



DP7COTA 29.december 2012 DLFF-143
 Nature-Reserve Waldnaabtal
 The Castle of Falkenberg WCA DL-02335

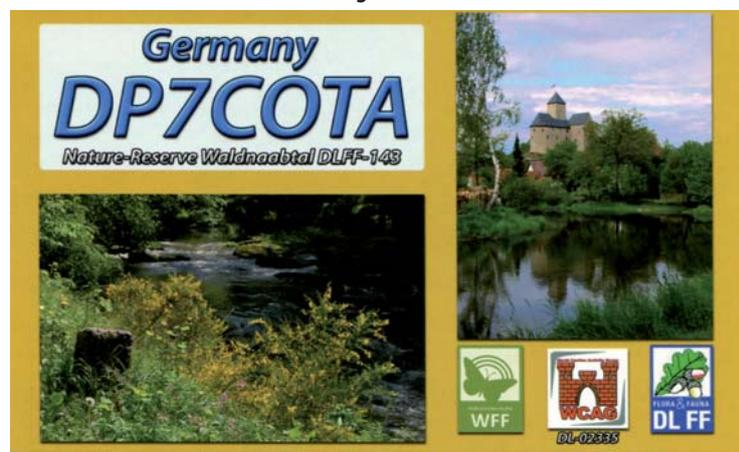


The nature-reserve Waldnaabtal was elected for the World-Wide-Flora-Fauna-program in the first half of 2012. First activity from there was at june 30, were in a good 6 hours-operation altogether 760 stations could be worked.

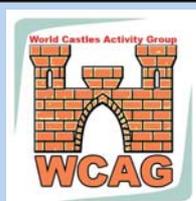


Just a couple of weeks after we got 20 centimeter of new snow and it looked like a terrific winter, one week before christmas time the temperatures raised extremely and it was raining endless. The temperatures in some areas of bavaria reached up to 20 degrees. In our north-bavarian area it was not so extreme, but of course unnormal warm. So finally decided to do one more portable-operation into the

in the background the location from the last time deep under water Waldnaabtal-area. It's just one kilometer away from my home-location. The complete parking-range was extremely wet and muddy so had to drive some meters in front of my earlier operation position because this one was totally under water from the nearby river Waldnaab. Temperature outside was around 6 degrees, so it was acceptable in the car, however very cold feet. After setting up the antenna it was quite difficult to find an acceptable frequency, so just started at 1128UTC on 7 MHz but left the band some minutes later without big success. When I made the first activation in june, conditions on 14 MHz were not so good so decided to check at first this band and found it in acceptable condition. After a short call I had a good run with a lot of friends from russia, italy, romania, spain with altogether 50 stations in a row. At 1206UTC started again my luck on 7 MH. All the upper area between 7.1 and 7.2 MHz was busy so found a frequency around 7.086 which had some noises but was no other choice. When the first spot appeared in the cluster a lot of stations were calling. So again a good run, changing later to 7.140 and again around 50 stations. So altogether around 140 contacts on 7



OSL-card for DLFF-143 activity





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lookup to Falkenberg

MHz. At the final-end tried again 14 MHz and could continue there with some stations from Spain, Finland, Great Britain and finally beside some Siberian stations the contact with Bill W10W in Massachusetts. As antenna used a double-dipole for 20/40 Meters in about 5 meters above the ground. Transceiver was an FT-450 with 100 watts powered from a second car-battery. Operation ended at 1332 UTC, so nearly exact two hours with a total of 230 contacts in altogether 32 countries. 42 contacts with Germany, followed by 41 contacts with Italy and after that 26 contacts with Russia. My electronic-keyer decided again to work not this day. So finally had to do all contacts in phone. With such a nice weather there was also a high number

of walkers on tour. Most funny question from one of the tourists was: „What are you doing there, is that a radar-control?“ Finally this was definitely the last 2012-operation. Did altogether 20 portable-operations from 10 different nature-parks and nature-reserves with first activations from 7 out of them. Personal highlight was the Karwendel-tour in September with nature-park Karwendel OEFF-217 in Austria but also a very remarkable trip to Kladske Raseliny OKFF-086 also in September with a real impressive beautiful landscape.

Beside this also 14 different castles were activated with DA0CW and DP7COTA. Thanks to my xyl Christa for supporting in most of that operations. Thanks also for DARC-OV-Stiftland and the support in printing meanwhile 17 different colour QSL-cards. In 2012 altogether 6360 contacts were made. Hope to meet you in good health in 2013 again, Manfred DF6EX

<http://www.qrz.com/db/da0cw>
 73, 44, 11 cu from the next one
 Manfred -DF6EX-



sun going down above Waldnaabtal

