

DXN News

• Serving DX'ers since 1933 •

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Inside ...

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- 8 ...Single-wire Loops

CPC Test Calendar

WGGH IL 1150 Feb. 6 0100-0200

From the Publisher ... Looks like the “usual” drop-off in loggings reported during the holidays has cut this issue by over half. Did you receive a new ultra-light in your stocking? Don't forget to report your loggings on it, too. Also, don't forget to check the back page for any updated addresses for contacts, especially to solve any DXN subscription problems.

Sign of the times ... Jim Renfrew recently spotted the following letter in *Distance* magazine: “I have received your QSL requests, and find them valid. Probably 9 out of 10 QSL requests these days are bogus, and I haven't figured out how to handle it yet. A large number of the audio clips I get are our web stream audio, with static and noise dubbed over. When I find an easy way of verifying the audio source, I will resume replying to QSLs, sorry you are stuck in the middle. –Tracy Teagarden, Chief Engineer, CBS Radio KKJJ/KLUC/KMXB/



KSFN/KXNT/KXTE”.

Unfilled positions ... We're in need of volunteers for the following positions: an Internet web guru, to manage and update www.nrcdxas.org; a DXN publisher with fresh ideas, and one or more persons to edit future NRC publications developed by contributors or the club.

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 77

Deadline	Publ Date	Deadline	Publ Date		
15.	Jan. 8	Jan. 18	23.	Mar. 5	Mar. 15
16.	Jan. 15	Jan. 25	24.	Mar. 19	Mar. 29
17.	Jan. 22	Feb. 1	25.	Apr. 9	Apr. 19
18.	Jan. 29	Feb. 8	26.	May 7	May 17
19.	Feb. 5	Feb. 15	27.	June 4	June 14
20.	Feb. 12	Feb. 22	28.	July 9	July 19
21.	Feb. 19	Mar. 1	29.	Aug. 6	Aug. 16
22.	Feb. 26	Mar. 8	30.	Sept. 17	Sept. 27

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News

25 years ago ... from the January 14, 1985 DXN: Cristos Rigas, Chicago, IL reported hearing WANR-1600 Wheeling, WV on 12/7 with EZL music.

10 years ago ... from the January 17, 1999 DXN: Dr. Richard Wood, Hilo, HI, reported regular reception of BBC European Service on 1296 in October and November; according to him, this station, the only European he'd heard from his 19th location, was an easier catch than South American stations.

NRC AM Radio Log, 30th Edition



The NRC AM Radio Log is unbound and three-hole punched for standard binders. Media Rate: \$19.95 to U. S. NRC members; \$25.95 to U. S. non-members; to Canadian members, \$24.00 (\$33.50 to non-members); add \$3.50 for Priority Mail. Airmail to all outside of USA/Canada: \$33.00. Canadian orders: PayPal or postal M. O. only. Order from: NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251, or via www.nrcdxas.org. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



AM Switch

Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net
6124 Roaring Springs Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552



Status changes in AM stations, supplied by the FCC, CRTC, and listeners

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call
1360 NEW GA Lithonia

New Call
WHRH

ACTIONS

560 WGAN ME Portland - Coordinate correction to 43-41-24/70-19-05.
1390 WADA NC Shelby - CP granted for U1 1400/16, moving the transmitter site about three miles to that of the WZGV-730 323' tower at 35-17-30/81-34-00 and changing the Domestic Class from B to D. Note: WZGV is currently silent.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

1250 WKDL VA Warrenton - Licensed for U4 5000/32, WKDL has a CP for U4 8000/125. They later amended the application to U4 7800/125, and now have requested U4 7900/125. [corrected data from last issue]

AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS

1400 KFJL OR Central Point - Having a CP for U1 1000/1000, this unbuilt station has, on three occasions, submitted changes to their transmitter site. This request makes four!

AM on FM

1050 WBNC NH Conway - W237BX-95.3 North Conway
1240 WJLX AL Jasper - W268BM Jasper
1320 WLOH OH Lancaster - W283BO-104.5 Lancaster
1600 WKFO KY Corbin - W253BC-98.5 North Corbin



HEAR AND THAR

◆ **Returning to the airwaves:** WEBC-560 Duluth, Minnesota returned to the air Tuesday (12/29/09) after a four-day outage caused by water leaking into the transmitter building. The station was first noted off the air December 24; WPNT-1490 South Bend, Indiana; WVZN-1580 Columbia PA returns to the air with Spanish contemporary Christian

⌚ **Reported as Silent:** KXOR-660 Junction City, Oregon; KXPB-1040 Tigard, Oregon; KAGO-1150 Klamath Falls, Oregon; WTJH-1260 East Point, Georgia; WOYL-1340 Oil City, Pennsylvania (transmitter failure); and KLZS-1450 Eugene, Oregon. A tough week for Oregonians!

📰 **NEWS ITEM:** Police in Greenville County, South Carolina are investigating the theft of broadcast equipment from WCSZ-1070 Sans Souci. The station has been silent for some time, and authorities believe the theft may have occurred sometime between November 16 and December 16, when a company employee noticed an open gate to the property and an open window on the building, which is not checked regularly, police said. Among the items taken include the station's transmitter, transmitter tubes and studio control board, all valued at \$106,000. Police say the theft was discovered.

◆ **Thanks to Shawn Axelrod, Wayne Heinen, Richard Lauhead & Dave Schmidt.**

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

1450 kHz:

KVSI ID Montpelier Richard Lauhead Vadnais Heights, MN

Miles

929

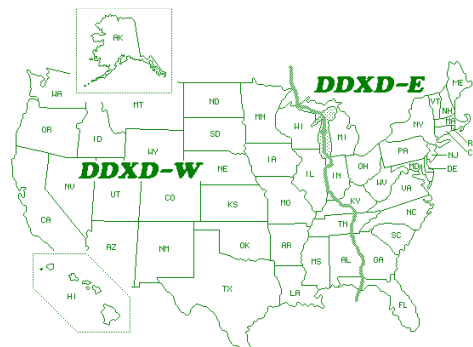
The County Cross Reference

What a time-saver! A complete list of counties, parishes, and similar political divisions in the U. S. and Canada. Two lists are included: alpha by county, and by state. Compiled by Bill Hale and designed and produced by Wayne and Joan Heinen. \$8.95 for members, \$11.95, non-member; overseas surface mail, add \$4.00 for first copy; \$.64 for each add'l copy/ For airmail, add \$8.00 for each 3 or fraction of 3. Order "CCR" from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)

Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Dvorak westlogs@aol.com (Division line
3358 Ridgeway Ave. - Madison, WI 53704-4327 is between East
and Central time
zones)

East: Mike Brooker aum108@idirect.com
99 Wychcrest Ave - Toronto, Ontario M6G 3X8 CANADA



DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-hr. ELT

DDXD-West

New Year's Greetings from the Pacific Northwest. I hope everyone had a good holiday season this year, and are ready for another year of radio adventures.

Kind of quiet on the logging front, but some interesting contributions nonetheless.

Reporters

JDS-MN Jeff Steffes, Watertown, MN Kenwood R-2000, Quantum QX Loop
JW-CO John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO. Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop.
TT-MT Ty Thormahlen, Billings, MT SDR-IQ / 60 Foot Longwire
WH-CO Wayne Heinen, Aurora. Kiwa Loop Drake R8B, E/W Flag, N/S Flag, Dual TG-1 Termination Gizmo w/DX Engineering RPA-1 preamp and Mini DXP5.

Station News

650 CISL BC Vancouver Per Northwest Broadcasters.com, station has applied to the CRTC for authority to temporarily broadcast up to 20% of its programming in Russian during the upcoming Winter Olympics **from February 10-28.**

DX Logs (All Times ELT)

610 KDAL MN Duluth 12/22 0905 News followed by "Good morning from KDAL Duluth, Superior" (JDS-MN)

750 WNDZ IN Portage 12/25 0815. Gal with opening announcement at 0815:05: "Good Morning. This is AM 750 WNDZ Portage, IN - Chicago. The views and opinions expressed are not..." (the rest garbled); then into Ukrainian programming. Briefly fair but soon lost to KMMJ. This is the only regular (semi-regular, actually) station heard here from Indiana. (JW-CO)

770 CHQR AB Calgary 12/12 2259. TOH ID heard through a lot of mixing "CHQR" sung. Followed by promo for "Your News...Station". (New) (TT-MT)

930 WKY OK Oklahoma City 12/19 0740 Spanish speaking with references to Oklahoma (JDS-MN)

930 WAUR IL Sandwich 12/19 0755 Morning Air Program, Relevant Radio, into Station ID: WAUR followed by news (JDS-MN)

950 KJR WA Seattle 12/18 0059. TOH ID for "KJR, Seattle" heard under heavy mixing. Also mentions of Huskies football, all sports radio station and a Twitter page at twitter.com/960kjr. (New) (TT-MT)

1010 WTSO WI Madison 12/19 0857 Big Wild Program, Parody: Ghost Poachers in the Sky, followed by Station ID: "Big 1010 WTSO Madison" into News (JDS-MN)

1070 KATQ MT Plentywood 12/17 1926. Local spots, then area (MT/WY) weather on a regional network; call letter ID at 1932. Fair with KNX partly nulled. (JW-CO)

1150 CKOC ON Hamilton 12/22/09 1821 Station ID: CKOC is Oldies 1150 (JDS-MN)

1180 KERN CA Wasco-Greenacres 12/17 0759. TOH ID "Fox Radio, KERN, Greenacres, Wasco, Bakersfield. Your Exclusive Home For Fox News Radio." then K-E-R-N jingle sung into Fox NX Radio. (New) (TT-MT)

1180 WHAM NY Rochester 12/24 0734 News, followed by Station ID: "Rochester's News Leader WHAM (JDS-MN)

1190 KVSV KS Beloit 12/17 0959. TOH ID under music bed with heavy mixing, "KVSV AM & FM Beloit. It's Time For ABC News" then into ABC NX. (New) (TT-MT)

1210 WJNL MI Kingsley 12/24 0757 "Michael Patrick Shiels, Merry Christmas in the state of Michigan" followed by commercials, into Station ID: WJNL, then News (JDS-MN)

- 1230 KEXO CO **Grand Junction** 12/27 0600 "Talk Radio 1230 KEXO Grand Junction a Cumulus Station..." to CNN News. **(WH-CO)**
- 1230 KVOC WY **Casper** 12/26 2300 Football in progress with a break for stations to identify "AM 1230 Casper's 24/7 Sports Station KVOC" and back to football **(WH-CO)**
- 1260 CFRN AB **Edmonton** 12/14 0359. TOH ID under heavy mixing "CFRN is AM 1260, Edmonton. A (something?) Radio Station" into Fox Sports Radio. (New) (TT-MT)
- 1270 KLXX ND **Bismarck-Mandan** 12/15 0359. Promo/ID at TOH "It's CNN Radio News at the all new Supertalk 1270. After the News, Stimulating Talk. KLXX" then ID cut off into CNN Radio NX. (New) (TT-MT)
- 1270 WMKT MI **Charlevoix** 12/14 0359. TOH ID heard under mix "It's 3 o'clock at 1270 AM, WMKT, Charlevoix, Traverse City, (a third city that sounded like "the DB" or something close) and 92.1 FM W221DQ, Petoskey-Harbor Springs" into Fox NX Radio. (New) (TT-MT)
- 1320 KELO SD **Sioux Falls** 12/27 1720. Weather forecast; ID as "NewsTalk 1320 KELO" and back to Michael Medved; heard later with local ads and "Kello AM" slogan. Generally fair in QRM. **(JW-CO)**
- 1380 KOTA SD **Rapid City** 12/21 0905. Man & woman with local and regional news, call letter ID's, weather, Christmas program notes. Fair with QRM and local 1390 IBOC mostly nulled. **(JW-CO)**
- 1400 KIUN TX **Pecos** 12/28 0400 out of C&W music "KIUN Pecos" jingle to a network newscast. Rare here and first time since I started taping. **(WH-CO)**
- 1400 KLIN NE **Lincoln** 12/25 0200 "KLIN Lincoln" ID in the mix to what sounded like Fox news **(WH-CO)**
- 1400 KRLN CO **Cañon City** 12/27 1900 Up briefly "KRLN Cañon City" to CBS News. **(WH-CO)**
- 1460 KCLE TX **Burleson** 12/27 1800. C&W music to 1802 legal ID: "Northern Texas' Big Country Radio, KCLE 1460 AM Burleson-Joshua-Alvarado," then more C&W tunes, with an occasional "Big Country" slogan. Rough in QRM. A needed call change here, ex-KHFX. **(JW-CO)**
- 1550 WHIT WI **Madison** 12/26 0848 Songs: Sunshine Superman, Donovan; A Little Bit O' Soul, Music Explosion, followed by Station ID: WHIT **(JDS-MN)**

You should make it your New Year's resolution to spend at least 15 minutes a day at the dials. And submit at least one log to me a week. (That goes for me as well)..See you next time **(JDT-WA)**

DDXD-East

REPORTERS

- SC-IN **Steve Chappell, McCordsville** - Chrysler car radio, K9AY loop antenna
- KK-VA **Kraig Krist, Manassas** - NRD-545, homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE
- MKB-ON **Mike Brooker, Toronto** - Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

TIS/HAR

- 1630 (NVCC) VA **Manassas** - 12/29 2355 - in KCJJ and WRDW mix with repeating loop of Northern Virginia Community College information. "You are tuned to sixteen thirty AM Northern Virginia Community College... Manassas campus..." **(KK-VA)**

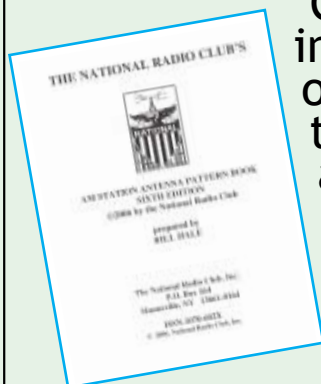
LOGGINGS

- 600 WICC CT **Bridgeport** - 12/20 0505 - Poor to fair ending IRN News, "Southern Connecticut's news and information leader wicc600.com." NEW! **(SC-IN)**
- 810 WPIN VA **Dublin** - 12/6 *0730 - Fair with sign-on announcement, "WPIN now starts its broadcast day...Real Country..." **(SC-IN)**
- 880 CKLQ MB **Brandon** - 12/28 0745 - wiping out WCBS with "your Q Country weather" local forecast, ad for Robertson College in Brandon mentioning robertsoncollegebrandon.com website, C&W songs. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1150 WEAQ WI **Chippewa Falls** - 12/5 1641 - Poor with website promo, "When you need to know what's happening weather wise just go to espn1150.com." NEW! **(SC-IN)**

- 1190 WVUS WV **Grafton** – 1/1 1658 – over WOWO/WLIB dogfight with “Baby Don’t Go” by Sonny & Cher, “you’re listening to WVUS 1190 AM Grafton, West Virginia” ToH ID into ABC news. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1240 WJIM MI **Lansing** – 1/1 0927 – briefly on top with slogan “Lansing’s big talker” and website promo “...learn more at wjimam.com”. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1280 WGBF IN **Evansville** – 1/1 1800 – over SS talk (presumably WADO) with ToH ID “North America’s best talk has one convenient location, 1280 WGBF Evansville” into Fox news. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1370 WLJW MI **Cadillac** – 12/29 1732 – winning fight over pest WSPD with local weather, dual ID “you’re listening to WLJN and WLJW Traverse City-Cadillac, Christian radio for northern Michigan” into gospel talk. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1460 WBRN MI **Big Rapids** – 12/28 1606 – over CJOY groundwave with Miller beer ad, program promo “the Dave Ramsey show...it happens here on news radio 1460 and 107.7 WBRN” into Shawn Hannity. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1550 WIGN TN **Bristol** – 12/31 1658 – over nulled CBE with gospel talk, station promo “join us Saturday here on 1550 WIGN...for the gospel music showcase...”, ToH ID “Great American radio for the Tri-Cities, 1550 AM WIGN”. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1570 WNSH MA **Beverly** – 12/31 1554 – presumed with SS religious talk, slogans “La Nueva” and “Radio Alegria”. Per tip from Paul Walker on NRC listserv, they are (for now at least) / / WESX-1230, with some SS programs. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1590 WTVB MI **Coldwater** – 12/28 1558 – creaming usual WAKR with Chicago’s “Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?”, ToH ID, “for over 50 years the voice of Branch County for news...WTVB Coldwater” into local news. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1630 KCJJ IA **Iowa City** - 12/29 2355 - Mixing with Northern VA Community College TIS and WRDW, noted with local ad mentioning “Iowa City”. **(KK-VA)**
- WRDW GA **Augusta** - 12/29 2355 - Mixing with NVCC TIS and KCJJ with sports talk, “WRDW and WRDW dot com...” ID into news, slogan “... sports talk sixteen thirty WRDW...” **(KK-VA)**
- 1640 WTNI MS **Biloxi** - 12/28 2355 – sports talk mixing with WKSH (Radio Disney), “...join us for live local sports talk tomorrow afternoon. Sixteen forty talk radio WTNI”. **(KK-VA)**
- 1670 WFSM GA **Dry Branch** - 12/24 2355 – in mix with talk about NFL football, station promo “... Wednesday on Fox Sports sixteen seventy...”. **(KK-VA)**
- 1680 WPRR MI **Ada** - 12/24 2355 – in WOKB mix with IDs and station promos: “WPRR...”, “... reality radio... Thursday 4PM WPRR...”, “... WPRR public reality radio Grand Rapids...” **(KK-VA)**
- WOKB FL **Winter Garden** - 12/24 2355 – ID and station promo in mix with WPRR: “Merry Christmas from WOKB. Your enlightenment and empowerment station...” **(KK-VA)**

The NRC AM Station Antenna Pattern Book

This Sixth-Edition Antenna Pattern Book now includes daytime and “Graveyard” frequency patterns for the first time. Stations in Alaska and Hawaii are listed on separate pages at the end of the book. The basic list of U.S. and Canadian stations comes from the 26th Edition of the National Radio Club’s AM Radio Log. Mexican stations in the states bordering the United States plus those stations elsewhere which are easily heard in the U.S. and Canada are also included. All data is up-to-date as of November 1, 2005. Prices: \$16.95 to USA/Canada NRC members, \$22.95 to USA non-members, \$28.50 to Canada non-members/all overseas orders. Canadian orders: PayPal or postal M. O. only. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



International DX Digest

Bruce Conti nrcidxd@aol.com
46 Ridgefield Drive
Nashua, NH 03062-1174

Foreign DX Catches. All times are UTC

Transatlantic DX

- 189 **ICELAND** *Ríkisútvarpid*, Gufuskálar (64°54'N 23°55'W) DEC 14 2100 - Good; ending rock tune, announcement by man in Icelandic and back to rock music at 2101. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 207 **ICELAND** *Ríkisútvarpid*, Eidar (65°19'N 14°26'W) DEC 29 0020 - Parallel 189, woman in Icelandic; good. New log, thanks to a tip from Roy Barstow! [Black-MA]
- 531 **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 1*, El Ain Beida (35°49'N 7°19'E) DEC 14 2125 - Fair over Faroe Islands with religious Arabic music. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 531 **FAROE ISLANDS** *Kringvarp Føroya Útvarpid*, Akraberg (62°01'N 6°46'W) DEC 14 2119 - Fair over Algeria; American pop tunes (one by Chicago) and male DJ in Faroese. DEC 21 2202-2242 - Not strong but alone on channel; American and British pop tunes and male DJ in Faroese mentioning Kelly Clarkson, Jennifer Lopez, Brandi, George Michael etc. DEC 24 2112 - Fair and alone on channel; "Let It Snow" in Nordic language followed by English Christmas pop tune. Clearly parallel to webstream all three dates. [DeLorenzo-MA] DEC 27 0435 - Fair, over Spain; continuous pop/rock music through the hour without announcements or ID. [Conti-NH]
- 549 **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 1*, Les Trembles (35°17'N 0°34'W) DEC 14 2115 - Good; low key monologue by a man in Arabic - probably a commentary or sermon. DEC 24 2120 - Loud and clear; discussion between a man and woman in Arabic. By far the strongest TA on Christmas Eve. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 576 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros DEC 27 0440 - Fair; Mediterranean music and talk parallel 558, 585, 639, 684, etc. [Conti-NH]
- 585 **SPAIN** *RNE1* Madrid (40°28'N 3°52'W) DEC 14 2139 - Fair with discussion between a man and woman in Spanish. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 756 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Braunschweig & Ravensburg DEC 24 2134-2138 - Good; German opera parallel to audio via delicast.com [DeLorenzo-MA] DEC 27 0400 - Excellent; "Deutschlandfunk" and time marker into reading of news. [Conti-NH]
- 765 **SWITZERLAND** *RSR Option Musique*, Sottens (46°39'N 6°44'E) DEC 24 2149-2151 - Fair; French Christmas tunes and female DJ in French parallel to audio via delicast.com. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 864 **FRANCE** *France Bleu*, Villebon-sur-Yvette (48°41'N 2°14'E) DEC 27 0400 - Good; "Radio France Bleu" jingle. [Conti-NH]
- 882 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC R.Wales*, Washford (51°10'N 3°21'W) DEC 27 0420 - Good; BBC parallel 198 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 909 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC Radio 5 Live* synchros DEC 27 0200 - Excellent, with synchro echo; "On digital and online, this is BBC Radio Five Live," into news. [Conti-NH]
- 954 **SPAIN** *Onda Cero*, Madrid DEC 27 0200 - Fair; time marker and *Onda Cero* jingle into news. [Conti-NH]
- 963 **FINLAND** *Radio 86*, Pori (61°28'N 21°35'E) DEC 27 0300 - Good; trumpet fanfare, "...Mezhdunarodnoe Radio Kitaya" (International Radio China), and woman with news. [Conti-NH]
- 1062 **DENMARK** *Danmarks Radio*, Kalundborg (55°40'N 11°04'E) DEC 28 0435 - Excellent; transmitter powered on with open carrier. 0440 alternating between interval signal and announcement, "Du lytter til DR... på 1062 kilohertz." 0445 sign-on announcement and weather. [Conti-NH]
- 1062 **ITALY** *Rai Radiouno* synchros DEC 28 0450 - Pre sign-on test tones under Denmark. [Conti-NH]
- 1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros DEC 28 0500 - Good; "From the Sky News Center, Commercial Radio Station of the Year, TalkSport News," into news, "From the Sky News Center at five..." [Conti-NH]
- 1116 **ITALY** *Rai Radiouno* synchros DEC 28 0451 - Pre sign-on test tones under Spain. [Conti-NH]
- 1143 **KALININGRAD** *R.Mayak*, Bolshakovo (54°54'N 21°42'E) DEC 28 0400 - A complete surprise to find this alone on the frequency; two cycles of interval signal, time marker, and news in Russian. 0500 still dominant. [Conti-NH]

- 1179 **SWEDEN** *R.Sweden International*, Sölvesborg (55°59'N 14°40'E) DEC 28 0500 - Good; chimes and woman in Swedish. [Conti-NH]
- 1206 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Bordeaux (44°57'N 0°11'W) DEC 28 0400 - Good; fanfare and "Bonjour" into news. [Conti-NH]
- 1215 **KALININGRAD** *VOR Bolshakovo* (54°54'N 21°42'E) DEC 27 2100-2059 - "Great Gate of Kiev" bells interval signal and national anthem on the hour. Then English announcement, "This is the Voice of Russia World Service broadcasting programs 16 hours every day of the week. You can hear news bulletins every hour on the hour with news in brief on the half hour. We also have daily and weekly features dealing with international and domestic issues. We also have programs which give you an insight to what is happening here in Russia, so tune in to the Voice of Russia World Service." Then news in English. Fair-good mixing with *Absolute Radio*. [Black-MA]
- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** *Absolute Radio* synthros DEC 24 2107 - Fair with live performance of a heavy metal band followed by liner, "One year old, Absolute Radio." [DeLorenzo-MA]
DEC 28 0550 - Good; Queen "Bohemian Rhapsody." [Conti-NH]
- 1296 unID DEC 28 0420 - Weak; Koranic recitations, certainly not *Radio XL* fare, could be Sudan or Iran. [Conti-NH]
- 1332 **IRAN** *R.Tehran*, Tehran DEC 27 2158 - Good; telephone talk and Middle Eastern music. [Conti-NH]
- 1386.04 **SPAIN** *Euskadi Irratia*, Ganguren DEC 27 2130 - Fair; talk parallel 1476 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 1422 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Heusweiler (49°21'N 6°55'E) DEC 27 2200 - Good; "Deutschlandfunk" and time marker into news. [Conti-NH]
- 1431 **DJIBOUTI** *R.Sawa*, Arta (11°31'N 42°50'E) DEC 27 2225 - Good; contemporary Middle Eastern vocal. [Conti-NH]
- 1431 **UKRAINE** *Radio 3/R.Kultura*, Kopani DEC 27 2140 - Good; classical/opera music parallel www.nrcu.gov.ua *Radio 3* streaming audio. Choral music (anthem?), time marker, and off at 2200. [Conti-NH]
- 1467 **FRANCE** *TWR Roumoules* (43°47'N 6°09'E) DEC 27 2300 - Pattern change increased signal from s8 to a solid s9+10 going into English program. Contact info, "Good night," one cycle of interval signal, brief open carrier and off at 2347. [Conti-NH]
- 1503 **SPAIN** *RNE5 Piñeira* and *La Línea de la Concepción* DEC 27 2300 - Fair with synchro echo; marker, time check, and fanfare into news parallel 1413 kHz. [Conti-NH]



Pan-American DX

- 550 **VENEZUELA** YVKE Caracas (10°32'N 66°55'W) DEC 27 0430 - Fair, over/under WDEV; choral national anthem. [Conti-NH]

Contributors

Chris Black N1CP, South Yarmouth MA; Microtelecom Perseus, 35 x 90-ft Flag.

Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; RFSpace SDR IQ, variable termination SuperLoop antennas 13 x 20-m east and 15 x 23-m south.

Marc DeLorenzo, South Dennis MA; JRC NRD-525, 35 x 40-ft east/west dual feedline SuperLoop with remote variable termination, 350-ft north/south longwire.

73 and Good DX!

Two URL's you need: <http://e-dxn.com>; <http://www.nrcdxas.org>

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tax.)

Large Single-Wire Loops

The cheap, fast and easy way

John Bryant with Guy Atkins

I've been actively DXpeditioning for twenty years now and have gone on at least a hundred such adventures, primarily in coastal Washington state and British Columbia. For the past decade, my DXpeditioning buddy, Guy Atkins and I have been using various forms of large single wire loops for at least one of our antenna choices: these have been EWEs, KAZs, Pennants, Flags and Super Loops and each antenna or array has required from one to four masts. I've also come to use these types of antenna almost exclusively at "home" also, as I cycled between Oklahoma and Washington state, with six month stints in each place each year.

Both of us have been intensely interested in developing quick, easy, cheap and yet stoutly built semi-permanent loop and mast designs. Over the first five years of the effort, we regularly modified the design, usually making it simpler, easier and cheaper than before. Feeding off each others ideas, it is almost impossible to remember who thought of what. Our resulting design, stabilized almost 5 years ago, has proven to be quite sturdy. I have found that the poles will last at least 2 years in *continuous* use. Personally, I have only had two poles partially collapse (a largely imaginary bug-a-boo) in all of those occasions. So what is the deal here? First, the poles: we have both been using 19 or 20 foot long light-weight \$25 (sometimes as low as \$14) collapsible fiberglass or carbon fiber poles almost from the very beginning. Although my favorite supplier, <http://www.tmastco.com/>, actually markets these poles for antennas, all of the pole manufacturers I'm aware of are actually building them for the kite and banner industry or as light, almost disposable fishing rods. The fishing pole used most often has been the 20 ft. BnM Crappie Fishing Pole, model BW6. A virtual clone is the Breem Stix series. These poles, if used correctly, are actually rather strong. Their main weakness is in their somewhat brittle nature when subjected to what structural engineers call concentrated and/or point loads. These must be avoided at all costs! The strength of the poles lies in responding to *bending* forces. Think about it; these things are designed as fishing rods or poles shoved in the beach that fly wind socks and banners from their tips or upper halves. Trying to keep these poles straight and induce forces going straight down their long dimension is an exercise in frustration, antennas on the ground and collapsed poles. So, *we use \$25 fishing poles; we try to use them at least slightly bent rather than straight and we avoid point and concentrated loads.* OK, great, now we have to hold them in place in everything from beach sand to damp greasy clay and we gotta do it quick, easy and cheap. This was our most intense area of experimentation. Eventually, we focused on the means illustrated on the left portion of this page. To anchor the pole, *we use a .75 x 4 steel reinforcing rod driven halfway into the soil.* This has proven strong enough (smaller bars did not) to support our masts and loops in winds above 60 mph on any number of occasions. We protect the rod / mast by enclosing the re-bar in a 1 diameter Schedule 40 PVC water pipe that is attached to the mast with 6 or so plastic cable clamps. The pole itself is cushioned with a 3 section of foam plastic sleeve fabricated from insulation for hot water pipes. Everything is tied together with those plastic cable ties. About the only judgment involved in assembly is just how tight to pull the cable ties. They need to be pretty tight between the PVC pipe and the fishing pole, but not so tight as to cause pole implosion when in use. These pole units are fabricated and stored between DXpeditions.

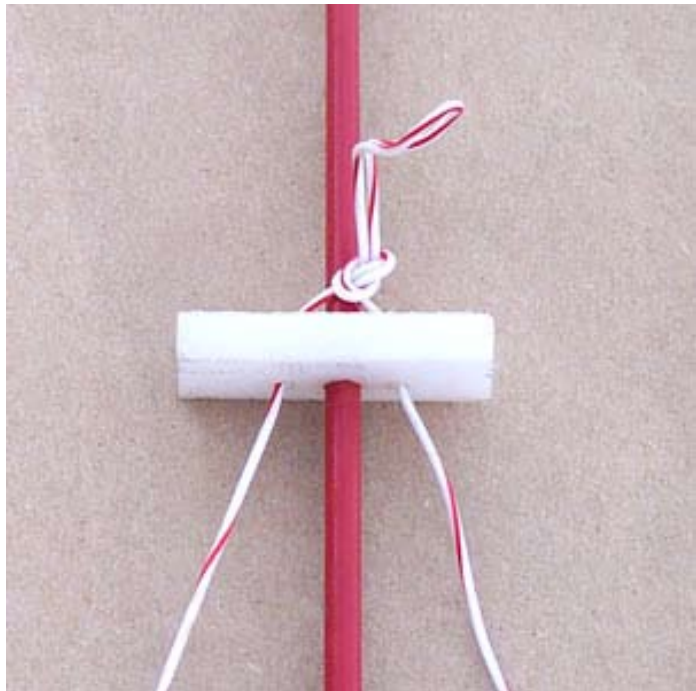
At the site, we simply extend the pole itself full length, drive the ¾" re-bar (not shown) halfway in the ground and drop the 1" PVC pipe tube down over the re-bar. Bang, it's done in far less than 5 minutes and with minimal effort.

Whoa, there! How about the antennas themselves? The truth is that – in most of our designs – these light poles will not support even 18 gauge wire. Guy and I both use insulated 24 gauge *multi-strand* wire. When possible, we try to get inexpensive lengths of Teflon-coated 24 gauge wire, because the coating itself is both light weight and very strong. We often use the antenna itself as a guy wire, so strength is important. That being



said, my two oldest 20' x 17' Delta antennas are from regular plastic coated 24 gauge multi-strand that was sold USED in 1986! The important ideas are *24 gauge, insulated and multi-strand*. The latter recommendation is because multi-strand is much more flexible and long lasting than solid single conductor wire (in antenna applications.)

There is just one final question related to detailed construction: connections between the fishing pole and anything else: generally either the antenna itself or, in some designs, guy ropes. The primary answer is: *plastic cable ties*. They are marvelously versatile and inexpensive; don't go on a DXpedition without them! We generally use some version of the blue-black connection (at the left) that is the one that we use at the center-bottom of a Delta that is elevated 3' above the ground. A central cable tie (the black one here) goes around the pole and around the actual hanger ties (the blue ones.) We tie the bottom wires of the Delta directly to the blue ties.

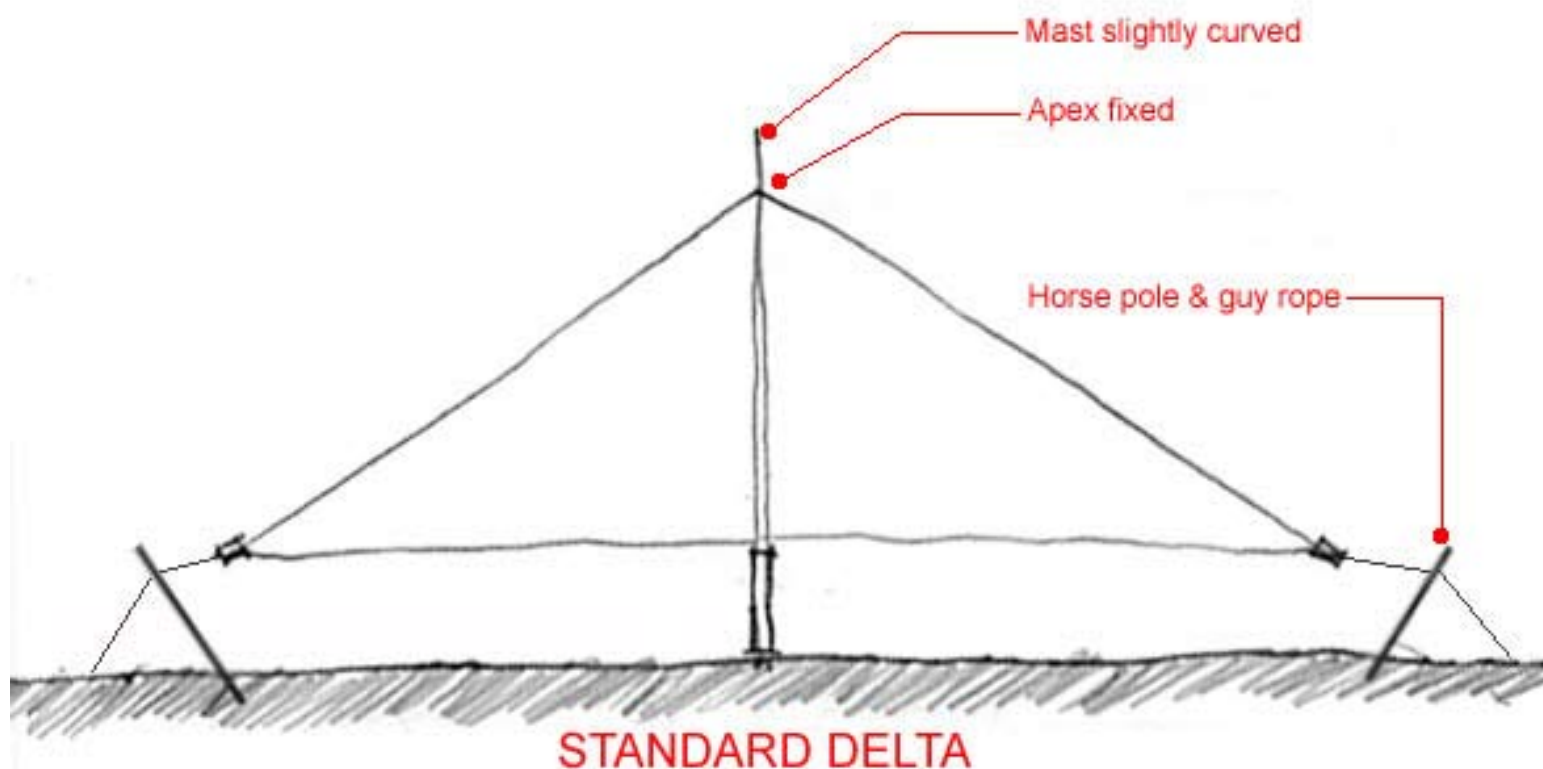


For guy ropes, we try to position the junction such that the horizontal cable tie is *just above a joint in the pole*. If done that way, the junction is less likely to slide down the pole. We often use 1/8" diameter light-but-stout fishing line as guy ropes, as it does a great job with these light loads and offers little wind resistance. In guy rope situations, the horizontal cable tie shown above would be a stronger tie, of course.

The two of us diverge in our design for the upper wire connection to the pole (the apex of a Delta, for instance.) Guy uses a cable tie connection at the uppermost pole connection. It has one horizontal central cable tie (very tight) and one vertical hanger tie to take the peak of the antenna wire. John goes a different route, having developed 1" x 1/2" fittings fabricated from high-density plastic such as Nylon. The edges of the large hole are carefully rounded to protect the pole. These fittings slide down the ever-enlarging pole about 15" and are a temporary jamb fit. Either way works.

That then represents our basic antenna support design for both triangular and rectangular large area, single turn loop antennas. The other half of our success, we believe, is using the bending strength of the poles and the tensile strength of the antenna itself to create easy semi-permanent antennas.

The following three pages detail three different antenna designs that we use quite often, always with the fishing poles discussed in the first two pages of this article. The first two designs have been used on several dozen DXpeditions and each has stayed up and in use for 6 month periods in central Oklahoma with no problems whatsoever. The latter, A Frame Delta design has been flown a half dozen times, again with no problems. We hope that the results of this decade long effort will be of use in your own antenna work!



ANTENNA DESIGNS 1

The first antenna drawing is the design that we use for Deltas that are elevated about a meter off the ground: K9AYs, and KAZs, as well as the antenna elements for many of our phased arrays. The top drawing is a typical side elevation of the antenna.

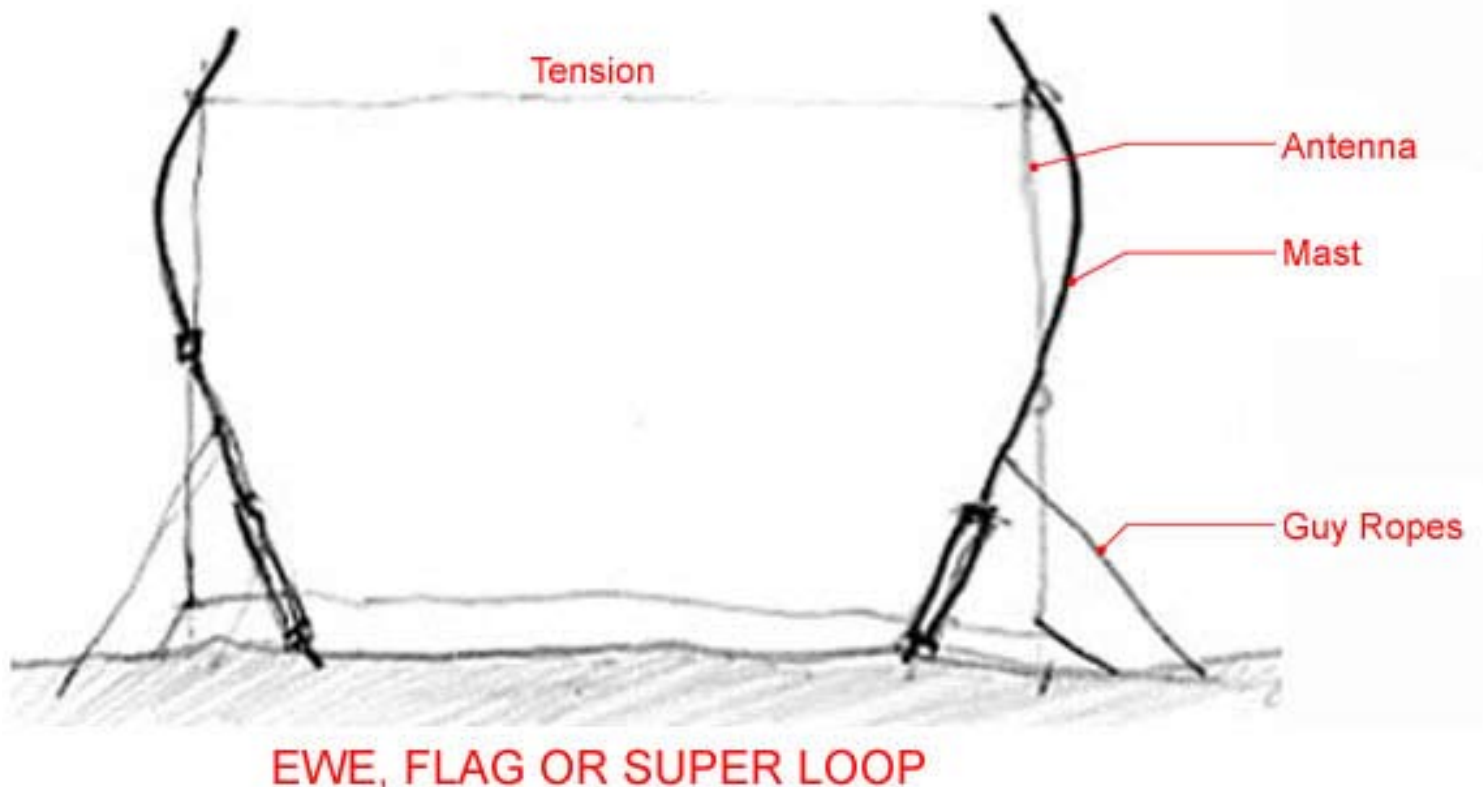


The 3' tall plastic stakes that we use with the guy ropes are round plastic ones sold for use with temporary electric fences for horses. They are also called step-in electric fence posts. Typically, the lower chord of this antenna is at 3' off the ground. The overall size varies per application: the largest that we've flown this way is about 30', though larger should be possible in moderate weather. Note the slight bend in the upper portion of the pole. This is completely normal and is, in fact, desirable from a structural point of view.

The two pictures to the left detail the mast used in a typical Delta configuration, with the bottom chord about one meter above the ground plane. In this configuration, the apex of the delta is fixed, tension is in the remainder of the antenna and the lower corners are free to self-adjust. The red dots connote the three corners of the antenna. The central mast is slightly curved for structural integrity.

The second photo is a detailed view of the same antenna, showing the lower portion of the base of the antenna, with the Wellbrook ALA100 amp and impedance matcher attached by cable ties. In these photos, the mast and Delta are being used as one of two elements in a first generation (based on two ALA100s) Wellbrook Phased Array.

ANTENNA DESIGNS 2

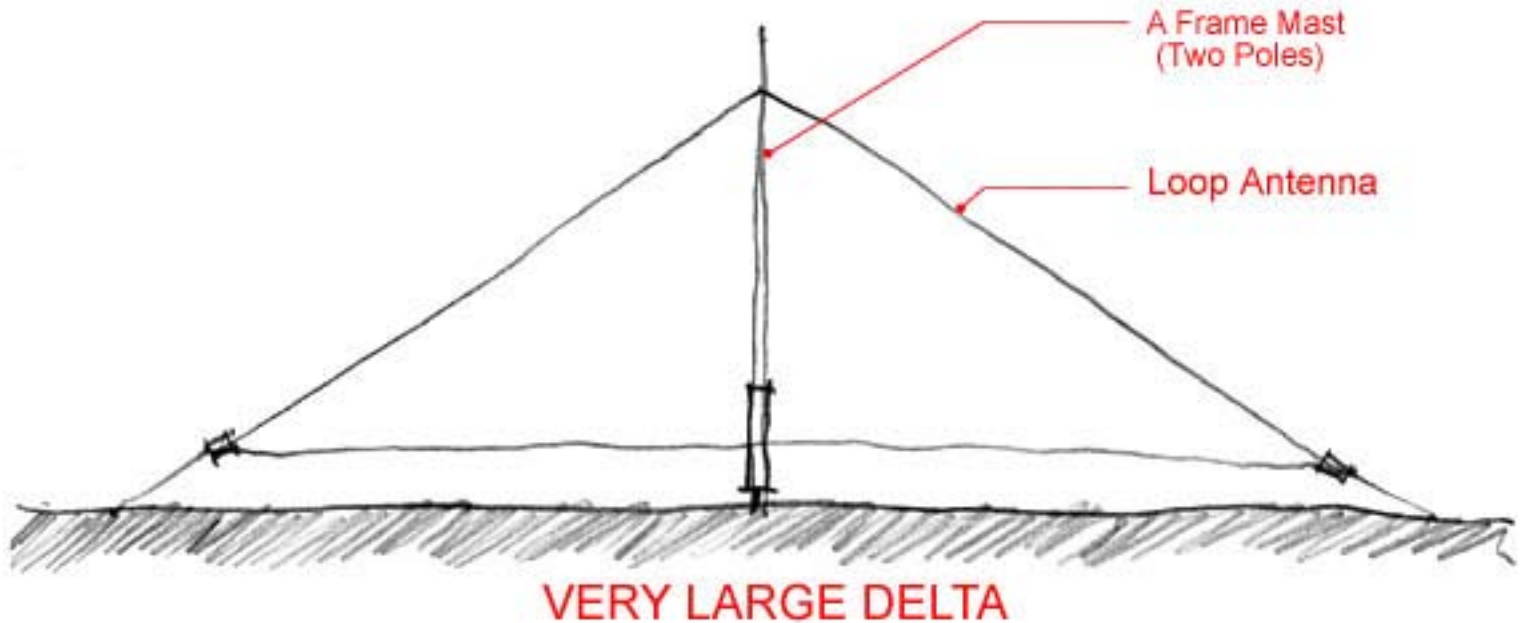


Our second design is for rectangular single turn loops: Flags, EWEs, and Super Loops. This design appears to be rather radical, though we have used it very successfully for up to 6 months a time and in raw weather. Although the poles are bent more in this design than in the Deltas, they have always returned to their normal appearance immediately after use and had no residual "memory" of their curvature. Four short guy ropes are used in this design to provide weather stability in this design. Each pole is guyed by two ropes that run at about 45 degrees to the plane of the loop. These provide stability in rough weather, both in the plane of the loop (winds from left or right, here) and for winds blowing at 90 degrees to the plane of the loop (blowing into the page or directly out from it.) We usually stake these into the soil with plastic camping tent stakes.

We usually fly this design at a 18' x 40' size, though a 18' x 60' antenna has been flown in moderate

weather. If this design is used as a Flag, the lower wire would likely be raised to the 3' level and the transformer and opposing resistor would each be mounted about half way up the two poles. This has only been done three or four times, but it was quite successful.

ANTENNA DESIGNS 3



A variant of the original Delta design is shown above. This design uses an "A" frame of two masts rather than a single central pole as in the first design; however, the side elevation is very similar. The apex joint is fixed in position and there is tension in the two upper sides of the antenna, using the upper wires as guy wires. The opposite elevation looking along the plane of the antenna is shown below. The bases of the masts are about 4 feet apart. This double central mast "A Frame" design is rarely used except to fly very large Delta antennas up to 100 feet long, sometimes built with 18 gauge insulated wire.

Have a GREAT TIME and GOOD DX!!!

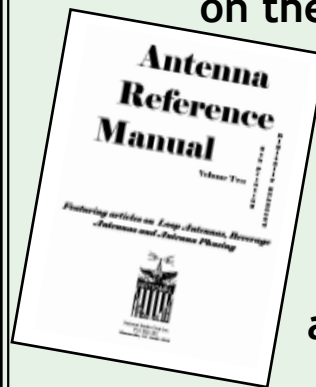


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