

# MY POTA Activation

## Savi W1SAV

Castaic Lake State Recreation Area  
K-3416 attempted on May 20th, 2023

### ACTIVATION #

10

### CONTACTS

5

### P2Ps

2

### PREVIOUS ACTIVATIONS

None

### MODE

SSB

### RADIO

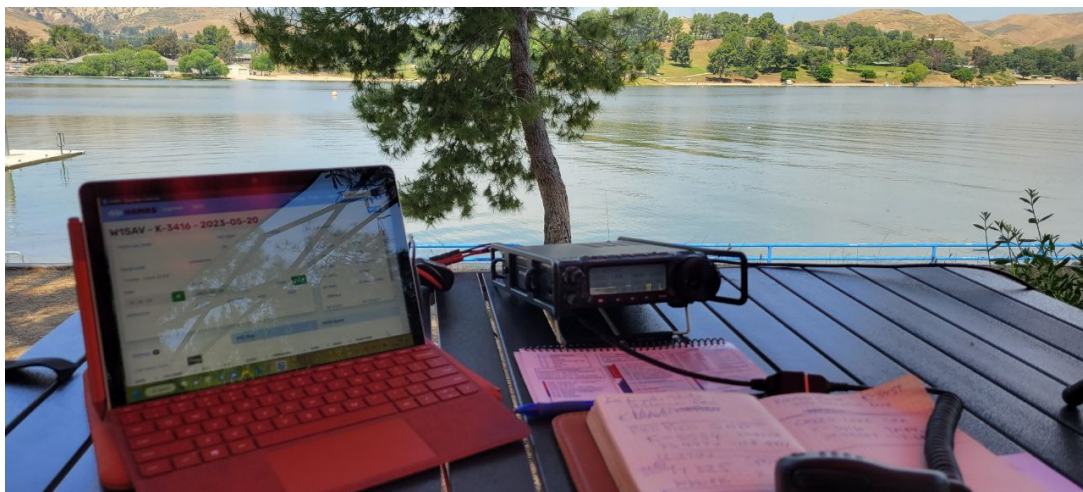
Yaesu FT-891

### ANTENNA

Chameleon MPAS 2.0 in the vertical configuration staked to the ground.

### POWER

100W using a 30Ah Bioenno battery with 40W solar panels.



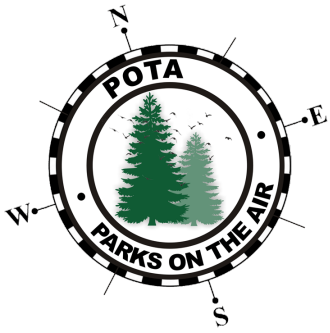
The day started with the promise of a good activation. If not for my insistence in breaking the laws of physics, I would have had a great activation.

My son wanted to do some fishing, and wanting to spend time with him, we went to Castaic Lake State Recreation Area killing two birds with one stone. It was a beautiful day as I set up surrounded by trees near the lower launch ramp of the

lower lake. The dam, delineating the upper lake, towered over us to our north as did the mountain side to our east. Of course, the higher your antenna the better it receives, and transmits for



that matter. So, wanting to be adventurous I set up my antenna at the lower lake's edge at the bottom of a gorge, at the foot of a mountain side immediately to my east, surrounded to the north and south by rocks and dirt at least 1000 feet higher than me. Like I said, I was going to activate this park by breaking the laws of physics. To top it off, checking my antenna, I had a flat 1.4:1 SWR on 15 meters



## **Castaic Lake State Recreation Area K-3416 attempted on May 20th, 2023**

### **About K-3416**

Castaic Lake State Recreation Area is one of the largest and most spectacular state water reservoirs in California! It not only provides fresh water to local communities, but this 12,658-acre facility is also a great local recreational escape for the entire family! This northern oasis features two lakes: the Upper Lake which offers two launch ramps for boating with various waterways and coves for exploring and the Lower Lake that includes picnic areas, launch areas for Kayaks, float tubes and other non-gasoline boating, and a swim beach.

and a flat 1.2:1 SWR on 20! Yeah, I'm doing this!

Wishful thinking aside, I saw my son struggling through his first attempt at fishing.

He was enjoying himself, and I enjoyed watching him. In the process, I got him to use an HT so we could "keep in contact". As the



day wore on Rigel, K4IJU, made some fishing friends, a pair of brothers who've been fishing since the 60s. He ended up enjoying himself, learning, and as a dad I was very pleased. He did not catch anything but enjoyed the experience nonetheless.

On the other hand, I did make contacts. All the contacts were clustered around northwestern Washington and Vancouver Island. A couple of those contacts were Park-to-Park, and there were two operators at one of them, so I got a two-fer. All-in-all, I got a total of five contacts and although that is a failed activation, I had a successful outing with my son. You can't beat that!

Ciao for niao...  
de Savi W1SAV