



Long Path



Volume 32 Issue 8

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

August 2022



From the Editor's DESK

HOT LAZY DAYS of SUMMER

Well that just about describes the band conditions as of late. Not very good propagation and not many, if any DXpeditions. 6M certainly did not compare to 2021's season. It truly has been a lazy summer so far.

On the upside, W9DXCC is happening in September. Registration and hotel reservations are on going. My XYL and I are attending. Chicago is a waypoint for us, as we will be motoring onto Alberta Canada for a wedding. Yippy another road trip. Might as well. No DX on the bands.

My remote site suffered a major failure. All electronic - UPS, computer, a 12VDC power supply. The rig is fine, but the support equipment did not fare well. No sign of a lightening event. I suspect a power blip was the culprit. Slowly rebuilding. It'll be ready for the fall and winter DX season (I hope). So you all should check out your station during these lazy days and verify all essential equipment is ready for the DX season.

I'm anxiously awaiting the two major DXpeditions this fall/winter - Crozet and Bouvet Is. I'm thinking of installing a beverage (or at least a BOG) to enhance my chances of working them on 160. Crozet would be an ATNO for me, but I could certainly use more band/modes from Bouvet for my Challenge Award as well.

Stay cool in August. Drink lots of fluids. See you in the pile-ups.

Good DX.

73, Chet VE3CFK

NEXT Meeting:

In- Person

Meeting

September 14th, 2022 at 7 PM

Program

TBA

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

Vice-president: Vacant

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Vacant

Program Director: Ted Pauck, **K8NA**
and Steve Culp, **K8QKY**

Directors: Doug **N8VY** and Bob **K8RGM**

Club Appointees:

Web Site Editor: Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

LP Publisher: Chet Latawicz, **VE3CFK**

ARRL and CQ Appointees:

DXCC Checker: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

DXCC Checker: Bill Jones, **N8KF**

DXCC Checker: Less Butler, **W8MSP**

VUCC Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

VUCC Checker: Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

CQ Checker: Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

OH0 - Aland Is.

Seven operators from Finland plan to be on 160—2M in August 20 - 27. Focus will be on 6, 30, 17 and 2M CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY.

3B9 - Rodrigues Is.

3B8FA, 3B8GF, 3B8CF, 3B8FV and 3B8BAN plan activity from Rodrigues island (callsigns will change to 3B9's) during August 5-9, 2022. QRV on HF bands using G5RV's; also activity on QO-100 SAT.

8Q7AG - Maldives

Giovanni, IZ2DPX to be active from the Maldives as 8Q7AG during August 8-20, 2022. QRV on HF bands + 6m.

OG0C - Aland Is.

Team consisting of UT5UY/OH5UY, OH2MZB, OH2JIU, OH5CZ, OH5CY, OH5ELX and OH5CW will be active from the Aland Islands as OG0C during August 20-27, 2022. QRV on 160-2m from rare KO09; Focus 6m and WARC bands; CW, SSB, FT8 & RTTY; QSL via OH5C

FH4VVJ - Mayotte

Starting September 1st, lasting for ~ 18 months, Mark, F4VVJ (ex-J25DXA, J28WR) will be living on Mayotte and has acquired the callsign FH4VVJ. QRV using an IC-718 transceiver on HF bands.

ZOOM MEETINGS

In person meetings have resumed. But we hopefully can continue to ZOOM our meetings. The April meeting will be a test case to validate that the Fork n' Pint wifi/internet can support our zoom meeting.

For those not familiar with ZOOM, please refer to the 2020 October or November issues of The Long Path which are accessible online on the SEMDXA Website for details on how to setup your computer for a ZOOM meeting.

Use the one step process and just click on the link below to join upcoming meetings.

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493?pwd=N0t3N1RpUFZj>

W9DXCC

Registration for W9DXCC, Contest University and the venue hotel is ongoing. Here's the link: [W9DXCC](#)

CQ DX Marathon

Current CQ DX Marathon Manager K9EL, John Sweeney, announces and welcomes WC3W, Mark Wohlschlegel, as the new manager starting January 1, 2023. "Mark will lead a team to continue the development and growth of the DX Marathon", says John. If you can help with database management, website management, software programming, etc. please contact John via email to c3w@dxmarathon.com. John will continue to be involved to help insure "a smooth transition".

J2 - Djibouti

J28MD by the MDXC, Mediterraneo DX Club, will be on the air, October 29 to November 7, to focus on the lower bands, plus 30, 17 and 12. The operators are IZ8CCW, IZ4UEZ, IZ3GNG, IZ2GNW, YO8WW, AG4W, IK4QJF, DJ5IW, DL6LZM, DL8JJ, KO8SCA, DL8OBF, NG7M and IU8LMC.

TY - Benin

The "Russian DX Team" plans TY0RU, Benin, in October. It starts October 11 when the first two ops take their flight and check out the Benin QTH. By October 13 they expect to be on the air, but most of the ops meet up in Moscow and take their flight a few days later, with the full team being operational in Benin by October 14. October 27 they pack the gear for home and get ready to fly out. On the team are RA1ZZ, RW9JZ, R7AL, RW8A, R9LR and R2BZ.

A3 - Tonga

Pacific DXpeditioner LZ1GC, Stan, announces he along with LZ1PM, Ivan, are planning a DXpedition to Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu Islands (OC-049), Kingdom of Tonga from November 2 to 20. Listen for A35GC to be operating with a Kenwood TS 480 SAT, Yaesu FT DX 10 along with Linear amplifiers ACOM 1200S and ACOM 700S. They will be active on CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 on 1.8 through 50 MHz using verticals for 160 and 80 meters and two multi-band ground-planes for 60-6 meters.

CANCELLATIONS

I have no upcoming cancellations! In fact, if you look at the end pages of this Long Path, you'll notice that the DXpedition listings have increased from 3 to 4 pages! Hopefully, a sign of the times!

NOT CANCELLED YET

Some things to look forward to:

- SEMDXA September in-person meeting at Fork n' Pint in Waterford on Wednesday, September 14h at 7:00 PM
- 2023 Hamvention
- September issue of The Long Path
- W9DXCC
- Thanksgiving, Christmas

T8 - Palau

K7AR, Al, says "Members of the Willamette Valley DX Club Bob, W7YAQ and Al, K7AR will be active as T8YA and T8AR respectively from Choll, Palau from November 19-28, 2022. They will be operating from a community center near Choll that has been the site of other expeditions. Activity includes an entry in the CQ WW CW Contest. Two Elecraft K-Line stations will be operational from 160-10 Meters with an emphasis on providing low band contacts to Europe, NA East Coast and SA eastern countries. Antennas include various verticals such as the Butternut HF9V, DX Commander Classic, 160 M Inverted L, and SteppIR CrankIR.

Battle Creek Special Group Retiring

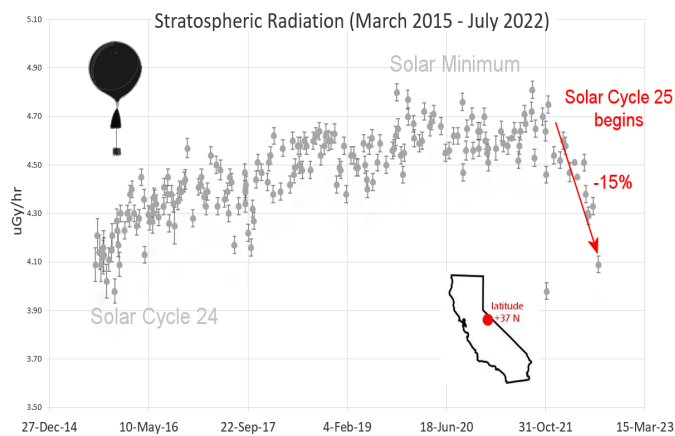
The Battle Creek Special Group is getting out of antenna loans and maintenance. After thirty plus years starting with the original Bouvet DX-pedition, the "BCS" group is looking to donate the last two antennas to active DX-pedition groups that will make good use of these antennas and erect them at various entities that have little low-band activity to provide 160- 80- and 40-meter QSOs for the deserving.

There are two antennas available: A standard model in ski-bag and ski-boot luggage and a heavy-duty model in a wooden case for 100mph (160kph) wind resistance in locations like the "roaring forties". This antenna was first used at VK0IR, Heard Island, and has seen a lot of activity in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

DX-pedition groups that regularly go to different rare and semi-rare locations and are interested in receiving these antennas are encouraged to put together a resume of past activities and intended trips and contact either W8UVZ at w8uvz@yahoo.com or K8GG at k8gg@voyager.net. These antennas will be shipped pre-paid to the qualifying recipients along with some maintenance tips and a few spare parts. Photos, etc., are available to those who have not used these antennas before. Also please read "How's DX" by Bernie, W3UR, in the September 2021 issue of QST Magazine, pages 76-77 for further information.

Cosmic Ray Update

Cosmic rays in the atmosphere are rapidly subsiding. In the past year alone, radiation levels in the air high above California have plummeted more than 15%, according to regular launches of cosmic ray balloons by Spaceweather.com and Earth to Sky Calculus. The latest measurement on July 23, 2022, registered a 6 year low. This development, while



sudden, is not unexpected. Cosmic rays from deep space are repelled by solar activity; when one goes up, the other goes down. Since 2021, Solar Cycle 25 has roared to life faster than forecasters expected. The onset of the new solar cycle has naturally led to a decrease in cosmic radiation reaching Earth.

This may sound counterintuitive. After all, don't solar flares produce radiation? Yes, but most high-energy radiation doesn't come from the sun; it comes from deep space. Every day galactic cosmic rays from distant supernova explosions pass through the Solar System. When they hit the top of Earth's atmosphere, they create a secondary spray of radiation, which we measure using sensors onboard our balloons.

The sun makes it more difficult for these cosmic rays to reach Earth. Simply put, when the sun is active, its magnetic field gets stronger and more tangled. Cosmic rays have trouble penetrating the magnetic thicket. Also, individual CMEs sweep aside cosmic rays, causing sharp reductions called "Forbush Decreases." The two effects blend together to bring daily radiation levels down.

CY0S - Sable Is.

The Sable Island CY0S DXpedition Team was informed by Parks Canada - Sable Island on Wednesday, July 6, that we would need to reschedule the DXpedition from the Fall of 2022. The reason for this significant change is due to a large, six week project Parks Canada has on the island beginning on October 1 and going to at least mid-November 2022. This project was just approved and funding secured on July 4th. After discussions with the Sable Island staff and our DXpedition team, we unanimously agreed on March 20-29, 2023 for the CY0S DXpedition. Finally, after seven years of planning, we have assigned dates for the DXpedition! The CY0S team would like to thank the staff of Parks Canada - Sable Island for diligently working with us to find a suitable alternative date. By moving the DXpedition to March 2023, the CY0S DXpedition team hopes to take advantage of the late winter, early spring band conditions and improving solar numbers. Also this week, Sable Aviation informed us of another increase in the fuel surcharge for our flights to the island. The fuel surcharge has now doubled.

VK0 - Macquarie Is.

VK0MQ, Matt Gledhill, continues to be QRV. He started last month and goes to October. Matt is very busy on the island, so please be patient.

H4 - Solomon Is.

Bernhard, DL2GAC will be QRV as H44MS from Honiara on Guadalcanal Island, IOTA OC-047, from July 30 to September 15. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and possibly FT8.

Hamfest Calender

8/6/22 - Columbus Hamfest, Columbus, OH
 8/13/22 - Letcher Co, Hamfest, Whitesburg, KY
 8/13/22 - Cincinnati Hamfest, Owensville, OH
 8/20/22 - GM ARC Trunk Swap, Shelby Twp, MI
 8/21/22 - Letcher County, Whitesburg, KY
 8/28/22 - Seaway, Port Huron, MI
 9/10/22 - GRAHamfest, Grand Rapids, MI
 9/10/22 - CMARC Hamfest, Okemos, MI
 9/10/22 - Greater Louisville Hamfest, Shepherdsville, KY
 9/11/22 - Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH
 9/17/22 - Richmond Hamfest, Richmond, KY
 9/17/22 - Mound ARA, Miamisburg, OH
 9/17/22 - GMARC Trunk Swap, Shelby Twp, MI
 9/18/22 - Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI
 9/25/22 - Cleveland Hamfest, Berea, OH

Electric Vehicles and the death of 160M?

Your editor came across this interesting article published by Global News. I found it discouraging that it was under the heading of "Entertainment". I found nothing entertaining about the article at all. In fact I believe it should have been published in the "Deaths Column"!

Not only do EVs pose an issue with AM broadcasting but also Amateur Radio 160M and other bands.

We are all aware that the noise floor on our ham bands is ever increasing, but now we have another source of noise. I wonder if anyone can invent an EV Noise Blanker?

Here is the link to the [Global News Article](#).

PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS

by Chet VE3CFK



2022

Multimode	CW	Digital
Off-the-air	SSB	VHF/UHF

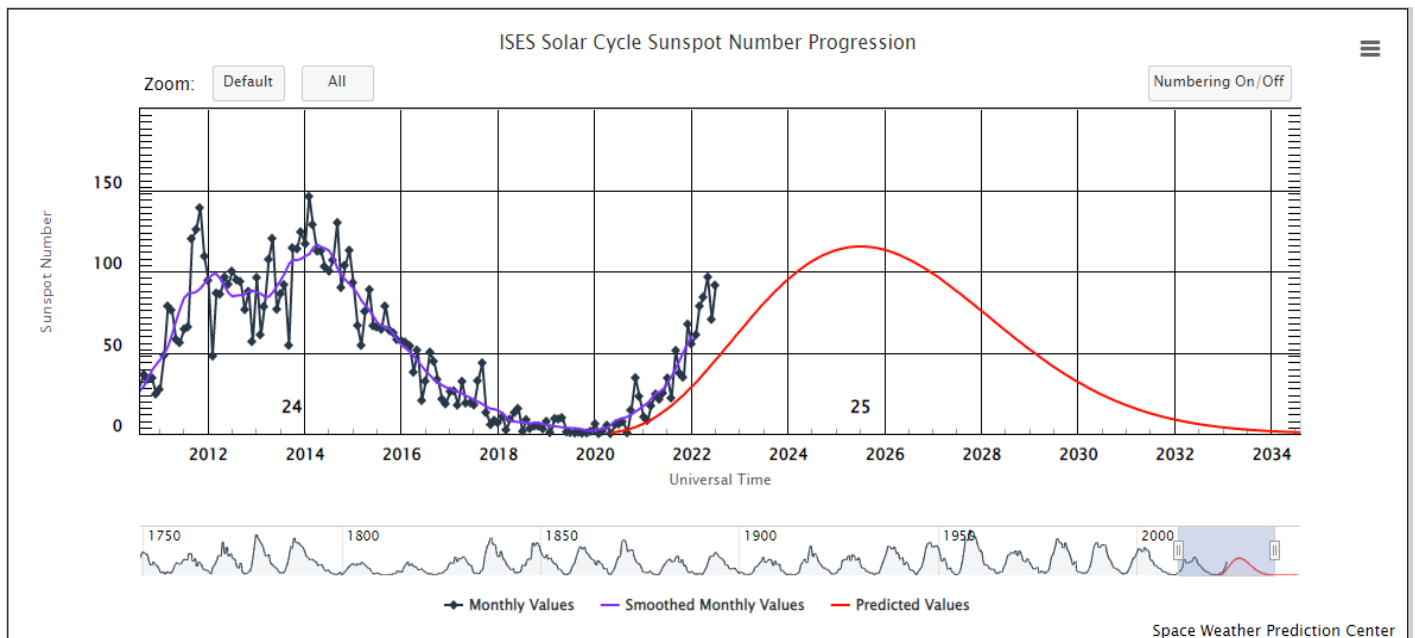
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

1 0800Z 2359Z HAPPY NEW YEAR	5 2300Z 0300Z NA Sprint CW	6 0000Z 2400Z ARRL DX SSB	2 1900Z 00Z SP Polish DX	3 VARIES VARIES 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	7 1200Z 1159Z TISZA CUP CW	8 0000Z 2359Z RAC CANADA DAY	1 1800Z 0600Z NAQP CW	6 0000Z 2235Z CW Ops CW Open	3 0800Z 0600Z Oceania PHONE	5 2100Z 0300Z ARRL SS CW	7 2200Z 1800Z ARRL 160
8 0800Z 2359Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	9 0000Z 2359Z CQWW WPX RTTY	12 2300Z 0300Z NA Sprint RTTY	13 0700Z 1300Z JIDX CW	9 1200Z 1159Z CQ-M DX	14 1800Z 0000Z ARRL June VHF	15 1200Z 1200Z IARU HF	10 0000Z 2359Z WAE CW	13 0000Z 2359Z WAE SSB	14 0800Z 0600Z Oceania CW	11 0000Z 2359Z WAE RTTY	10 0000Z 2359Z ARRL 10 Meter
15 0800Z 0559Z NAQP CW	16 0000Z 2400Z ARRL DX CW	19 1200Z 0200Z Russian DX	20 1800Z 0400Z Michigan QSO Party	16 1100Z 2100Z Contest University	17 1900Z 2400Z All Asian CW	18 1800Z 2100Z CQ WW VHF	16 2000Z 2100Z NAQP SSB	17 VARIES VARIES WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	15 1500Z 1459Z Worked All Germany	19 2100Z 0300Z ARRL SS SSB	21 0000Z 2359Z RAC Winter
22 1800Z 0559Z NAQP SSB	23 2200Z 2200Z CQ 160 SSB	25 0000Z 2359Z CQWW WPX SSB	27 1200Z 1200Z SP DX RTTY	20 1400Z 1700Z Hamvention	22 1800Z 2100Z ARRL Field Day	23 1200Z 1200Z Family Time	24 1200Z 1200Z WW Digi	27 0000Z 2400Z CQWW RTTY	24 0000Z 2400Z Prepare for Next weekend	25 0000Z 2359Z CQ WW CW	26 0000Z 2359Z Happy Holidays
28 2200Z 2200Z CQ 160 CW			30 1200Z 1159Z RUSSIAN WW MM	1 0000Z 2400Z CQ WPX CW	28 1200Z 1200Z RSGB IOTA	29 1200Z 1200Z CQ WW SSB			29 0000Z 2400Z CQ WW SSB		

Rev 1

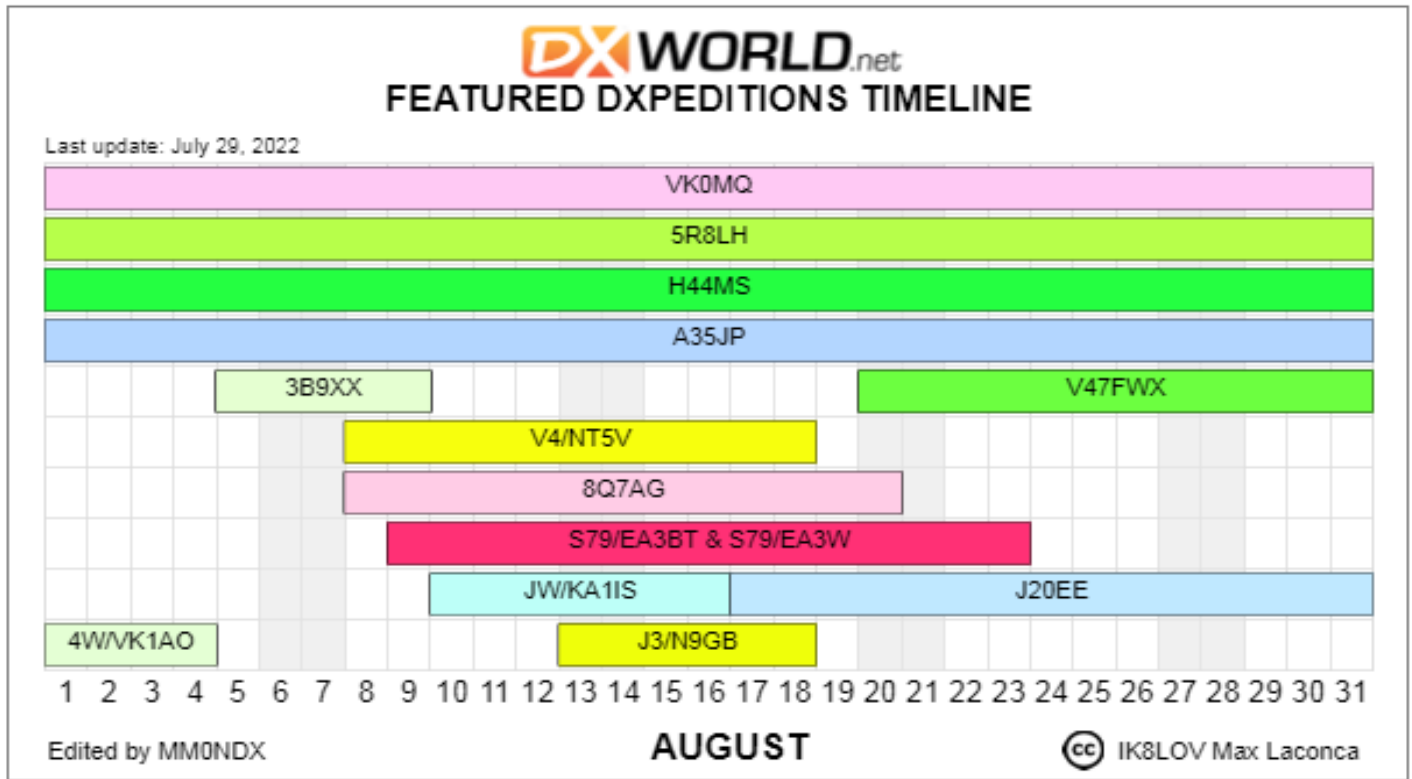
SOLAR CYCLE 25

NOAA/SWPC



Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World



Canada gets new Bands

Radio Amateurs Canada notes two new bands for Canadian amateurs. In "RBR-4, Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service," RAC announces that 472-479 kHz, the 630 meter band, 5W EIRP maximum is allowed, signal max bandwidth 1 kHz. Second, the 60M band, 5351.5 to 5366.5, are now allowed, with a maximum of 100W ERP, maximum bandwidth 2.8 kHz. This band is added to the existing 5332, 5348, 5373 and 5405 kHz channels.

Thank you to Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, The Weekly DX, ARRL and DX World, NG3K, CLUBLOG and Dales Tales for their contributions to this newsletter.

6M Season...

6M season (summer season) has come and gone. It was not a total disappointment, but it could have been much better. On the plus side, I did manage to work 6 new ones this season, which takes me to 100 on 6M. 99 are confirmed and awaiting one QSL card (I didn't think QSL cards were used anymore. Guess I was wrong - again!) So when my 100th is confirmed I am immediately applying for my 6M DXCC (albeit mostly using FT-8). So do I like FT-8? The verdict is still out.

I also managed to work Kentucky on 6M for my 49th state. Still waiting for Alaska. It didn't show up this year.

I missed Australia on 6M this summer. Al, K8SIX and my buddy in Sarnia VE3EDY both worked VK. VE3EDY actually worked 2 VKs!!!!

"There's always next year". The DXers lament!

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2022					
July					
2022 Jul04	2022 Aug04	Nicaragua	YN2RP [spots]	LoTW	DXNews 20220531
2022 Jul27	2022 Aug04	East Timor	4W [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20220711
2022 Jul27	2022 Aug07	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA [spots]	LoTW	W5JON 20220530
RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul 30-31, 2022) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
August					
2022 Aug01	2022 Aug08	Madagascar	5R8LH [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20220803
2022 Aug01	2022 Aug13	Azerbaijan	4K7DK [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20220803
2022 Aug01	2022 Sep09	Madagascar	5R8LH [spots]	IK2DUW	425DXN 20220722
2022 Aug01	2022 Sep21	Solomon Is	H44MS [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20220719
2022 Aug05	2022 Aug09	Rodrigues I	3B9	TBA	TDDX 20220519
2022 Aug07	2022 Aug20	Tonga	A35JP/p	LoTW	JA0RQV 20220606
2022 Aug08	2022 Aug14	Tanzania	5J2JK	DL8AAI	DXW.Net 20220730
2022 Aug08	2022 Aug18	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	NT5V	DXNews 20220622
2022 Aug08	2022 Aug20	Maldives	8Q7AG	LoTW	TDDX 20220622
2022 Aug09	2022 Aug23	Seychelles	S79	TBA	DXW.Net 20220507
2022 Aug10	2022 Aug16	Svalbard	JW	KA1S	TDDX 20220608
2022 Aug12	2022 Aug16	Angola	D2TX	PA3CMC	TDDX 20220713
2022 Aug12	2022 Aug19	Grenada	J3	N9GB	TDDX 20220711

Editors NOTE:

I've intentionally left a wide margin here for your notes on band and mode fills required.

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

2022 Aug12	2022 Aug19	Grenada	J3	N9GB	TDDX 20220711
2022 Aug20	2022 Aug27	Aland Is	OG0C	LoTW	OH5CW 20220803
2022 Aug20	2022 Aug31	St Kitts & Ne- vis	V47FWX	MOURX	DXNews 20220622
2022 Aug23	2022 Aug23	Albania	ZA	LoTW	TDDX 20220624
2022 Aug28	2022 Sep25	Tonga	A35JP	LoTW	JA0RQV 20220606
September					
2022 Sep03	2022 Sep05	Ogasawara	JD1BOW	JA0JHQ	DXW.Net 20220718
2022 Sep09	2022 Sep21	Chatham I	ZL7	Club Log OQRS	K5WE 20220527
2022 Sep10	2022 Sep23	Dodecanese	SV5	LoTW	TDDX 20220803
2022 Sep16	2022 Sep28	San Andres & Providencia	5K0T	Club Log OQRS	TDDX 20220516
2022 Sep19	2022 Sep26	Svalbard	JW0A		TDDX 20220714
October					
2022 Oct01	2022 Oct15	Marquesas	TX7G	Auto QSL	DXW.Net 20220622
2022 Oct05	2022 Oct17	Comoros	D60AE	TBA	DXNews 20220506
2022 Oct10	2022 Oct25	Benin	TY0RU	R7AL	DXW.Net 20220319
2022 Oct20	2022 Oct23	Monaco	3A	LoTW	TDDX 20220803
2022 Oct21	2022 Oct23	Belize	V3E	LoTW	TDDX 20220426

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

2022 Oct25	2022 Nov04	Saba & Sint Eustatius	PJ5	LoTW	W5JON 20211230
2022 Oct26	2022 Nov03	Cocos Keel- ing	VK9CM	EB7DX	VK6VY 20211208
CQ WW DX Contest, SSB (Oct 29-30, 2022) Check here for pericontest activ-					
2022 Oct29	2022 Nov07	Djibouti	J28MD	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220417
November					
2022 Nov01	2022 Nov09	Austral Is	TX5XG	LoTW	JA1XGI 20220411
2022 Nov01	2022 Nov30	Central Afri- can Rep	TL8AA	I2YSB	I2YSB 20220405
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov07	Lesotho	7P8CW	LoTW	DXNews 20220524
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov14	Palau	T88WA	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220723
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov20	Tonga	A35GC	TBA	DXW.Net 20220803
2022 Nov23	2022 Dec04	Palau	T88PB	JA0JHQ	DXW.Net 20220607
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 26-27, 2022) Check here for pericontest ac-					
2022 Nov30	2022 Dec09	St Martin	TO9W	LoTW	DXNews 20220123
December					
2022 Dec15	2022 Dec31	Crozet	FT8/c	TBA	TDDX 20211028
2023					
January					
2023 Jan02	2023 Jan31	Montserrat	VP2MDX	LoTW	TDDX 20220508
2023 Jan13	2023 Jan20	Palau	T8	See Info	DXW.Net 20220706
2023 Jan23	2023 Feb28	Bouvet I	3Y0J	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210809

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

February					
2023 Feb01	2023 Feb28	Samoa	5W0DX	TBA	DXW.Net 20220728
March					
2023 Mar01	2023 Mar11	Galapagos	HC8M	See Web	TDDX 20220627
2023 Mar04	2023 Apr01	St Martin	PJ7AA	LoTW	TDDX 20220711
2023 Mar20	2023 Mar29	Sable I	CY0S	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220710