

# INTRODUCTION TO PORTABLE OPERATIONS BREAKOUT

Note: We will be recording all Bootcamp Sessions. Anyone not wishing to be recorded should mute their video or disconnect.


Ham Bootcamp

Spring 2022

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# It All Started Here... for me

## Thank you, Aron W1AKI!



ARRL National Parks on the Air

LoTW User Name:  
  
LoTW Password:

Home Leader Board Honor Roll On the Air NPS Lookup NPS Units NPOTA Stats

### Welcome to ARRL's National Parks on the Air Event!

Find out more about ARRL's [National Parks on the Air Event](#).

View [registered activations](#) within the next ten days.

#### How Results are Generated


Leader board results and certificate eligibility shown on this website for ARRL's National Parks on the Air event are based on individuals' confirmed contacts uploaded to Logbook of the World (LoTW).

You can use this website to access the following information.

- **Leader Board** - See who has the most activator and chaser confirmed contacts.  
  
If you are logged in using your LoTW log in credentials, your position will be the first record on the activator and chaser leader boards. If you're logged in and your call sign does not appear at the top of a leader board, you do not have any confirmed records of this type. The results are updated daily based on QSOs entered into Logbook of the World.
- **Honor Roll** - See who is on the honor roll.  
  
If you're logged in using your LoTW log in credentials, your call sign will be at the top of the honor roll leader board. If you're logged in and your call sign does not appear at the top of the leader board, you have not made the honor roll. The results are updated daily based on QSOs entered into Logbook of the World.
- **On the Air** - View registered activations within the next ten (10) days. A list of all upcoming listed activations is also available.
- **NPS Lookup** - Enter an on the air code to view details about the corresponding National Park Service Unit.
- **NPS Units** - View a list of all National Park Service units, on the air codes, locations and sensitivity warnings. Links to individual units on the National Park Service website are also included.

Log in above using your Logbook of the World user name and password and you'll be able to view these additional tabs.

- **Units Worked** - See how many units you've worked as a chaser and as an activator.



**ARRL**  
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AMATEUR RADIO®

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# What is Portable Operation and Why Do It?

*Make nature your shack!*

- Portable is a great way to enjoy the outdoors
- It's also a great way to get others involved in the hobby
- Hiking, Camping, Road Trips can all include portable operations!
- BE PREPARED for curious people to ask questions!
- Many Award Programs!
- It's FUN!!



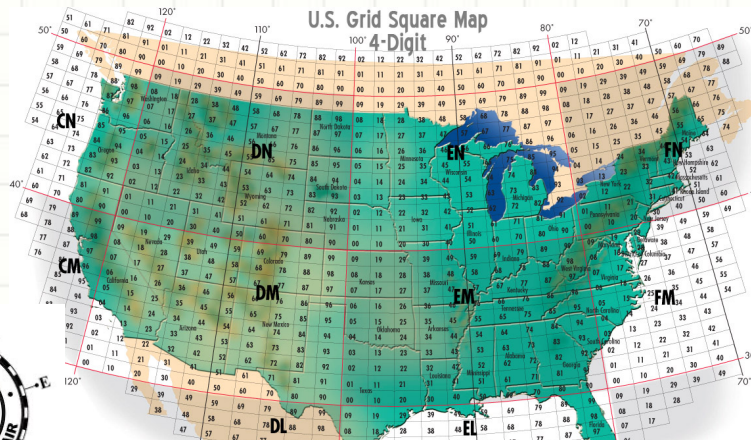
# Portable Operating Awards Programs

- Summits on the Air (SOTA)
  - Mountain Topping different peaks for points
- Parks on the Air (POTA)
  - Many parks are on this list and is very, very popular
- Islands on the Air (IOTA)
  - Another opportunity to collect awards while on islands of all sizes!
- Grid Squares
  - Travel to obscure grid squares and watch the pile ups!
- Counties
  - This is a great one to activate when operating mobile!

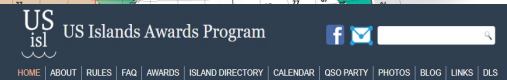




*Make nature your shack!*



>> See more on **SOTAwatch**



**Welcome – 2020 ~ our 26th year**



Radio Society of Great Britain  
Advancing amateur radio since 1913

You are logged out. [Login](#)

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**IOTA—an activity programme for the intrepid traveller and the armchair explorer**

**IOTA—an activity programme for the intrepid traveller and the armchair explorer**

Islands have always excited the imagination. They evoke a sense of mystique and romance in those of us who live in crowded cities and commute on busy roads. For the radio amateur, contacting islands encourages the imagination to run riot with visions of a remote station set up, perhaps, on a tropical beach among palm trees or, for the daring, a rocky Antarctic island in a blizzard at -40 degrees C. This, surely, is what amateur radio is all about!



The HPOINT DXpedition, a six  
activation in Panama

In 1964 a British Short Wave Listener, Geoff Watts (now sadly a Silent Key) started an activity programme based on contacting island groups around the world. Geoff was not a wealthy man and had little opportunity to travel himself, but it is clear that listening to amateurs operating from remote island locations captured his imagination. Thus the Islands on the Air (IOTA) programme was born.

Geoff realised that there were far too many individual islands to chase, so he focused on recognised groups of islands such as the Laccadives in the Indian Ocean, the Bahamas and the Galapagos. Those three are, of course, recognised as DXCC entities, but how

**In this section**

- » Operating
  - » Operating Guidelines
  - » DX Code of Conduct
  - » Operating Advisory Service
  - » Awards
    - » HF awards
    - » VHF/UHF awards
    - » Youth award
    - » Recent RSGB award recipients
    - » IOTA Programme
    - » RSGB trophies
  - » Band Plans and Information
  - » Beacons & Repeaters
  - » Emergency communications
  - » HF DXpedition Fund
  - » Licensing, NoVs & Visitors
  - » Live DX Cluster
  - » Live solar data
  - » Morse
  - » Planning matters
  - » QSL Bureau
  - » Propagation predictions
  - » WSPR receivers

\* PLEASE DONATE TO WWFF

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\* TRANSLATOR

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+ LOGIN

- Register

Register

[Log in](#)

#### ◆ LOGIN PROBLEMS ?

If you have login or password problems please mail to :  
membersATvwwf.co

• WWFF NEWS

- **Server Migration Update**



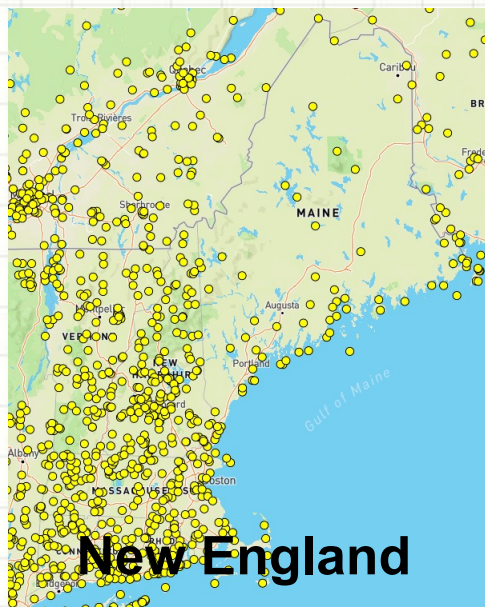
# **We are Very Lucky in New England!**

- **1099 Peaks that available for SOTA activations**
  - **Mount Champlain on Isle Au Haut on the coast of Maine**
    - **541 feet**
  - **Mount Washington, New Hampshire**
    - **6,288 feet**
- **POTA has too many parks to count!**
- **US Islands Award Program has 232 Islands that qualify**
  - **Maine – 100**
  - **New Hampshire – 19**
  - **Vermont – 19**
  - **Massachusetts – 39**
  - **Rhode Island – 35**
  - **Connecticut - 20**

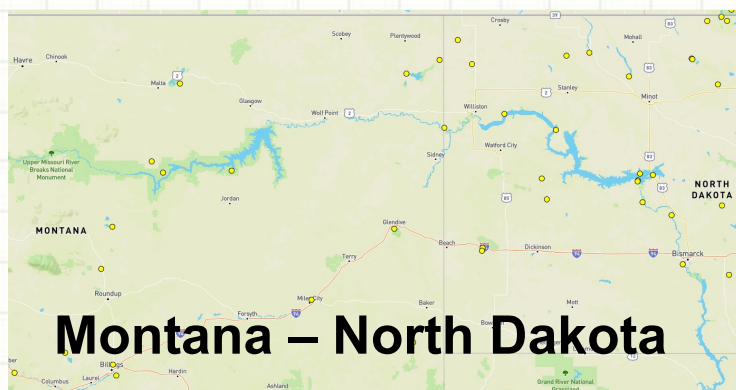




## Parks on the Air - POTA



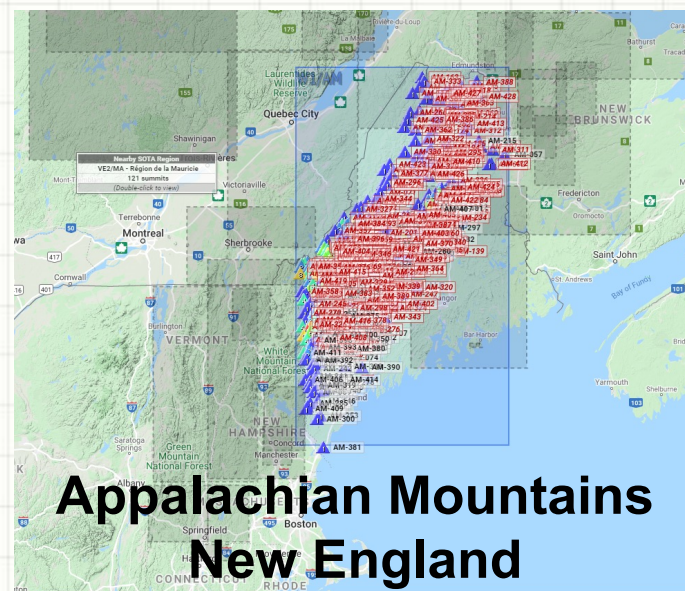
**New England**



**Montana – North Dakota**



## Summits on the Air - SOTA



**Appalachian Mountains  
New England**



**Iowa**



# Portable Operations

## What do I need to get started?



Powerfilms Solar Panel



Buddipole

- Check out the website of the various programs and pick one to activate
  - Make sure you have your information correct before heading out
    - I.e. P,S,I-OTA Identifier
    - Many are 2-fers or 3-fers!
- Check your equipment
  - HF or VHF/UHF radio
  - Batteries
  - Antenna
  - Coax
  - Logbook
  - CW paddle/key or mic



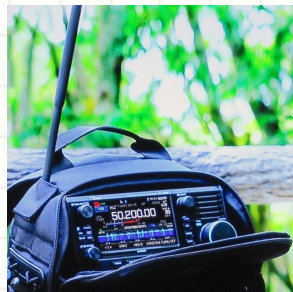
# Typical Set Up for Portable Operations

## Local Park or Drive Up Camping Spot

- IC-7300/Yaesu FT-991 or 100 W transceiver
- Portable Gas Generator or Car Battery
- Buddipole/Small Yagi/Wire Antenna
- Laptop for Logging

## Summit or Hike In Camping Spot

- Elecraft KX2/3, Xiegu G90, Yaesu FT-817/8
- Small LiFePO4 Battery and optional Solar Panel for longer operating
- Wire Antenna, Home-Brew Hex Beam, Etc.
- Laptop, Tablet, Phone or Paper for logging
- Size and Weight are important!



Powerfilms Solar Panel



Buddipole





# Portable Operations

You don't need a lot of fancy, expensive equipment to get involved

- Join a club activity
  - Many clubs do portable activations as a club and members are usually more than happy to share equipment
- Go with another ham
- Get going with SOTA
  - All you need is an HT!
    - A tape measure yagi will improve your luck and is inexpensive





# Portable Operations are Fun!





# Useful Links

## Summits on the Air

- Home Page <https://www.sota.org.uk/>
- General Rules <https://www.sota.org.uk/Joining-In/General-Rules>
- SOTA Summits <https://summits.sota.org.uk/>
- SOTA Maps of Summits <https://www.sotamaps.org/>
- SOTA Watch <https://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/>
- SOTA Database <https://www.sotadata.org.uk/en/>

## Parks on the Air

- Home Page <https://parksontheair.com/>
- Active Spots <https://pota.us/#/>
- Upcoming Activations <https://pota.us/#/activations>

## US Islands Award Program

- Home Page <https://usislands.org/>
- Rules <https://usislands.org/rules-and-program-information/>
- Island Directory <https://usislands.org/island-directory/>

## Islands on the Air

- Home Page <https://www.iota-world.org/>
- IOTA DX Spots <https://www.iota-world.org/iotamaps/>
- IOTA Groups and Islands <https://www.iota-world.org/islands-on-the-air/iota-groups-islands.html>





# Questions?

## To Learn More:

Check out the Nashua Area Radio Society's Tech Night Program at:

[n1fd.org/tech-night](http://n1fd.org/tech-night)

Become an Internet Subscriber (or members of NARS):

[n1fd.org/join-us](http://n1fd.org/join-us)

Much more information, pictures and video are available on our Blog at:

[stationproject.blog](http://stationproject.blog)





**Please Now Leave this Breakout Room which should  
return you to the Main Room for the Ham Bootcamp**

**Wrap-up!**

***Please Be Sure to Leave the Breakout Room and NOT  
the Meeting***