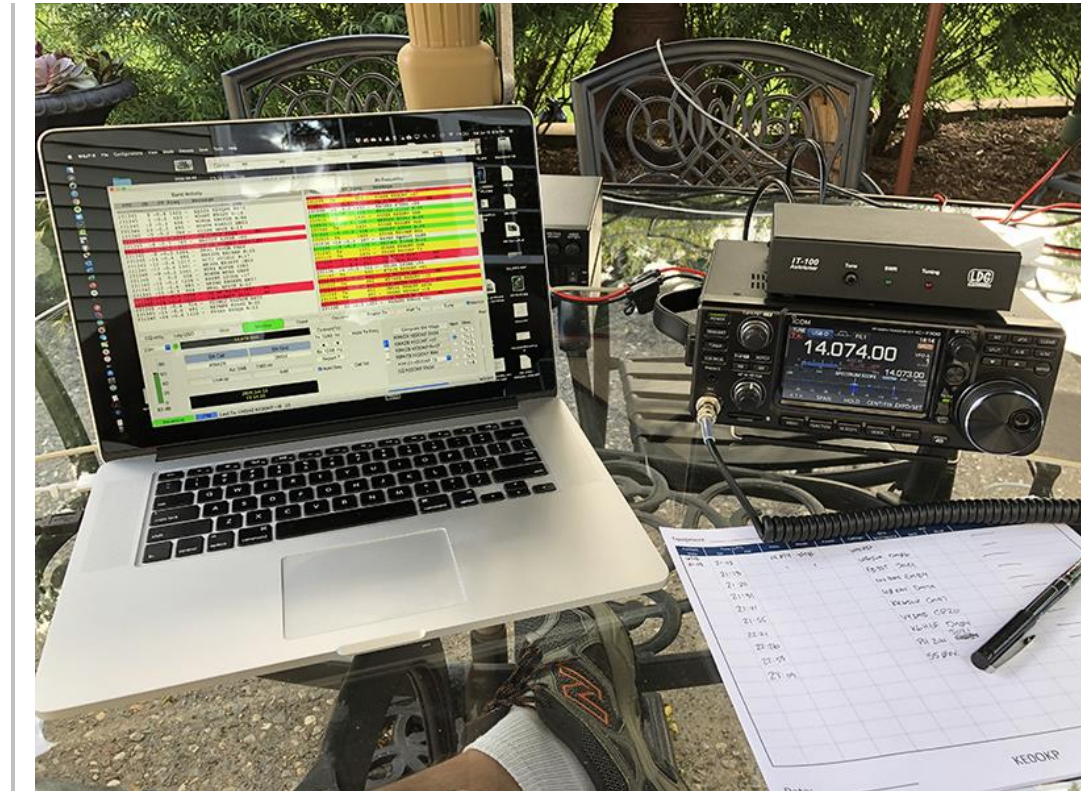
# POTA Activating Getting Started



POTA Activating

# TEST YOUR GEAR

Hunt some POTA parks from your backyard using your POTA setup. Make sure you can set things up easily and have all the items you need for a successful activation.

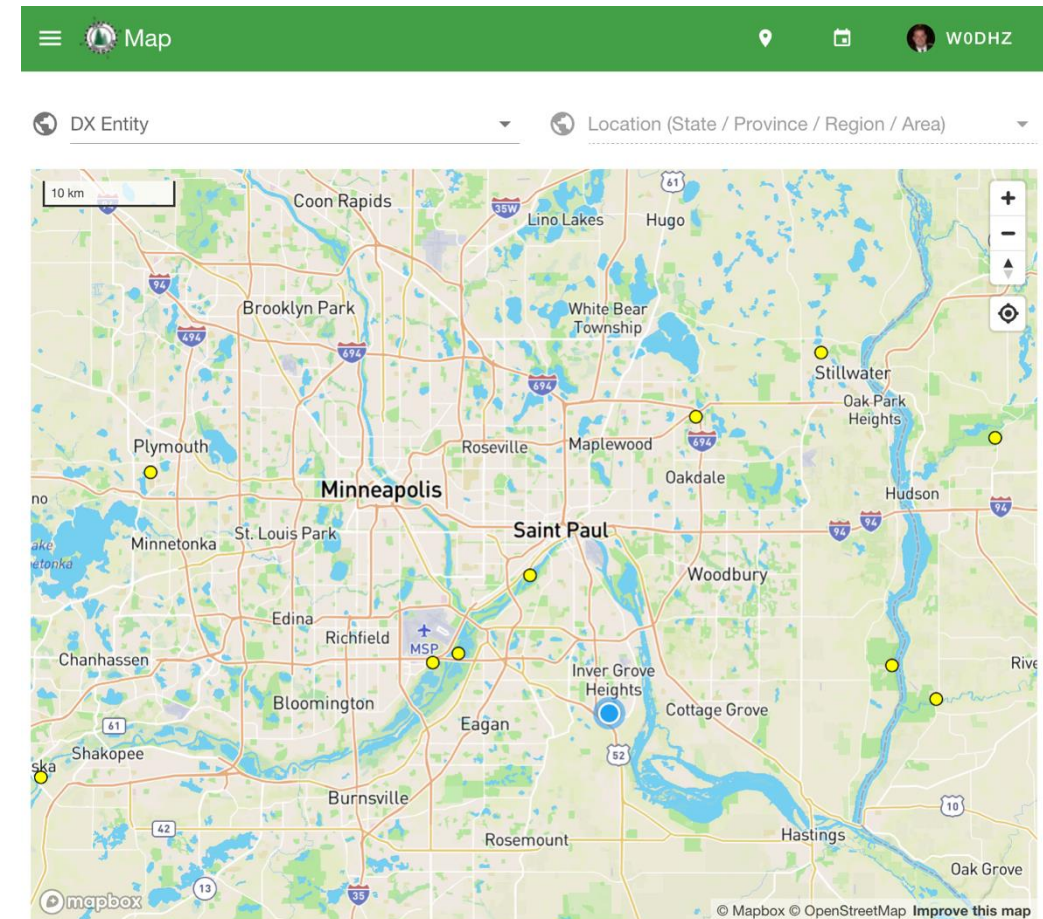


POTA Activating

# PICK A PARK

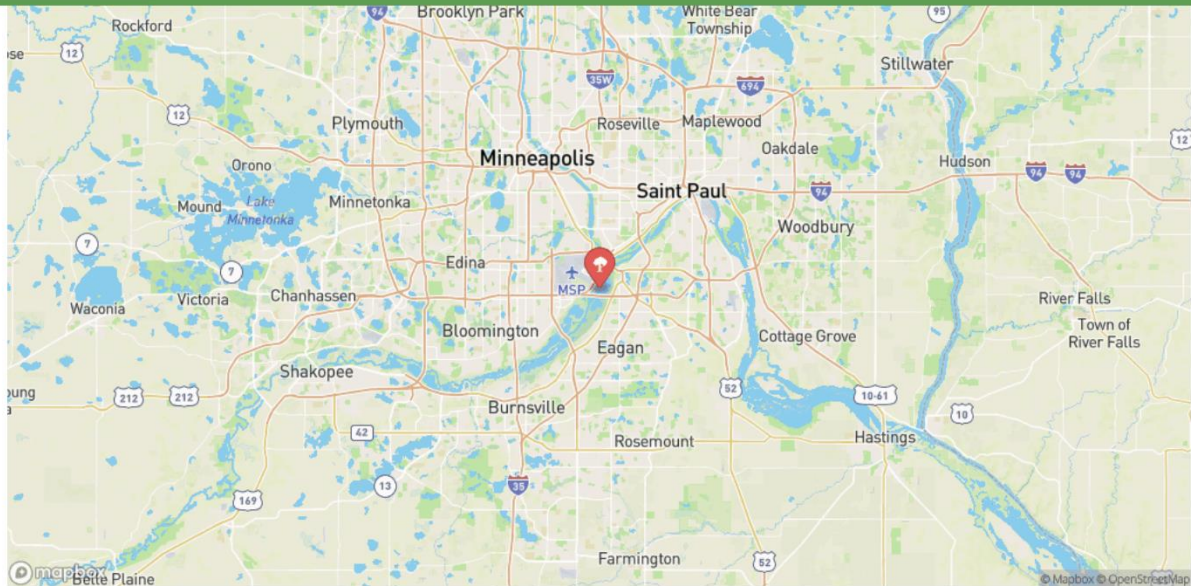
Choose a park close to home for your first activation.  
Keep it simple and bring the gear that you are most comfortable operating with.

The <https://pota.app> website map will help you locate parks.



### Fort Snelling State Park

Reference:	US-2482
Entity:	United States of America
Location(s):	US-MN
Latitude / Longitude:	44.866, -93.1912 (EN34ju)
Early Shift Award Times:	8:00 UTC to 14:00 UTC
Late Shift Award Times:	0:00 UTC to 8:00 UTC
Website:	<a href="https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/park.html?id=spk00154#homepa...">https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/park.html?id=spk00154#homepa...</a>
Is Active?	ACTIVE
First Activation:	W0IS on 2017-05-06
Stats:	452 activations / 472 attempts (17689 QSOs)



### Park Leaders

	Activations	Activator QSOs	Hunter QSOs
1.	W100 56	W0DHz 3083	KJ7WLL 56
2.	AD0AA 51	K0VIK 1806	AA5HH 48

### Activations

Date	Callsign	CW	Data	Phone	Total QSOs
2024-10-04	K0DTM	0	22	0	22
2024-10-03	K0DTM	0	22	0	22
2024-10-01	W100	0	0	11	11
2024-09-29	K0DTM	0	57	0	57
2024-09-28	K0VIK	0	0	49	49

POTA Activating

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Make sure you have the appropriate park passes that you will need for park entry before you head to the park or make sure you that you will be able to purchase the right pass/permit when you get there.

Visit the website before going so that you are aware of any special alerts or notices before you get there.

The screenshot shows the website for Fort Snelling State Park. At the top is a dark blue navigation bar with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar are several menu items: RECREATION, DESTINATIONS, NATURE, EDUCATION & SAFETY, LICENSES, PERMITS & REGULATIONS, EVENTS & SEASONS, and ABOUT DNR. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > Destinations > State parks and recreation areas >. The page title is "Fort Snelling State Park". On the left is a sidebar with a "Park home" section and a list of links: Alerts and notices, About the park, Events calendar, Maps, Seasonal update, Camping and lodging, Reservations, Trails, Recreation facilities, and Amenities. The main content area has a yellow alert box titled "Alerts and notices for state park visitors" with a close button (X) and a link to "View all alerts and notices for this park". Below the alert box is a photograph of a park ranger and two children looking at a map on a wooden deck overlooking a pond. A small orange callout box in the top right corner of the photo says "Get fall color updates »".

POTA Activating

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Also make sure that you understand the park layout and policies.

Do not operate from spaces that require reservations unless you have a reservation.

Be careful how “big” your activation gets. Most parks require permits to have organized activities in them.





## Ft Snelling State Park – Picnic Island Parking Area



This parking lot is usually empty. There are sometimes cars parked on the northwest side of the lot. I tend to stay on the south center/southeast side of the lot.

I operate out of the back of my car and set my antenna in the parking spaces adjacent to my car.

This spot is generally open in the winter months as they will plow this parking lot.

This area is generally flooded in the spring months.

This section of the park is in Dakota County.



POTA Activating

# SETUP / ACTIVATE

Search / Pounce some parks to get warmed up.

Start calling CQ

Spot yourself on the <http://pota.app> website or wait to be contacted/spotted – Let the pileup ensue...

Log your contacts.

Call last call for contacts and the announce QRT



# POTA Website – Spotting Page <https://pota.app>

Click on “Add Spot”

Active Spots *Data will refresh in 46 seconds.* ||

Band: 20M 6 Mode: All 24 Program: All 24 QRT: Show 24 Hunted: Show 24 Sort: Frequency

Time	Activator	Frequency	Park	Region	Spotter	Comments			
18 sec ago	W8S	14021.0 (CW)	K-9754 Swains Island Marine ...	US-KH8	WE9V-#	RBN 6 dB 27 WPM via WE9V-#	58		
19 sec ago	K7CAR	14074.0 (FT8)	K-6067 Chloride Canyon BLM ...	US-UT	J11HFJ-#	RBN -4 dB via J11HFJ-#	17		
18 mins ago	WE4DX	14081 (FT4)	K-3241 Pacific Beach State Park	US-WA	KB6JFL		60		
19 sec ago	VE7KPZ	14271	K-4227 Splinter Ridge State Fi...	US-IN	KD7KNZ	loud into wy	4		
5 mins ago	W0ADL	14295	K-7260 Northern Highland Am...	US-WI	W0ADL	Qrt	8		
2 mins ago	VA3DPZ	14310	VE-6017 Mountjoy Historical ...	CA-ON	VA3DPZ	Qrt	25		

At a park now? **ADD SPOT**

# POTA Website – Spotting Page <https://pota.app>

Fill out spot information

The screenshot shows the POTA website's spotting page. The browser address bar shows [pota.app/#/](https://pota.app/#/). The page title is "Parks on the Air". The user is logged in as W0DHZ. The "Active Spots" section is visible, showing a list of spots with columns for Time, Activator, Frequency, and Park. An "Add Spot" modal form is open, and the following information is entered:

- Activator Callsign: W0DHZ
- Spotter Callsign: W0DHZ
- Frequency (kHz): 14347
- Park Reference: K-2482 Fort Snelling State Park
- Comments: Starting on 20m

At the bottom of the modal, there are "CANCEL" and "SPOT" buttons. Below the modal, there is a section for "Wrong mode?" and "Mention QRT". At the bottom right of the page, there is a button labeled "ADD SPOT" with the text "At a park now?" above it.

## POTA Activating

# UPLOAD LOGS

<http://pota.app> website or wait to be contacted/spotted – Let the pileup ensue...

Log your contacts.

Call last call for contacts and the announce QRT

The screenshot shows the 'Recent Contacts' window of the N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log 7.0.9 software. The window title is 'N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log 7.0.9' and the URL 'www.n3fjp.com' is visible. The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Settings, Clear, CallBook, List, Search, Awards, eLogs, Recall, Net, View, Help) and a toolbar with a 'Find' button. The main area displays a table of contacts with columns: Rec# (6343-6325), Call (e.g., W8SZNL, K1CWB), Date / Time (2023/10/02), Band (20), Mode (SSB), Frequency (14.317), Power (59), Snt (58), Rec (59), Comments (e.g., W0DHz Activation - K-2484), Off (00:23), Country (USA), ST (FL), and Name (e.g., GEORGE). Below the table is a 'Log Contact' button and a 'Ready to begin!' status. At the bottom, there are input fields for 'Call', 'Sent', 'Rec', 'SIG\_INFO', and buttons for 'MY\_SIG\_INFO', 'MY\_CITY', 'MY\_CNTY', 'MY\_STATE', and 'MY\_GRIDSQ'. A 'Log Contact' button is also present. Below these are dropdown menus for 'Name', 'State', 'Country', 'Frequency', 'Power', 'Mode', and 'Band'. A 'Comments' field is available for text entry. On the right side, there are buttons for 'Date' and 'Time On', and a digital clock showing '2:36:00 AM' and '02:36:00 UTC'.

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Band	Mode	Frequency	Power	Snt	Rec	Comments	Off	Country	ST	Name
6343	W8SZNL	2023/10/02 00:23	20	SSB	14.317	59	58	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:23	USA	FL	GEORGE
6342	K1CWB	2023/10/02 00:22	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:22	USA	MA	Claude
6341	AE6Z	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317	57	57	57	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	CA	CHRISTOPHE
6340	KE8SZL	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317	58	58	58	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	OH	Tony
6339	W4WHQ	2023/10/02 00:21	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	NC	Peter
6338	K4YZN	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:21	USA	TN	William
6337	K5LXO	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	OK	Brady
6336	AC5QL	2023/10/02 00:20	20	SSB	14.317	59	54	54	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	TX	BRIAN
6335	KK7BTT	2023/10/02 00:19	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:20	USA	ID	Antonio
6334	VA7VZ	2023/10/02 00:18	20	SSB	14.317	57	58	58	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:19	Canada		Guy L.
6333	KG7FDW	2023/10/02 00:18	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:18	USA	TX	Harry
6332	K5NBN	2023/10/02 00:17	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:17	USA	NM	Robert
6331	KJ5ATL	2023/10/02 00:17	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:17	USA	NM	Mary Elaine
6330	W7NJJ	2023/10/02 00:16	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	AR	Matthew
6329	A7MO	2023/10/02 00:16	20	SSB	14.317	55	57	57	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	VA	John
6328	KM4RJF	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317	57	55	55	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:16	USA	FL	Brannon
6327	K5MM	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:15	USA	TX	MARVIN
6326	K5GTR	2023/10/02 00:15	20	SSB	14.317	59	59	59	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:15	USA	AR	Les
6325	W4TTO	2023/10/02 00:14	20	SSB	14.317	59	54	54	W0DHz Activation - K-2484	00:14	USA	NC	Joseph

# POTA Website – Log Upload – <https://pota.app>

Export you logs to  
ADIF file

Upload to POTA  
Website

Make sure file follows  
naming convention:

[W0DHz@US-2484-  
20231001.adf](mailto:W0DHz@US-2484-20231001.adf)

Spend time getting to  
know logging process

My Awards

My Log Uploads

W0DHz

View Profile

My Awards

My Stats

My Activations

My Hunter Log

My Log Uploads

My Account

Sign Out

### Upload Activation Logs

Click here or drag and drop to upload ADIF logs from your activation

All files must be compliant with the ADIF specification, see <https://adif.org>. Please refer to the [ADIF for POTA Technical Reference](#) for a list of required ADIF

Need help? See the [Submitting Logs](#) section of the POTA Activator Reference or contact the support team by clicking the Request Support button.

Prefer to log on paper? [MANUAL LOG ENTRY<sup>BETA</sup>](#)

Once your log is processed, it may take up to 24 hours for your logbook and stats to fully reflect your uploaded QSOs. Most awards are granted within a few days, but some awards may take a few weeks.

Thank you for being patient!

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

My Stats

My Stats

Activated Parks

United States Of America 94 activations (94 attempts) at 36 unique parks (64)

Activated Bands

	160m	80m	60m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	4m	2m	1.25m	70cm	Other	
CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
DATA	0	0	0	3	0	952	78	15	2	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	
PHONE	0	0	0	183	0	4867	315	14	0	35	0	0	4	0	4	0	5422
Total	0	0	0	186	0	5819	393	29	2	43	2	0	4	0	4	0	6482

Hunted Parks

Alaska 8 QSOs with 5 unique parks

Canada 66 QSOs with 46 unique parks

1 QSOs with 1 unique parks

EXPORT CSV

My Stats

View Profile

My Awards

My Activations

My Hunter Log

My Log Uploads

My Account

Sign Out

<https://pota.app/#/user/stats> public



# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

## Track your progress

### Activated US States

AK	AL	AR	AZ	CA	CO	CT	DC	DE	FL	GA	HI	IA	ID	IL	IN	KS	KY	LA	MA	MD	ME	MI	MN	MO	MS
MT	NC	ND	NE	NH	NJ	NM	NV	NY	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VA	VT	WA	WI	WV	WY	

Activate a park in 50 states (DC is a wildcard) to earn this award.

### Hunted US States

AK	AL	AR	AZ	CA	CO	CT	DC	DE	FL	GA	HI	IA	ID	IL	IN	KS	KY	LA	MA	MD	ME	MI	MN	MO	MS
MT	NC	ND	NE	NH	NJ	NM	NV	NY	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VA	VT	WA	WI	WV	WY	

Hunt a park in 50 states (DC is a wildcard) to earn this award.



# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

Track your progress

## Kilo

Park	Contacts ↓
Mississippi River National Recreation Area (US-3381)	3554
Fort Snelling State Park (US-2482)	3083
Frontenac State Park (US-2484)	744
Pine Bend Bluffs SNA Scenic Reserve (US-10727)	289

Rows per page: 10 1-4 of 4 < >

Have 1000 total contacts from a single park as an activator.

## Repeat Offender Activator

Park	Activations ↓	Next Award
Mississippi River National Recreation Area (US-3381)	47	7 / 20
Fort Snelling State Park (US-2482)	37	17 / 20
Frontenac State Park (US-2484)	8	8 / 20

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

## Track your progress

### Activator N1CC

Park	Band List	Bands ↓
Mississippi River National Recreation Area (US-3381)	80M,40M,30M,20M,17M,15M,12M,10M,6M,2M,70CM	11
Fort Snelling State Park (US-2482)	40M,30M,20M,17M,15M,12M,10M,6M,2M,70CM	10
Pine Bend Bluffs SNA Scenic Reserve (US-10727)	80M,40M,30M,20M,17M,15M,12M,10M,6M	9
Frontenac State Park (US-2484)	80M,40M,30M,20M,17M,15M,12M,10M	8
Buffalo River State Park (US-2472)	40M,20M,17M,15M	4
Goodhue-Pioneer State Trail (US-9383)	40M,20M,17M,15M	4
Grey Cloud Dunes SNA Scenic Reserve (US-10728)	20M,17M,10M	3
Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area (US-7145)	40M,20M,17M	3

Rows per page: 10 1-8 of 8 < >

Have contacts at 10 different parks on 10 different bands.

# POTA Website – <https://pota.app>

## Track your progress

Hunted Operator to Operator		
Callsign	QSOs ↓	Next Award
K7CAR	69	<div style="width: 38%;"><div style="width: 100%;"></div></div> 19 / 50

Rows per page: 10 1-1 of 1 < >

Have at least 50 contacts with an activator.

# POTA Website – Awards – <https://pota.app>



W0DHz  
Dale Henninger

Inver Grove Heights, MN

Other callsigns:

## All-Time Statistics

	Activator	Hunter
Activations	150 / 150	----
Parks	51 / 51	994
QSOs	10039 / 10039	1837

## Awards



Bronze Activator



Silver Activator



Gold Activator



Platinum Activator



Diamond Activator



Bronze Hunter



Silver Hunter



Gold Hunter



Platinum Hunter



Diamond Hunter



Sapphire Hunter



Arizona Agave  
Hunter



Erubio Hunter



Ouachita Mountain  
Goldenrod Hunter



Stenogyne  
Kanehoana Hunter



Howells Spectacular  
Thelypody Hunter



Texas Wild Rice  
Hunter



Wiggins Acalypha  
Hunter



Georgia Aster  
Hunter



Rafflesia Flower  
Hunter



Late Shift Activator  
Classic



Late Shift Hunter  
Classic



Worked All States



Oasis Activator



Fox Den Activator



Oasis Hunter



Kilo



Park to Park



Operator to Operator



RaDAR-Warthog



RaDAR-Rhino



RaDAR-Cheetah



Support Your Parks  
Activator



Support Your Parks  
Hunter



New Years Activator



New Years Hunter



DX Hunter



Rover Warthog



Rover Rhino



Late Shift Activator



Late Shift Hunter

# Minnesota Parks on the Air Activity Day



**MN POTA DAY**

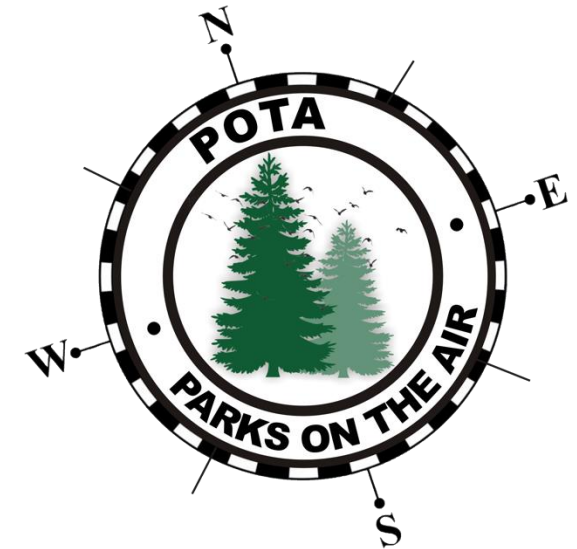
**SATURDAY JUNE 14, 2025**  
**0:00 UTC—23:59 PM UTC**  
(7:00 PM Fri. June 13—6:59 pm Sat June 14)



MINNESOTA'S STATEWIDE POTA OPERATING EVENT.  
THE SOLE OBJECTIVE: GET AS MANY MINNESOTA POTA ENTITIES  
ON THE AIR IN ONE DAY AS POSSIBLE! IT'S A MN STATE PARKS  
FREE ADMISSION DAY—NO VEHICLE PASSES NEEDED SATURDAY!

[mnpota.com](http://mnpota.com)

ORGANIZED BY THE STILLWATER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



# Thank You!



I hope to see you in my log!

Twitter: [@WØDHZ](https://twitter.com/WØDHZ)

<https://www.youtube.com/@WØDHZ>

<https://www.w0dhz.com>