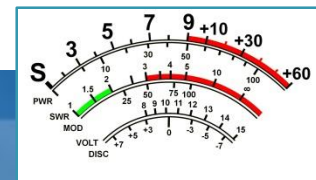


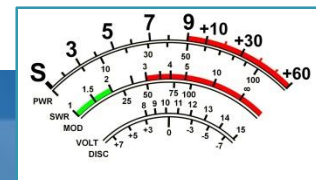
Operating Ham Radio From Other Countries

Bob Witte, KØNR
bob@k0nr.com
Monument, CO



Agenda

- Introduction
- Licensing
- Example Operations
- Serious Dxpeditons (K1N)
- Q&A



My Experience Outside the US

Country	Callsign	Notes
Canada	KBØCY/VE6	VHF
Japan	7J1AUE	VHF/UHF
Honduras	HR3/KBØCY	HF
Bahamas	KBØCY/C6A KØNR/C6A	HF satellite
Bonaire	PJ4/KØNR	HF satellite
US Virgin Islands	KP2/KØNR	HF, VHF
Antigua	V29RW	HF, VHF

Note the inconsistency in placement of the country prefix



Why Operate Ham Radio Outside the US?

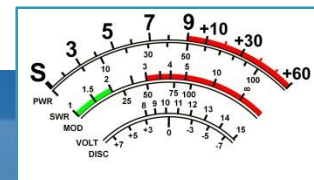
Why not?

Be the DX

Activate rare countries, islands or locations

Use VHF for local communications

Have fun



Licensing

Is it difficult to get a license? *It Depends*

Your FCC license is valid for USA only (including possessions)

Automatic reciprocal agreement: **Canada** (just add /VEx on the end of your US callsign)

European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

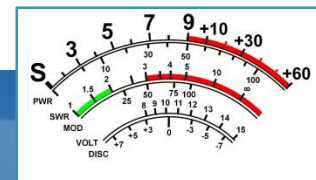
- Almost instant reciprocal licensing, just have the required documentation with you (FCC license, FCC documentation, proof of US citizenship)
- General, Advanced, Extra Class licensees only (sorry, Techs)
- Most **European countries and possessions**

International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP)

- Valid for Argentina, Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela
- Available from the ARRL for \$10

Reciprocal Permit

- The country's regulating authority issues you a license based on your FCC radio license
- Requires paperwork, usually a fee and a wide range of difficulty (varies by country)



Licensing Examples

Canada: automatic

US Virgin Islands:

US license is sufficient, US possession, counts as separate DXCC country

Honduras

File paperwork by mail, no fee, not too difficult, 2 to 3 weeks

Bahamas

File paperwork by mail, \$35 fee, allow several weeks

Antigua

File paperwork by email, \$35 fee, allow 4 to 6 weeks

Bonaire

Netherlands Antilles, CEPT

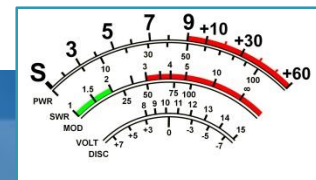
Japan:

File paperwork via email, \$40 fee, allow 90 days

Mexico

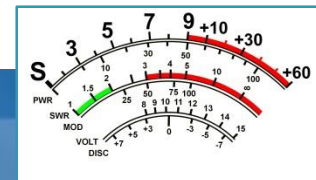
Difficult, really need to do it person, \$80 fee

ARRL web site is
an excellent
resource



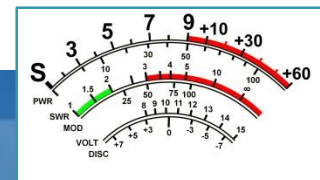
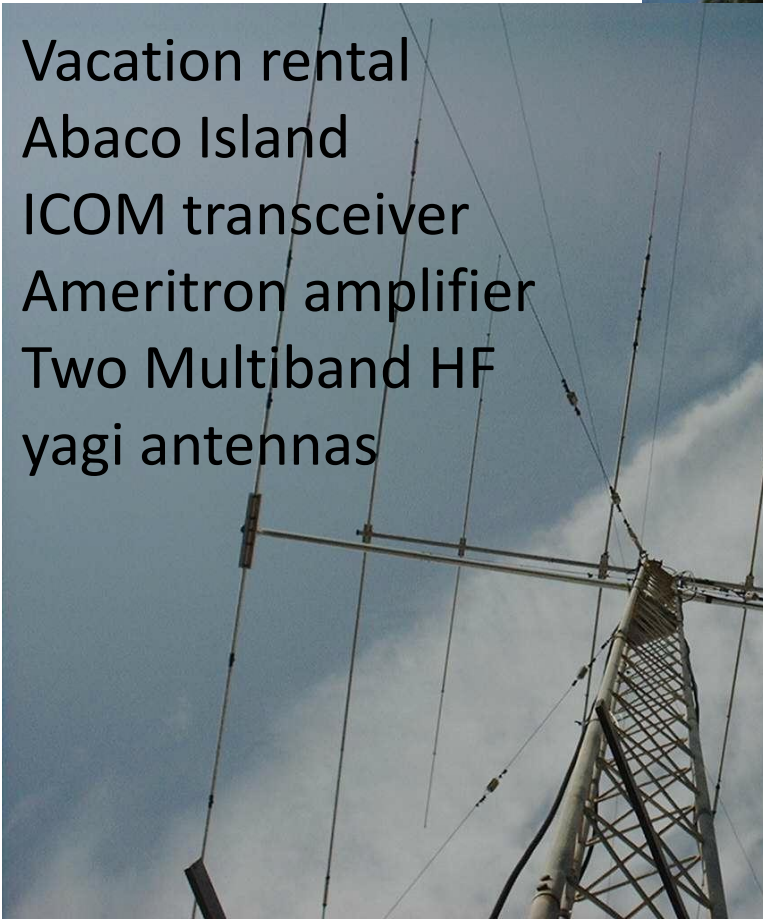
Basic Approach

1. Rent a vacation home with established station
 - Many homes with shack available for rent
 - Some are set up as serious contest stations
2. Take your own portable station
 - Typically via commercial airline, checked baggage
 - Compact transceiver
 - Switching Power Supply (check on local voltage/plug)
 - Portable antennas
 - Outbacker, Buddistick, End-Fed Half-Wave, etc.
 - Probably not heavy masts or tower
 - Notebook computer
 - Headset, headphones, keyer, coax, connectors



Bahamas KBØCY/C6A

Vacation rental
Abaco Island
ICOM transceiver
Ameritron amplifier
Two Multiband HF
yagi antennas



Bonaire (PJ4/KØNR)



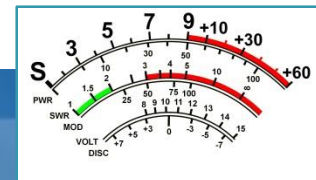
Station:

Yaesu FT-100

MFJ Tuner

20m $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave wire vertical
with radials

Used PSK31

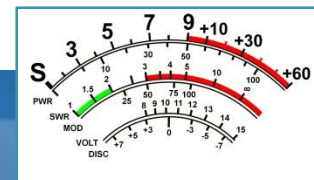


Bonaire (PJ4/KØNR)

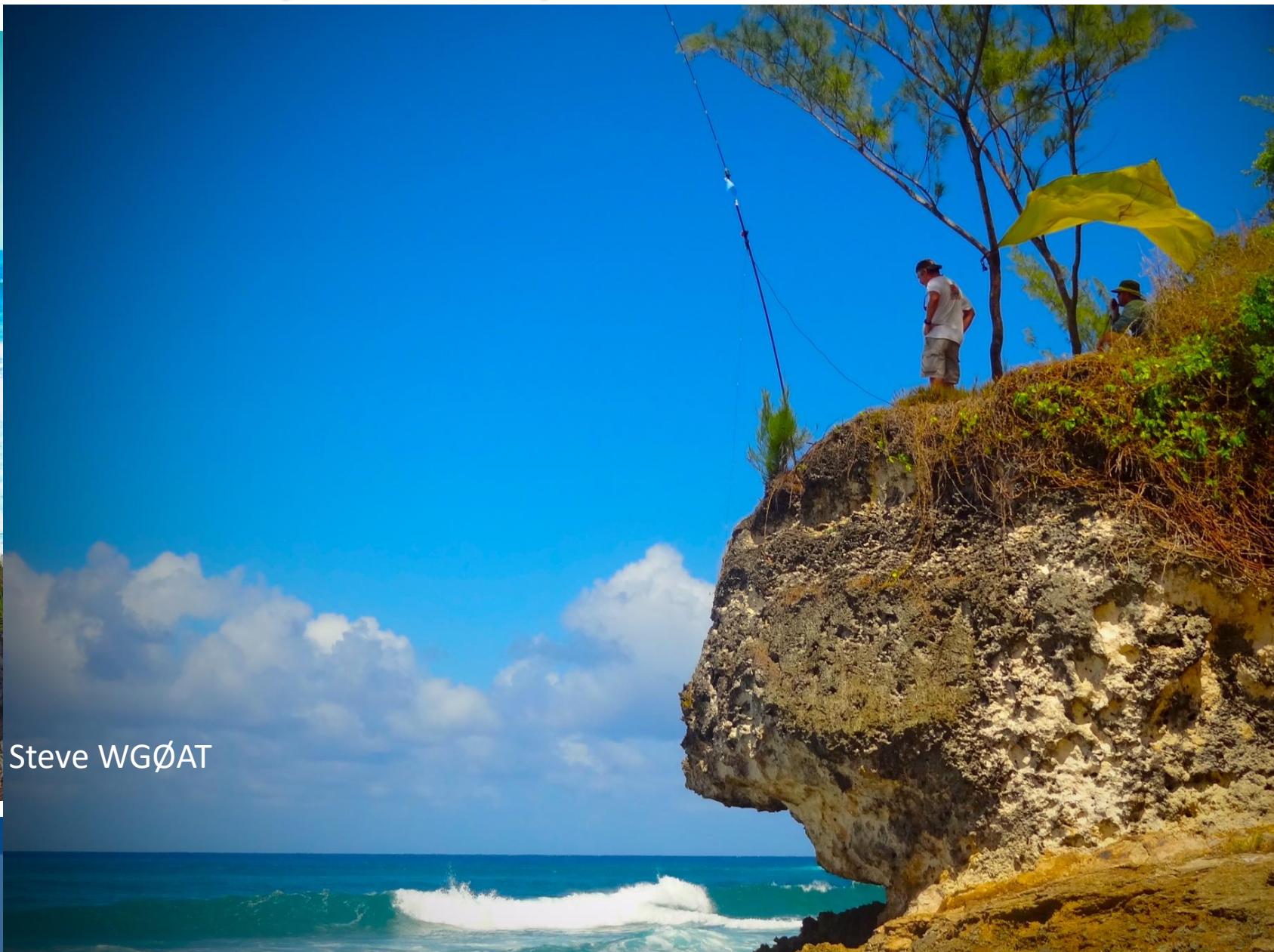


Satellite Operating:

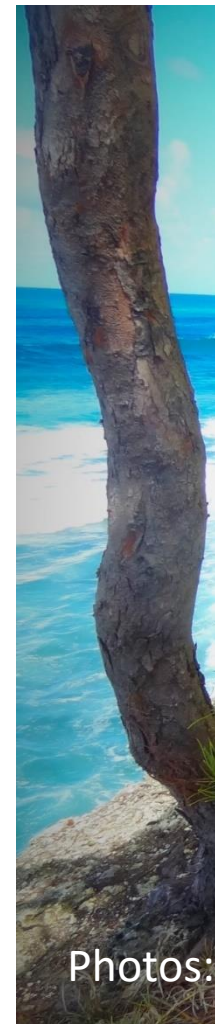
- Islands are always a rare grid
- Compact equipment
- Lots of fun!



Barbados (8P6HP) - Chris W6HFP



Photos: Steve WGØAT

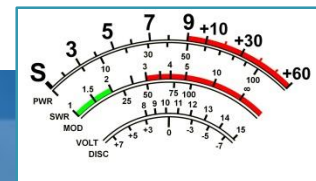
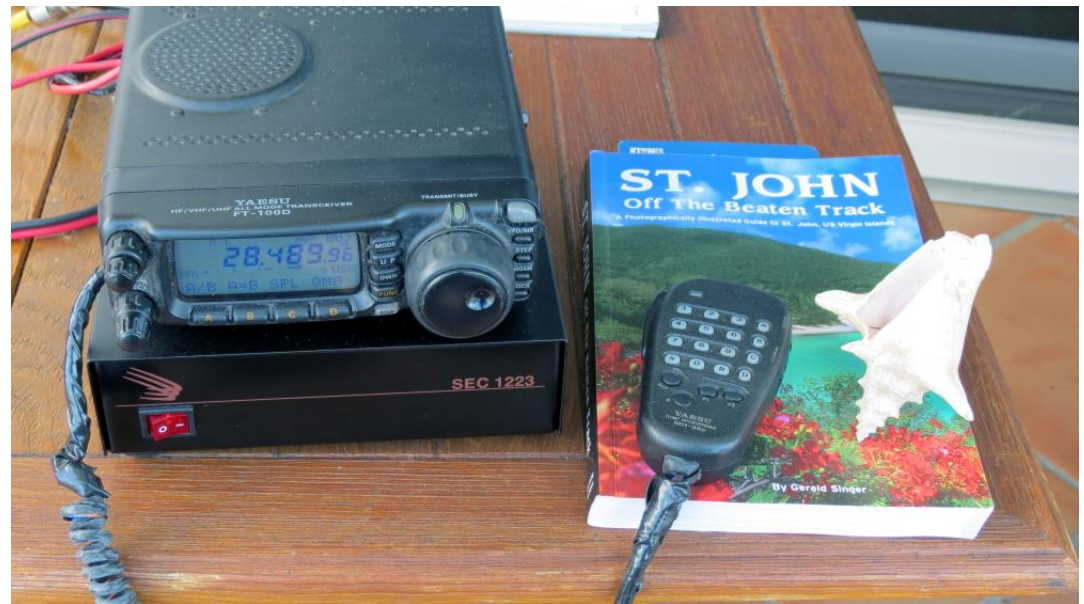


Virgin Islands (KP2/KØNR)

Yaesu FT-100D

Switching power supply

Buddistick vertical on the deck railing

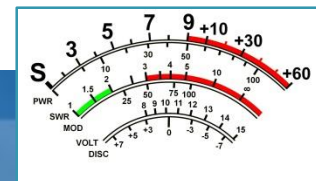
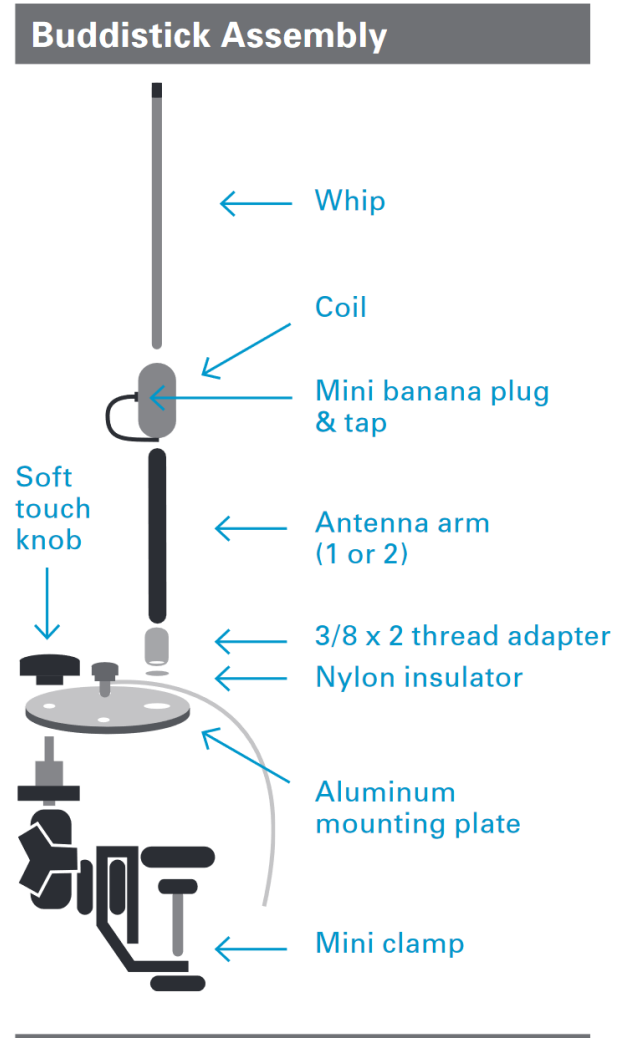


Buddistick Antenna

Covers 40m through 10m
Tunes via tapped coil
Uses one radial as counterpoise



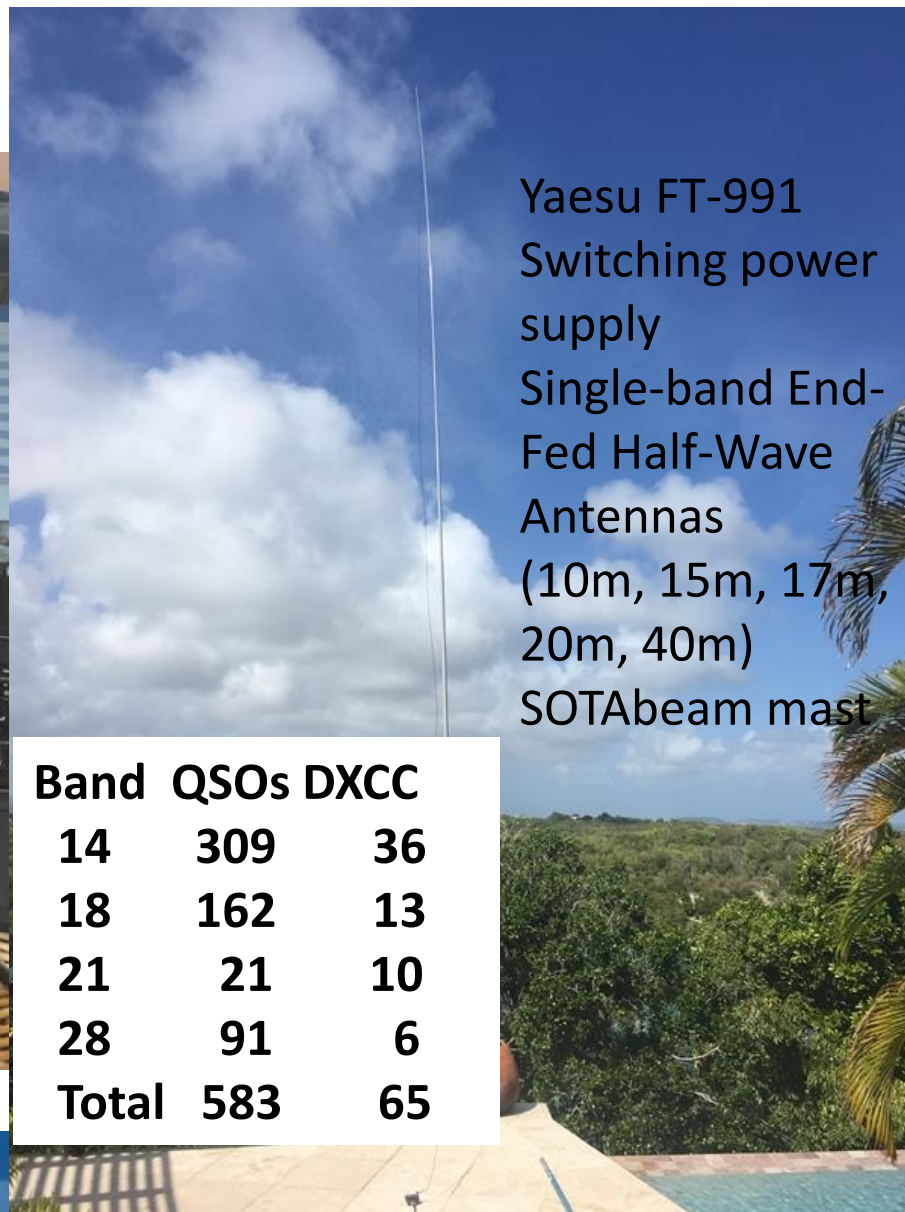
Deluxe package, \$175



On The Beach



Antigua (V29RW)



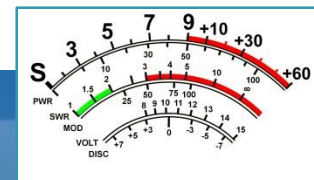
Yaesu FT-991
Switching power supply
Single-band End-Fed Half-Wave Antennas
(10m, 15m, 17m, 20m, 40m)
SOTAbeam mast

Band	QSOs	DXCC
14	309	36
18	162	13
21	21	10
28	91	6
Total	583	65

EFHW Antenna

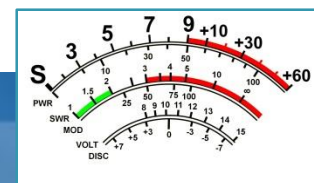
End-Fed Half-Wave Antenna

Kind of like a half-wave dipole but you can feed it from the end.

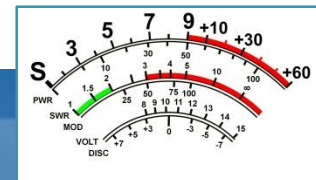


What about VHF?

- Long distance VHF propagation is not reliable, so it typically doesn't fit the casual DXpedition
- 6 meters might be the exception, in the summer months
- 2m and 70cm FM are useful for local communication (repeater and simplex)
 - Chat with the locals
 - Coordinate locally if you have multiple hams
 - Avoid mobile phone charges
- Use VHF/UHF for satellites



Serious DXpeditions



K1N - Navassa Island

#1 Most Wanted DXCC Entity

138,409 radio contacts

35,702 unique callsigns

14 operators, 7 HF radios, 4

small beams + wire antennas

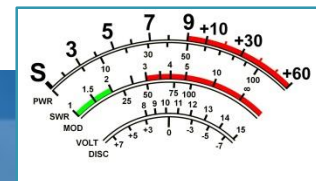


K1N Navassa Island
DXpedition 2015

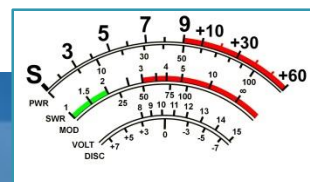


Summary

- Licensing: it depends
- Equipment: compact and portable
- Or rent a shack



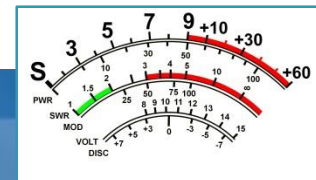
Photos from Antigua (V29RW)







Innovative 2m/70cm magmount antenna installation





17M END FEDZ
PART# EF-17
LNR Precision, Inc.
Randleman NC
www.lnrprecision.com

CX100XC25
20070911







