

MY POTA Activation

Savi W1SAV

Rio de Los Angeles State Park

K-3548 activated on June 9th, 2023

ACTIVATION

13

CONTACTS

20

P2Ps

4

PREVIOUS

ACTIVATIONS

3

MODE

SSB

RADIO

Yaesu FT-891

TUNER

LDG Electronics Z-100
Plus Autotuner

ANTENNA

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

POWER

100W using a 30Ah
Bioenno battery.

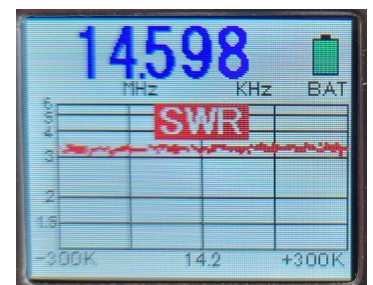


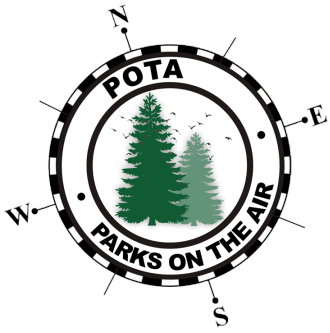
It was cloudy today and the weather app reported an 8% change of rain. Of course, when I got to Rio de Los Angeles State Park, I could feel little drops coming down. Since I was setting up under a covered picnic table, I took a chance. My worries were for naught as that was what all mother nature was going to give me, for now.

Setting up my station took about 30 minutes as I was not in any hurry. Mother Nature, being the babe she is, started showering me with



little flying cotton ball looking things. I looked it up and it was not from cottonwood trees. Since there was the slightest of breezes it looked like a very light snow flurry. You could hear insects all around, that soothing nature noise that relaxes you, making the experience pleasant. While sitting and listening to the environment I realized I seemed humid. Checking the weather app again, it told me the humidity was 77%. The slight breeze kept that in





Rio de Los Angeles State Park K-3548 activated on June 9th, 2023

About K-3548

Rio de Los Angeles State Park and nearby Los Angeles State Historic Park serve the local communities and provide a unique State Park experience. Rio de Los Angeles (LA River) State Park is surrounded by industrial and residential areas, yet restoration of the park's natural river wetlands allows a serene opportunity to all visitors who enjoy hiking trails, being surrounded by native plants and viewing returning wildlife. The park also encompasses sports fields, a children's playground and a recreation building. A site once used mainly to repair and maintain railroad

check, however. The one problem was the Metro. The park is located across the railyard and tracks near the downtown hub. When a train went by the noise it made would not allow me to hear the radio. I'm sure it would not be appreciated by my partner on the other side of the QSO.

As I was setting up, man strode in my direction asking me to look at his cat on a leash. He was quite proud of the fact he trained it like a dog. The cat was quite docile and compliant and followed commands. Did I mention that my activation was in Los Angeles? Well, this man said he had five cats and that they were all trained, as they should be. He

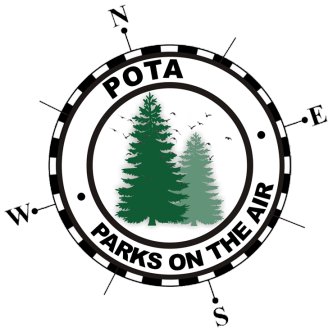


lives in his van and mentions he was taking the cat back home. A few minutes later he came back exclaiming he changed colors. On his shoulder was a beautiful Russian Blue cat, also well trained. The cats were amazing. I just shook my head as he walked away.

My activation took 58 minutes, although at times it seemed it dragged making me doubt my conviction. I should not have doubted myself as I was pleasantly re-



warded. However, Mother Nature was not done with me yet. The 20-meter band, the only one I was on, was an on-and-off affair. For example, some Washington stations would almost blow out my speakers while others were hard to pull out of the frying bacon. There were several stations I heard and responded to, only never to be heard again. My SWR was 3.3:1 and was



Rio de Los Angeles State Park K-3548 activated on June 9th, 2023

cars now offers visitors the chance to restore and replenish their inner needs. Rio de Los Angeles State Park is currently managed in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

tamed by my antenna tuner. When Mother Nature let me I was heard loud and proud.

I realized I need to do a better job with my administrative tasks while trying to activate. Inevitably, while looking at the map screen on HAMRS, a hunter would respond. Since I am not an active mouse pad



user responding to the call took longer than I wanted. By the way, did you know it is hard to respond to a station while eating lunch, with your mouth full of a sub, while scrambling to get to the correct prompt on HAMRS, and not trying to sound like you have a mouth full of cotton balls? Administration. I gotta work on that.

My first CQ started right at 2000Z and ended 59 minutes later. I was prepared to sit at the park for around three hours. That was cool! I was trying to hold out for 25, but during the last 10-15 minutes with no QSOs, I called it. Oh, yeah, I forgot to mention, one of my park-to-park calls was a triple. The guy was sitting in three parks. Boom!

So, I did not make it to 25 contacts, but today's activation proves it can be done. I was in a much better location than in either of the two lakes I was trying to activate previously. Again, no regrets, I was with my son who was fishing. Also, I did not use solar panels as the overcast rendered them moot. However, after about 90 minutes of powering my computer, phone, radio, and antenna tuner I was left with 13.2v on the battery. It was a good day.

Ciao for niao...
Savi W1SAV