

# Long Path



Volume 36 Issue 6

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

June 2026



## PRES Sez

### Zoom Meeting Link

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493>

Hi all,

Welcome to June. My how time flies. As we all know, elections will be held at the next meeting. We always love to have new people join the board. On the lower right of this page are the current directors of the club. All positions are available. Throw your hat in if your interested!

A little bit of history for amateur radio. On June 2nd, 1896 Guglielmo Marconi filled a British Patent. It was the worlds first patent for a system of wireless telegraphy using radio waves. Backstory, he was a gifted amateur. Marconi didn't actually discover radi waves, Heinrich Hertz already had proven they existed in laboratory settings. At the time, people that radio waves were a fascinating scientific novelty with zero practical use. Marconi to prove his point, transmitted his signal over two kilometers, even through an intervening hill, Marconis bother fired a hunting rifle when his receiver sparked to life!

There will not be a news letter for the months of July and August as well as no club meetings. Our next meeting will be on September 16th at Ginos.

Take the summer to inspect and fix your antennas. I have to go through my vertical and repair my Dipole.

I want to thank everyone that attends the meetings, helps with club activities and the website. This is what keeps the club going.

We are looking for a "Program Director" if anyone is interested. In the meantime, if anyone knows of any good presentations, please let the board know and we will see if we can get them signed up. We are currently looking for presentations for next Fall. We have one for September but need more for the rest of the year. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know. I know Fred 1 has many DXpeditions DVDs which we could use for presentations.

(cont'd on next page)

NEXT Meeting:

**Gino's  
Keego Harbor  
June 17th**

**Program**

**CY0S - Sable Island**

**DXpedition**

by

**Glenn Johnson**

**W0GJ**

#### SEMDXA OFFICERS

*President:* Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

*Vice-president:* Pete Gladysz, **K8PGJ**

*Treasurer:* Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

*Secretary:* Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

*Program Director:* Fred Goeckel,  
**KD8ZYD**

*Director:* Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

#### Club Appointees:

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

*LP Publisher:* Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

#### ARRL and CQ Appointees:

*DXCC Checker:* Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

*DXCC Checker:* Bill Jones, **N8KF**

*VUCC Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

*VUCC Checker:* Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

*CQ Checker:* Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

*CQ Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

## Prez Sez

(continued from page 1)

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I am at 296 contacts to different countries/entities and 288 are confirmed. I am now at 296 with 291 confirmed. Even more progress!! I'm 4 away from 300 contacts and only 9 away from 300 confirmed!!

Our board for SEMDXA, all volunteered to stay on the board in the same positions for the 2025/2026 season. The Prez – 73's

- President: Fred Goeckel, KD8ZYD
- Vice President: Pete Gladysz, K8PGJ
- Secretary: Brad N8SNM / Fred KD8ZYD
- Treasurer: Brad Nowak, N8SNM
- Program Director: Needed**

## CY0S DXpedition



## Meeting Minutes

### MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Fred KD8ZYD @ 6:45pm

Introductions with 14 members in attendance with 3 via zoom.

Feb. Minutes published in Long Path. Move to accept, Al K8SIX 1<sup>st</sup>. Brad N8SNM 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed

Treasurers Report by Treasurer Brad - N8SNM. Motion to accept by Fred - KD8ZYD 1<sup>st</sup>. Fred - W1SKU 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

### DUES ARE DUE.

President discussed upcoming DXpedition VP0SG (South Georgia Isl.) DXpedition to include YOTA (Young operators) Motion to donate \$500 approved by ye a vote.

Motion by President to make Chet Latawiec's wife and honorary Life member. Vote passed.

The Vibroplex Key donated to SEMDXA by the late Chet Latawiec VE3CFK was discussed. Bidding to end in 1 week (May 27<sup>th</sup>).

Mike WD8S announced to the group that a previous member Gary Rutledge – KR8V, had recently become a silent key.

Presentation on J51A (Guinea Bissau) by Life member Uli KK8I/DM5EE. Question and answer session followed.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:15 pm by President Fred.

# Ask AI

Fred, KD8ZYD asked Microsoft CoPilot to write - write 5 paragraphs on how 6 meter propagation occurs ? This is what was said!

## 6 Meter Propagation

Six-meter propagation occurs on the amateur radio band around 50 MHz, a frequency range that sits between the more predictable HF and VHF regions. Because of this position, 6 meters often behaves like a local line-of-sight band, but under the right atmospheric and ionospheric conditions it can suddenly support long-distance communication. This unusual mix of local reliability and occasional worldwide reach is why operators often call it the “Magic Band.” The main reason long-distance contacts happen on 6 meters is that the signal can sometimes be bent, reflected, or scattered by layers of ionized particles in the upper atmosphere rather than simply traveling straight to the horizon.

The most common form of long-distance 6-meter propagation is Sporadic E, often written as Es. In this mode, dense patches of ionization form in the E layer of the ionosphere at altitudes of roughly 90 to 120 kilometers. When these clouds become intense enough, they can reflect 50 MHz signals back toward Earth, allowing contacts over distances of about 700 to 2,500 kilometers in a single hop. If two or more ionized patches line up, the signal can make multiple hops and cover much greater distances. Sporadic E is especially common in late spring and summer in the Northern Hemisphere, with a smaller seasonal peak around December and January.

Another important but much rarer mechanism is F2-layer propagation. The F2 layer is higher in the ionosphere, usually around 250 to 400 kilometers above Earth, and it is responsible for much of the long-distance communication on lower HF bands. At 50 MHz, however, the frequency is high enough that only very strong ionization can bend the signal back to Earth. That usually happens near the peak of the 11-year solar cycle, when sunspot activity and solar radiation greatly increase ionization in the upper atmosphere. When F2 propagation does occur on 6 meters, it can support very long paths, including intercontinental and even near-global contacts.

Six-meter signals can also travel long distances by mechanisms outside the ionosphere. Tropospheric ducting happens in the lower atmosphere when layers of air with different temperatures and humidity levels create channels that trap radio waves and guide them over the horizon. This mode is more common over water or flat terrain and usually supports regional to medium-range contacts rather than global ones. Meteor scatter is another possibility: when tiny meteors enter the atmosphere, they leave short-lived ionized trails that can briefly reflect 6-meter signals. These bursts are usually very short, but digital modes and fast exchanges can make good use of them.

Overall, 6-meter propagation occurs because radio waves at 50 MHz are right at the edge where both atmospheric and ionospheric effects can matter. Conditions such as season, time of day, geographic location, solar flux, and geomagnetic activity all influence whether the band stays local or opens for long-distance communication. Stations near the geomagnetic equator may also benefit from transequatorial propagation, in which signals cross the equator through ionized regions on either side. Because these mechanisms can appear suddenly and disappear just as quickly, 6 meters is famous for being unpredictable. That unpredictability is exactly what makes studying and operating the band so interesting to radio amateurs.

## Dennis - KT8X

Dennis, KT8X is now the Great Lakes Division Representative to the DX Advisory Committee. If you have any questions or request, please reach out to Dennis. Or better yet, please attend a meeting and we can all hear the request.

## VP0SG - South Georgia 2027

Gathering at the LN8W station, ops for the VP0SG team are traveling from across Europe and North America. They spent the weekend going over plans and testing gear. They are sharing their past experiences and building their relationships for an operation in March, 2027.

## KH0 - Mariana Islands

KH0/AJ6VJ, Ken Harada, has an operation planned from Saipan for December 29, 2026 to January 3, 2027. Ken will be on 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 and possibly 80. No bureau cards, but QSL using LoTW, eQSL, or direct with SASE.

**Thank you to Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, The Weekly DX, ARRL and dx.radio, NG3K, CLUBLOG, Dales Tales and DX News.com for their contributions**

## EK - Armenia

August 17th a new Youth on the Air call will be on, EK0YOTA. "YOTA month" is this December. Some of the operators of EK0YOTA will be EK6ONL, EK6RF, EK6OTK and EK6OMZ. They plan to be on all bands, SSB and CW. QSL direct to the mailing address they have on their QRZ page

## 5H - Tanzania

A reminder, the NK80 (Charles) work trip to Chihoni, Tanzania, is planned to start today and continue to July 2. Working around his job assignments, he will be on the air as 5H3DX with his Elecraft KX3 radio to KXPA100 amp, and apparently a K3 also. In either case 100 watts to a dipole, vertical, and long wire antenna, CW, FT8 and FT4, 40-6M. He will upload the log to LoTW and Club Log. For a paper QSL, it's 5 USD through PayPal: <https://www.qrz.com/db/5H3DX>

## 60 - Somalia

ON5UR says the 606X team is now complete, as they welcome N6PSE and PA7DX, who bring experience and enthusiasm. They depart Ethiopia February 13 for Hargeisa, then Berbera, as their operational site, and expect to be active officially on February 15, 2027. For 12 days they will be on the air 24 hours a day. The major challenges area the logistics, transportation, setup, reliable power and good propagation. <https://www.dx-adventure.com/en/home-eng/>

## E5/S - South Cook Islands

E51KEE plans to be on the air July 22 to August 14, “mainly CW, some SSB,” and E51CZZ is July 26 to August 6, SSB. The ops say “We do not use FT8 or other digital modes.” They will try to activate POTA CK-002, the Rarotonga Marine Park. The ops say “This is a DX holiday, having a great time snorkeling, socializing, sightseeing, etc.” When time and XYLs permit, they will be on the air.

## S79 - Seychelles

SDL2SBY, Kasimir Bastian will active Seychelles as S79/DL2SBY September 11-21.

## VP0/H - South Shetland Islands

SQ4O, Rafal Mazur, is operating as HFØPAS from Arctowski, the Polish Antarctic Station on King George Island. He has installed a Yagi for 20, 15, and 10M as well as one for 6M. Rafal still has plans to install a dipole for 80 and 40M. He expects to be there until October.

## VU - India

To mark the 90th anniversary of Akashvani VU3YBH, Manmohan will operate special event station AT90VANI from Bhopal, India, from May 25 to August 16. He will use a barefoot IC-7300 with a hex beam on 20, 15, 12, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8.

## Hamfests

### Michigan Hamfests (April–July 2026)

**June 6, 2026 — IRA Hamfest (Hudsonville, MI)**  
Sponsor: Independent Repeater Association [ARRL](#)

**June 20, 2026 — Midland ARC Swap (Midland, MI)**  
Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club [ARRL](#)

**June 21, 2026 — Monroe Hamfest (Monroe, MI)**  
Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Asso. [Hamfest - Monroe County Radio Communications Association](#)

*(No Michigan hamfests are currently listed for July 2026.)*

### Ohio Hamfests (April–July 2026)

**April 11, 2026 — Cuyahoga Falls ARC 70th Hamfest (Cuyahoga Falls, OH)**  
Sponsor: CFARC [arrl-ohio.org](#)

**April 25, 2026 — Tusco ARC Hamfest & Electronics Show (Dover, OH)**  
Sponsor: Tusco ARC W8ZX [arrl-ohio.org](#)

**April 26, 2026 — Athens Hamfest (Athens, OH)**  
Sponsor: Athens County ARA [arrl-ohio.org](#)

# PERIODIC TABLE OF SELECT AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS

# 2026

Start Day (UTC) 1 2 End Day (UTC)  
 Start Time (UTC) 0000Z 2359Z End Time (UTC)  
 Contest Name  
 Select Contest of weekend as chosen by N3QE

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

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3 1800Z 2400Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	4 0000Z SSB Sprint	17 0000Z 2359Z ARRL DX SSB	8 1500Z SP Polish DX	4 1500Z varies 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	5 varies ARRL Digital	2 1800Z 2400Z Marconi Memorial HF	6 1400Z 1800Z NAQP CW	5 0600Z 0000Z All Asian DX SSB	2 2400Z 1600Z California QSO Party	3 2159Z 0000Z SSB Sprint	1 0359Z 2200Z ARRL 160
10 1800Z 0559Z NAQP CW	11 0000Z 0359Z NA Sprint CW	8 0000Z 0359Z NA Sprint RTTY	15 0700Z JIDX CW	15 0700Z 1300Z Volta WW RTTY	9 1200Z ARRL June VHF	10 1200Z 0300Z IARU HF WRTC 2026	11 1200Z 0000Z WAE CW	8 2359Z 0000Z WAE SSB	9 0000Z 2359Z Oceania CW	12 0600Z 0600Z ARRL SS CW	13 0300Z 0000Z 2359Z ARRL 10
17 1800Z 0559Z NAQP SSB	18 0000Z 2400Z CQ WPX RTTY	14 0200Z 0200Z BARTG HF RTTY	23 0200Z 0900Z CQMM DX	18 0900Z 2359Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	19 1100Z 2000Z All Asian DX CW	20 0000Z 2400Z NAQP RTTY	21 2400Z 1800Z NAQP SSB	15 0800Z 0600Z SAC CW	16 1200Z 1200Z Worked All Germany	19 1500Z 1459Z WAE RTTY	20 1400Z 1400Z Croatian DX
23 2200Z 2200Z CQ 160 CW	25 0000Z 2359Z ARRL DX CW	21 0000Z 2400Z CQ WPX SSB	22 0000Z 2400Z Florida QSO Party	25 1800Z 2159Z Hamvention 2026	15 0000Z 2400Z ARRL Field Day	17 1800Z 2100Z RSGB IOTA	27 1200Z 1200Z KH6/OH QSO Parties	22 varies varies CQ WW RTTY	23 0000Z 2400Z CQ WW SSB	26 0000Z 2400Z ARRL SS SSB	27 1500Z 1500Z Stew Perry Topband
	28 1800Z 0559Z NAQP RTTY	1 0000Z 0559Z NAQP RTTY		30 0000Z 2400Z CQ WPX CW	31 0000Z 2400Z CQ WPX CW		29 1200Z 1200Z WW Digi			28 0000Z 2400Z CQ WW CW	29 0000Z 2400Z CQ WW CW

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<https://Radiosport.World/>

## ZOOM Meeting

If you cannot attend in-person to our monthly meetings, you have the option to join us via ZOOM.

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=N0t3N1RpUFZjvGQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09>

## VQ9DX, Diego Garcia Island–Chagos Archipelago (1990) - QSL Cards available

NE8Z, Rick Dorsch, has obtained the old paper log-books and blank QSL cards for VQ9DX, Diego Garcia Island–Chagos Archipelago, dating back to the 1990s. His cousin, Ron Marra (not Dorsch) ex-AA5DX (SK), made thousands of QSOs as VQ9DX, primarily on CW from 160 to 6 meters. Rick can only confirm QSOs via direct QSL card and will not use LoTW, QRZ, or eQSL. Requests should be sent directly to NE8Z (no bureau cards), or operators may send \$3.00 via PayPal to ne8z@yahoo.com along

## For SALE

Do you have something for sale? Please send me the details and I will list it here.

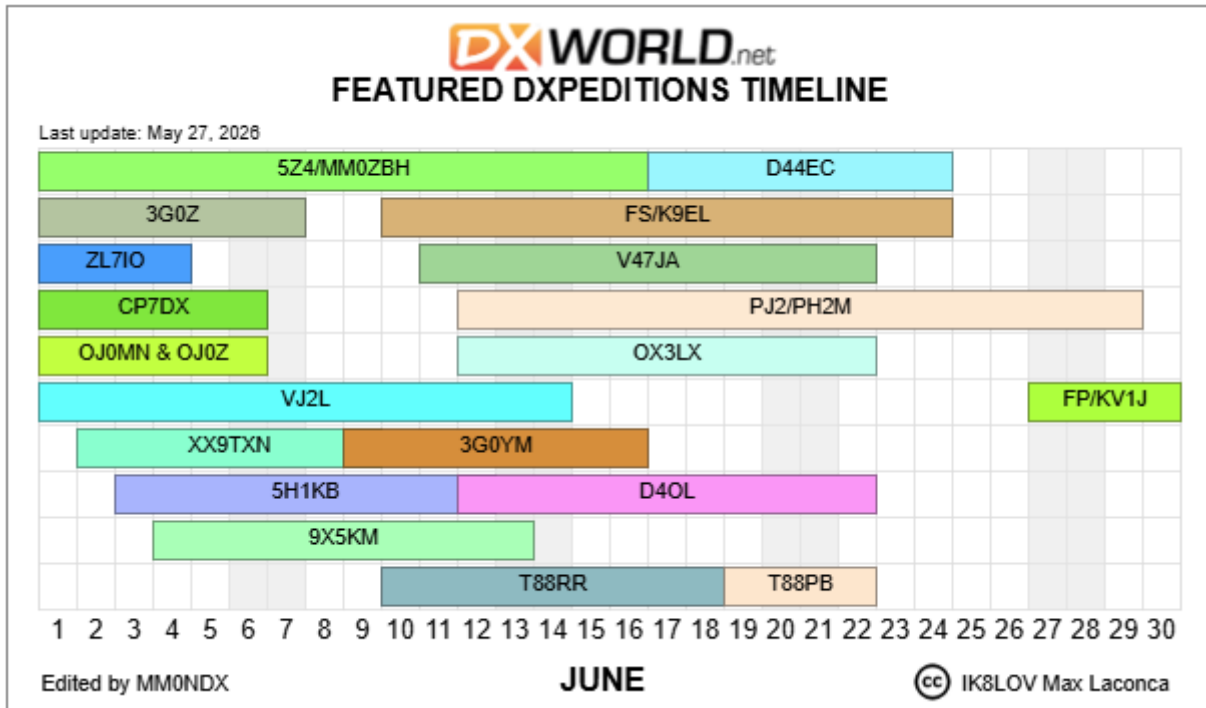
## CLUBLOG

### Most wanted - Top 38

1	P5	<a href="#">DPRK (NORTH KOREA)</a>
2	EZ	<a href="#">TURKMENISTAN</a>
3	BS7H	<a href="#">SCARBOROUGH REEF</a>
4	FT5/X	<a href="#">KERGUELEN ISLAND</a>
5	KH7K	<a href="#">KURE ISLAND</a>
6	KH3	<a href="#">JOHNSTON ISLAND</a>
7	BV9P	<a href="#">PRATAS ISLAND</a>
8	CE0X	<a href="#">SAN FELIX ISLANDS</a>
9	YK	<a href="#">SYRIA</a>
10	3Y/P	<a href="#">PETER 1 ISLAND</a>
11	YV0	<a href="#">AVES ISLAND</a>
12	VK0M	<a href="#">MACQUARIE ISLAND</a>
13	KH4	<a href="#">MIDWAY ISLAND</a>
14	XZ	<a href="#">MYANMAR</a>
15	PY0S	<a href="#">SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS</a>
16	FT/T	<a href="#">TROMELIN ISLAND</a>
17	1S	<a href="#">SPRATLY ISLANDS</a>
18	VP0S	<a href="#">SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS</a>
19	JD/M	<a href="#">MINAMI TORISHIMA</a>
20	3Y/B	<a href="#">BOUVET ISLAND</a>
21	ZL9	<a href="#">NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS</a>
22	ZS8	<a href="#">PRINCE EDWARD &amp; MARION ISLANDS</a>
23	VK0H	<a href="#">HEARD ISLAND</a>
24	SV/A	<a href="#">MOUNT ATHOS</a>
25	R1F	<a href="#">FRANZ JOSEF LAND</a>
26	FT/J	<a href="#">JUAN DE NOVA, EUROPA</a>
27	FK/C	<a href="#">CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS</a>
28	ZL8	<a href="#">KERMADEC ISLAND</a>
29	XX9	<a href="#">MACAO</a>
30	JX	<a href="#">JAN MAYEN</a>
31	VK9M	<a href="#">MELLISH REEF</a>
32	S2	<a href="#">BANGLADESH</a>
33	VQ9	<a href="#">CHAGOS ISLANDS</a>
34	FT5Z	<a href="#">AMSTERDAM &amp; ST PAUL ISLANDS</a>
35	FT/G	<a href="#">GLORIOSO ISLAND</a>
36	VP0G	<a href="#">SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND</a>
37	VK9W	<a href="#">WILLIS ISLAND</a>
38	PY0T	<a href="#">TRINDADE &amp; MARTIM VAZ ISLANDS</a>

# Upcoming DX

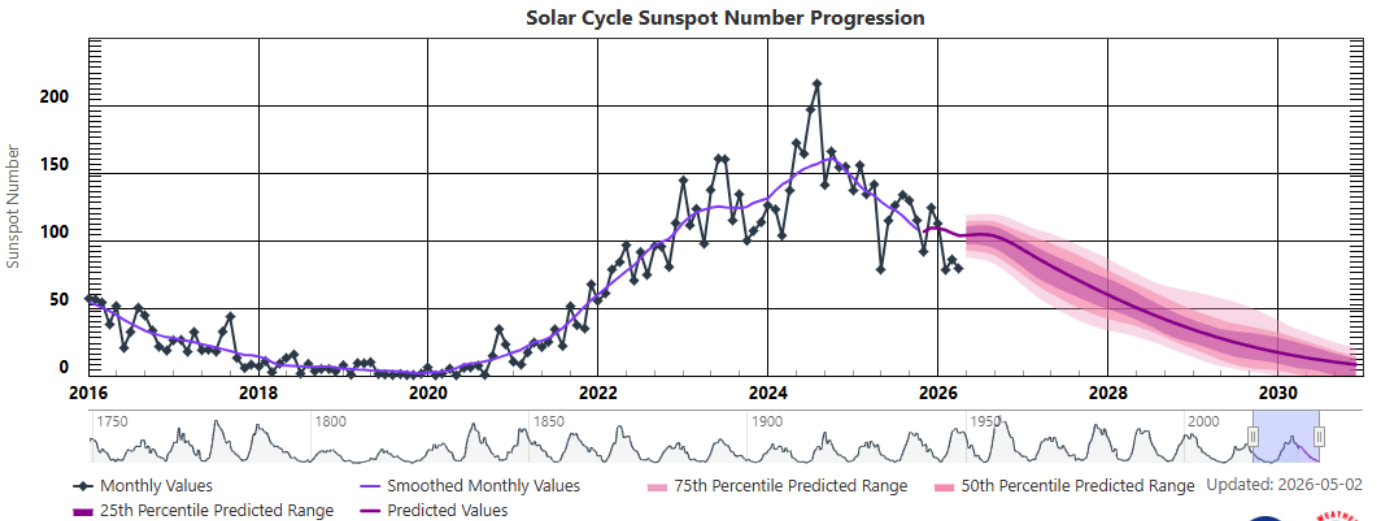
# Credit to DX World



## SOLAR CYCLE 25

## NOAA/SWPC

SWPC / NOAA



## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

June					
2026 Jun03	2026 Jun12	Tanzania	5H1KB	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260309
2026 Jun08	2026 Jul07	Tanzania	<a href="#">5H3DX</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260409
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun18	Palau	T88AR	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20251202
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun24	St Martin	FS	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260122
2026 Jun12	2026 Jun29	Curacao	<a href="#">PJ2</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260120
2026 Jun19	2026 Jun22	Palau	T88TB	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20251202
2026 Jun20	2026 Jun22	Armenia	EK	DL2JRM (B/d)	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260311
2026 Jun27	2026 Jul14	St Pierre & Miquelon	<a href="#">FP</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260302
July					
2026 Jul22	2026 Aug14	South Cook Is	E51KEE	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317
2026 Jul23	2026 Aug08	Azerbaijan	4K	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260207
<a href="#">RSGB IK</a>					
2026 Jul26	2026 Aug06	South Cook Is	E51CZZ	IK2DUW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317
August					
2026 Aug05	2026 Aug10	Bahamas	C6AYM	LoTW	K9GY 20260315
2026 Aug15	2026 Aug22	St Lucia	J68TT	LoTW	N4XXT 20250824
September					
2026 Sep01	2026 Sep12	Grenada	J3	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260418
2026 Sep01	2026 Sep14	Franz Josef Land	<a href="#">RI1FJL</a> <small>NEW</small>	LoTW	PA3CWN 20260429
2026 Sep30	2026 Oct11	Dem Rep Congo	<a href="#">9T0MD</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317

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

<b>October</b>					
2026 Oct17	2026 Oct31	<b>Sao Tome &amp; Principe I</b>	<a href="#"><u>S9R</u></a>	TBA	<a href="#"><u>DXW.Net</u></a> 20260501
2026 Oct29	2026 Nov13	<b>American Samoa</b>	<a href="#"><u>KH8A</u></a>	Club Log OQRS	<a href="#"><u>DXW.Net</u></a> 20260505
<b>November</b>					
2026 Nov09	2026 Nov20	<b>Mozambique</b>	<a href="#"><u>C8K</u></a>	LoTW	<a href="#"><u>TDDX</u></a> 20260409
<b>2027</b>					
<b>February</b>					
2027 Feb01	2027 Feb28	<b>Peter I</b>	<a href="#"><u>3Y0L</u></a>	LoTW	<a href="#"><u>DXW.Net</u></a> 20260409

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio  
Contest/DX Page

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio  
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