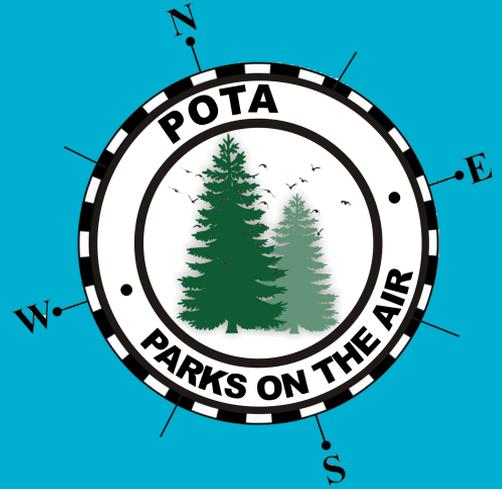


POTA and a Boat-a



POTA adventures with watercraft and 'land yachts'

KI7TT

Heidi Morton



Outline

Why POTA?

POTA basics

My equipment

Early and recent forays

Lessons learned



Why POTA?

Enjoy the outdoors

Emergency preparedness

Low noise floor

Improve operating skills

Set personal goals

Learn more about propagation

Experiment with antennas

Introduce others to ham radio



POTA basics and terms



Parks on the Air (POTA)

Private group · 12.7K members

Western States Parks on the Air

Private group · 131 members

Activators

Must upload logs

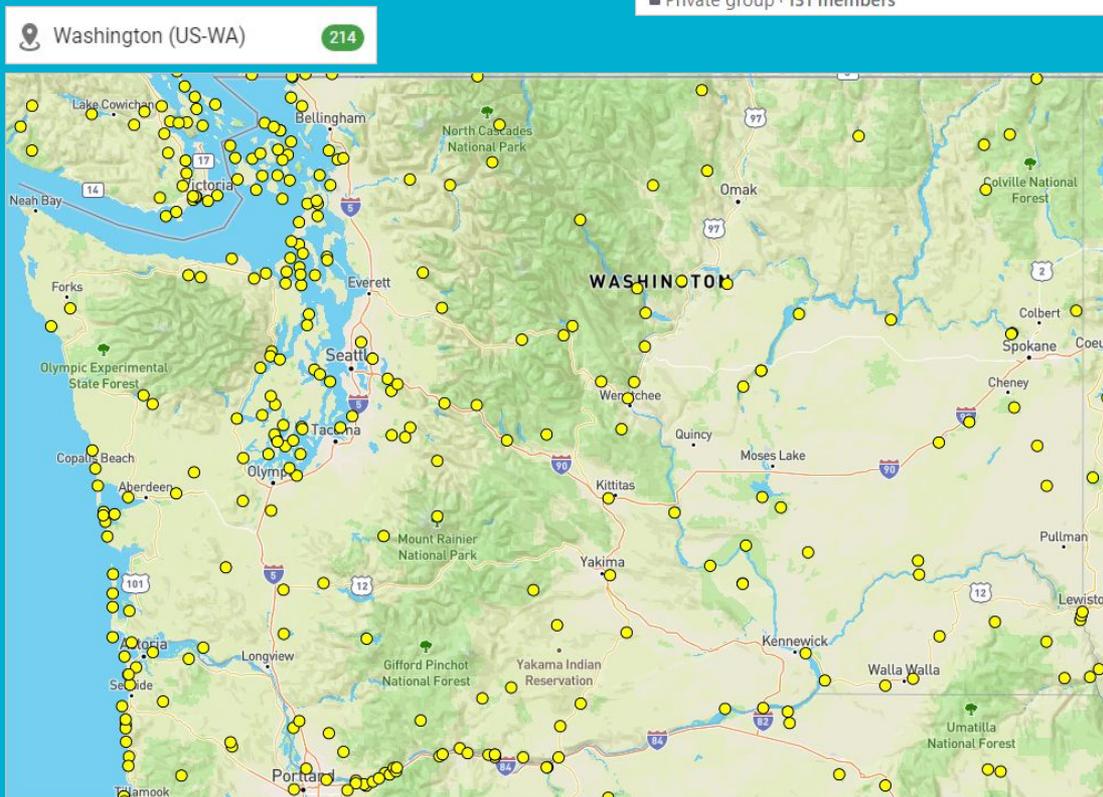
Hunters

No upload needed

Awards

Min. 10 Qs in UTC day)

to activate a park



Batteries

LiFePO4:

3 Ah Bioenno

12 Ah Bioenno (not pictured)

40 Ah Bioenno

PowerWerx power box

20 Ah Expert Power

SLAB/AGM:

14Ah



Batteries

—
Build your own
power box!



QRP Antenna

SotaBeams Mountain Tuner

EFHW 40-17m

Separate elements for
each band

Arborist's throw weight

(10-14 oz)

2.2mm throw line

50' paracord



Antenna: EFHW

My favorite QRO portable antenna

80-10 (134')

80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10m

40-10 (67')

40/20/15/10

49:1 Transformer
Primary 2 Turns.
Secondary 14 turns (Total turns)

To End Fed Half Wave Antenna.

Parts List

Toroid Core:
Minisor Part #R23-5943003001
240-43 use min. of 2 cores.
Higher Efficiency use 12 min. - Minisor
#R23-595000001. Requires 3 cores.

Capacitor:
100 to 110 PF @ 5kv minimum

Antenna:
50m - 10m use a 134' wire.
40m - 10m use a 67' wire, etc.

Wire:
14 gauge enameled wire. **

*** When using 3 toroid cores start with a Primary wire of ~13" and secondary of ~60" long. 1 & 2 cores will use less wire.

Updated 8/9/19 N4LQ



HF radios

—

QRO

Yaesu FT-891

QRP

Yaesu FT-817ND

LNR MTR-3b



Logging Tools

Paper & pencil

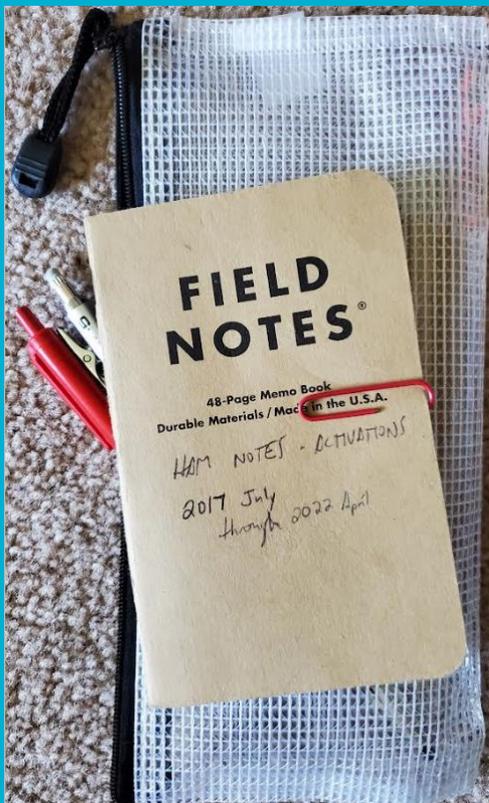
FLE

HAMRS

VLS Logger

ACLog

ADIF Master



Call	Date	Band	Mode	Power	Time On	Sent	Rec	Country
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA
W4JG	20220318 18:42	15	SSB	100	00:00			USA

Logbooks QSOs

Mowry SP, Idaho, K-7364 DN17nl

QSOs 33

THEIR CALLSIGN: [input] RST S: 599 RST R: 599

THEIR PARK: [input] TIME: 15:47:49 [stop]

DATE: 2022-05-21 [Clear] [Save]

FREQUENCY: 14.055 MHz BAND: 20m

POWER (w): 5 MODE: CW

MY PARK: [input] MY CALLSIGN: KI7TT

Lat: [input] Lng: [input] Alt: [input]

UTC: 15:51 Grid: [input] QSOs: 8

activation/contest: POTA Your reference: k-1234 Your QSO number: [input]

date: 18.03.2022 [calendar] rcv reference [dropdown]

start time: 05:36 [clock]

callign: K7IOC [info]

RST received: 59 RST sent: 44

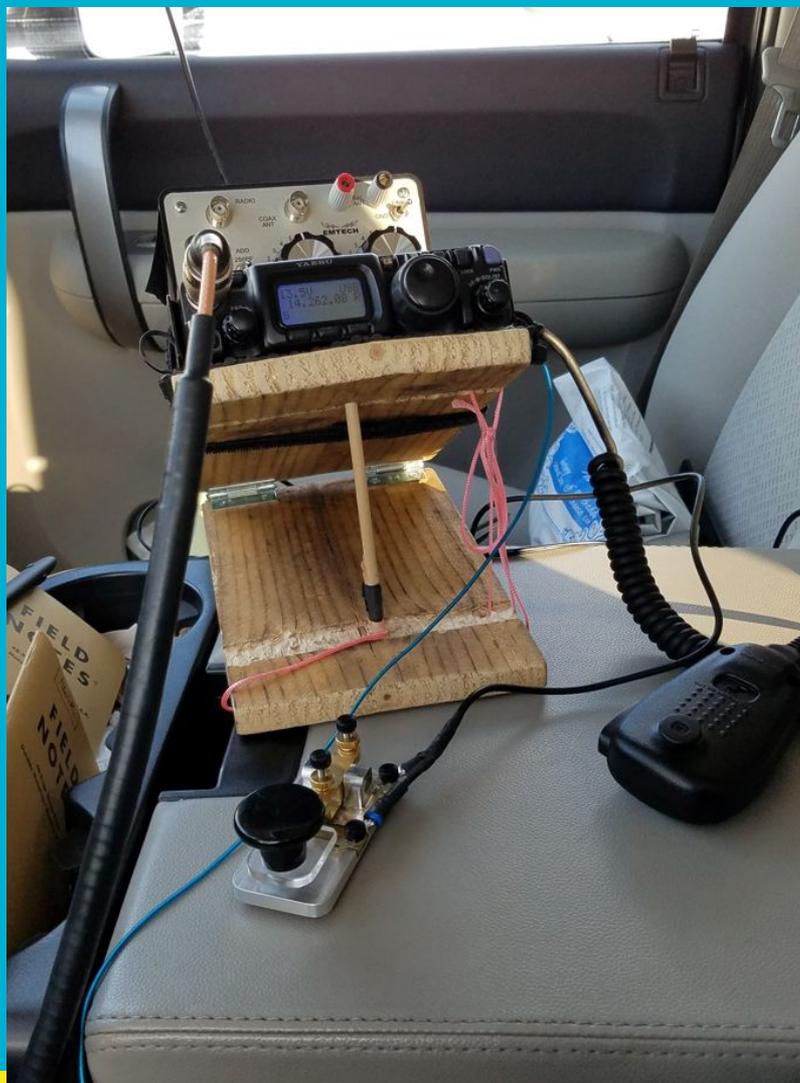
name: Robert 'lee'

QTH: Camano Island

gridsquare: CN88 ~148km [info]

frequency [MHz]: 7.255

band: 40m mode: LSB [check]





Mt. Rainier 2017



Dungeness NWR

— 2017



Belfair SP, Winter Field Day 2022



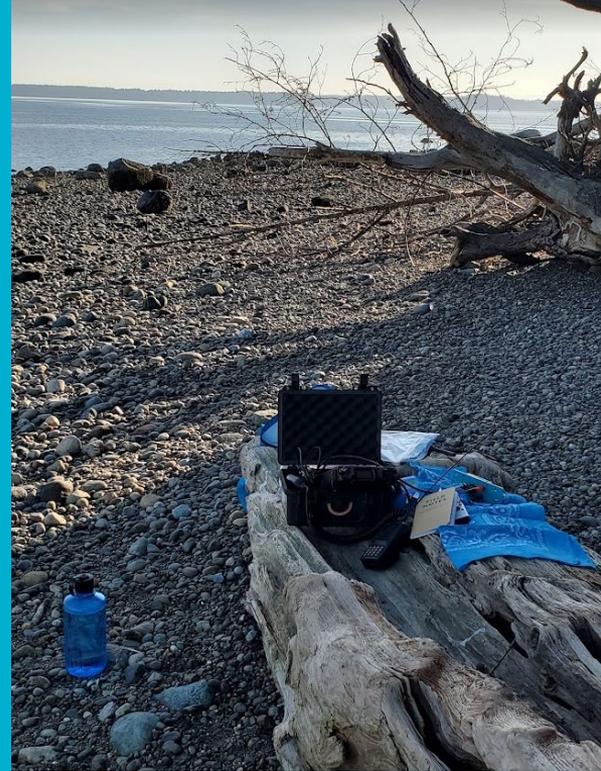
Island adventures Spring 2022

Hope Island SP K-3200 (Mason County)





Cutts Island



POTA / US Islands trip, San Juan Islands



March 2022

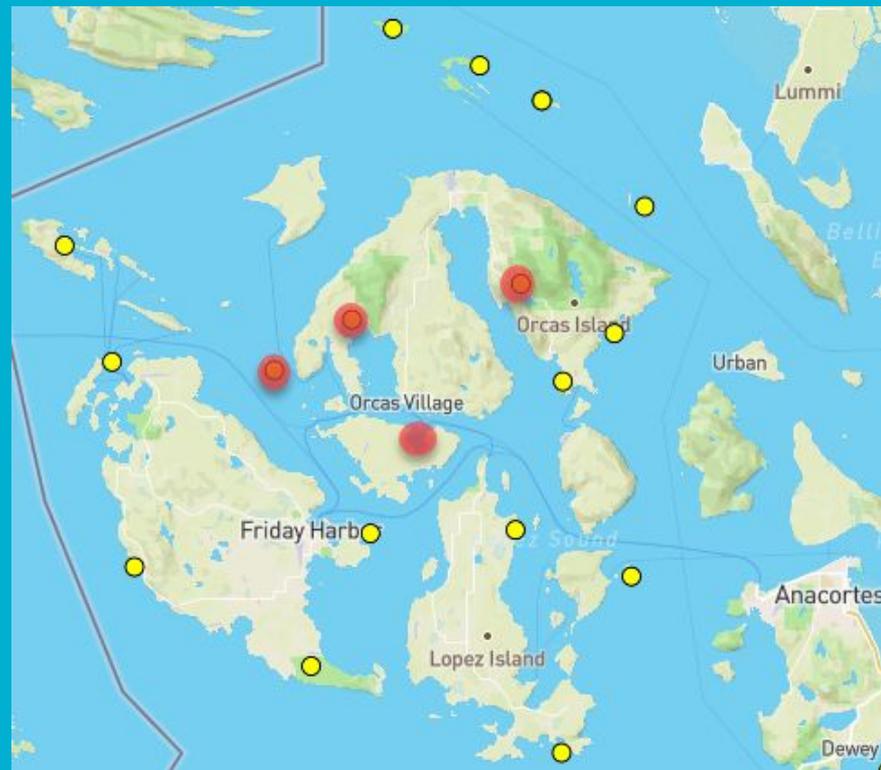
Orcas Island - Moran State Park

Jones Island

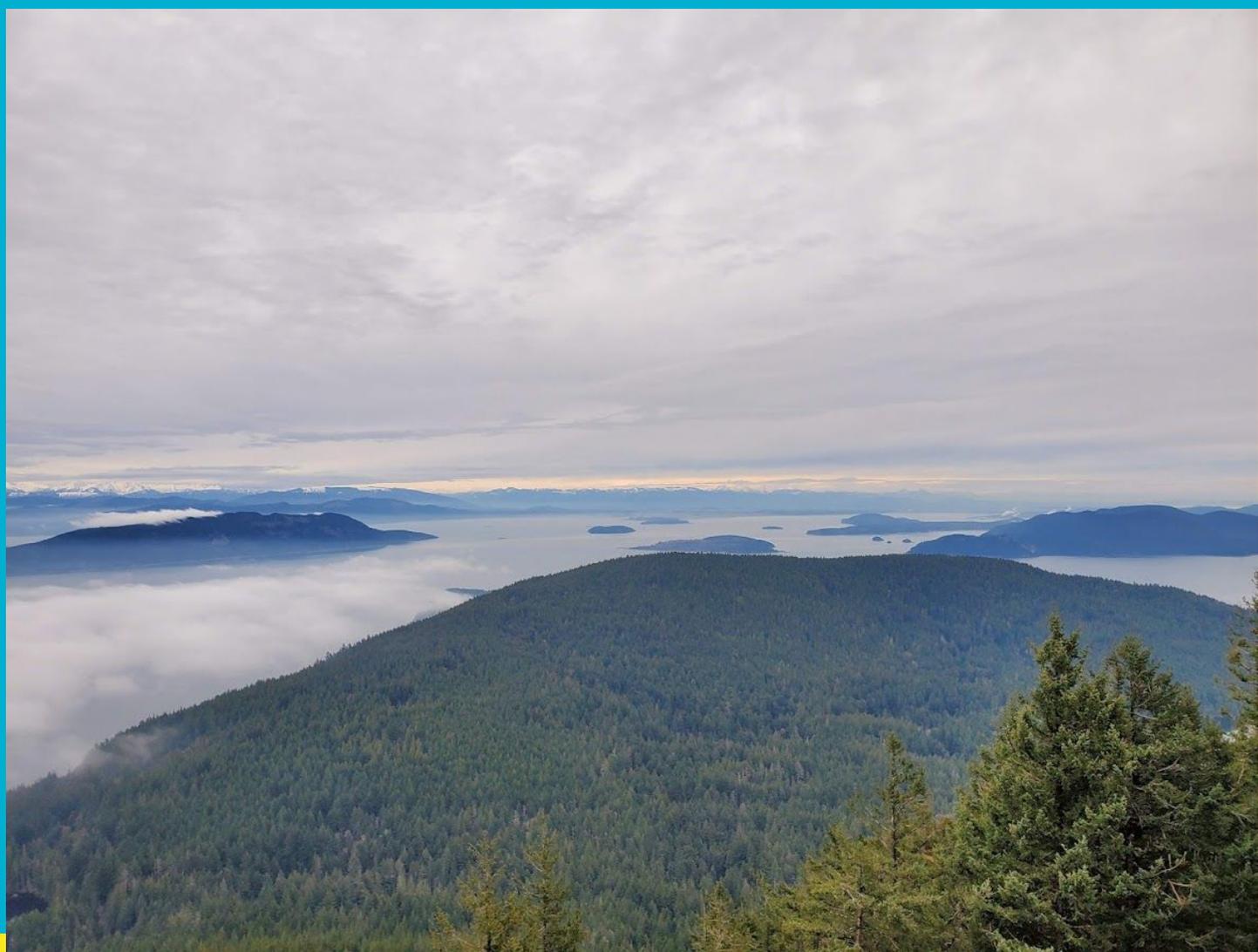
Blind Island

Skull Island

A special thanks to Lee, K7IOC, USI chaser



Moran SP



Jones Island



Skull Island





 KI7TT @ K-3269 

 K-3269 Skull Island State Park

 US-WA

 14059 kHz

  KI7TT

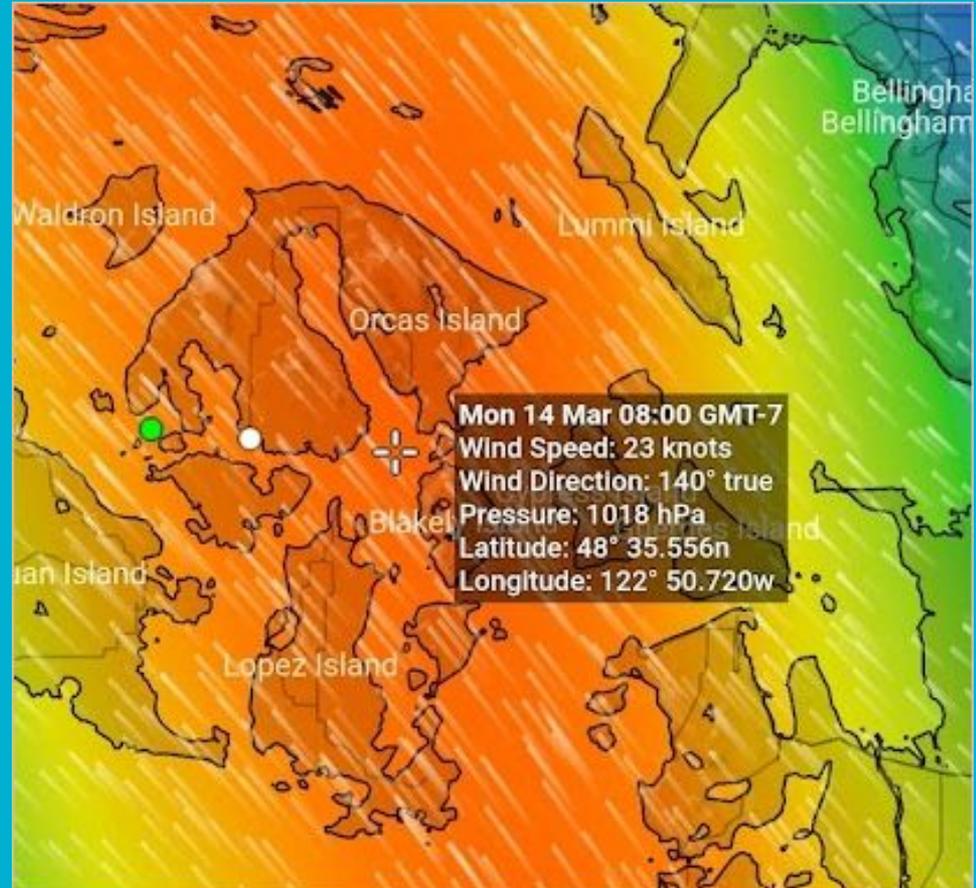
 Skull Island SP WA. cold tired hungry, need 8 more before I paddle home plz tu!



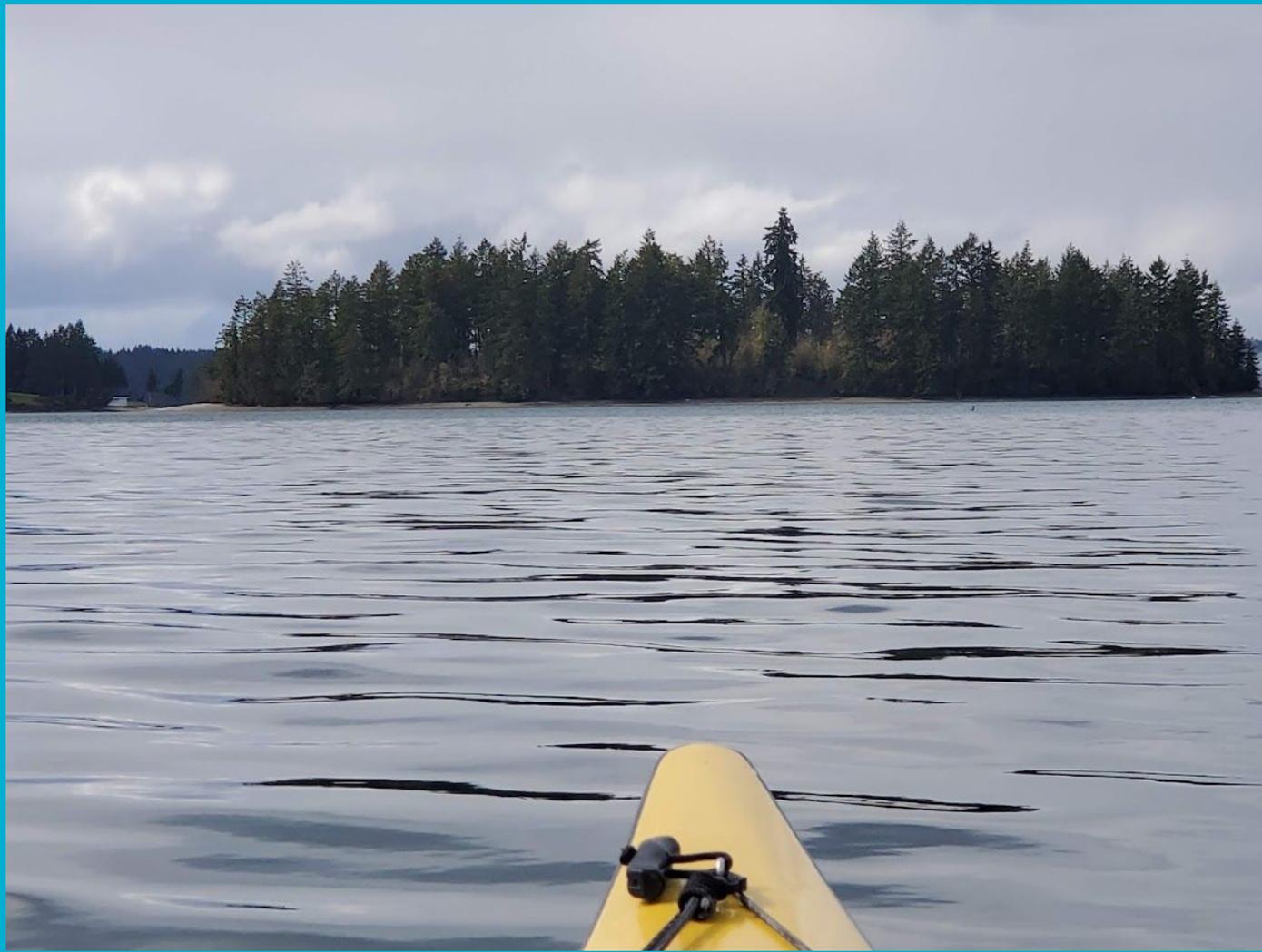


Tips/lessons learned

Have contingency plans,
especially for issues relating to
safety



Eagle Island









“Oh, the places you’ll go!”

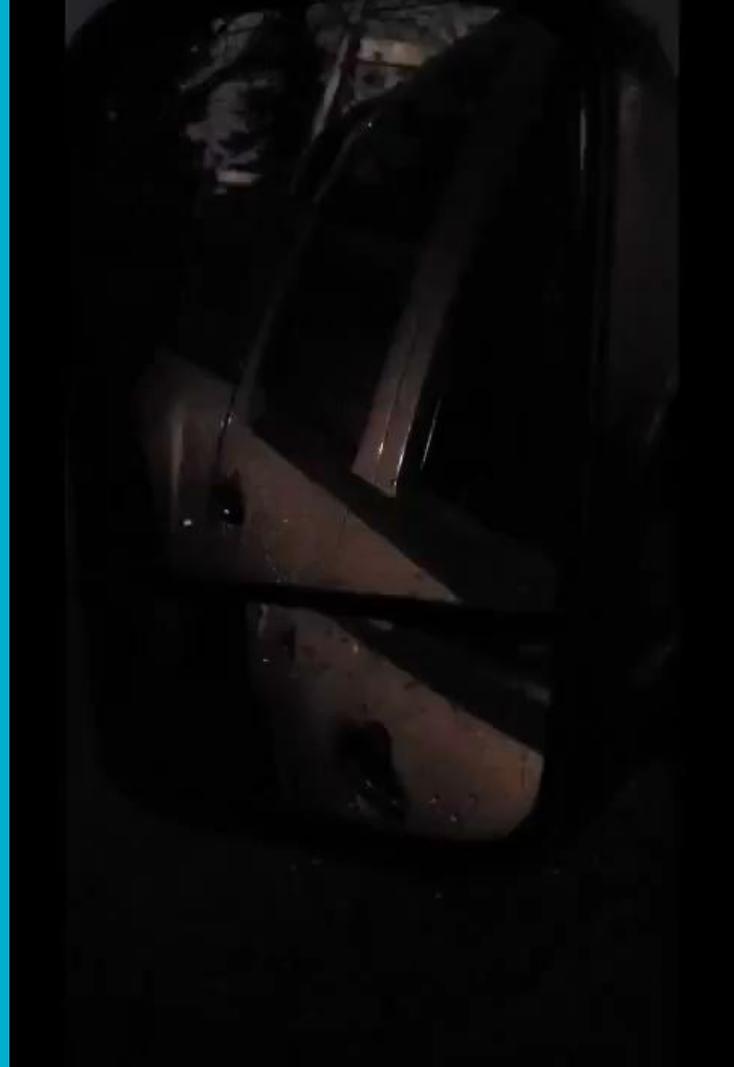
-Dr. Seuss



Tips/lessons learned

If operating from your vehicle, bond your vehicle!

Great info here: <http://www.k0bg.com/bonding.html>



Tips/Lessons learned

Don't overcomplicate it!

Know your 'why'

Make (and use) a checklist

Keep safety in mind

Don't wait too long to jump in and start calling CQ

Keep in mind the POTA UTC times for activations

Having a flexible mindset has always makes my outings more enjoyable

Worried about pileups? Listen, learn from other activators. Use QRP, activate on a weekday, and/or don't spot yourself!



Q&A



If you're happy and you
know it...

