

National Parks On The Air



National Parks On The Air

Event

0000Z 01/01/16 – 2400Z 12/31/16

Goals

- 1 – Promote 100th Anniversary of the National Parks Service**
- 2 – Promote Amateur Radio within by operating “in the wild”.**
- 3 – Encourage portable Amateur highly visible portable operations in as many NPS administrative units as possible.**

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Eligibility – All licensed Amateurs

Awards will be administered through LoTW

All bands, all modes *except 60 meters*

Congaree National Park – NP 12

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Cross-band QSOs, repeater QSOs, digipeaters, Echolink, or IRLP do not count.

Exemption granted for Satellite and ISS QSOs.

Only one QSO per NPS Administrative Unit will be credited for NPOTA award credit.

There will be no tracking of QSOs by band or mode.

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Valid Activations of NPS Units

- The Activator and all components of the Activator's Amateur Radio station must be physically present on the property of the claimed NPS Unit, unless specifically exempted by ARRL in advance.
- Activations from parking lots, visitor's centers and other property maintained by the specific NPS unit are acceptable.

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Valid Activations of NPS Units

- The Activator must make a minimum of ten (10) QSOs during their activation.
- The Activator must upload their log to Logbook of The World as soon as practical.
- Activators *must exit an NPS unit for 24 hours* before an operation from the same NPS unit is considered a separate activation.

NOTE: Aeronautical mobile QSOs are not valid for NPOTA program credit.

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Valid Activations of NPS Units

Accreditation

- ARRL reserves the right to ask for verification of any claimed operation from an NPS Administrative Unit at any time.
- Activators of NPS units should secure as much documentation as possible, to verify the operation did indeed take place at the claimed unit on the claimed date.

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Valid Activations of NPS Units

Accreditation Verification

- An official "cancellation" from the NPS unit's "NPS Passport Program." This is a free date/location ink stamp available at each unit's Visitors Center or Ranger Station.
- This is the preferred method of verification and should be sought out by Activators first.

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Valid Activations of NPS Units

Accreditation Verification

- Passport Program Information:

<http://www.nps.gov/elca/planyourvisit/passport-program.htm>

- Photo of the Activator in front of the NPS unit's main sign or distinguishing landmark.
- Image of GPS latitude/longitude coordinates.

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Miscellaneous

- All entrance fees to NPS Administrative Units are the responsibility of the Activator.
- All contacts for a Chaser award must be made using call signs issued to the same station licensee.
- All QSOs for the Chaser Award or National Parks Honor Roll must be made from the same DXCC entity.
- QSOs made with a club call count only for the club, not the operator.

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Miscellaneous

Each NPOTA participant, by applying, or submitting documentation, stipulates to:

- Observing all pertinent governmental regulations for Amateur Radio in the United States.
- Observing all National Park Service rules.
- Being bound by the NPOTA rules.
- Being bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

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Miscellaneous – Disqualification

- The submission of forged or altered confirmations.
- The presentation of forged or altered documents in support of an activation.
- Participation in activities that create an unfavorable impression of Amateur Radio with NPS authorities.
- Not submitting activation logs to Logbook of The World in a timely manner.

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Certificates/Awards

Activator - minimum of one accredited operation from an NPS Administrative Unit.

The total number of qualified activations will be printed directly on the certificate.

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Certificates/Awards

Chaser – Minimum one confirmed QSO/one accredited operation.

The total number of NPS units worked will be printed directly on the certificate.

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Certificates/Awards

National Parks Honor Roll

Confirmed QSOs with 75% of the 59 National Parks that have accredited operations in 2016.

Note this does not mean 75% of all 59 National Parks.

Chasers must stay informed of operations that could affect their National Park's Honor Roll status.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator

Special recognition on Activator certificates

Activators must engage in exceptional outreach during activations throughout the event.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Media Publicity:** Send a press release of your activation to the local media.
- **Public Information:** appropriate handouts and information available to the visiting public.
- **Youth/Scouting:** Activate an NPS unit with a youth group or Scouting program.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Radio E-Message** - Transmit at least one third party message via Amateur Radio.

Any digital messaging format may be used to earn this bonus.

The message must leave the NPS unit via RF on an Amateur Radio frequency.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Digital Modes** - Demonstrate Amateur Radio using any of the digital modes to an audience of at least one person not familiar with the digital modes.
- **Satellite Contact** - Minimum of one QSO between two Earths stations via Amateur Radio satellite or the ISS.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Green Power** - Activation using solar, wind, water or non-fossil fuel power. Includes batteries charged using “green” power.
- **Battery Power** - Make a successful Activation using battery power. Batteries may be charged using commercial mains.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Social Media** - Promote your activation, post video or photographs of your activation on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or any other social media platform (not your website)
- **Intrepid Traveler** - Activate at least five different NPS units.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

- **Stamp Collector** - Participate in the NPS Passport program.
- **Share The Mike** - Have a non-ham or new ham make a contact.
- **Moonbounce** - Make at least one QSO via EME. Please use discretion when selecting your operating location.

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Certificates/Awards

Five Star Activator Outreach

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***And now for
something
completely different***

***The
South Carolina
QSO Party has
changed dates***

South Carolina

QSO Party

Feb. 27, 2016

1400 Zulu (0900 EST)

0059 Zulu (1859 EST)

North Carolina

QSO Party

Feb. 28, 2016

1500 Zulu (1000 EST)

0059 Zulu (1859 EST)

***Making the last
weekend of
February***

The
Carolinas
Weekend

Same rules

Same bonus stations

New bonus station

N4HLH – H.L.Hunley

commemorative station

Advantages of moving date

Natural synergy

Cross promotion

*146 counties available for
county hunters*

Advantages of moving date

Access to more OOS ops

Mutual prize awards (2017)

NC/SC combined score

Advantages of moving date

New award certificate

Spell HUNLEY using counties

***Hampton/Horry, Union, Newberry, Lancaster/Laurens/Lee/Lexington,
Edgefield, York***

W4CAE, WW4SF, N4HLH

wild card stations

Be there

Or

Be Square