

# Rules for Operations Within the KFF Region of the World Wide Floral and Fauna Program

## 1. Participants

The KFF program is open to the following participants:

- Activators
- Hunters
- Short Wave Listeners (SWLs)

Activators are those amateurs who operate portable from within a designated KFF reference area.

Hunters are those amateurs who make contact with Activators who are operating from within approved WWFF reference areas.

Short Wave Listeners are those who hear and log the activities of Activators operating within approved WWFF reference areas.

## 2 Frequencies and Modes

The KFF program encourages the use of all modes. The modes used by an Activator will be the choice of the Activator.

**Suggested** SSB and CW frequencies will be on, or near the following:

Phone: 3.744, 7.184, 14.244, 18.144, 21.244, 24.944, 28.444 MHz

CW: 3.544, 7.044, 10.124, 14.044, 18.084, 21.044, 24.894, 28.044 MHz

Digital/RTTY: within the current United States band plan f or these modes.

6 meters and up can also be used but must be Simplex ONLY. The use of repeaters will not be allowed (see 3.9)

*An Activator may choose any frequency within the United States band plan that is available for their license class to operate in the KFF program.*

### **3 Terms of activation of KFF reference areas**

- **3.1 WWFF program commencement date**

The WWFF program commenced in November 2012. However, qualifying logs from activations preceding this date can be provided for upload to Logsearch dating back to 30th June 2008.

- **3.2 Appropriate license to be held**

All participating amateurs must hold an appropriate amateur radio license and must abide by all license/issuer conditions.

- **3.3 Qualifying reference areas**

Activators are only permitted to activate one reference area at a time.

There are some instances where a KFF reference area borders another.

Care must be taken to ensure that the correct reference is announced.

- **3.4 References contained within another reference area**

There are some instances where a KFF reference area is located within the boundaries of another KFF reference area. In these cases, activity is only allowed under one KFF reference area at a time.

In cases where the activating position is within a KFF reference (e.g. a Nature Reserve), located within a larger protected area (e.g. a National Park), the reference of the inner area is to be announced.

- **3.5 Marine Parks**

When activating Marine Parks and areas where the activation zone is only a natural water area, all equipment must be kept on board the ship or vessel, or on a coastal area located within 100 meters (300 feet) of the protected High Water tidal mark.

- **3.6 Mobile operation**

Operation from a motor vehicle is accepted.

- **3.7 Activations from buildings within park**

Valid activations can be made from dwellings or other buildings located within park boundaries, e.g. some amateurs reside within park boundaries.

- 3.8 Forms of operation not allowed
  - 3.8.1 Aeronautical mobile on board a ny aircraft (e.g. plane, helicopter, hang glider, balloon, blimp, etc.) located above a KFF reference area is not allowed.
  - 3.8.2 Activators may not initiate contacts via Repeaters, IRLP, Remote stations, Echolink, satellite or similar technologies.
  - 3.8.4 Duplicate log contacts within the same UTC day (00:00 to 23:59 U TC) **are not allowed**. Example: same call, band and mode.
  
- 3.9 Power sources

There is no restriction on the type of power source that can be used during an activation *however green power is preferred.*
  
- 3.10 Valid contact exchange

Valid contacts will include an exchange between the activator and the hunter of their respective call signs, a signal report, and wherever possible the WWFF reference number.
  
- 3.11 Time operating from the reference

There is no time limit that an activator must operate from a reference.
  
- 3.12 Time between activations

There is no restriction with regards to time between one activation and a subsequent activation within the same UTC day (see 3.8.4)
  
- 3.13 In the spirit of KFF
  - 3.13.1 All participants are expected to be fully aware of all W WFF and K FF rules and are expected to adhere to t hose rules.
  - 3.13.2 If i t is established that a participant has not complied with the rules, the activation may be declared invalid.
  - 3.13.3 The KFF National coordinator reserves the right to request documentary proof (photos showing identifiable park information and location, etc.) of an activation should the need arise. Failure to do so may result in the activation being declared invalid.

- 3.13.4 The KFF National coordinator also reserves the right to impose possible sanctions on any participant who has not participated in the spirit of the KFF program.

#### **4. Activator information**

- **4.1 Only valid references will count**  
Ensure you are in a valid KFF reference area that appears in the current WWFF directory listing for the KFF program.
- **4.2 Lawful access is required**  
It is the responsibility of the activator to ensure that access to the reference area is permitted. This includes using lawful access routes into the reference area, and compliance with all relevant local laws and regulations while in the reference area.
- **4.3 Unlawful access to a reference area**  
Unlawful access may deem the activation to be invalid.
- **4.4 Working within boundaries of the reference**  
While activating a KFF reference area, ALL equipment (including antenna, transceiver, power supply, etc.) must be within the boundaries of the relevant KFF reference area.
- **4.5 How to call CQ**  
Activators are encouraged to call ' CQ WWFF', ' CQ World Wide Flora Fauna' or similar phrase.

Activators are also encouraged to explain the KFF/WWFF program to any hunters who call, who are unfamiliar with the program.

- **4.6 Forty f our (44) QSOs required**
  - 4.6.1 For an activation to qualify or be valid for KFF and WWFF activator awards it must reach a minimum of 44 QSOs.
  - 4.6.1a For KFF activations prior to 2 3:59 UTC on 12/31/2017 a minimum of 10 QSOs will be accepted. ***F or activations from 00:00 UTC 01/01/2018 forward a minimum of 44 QSOs are required as indicated in 4.6.1.***

- 4.6.2 Contacts with the same individual using a club call sign, a vanity call sign, or a special event call sign for example, are allowed and will count towards the 44 QSO threshold.
- 4.6.3 A contact with the same call sign on a different band or on a different mode, counts as a separate QSO.
- 4.6.4 A duplicate contact (same call, band and mode) on the same UTC day (see 3.8.4) will not count and must be deducted from your QSO total. **It is the responsibility of the activator to check their logs and remove any duplicate log entries prior to log submission for upload.**
- 4.7 Accrual of 44 QSOs over multiple activations
  - 4.7.1 The 44 QSOs can be accrued over multiple activations. they do not have to be attained during one activation -- e.g. activate a KFF reference area on one UTC day (see 3.8.4) and attain 22 QSOs. Then return a week later and attain a further 22 QSOs. You have now qualified the KFF reference area.
- 4.8 Invalid contacts
  - 4.8.1 The exchange of call signs and a signal report are required for the contact to be valid. Call signs and signal reports are not to be relayed by other stations.
  - 4.8.2 Activators and Hunters are encouraged to exchange accurate signal reports, not just 59.
  - 4.8.3 Duplicate log contacts will not be allowed. Example: same call, band and mode. Duplicate contacts for a submitted log must be deducted from your total QSO count for that log. **It is the responsibility of the activator to check their logs and remove any duplicate log entries prior to log submission for upload.**
- 4.9 Club call signs or special event call signs
  - 4.9.1 For a club activation to qualify or be valid for KFF activator awards it must reach a minimum of 200 QSOs.
  - 4.9.2 If an activation is undertaken using a club call sign or a special event call sign, the operator using that call will also get credit for the reference, provided that the call sign of the operator is specified in the ADIF file.

- 4.10 Consideration to other users of the reference area  
KFF activators will ensure that their operation does not impact on the enjoyment and safety of other users of the reference area that they are activating. This includes such issues as excessive noise, tripping hazards from antennas, etc.

KFF activators are to be cognizant that they are representing the wider amateur radio community while activating. KFF activators are encouraged to engage with the community and park officials.

- 4.11 Consideration for wildlife and the environment  
KFF activators will ensure that they will observe due diligence with regards to wildlife they encounter during any activation.

Activators are not to cause any damage to the environment in which they operate. This includes deliberate damage or actions resulting from recklessness. It also includes littering. Whatever you take to the activation, please take home with you.

## **5. Safety issues for Activators**

- 5.1 Safety of activator and others  
KFF activators are to ensure that any activation does not impact on their own safety and that of other users of the reference area.
- 5.2 Participation in KFF and WWFF at own risk  
KFF activators participate in the KFF and WWFF program entirely at their own risk. Neither the KFF nor WWFF Committee shall accept no responsibility for injury, loss of life, or any other loss.

## **6. Providing Activator logs**

- 6.1 Log must be submitted to claim the reference.  
For the accreditation of a KFF area as an Activator, you are required to submit an electronic log (ADIF file) of all QSOs made.

Only ADIF formatted files will be accepted. Other forms of log, e.g. handwritten, typed, spreadsheets are not acceptable.

It is not the role of the National coordinators to convert logs into ADIF format. This is the responsibility of the activator.

- 6.2 Log submission to National coordinator or designee

The log is to be submitted to the relevant National coordinator or designee who in turn will upload the log to Logsearch.

Activators do not upload their own logs.

- 6.3 Vetting of logs for accuracy

**Please vet your log for any potential errors prior to submitting it to the National coordinator or designee.** Simple errors such as wrong reference area quoted, incomplete or inaccurate call signs, dupes, or logs not in the appropriate format, simply means delay in uploading the files and additional work for both coordinator and activator concerned.

- 6.4 ADIF files

The log must be submitted in ADIF format (Amateur Data Interchange format). ADIF is an open standard for exchange of data between ham radio software packages available from different vendors.

For more information on ADIF files, please see: <http://www.adif.org/>

- 6.5 Fast Log Entry (FLE)

The WWFF Council highly recommends the use of the Fast Log Entry (FLE) program, which will allow the creation of an ADIF file.

- 6.6 Naming of logs

Electronic logs are to be named in the following way: callsign@reference YYYYMMDD

Using this file name is a very simplistic duplication check. Logs simply named XXFF-0123.adif or example, are triggering the 'dupe check' when a log of the same name is uploaded.

- 6.7 Uploading of logs by National coordinators or designees

The WWFF National coordinator or designee will load all relevant information onto the WWFF Logsearch facility.

- 6.8 What if 44 QSOs are not attained?

As an activator, even if you do not attain the required 44 contacts during an activation, please still submit your log or upload. Despite the fact that you have not reached the 44 QSOs, your activation will still count for those hunters that worked you, and for your future activation of the same park.

## **7. Hunter information**

- **7.1 Activator logs must be uploaded to Logsearch to receive credit for a reference.** For hunters to receive credit for a park contact, the activator's log must be uploaded to WWFF Logsearch. There are instances where park activators do not provide their logs for upload to Logsearch. Unfortunately, in these instances, the contact will not count towards KFF and/or WWFF global awards.

- **7.2 Valid QSOs**  
All QSOs are valid for Hunters, regardless of the number of QSOs made during the activation by the Activator, provided that the Activator log has been submitted and uploaded to Logsearch.

- **7.3 QSL cards not required**  
There is no requirement to exchange QSL cards in the KFF program.

QSL cards are not required for KFF and WWFF awards.

Valid QSOs between an activator and a hunter are displayed in Logsearch.

- **7.4 Please keep your QSOs short**  
A valid exchange of call sign, signal report and whenever possible the relevant KFF reference number is all that is required. Protracted overs will potentially only frustrate the activator and the hunters who are waiting to work the activator. Remember, the activator is seeking 44 QSOs and may often be working in adverse environmental conditions.

## **8. SWL information**

- **8.1 How SWLs participate**  
Currently Logsearch will not allow SWL interface. SWL Hunter certificates can be requested directly from the WWFF Global Award Manager, or the KFF National coordinator.

A list of stations heard, with relevant dates, times, frequencies, signal reports exchanged, and relevant reference numbers is to be sent in XLS format (not XLSX) to WWFF Global Manager and/or KFF National coordinator.

## **9. Awards**

- **9.1 WWFF Global Awards**  
The WWFF global awards are all available in electronic format (.pdf or jpg) free of charge and are requested via WWFF Logsearch. All WWFF global awards are based on



QSO information contained in the WWFF Logsearch database. Other sources of information such as QSL cards, LOTW, eQSL are not accepted for the global awards.

- 9.2 Global award categories

WWFF global awards can be claimed in three categories:

- Activators for references, DXCC countries, and Continents
- Hunters for references, DXCC countries, and Continents
- SWL for references only

- 9.3 National awards

National Awards programs are supported via WWFF Logsearch. For details on the National programs please see: <http://wwff.co/> Go to National Awards

- 9.4 Special KFF Awards

Occasionally special KFF Awards will be offered. These can be seen at [wwff-kff.org](http://wwff-kff.org). These awards are requested directly via email to the KFF Awards Manager.

## 10. KFF References

- 10.1 Adding KFF References

Additional KFF References may be added to WWFF Logsearch by recommendation by the KFF coordinator to the WWFF References Manager. Up to 500 new references may be added per calendar year.

- 10.2 Criteria for Adding KFF References

- KFF References must be able to be categorized into one of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) protected area management categories. These are:

1. Category Ia – Strict Nature Reserve
2. Category Ib – Wilderness Area
3. Category II – National Park [ed. Not all National Park Service locations]
4. Category III – National Monument or Feature
5. Category IV – Habitat/Species Management Area
6. Category V – Protected Landscape/Seascape
7. Category VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources

A comprehensive definition and discussion of the exact meaning and definition of the ICUN Protected Categories can be found at

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/about/protected-area-categories>

The above categories include such things as Wildlife Management Areas and Refuges, forests, Conservation Areas, Recreation Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wetlands, Marine Protected Areas, Parks, etc.

- KFF References should have an assigned IUCN number. A list of protected areas identified by the IUCN can be found at:

<https://www.protectedplanet.net/>

- KFF References must be managed by a U.S. Federal or State level government agency or organization.
- KFF References to be added must open to human visitation.
- 10.3 Valid Date of New KFF References  
New references will be valid from the date approved by the WWFF Reference Manager. Logs for contacts prior to the validation date are not accepted for WWFF credit and must not be uploaded to WWFF Logsearch.
- 10.4 Deleting KFF References  
KFF References may be deleted from WWFF Logsearch by recommendation by the WWFF coordinator to the WWFF References Manager.
- 10.5 Criteria for Deleting KFF References  
Reasons for deleting KFF References include, but are not limited to:
  - Areas that are not known to have been activated, and that are not likely to be activated in the future due to geographical or other reasons
  - Areas that do not fall within the IUCN Protected Areas Categories
  - Areas that are no longer managed by a U.S. Federal or State level government agency or organization.
- 10.6 Deleted Reference Numbers  
Deleted reference numbers cannot be reused.
- 10.7 Award Credit for Deleted KFF References  
When deleting KFF References, credit for a deleted KFF Reference will continue granted for KFF National Awards for QSOs made between the Effective and End Dates for that reference. However, for WWFF Awards, the credit will be removed from the Hunter and Activator counts.