

HamXpo Activation

During the Ham Exposition weekend, I did 2 activations, the first as N1BAM and the second as W1XPO.

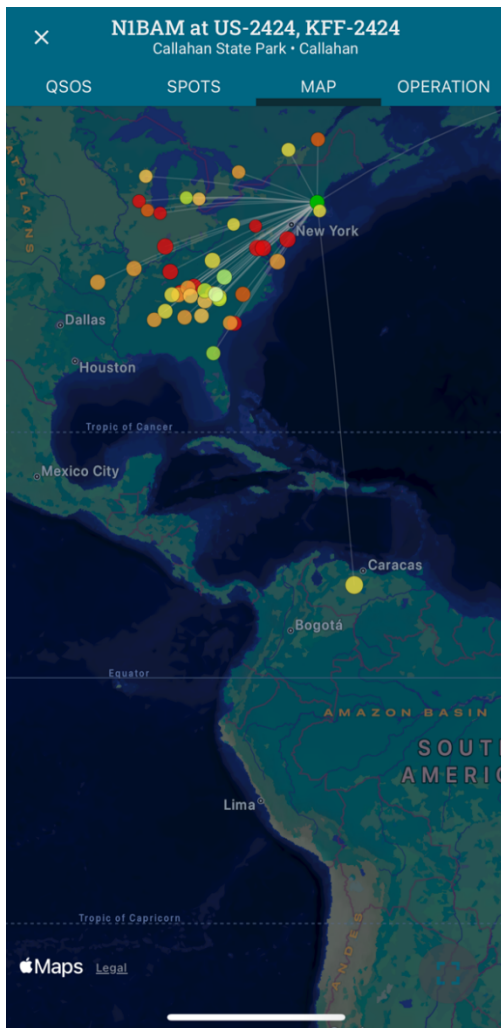
Friday, I arrived at the Expo, checked in, and went to a few talks. Once the talks were done for the day, I packed up my gear and headed to find a local park. I found US-2424 Callahan State Park about 12 minutes away. When I arrived I found a small parking area with good space for a setup. I set up a SuperAntenna with a Faraday cloth for HF and a 2m diamond antenna on top of a flagpole supported with a drive-on antenna base.

W1XPO was still active on the air for the GOTA station so I activated it with my personal callsign. I tried to reach people at the Expo on 146.52 and 144.97 but was not able to, likely because I was at the bottom of a hill. I did get one contact from a Ham on his way back to the expo after picking up dinner.

I turned to activate on HF frequencies, US-2424 is also a WWFF location KFF-2424, using the Ham2k Portable Logger app, I was able to spot myself on both sites and got 44 contacts in just over an hour. This was my first time activating a park in Massachusetts

On Sunday, after a wonderful conference, I found a POTA park for the trip home. I found US-7535 Moosup Valley State Trail, a new to-me park in Connecticut. I did some research on the CT POTA Groups.io and found a parking spot recommended by the other activators. I arrived to find a nice parking spot under some high-voltage power lines, this meant I had to hike in and not use the flagpole.

I hiked in about ¼ mile until I found an elevated spot above the trail overlooking the river. I again set up the SuperAntenna with a Faraday cloth. This time, W1XPO was available and I was able to log 17 contacts on 20m in 20 minutes.



US-2424



US-7535

