

For Immediate Release
Press Release #6
Oct. 3, 2023

TX5S Clipperton Island DXpedition
(NA-011)

January 18 – February 1, 2024



Clipperton Island:

Clipperton is #28 most wanted in Europe and #37 most wanted globally. FT-8 and 60m have **never** been activated from Clipperton. We expect the pileups to be deep and energetic, we will do our best to meet the demand.

Campsite Design

The campsite design was finalized, there will be two operating locations separated by approximately 500 meters. CW/Satellite/EME/Digital will operate from the main campsite. SSB/Digital will operate from the distant campsite. Each will have a full complement of antennas for their designated bands. The main campsite includes the dining (kitchen) tent, Starlink / local area network HQ and sleeping tents, the camps will be linked by Wi-Fi. A toilet and shower will be located close to the main camp. Each camp will have a generator shed, a supply of fuel, and drinking water.

Marine Protected Area:

Since the last major DXpedition in 2013 a "Marine Protected Area" (MPA) was established around Clipperton. In 2016 the French government enacted legislation to further restrict and protect Clipperton and its surrounding waters. While the government recognizes amateur radio as a legitimate endeavor, the legislation does not explicitly identify amateur radio as an approved activity.

<https://www.facebook.com/natgeopristinenseas/videos/france-protects-waters-of-clipperton-island/10153847108150378/>

The landing permit process is long, and of significance is the requirement for bona fide scientific content, with French representation. DX-peditions combined with sufficient scientific content will be considered. Our team includes two French scientists and one French environmentalist who each will conduct studies on the island.

Equipment Plan Finalized:

Our HF transceivers are the Elecraft K3 line and K4D for 8 operating positions, plus a satellite position. The amplifier plan includes Elecraft KPA-500 and KPA-1500, OM Power OM-2000+, SPE 1.3, Flex PGXL and the Gemini DX-1200 (from the UK.) The satellite and 6m EME station will include Icom HF and satellite transceivers and several amplifiers. HF antennas include monoband VDAs, NA4RR hex beams, verticals for 30m and 40m, and a vertical for 60m. For 160 we'll use the same Inverted-L antenna we used at South Orkney, VP8PJ. Rounding out the antenna inventory are Yagi antennas for the satellite station and an M2 6M7JHV for 6m EME.

Satellite / EME:

- Satellite: IO-117 [435.310](#)
 - o Will be using the OZ9AAR Greencube Terminal to use multiple Callsign ACKS per transmission to optimize throughput
- 6M EME:
 - o Q65-60A [50.189](#) MHz, 1st/Even, @1200 WSJT-X 2.7.0 (Q65 Pileup capability)
- 23cm/1296:
 - o Q65-60C [1296.080](#) MHz, 1st/Even @1500, CFOM, WSJT-X 2.7.0

We plan to coordinate using ON4KST (6M) and HB9Q (23 CM).

Fundraising:

The cost to activate Clipperton is impacted by the current global inflationary trend. Ship charter, labor, insurance, fuel and food have each contributed to the ever increasing cost.

The long standing DX-pedition funding model is to split the DX-pedition cost equally between the expedition team and the DX community, i.e. organizations and individuals. TX5S donations are only at ~40% of the goal. No doubt a sign of today's inflationary impact. But the fact remains - DX-editions are expensive and the teams need your help. The cash flow challenge is real, we must pay the bills before we sail.

Since the last press release the following organizations have joined the project as sponsors:

- Far East DX-Ploiters (Japan)
- Northern Illinois DX Association
- Western Washington DX Association
- Willamette Valley DX Club
- Central Oregon DX Club
- Northern Ohio DX Association
- The Akita DX Association (Japan)
- The Greater Milwaukee DX Association
- Islands on the Air (IOTA) Ltd.

Sponsor logos appear on our website and will appear on the TX5S QSL card.

We wish to thank the organizations and individuals who have already pledged their support to TX5S and ask those of you who have not yet processed a donation to consider supporting the project before we sail on January 11, 2024.

Social Media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tx5s2024>

Website: <https://TX5S.net>

Questions to: info@pdxg.net

73,
Clipperton 2024 Team