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Field Portable Operations

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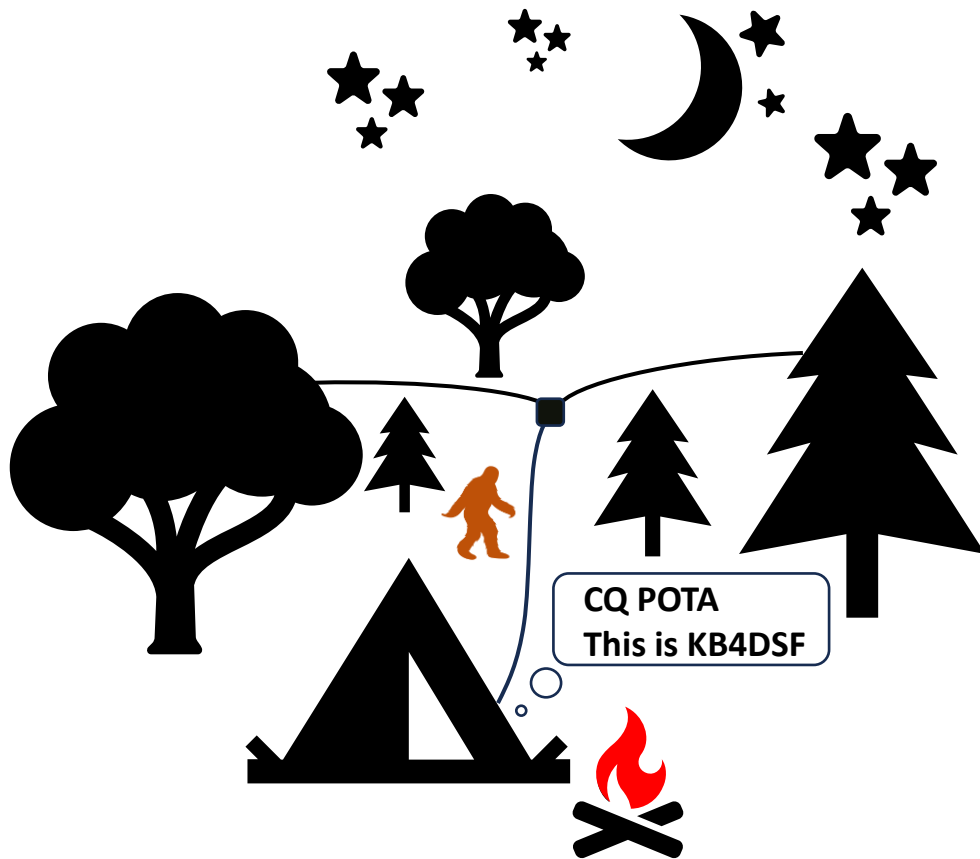


ARRL
The National Association for
Amateur Radio®



To Cover

- Why?
- Transceiver Options
- Power Supply Options
- Antenna and Feedline Options



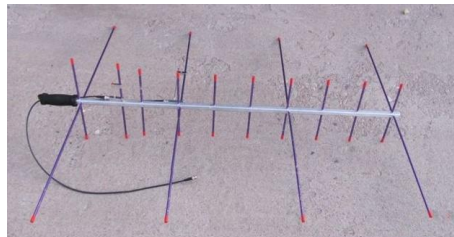
Why?

- First things first: Set a goal
 - HOA, QRP, QRPP, # of parks in set time, minimum weight, specific band (WARC Band Wednesday), emergency communications practice, etc
- The challenge—Everything is portable
 - Location
 - Vehicle, hiking, canoeing/kayaking, etc
 - Equipment
 - Power levels, power supply, weight
 - Operating band
 - Overnight or multi-day adventures
 - Know what you are doing and have the right equipment
 - Navigational aids
 - Maps, compass, GPS, etc



Transceiver Options

- Consider goal and operation environment
- Planned operation band
 - What are the band conditions?
- Planned operating modulation
 - Phone, Data, CW, or combination
- Computer and cabling considerations for data operations
- How to power the radio
 - Planned RF power output



Power Supply Options

- Consider goal and operation environment
- Transceiver's power input requirements
- Planned operating period
- Planned operating modulation type(s)
- Planned power output
- 120 VAC available?



Power Supply Options

Battery Type	Size (mm)	Weight (g)	Nominal Voltage (V)	Capacity (mAh)	Chemistry
AA Alkaline	14.5 × 50.5	~23 g	1.5 V	~2500–3000 mAh	Alkaline (Zn/MnO ₂)
AA Lithium	14.5 × 50.5	~15 g	1.5 V	~3000–3500 mAh	Lithium Iron Disulfide
9V Alkaline	26.5 × 17.5 × 48.5	~45 g	9 V	~500–600 mAh	Alkaline (Zn/MnO ₂)
9V Lithium	26.5 × 17.5 × 48.5	~34 g	9 V	~1200 mAh	Lithium (Li-MnO ₂)
18650 Li-ion	18.6 × 65.2	~45 g	3.6–3.7 V	~2000–3500 mAh	Lithium-ion (LiCoO ₂ , etc.)



Antenna Options

- Consider goal and operation environment
- Planned operating period
- Ease of deployment
- Planned power output
- Availability of vertical structures
 - Trees
 - Posts (not utility posts)
- Locale rules
 - Ability to use trees
 - Ability to use ground spikes
- DIY OPPORTUNITIES!!
- SAFETY!!



Feedline Options

Cable Type	Outer Diameter	Weight (lbs/ft)	Signal Loss @ 100 MHz (dB/100 ft)
RG-8	0.405 in (10.3 mm)	~0.12	~0.22
RG-8X	0.242 in (6.15 mm)	~0.065	~0.4
RG-58	0.195 in (4.95 mm)	~0.03	~0.55
RG-174	0.098 in (2.5 mm)	~0.011	~7.6
RG-316	0.098 in (2.5 mm)	~0.015	~6.6



Next Month On the Air Live
August 26 @8pm Eastern
September National
Preparedness Month



Thank You!



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