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# Winter Field Day



## Rules

Home / Rules

At the Winter Field Day Association, our mission is to encourage emergency operating preparedness during the winter months when the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards may present unique operational challenges.

We sponsor the Winter Field Day Exercise in the form of a contest to encourage you to participate. Although we have a Class for Home stations, we highly encourage setting up remote and outdoor operating positions. Operating out in the field, away from the comforts of home, is the best way to increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operating skills in subpar conditions.

WFD is a learning experience, and we hope at the end of this year's WFD exercise, you will feel more confident about your ability to adapt and overcome adverse weather conditions. Please read through the rules thoroughly. If you have questions, contact us on our website or social media for clarification.

At the WFDA, we use the term contest very loosely around here, so don't get too hung up on our rules. At the end of the day, your total points don't matter. What you learn during WFD and your ability to adapt and overcome sudden obstacles is what will help you during unexpected emergencies. As we continue with another year of the WFD exercise, we want to encourage participants not to chase the contacts or the points but to test their abilities and equipment. If you want to exchange signal reports, please give each other accurate information, so the other station knows how well their station is working.

Finally, have fun with the event, talk about the temperature, meet new friends and make memories as you continue to enhance your skills as an amateur radio operator.

We wish you the best of luck and look forward to hearing you on the air in 2023!

**For questions regarding why we don't allow FT8 or FT4 during the WFD event, see our FAQ here.**



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# Winter Field Day



Entry Categories  
Entry Class  
Exchange  
Bands  
Modes  
QSO Points  
Power Output Multipliers  
Band Multipliers  
Calculating Points  
Bonus points  
Miscellaneous Rules  
Log Submission Requirements  
Appendix  
Cabrillo Formatting

## WFDA Winter Field Day 2023 Rules

### Notable Rules for Winter Field Day 2023

- All stations are limited to a maximum of 100 Watts PEP.
- All logs must be in the Cabrillo format and submitted online at [www.winterfieldday.com](http://www.winterfieldday.com)
- Mexico stations should use MX as their location identifier.
- We have added a 4th category M for Mobile / Mobile stationary stations.
- We have added an additional Antenna bonus.

**Eligibility:** All licensed amateur radio operators are encouraged to participate. Radio operators in the United States and Canada will use the designated location identifiers set up by the ARRL and RAC field organizations. Operators in Mexico will use MX as their location identifier, and all other operators outside of North America will use DX as the location identifier. All participants are encouraged to submit a log of stations worked.

**Objective:** To set up an amateur radio field station and successfully make multiple contacts. Successful participants are those who can set up their equipment and correctly log the designated exchange during the operational period explained below.

**Operational Period:** Winter Field Day is always held the last full weekend in January. For 2023,



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one call sign, must be in the same physical location. All station equipment, including antennas, feed lines, and accessories used, must be located within a circular area, whose diameter does not exceed 1,000 feet (300m).

You must choose which category you are going to operate in. If operating as a group under one call sign, all stations in your entry must fit the category you choose. We have added a new category this year. Many participants that would have been an Indoor or Outdoor station last year will now fall under the Mobile / Mobile stationary category.

The categories are:

- H = Home: is defined as any station participating from their permanent livable residence or within 500ft of their Home regardless of operating inside or outside.
- I = Indoor: is defined as any station operating away from Home but from inside an insulated, weather-protected building or structure on a permanent foundation. Indoor stations typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, and running water. Church, EOCs, a club shack, a cabin, and community centers are all examples that would be Indoor.
- O = Outdoor: Outdoor stations are defined as operating from a partly or fully exposed building or shelter that does not typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, or running water available. Operating from a picnic table, park pavilion, tents, or under pop-up canopies are all places that could be considered outdoor. These are locations where you may have to provide your own heat source and/or protection from the elements.
- M = Mobile / Mobile Stationary: These stations are defined as operations from a mobile or potentially mobile structure like an RV, car, van, sailboat, cargo trailer, mobile EOC, ETC. These are operating positions that may offer some sort of built-in heating/cooling.

**Entry Class:** Your entry class is a number designated by the number of stations in your entry that are capable of simultaneous transmission. Don't count a station where one must be left idle to make contacts on another; do not change your category or class during the event.

**Exchange:** The designated WFD exchange is your call sign, your Class and Category, plus your location identifier. US and Canadian stations will use the ARRL / RAC Section as designated by those organizations. Mexico stations will use MX, and all other stations outside of the US will use DX. You must accurately copy and record the full exchange. Do not change your section during the contest. If your station changes sections during the event, such as a long haul trucker, your section is the first section you made a contact from.

**Bands:** All Amateur bands except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters. To qualify as a band worked, at least 1 valid, two-way QSO must have taken place on the said band during the contest.



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exchange or call sign. Duplicate contacts (same call, band, and mode) will not be counted nor penalized.

**Power Output Multipliers:** The maximum permitted is 100 watts measured from the output of the final amplifier. QRP stations, as defined by transmitting less than 5 watts on CW or 10 watts on phone get a multiplier of 2. All other stations have a multiplier of 1. 100W or less = 1x, QRP = 2x

**Multiple Transmitter Limitations:** The use of more than one transmitter on a single band & mode is prohibited.

**Band Multipliers:** Each mode worked on each band counts as 1 multiplier. If you worked both CW and Phone on 20 & 40 meters, your total multiplier would be 4. If you operated CW and Phone on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters, CW and PSK31 on 20m, FM on 2 meters & 440 you would have a total multiplier of 12x.

**Calculating Points:** Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x Power Output Multiplier x Band / Mode Multiplier + Bonus Points.

Total Score = (# of QSOs x  $PO_M$  x  $B_M$ ) + Total Bonus Points

## Bonus points:

**Alternative Power<sup>1</sup>:** You may claim 500 points if no commercial power is used in powering your WFD station. This means any power not connected to the commercial power grid. Generators, batteries, solar power, and wind are all possible sources of alternative power. You may claim this bonus no matter what operational category you are working under.

**Outdoor:** You may claim 500 points if you are operating outdoors. Every station operating in the Outdoor category should be able to claim this bonus. Any station that is operating in the Home category but chooses to set up outdoors, may also claim this bonus.

**Away from Home:** You may claim 500 points if you are operating in a location other than home as defined above. If you are operating under the Indoor, Outdoor or Mobile categories, you should be able to claim this bonus.

**Antenna:** You may claim 500 points if you are setting up an antenna(s) just for WFD. If you or any of your operating stations are using any pre-installed antennas you may not claim this bonus. Pre-installed antennas are defined as any antenna attached to anything that could be



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**Mobile:** You may claim 250 points if you are mobile during the event. This means you are moving / roving and using a vehicle mounted-antenna that can be operated while the vehicle is in motion.

To claim any bonus points, all stations covered in your entry must qualify.

## Miscellaneous Rules:

- All rules governing amateur radio at your location must be observed throughout the event.
- All stations for a single log entry submission must be operated under one callsign.
- Any mode used must be able to faithfully transmit the exchange intact without a conversion table. Stations can be worked once per band, per mode.
- Entrants may not count for QSO credit any contact with anyone who is or was a participant in their WFD operation or is present at their WFD location.
- All voice contacts are equivalent.
- All non-cw digital contacts are equivalent.
- QSOs may only be solicited during the contest and only via the airwaves. The use of spotting clusters, the RBN, APRS, and Winlink to solicit contacts will be allowed during the contest.
- Cross-band contacts are not permitted (satellite QSOs cross-band contacts are exempted).
- The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band-mode is prohibited.
- No repeater contacts are allowed including, DMR that may be transmitted through a repeater on the receiving end.

## Log Submission Requirements

All logs must be submitted in the Cabrillo format and contain the proper exchange data. Logs must be submitted by 11:59 UTC on March 1st to be considered. Late entries cannot be accepted. If you find an error in log after submitting, just correct your log and resubmit. The corrected version will replace the original you submitted.

You must submit your logs online at [winterfieldday.org](http://winterfieldday.org)

The log submission page will become available once the event has concluded.

Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation email.

Results will be posted on the Winter Field Day website.

## Appendix



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entry category. Satellite QSOs do not count as a regular QSOs credit. Satellite contacts do not count as a new band / mode multiplier. You only get the 500 Bonus points. You do not receive any additional bonus points for contacting different satellites. A simple CQ (versus CQ WFD) is sufficient, and you should be prepared to give a signal report and your VHF Grid Square to the other station versus your normal WFD exchange. It's likely the other station will not be a WFD contestant, and he will likely want a confirmation of the contact afterwards, especially if your location is remote. Please be considerate and comply.

## Cabrillo Log Example

There **MUST** be at **LEAST** one or more spaces between fields. Each line in the log must end with a carriage return and line feed. There must be at least one or more spaces following a colon in a line. The frequency for HF must be in kilohertz rounded to the nearest kilohertz. 3753 is fine, 3753.20 is not. Frequencies above 50 mhz are specified as the band.

Examples: 50, 70, 144, 222, 432, 902, 1.2G, 2.3G, 3.4G, 5.7G, 10G, 24G, etc.

The mode should be one of the valid Cabrillo modes. CW, PH, FM, RY, DG. The code we have used in the past for the digital contacts of DI is currently supported but not needed. It is preferred that you use RY or DG. In the next couple of years, the DI code will no longer be supported. Most log programs already use the right codes for this.

If your logging software is NOT connected to your radio, any in-band frequency is fine.

Date and times need to be in UTC and do not need to be exactly accurate.

The old process of adding the information about the bonus points claimed and the modification of the claimed score is no longer needed or supported. The soapbox should be used for the purpose it was intended. It will not affect your score. But the soap box comments will be reviewed by the team after the event and used to improve the contest for next year.

The main body **must** follow this format:

START-OF-LOG: 3.0

LOCATION: WTX (ARRL Section) or MX or DX

CALLSIGN: N8LOG



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CATEGORY-POWER: HIGH or LOW

CATEGORY-STATION: FIXED or MOBILE

CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE or TWO or UNLIMITED

CLAIMED-SCORE: xxxx (your calculated total score including bonuses)

OPERATORS: W1CALL, W2CALL, W3CALL, etc.

NAME: Mike Smith (contact person)

ADDRESS : 123 Main Street

ADDRESS-CITY: Anytown

ADDRESS-STATE: TN

ADDRESS-POSTALCODE: 13791

ADDRESS-COUNTRY: USA

X-EXCHANGE: 1O

SOAPBOX: set up and operated for 4 hours. It was 72 degrees in Texas.THX

SOAPBOX: operated from K-1235 using a wire antenna.

EMAIL: mike@gmail.com

QSO: 3750 PH 2017-01-07 1911 N8LOG 1O OH WB9X 2H IL

QSO: 14070 DI 2017-01-07 2131 N8LOG 1O OH K6XXX 14I LA

END-OF-LOG:

- Home
- About Us
- Resources
- History
- Shop
- Contact



## Follow Us





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## Resources

Home / Resources

General

We would like to develop a comprehensive FAQ section, but for now if you have any questions or need clarification on anything, please contact us and let us know.

Logging Programs

Operating Aids

**Q:** How do I change my location on the map?

**A:** When you registered your location on the map, you received an email. The subject line was WFD Location Added. The last line of the email says Click here to edit your entry. Using that link, you can change or modify any field from your original registration. If you deleted or no longer have that email with the link, you can click here to have another email resent to you. It will go to the original email address you used to register your location.

Downloads

FAQ

WFD in the News

**Q:** Why isn't FT8 allowed for WFD?

**A:** We set our objectives around ensuring that WFD remains an exercise in emergency communications. Though we recognize FT8 is a legitimate digital mode, it cannot pass even simple emergency traffic. WFD is not about how many contacts you make or the points at the end of the day. It's about whether or not you can successfully relay emergency information back and forth in adverse conditions. That single concept, along with our core principles, is what we use to develop the objectives and guidelines for the WFD event. While many people enjoy FT8, and it may help improve your digital skills, we encourage you to use those skills to practice passing information back and forth using other digital methods during WFD.

Newsletter

Results





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## Resources

Home / Resources

General

Logging Programs

Operating Aids

Downloads

FAQ

WFD in the News

Newsletter

Results

## Logging Programs

N3FJP

Winter Field Day Contest Log 2.8.5

N1MM

Version 1.0.9768 (January 3, 2023) or greater

TR4W

Version 4.67.6 or greater

HAMRS

1.0.1 - February 13, 2022 or greater

- Home
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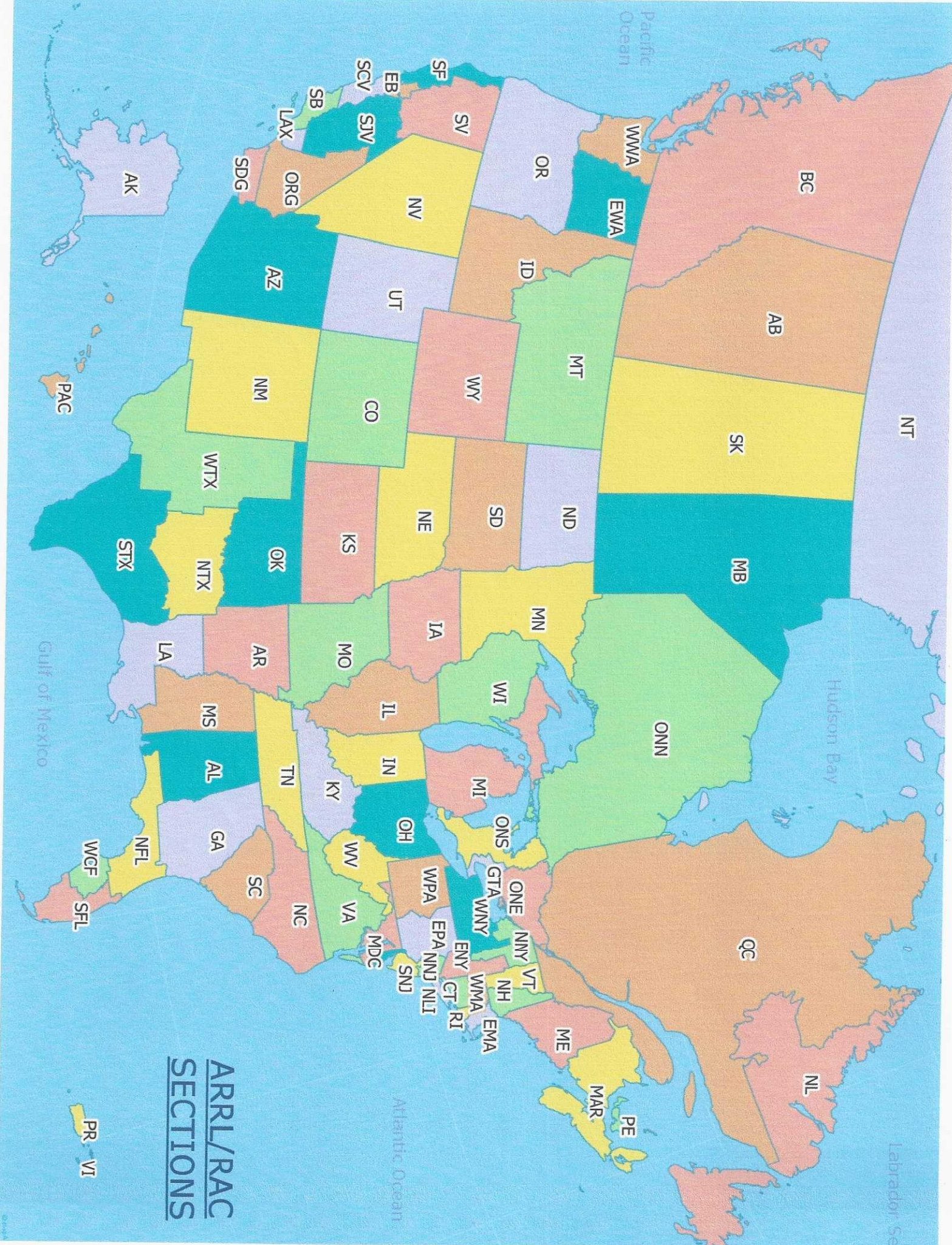
## Follow Us



# ARRL / RAC Section Abbreviation List

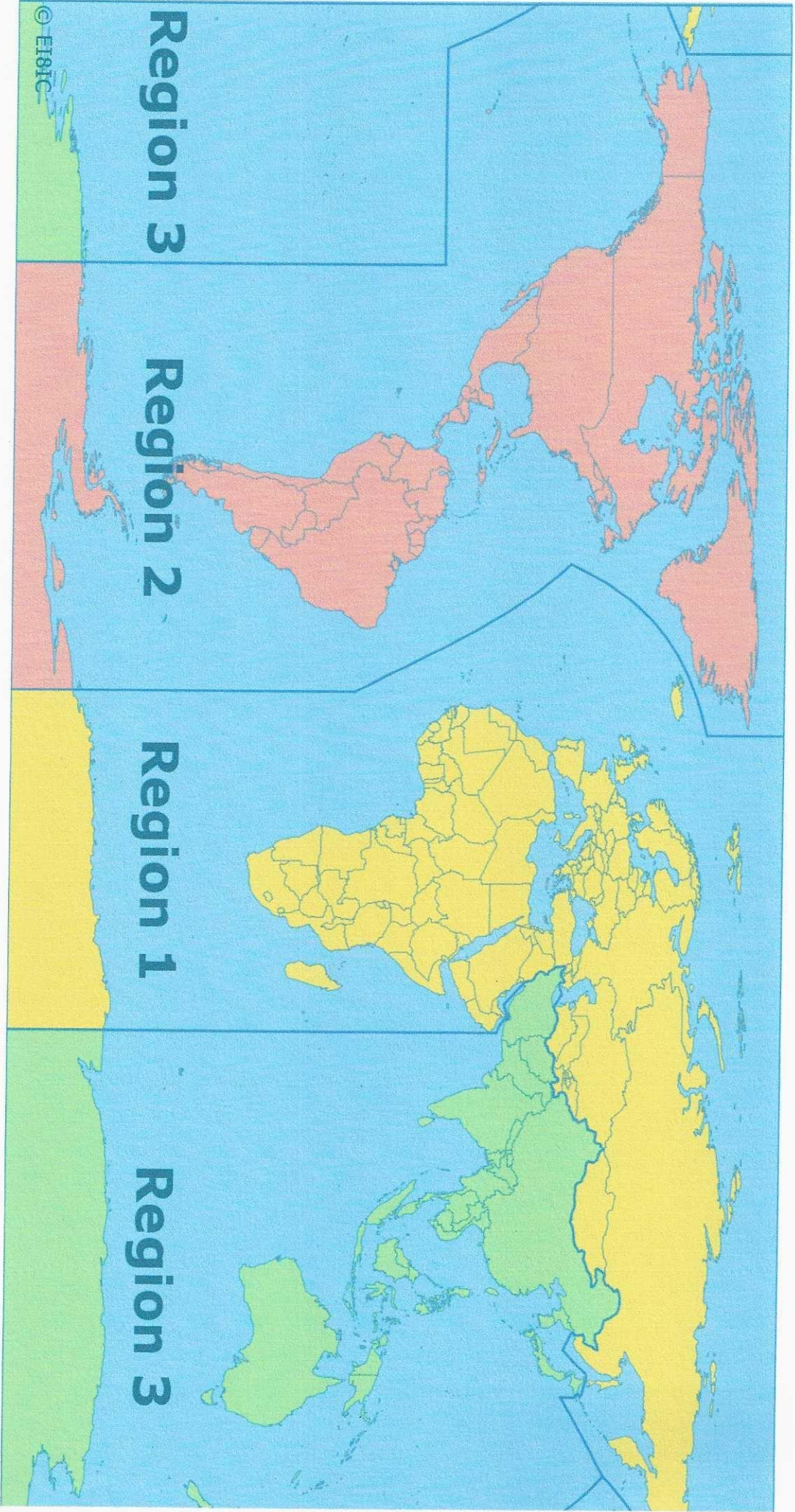
<u>1</u>			
Connecticut	CT	Rhode Island	RI
Eastern Massachusetts	EMA	Vermont	VT
Maine	ME	Western Massachusetts	WMA
New Hampshire	NH		
<u>2</u>			
Eastern New York	ENY	Northern New York	NNY
NYC / Long Island	NLI	Southern New Jersey	SNJ
Northern New Jersey	NNJ	Western New York	WNY
<u>3</u>			
Delaware	DE	Maryland – DC	MDC
Eastern Pennsylvania	EPA	Western Pennsylvania	WPA
<u>4</u>			
Alabama	AL	Southern Florida	SFL
Georgia	GA	Tennessee	TN
Kentucky	KY	Virginia	VA
North Carolina	NC	West Central Florida	WCF
Northern Florida	NFL	Puerto Rico	PR
South Carolina	SC	US Virgin Islands	VI
<u>5</u>			
Arkansas	AR	North Texas	NTX
Louisiana	LA	Oklahoma	OK
Mississippi	MS	South Texas	STX
New Mexico	NM	West Texas	WTX
<u>6</u>			
East Bay	EB	San Diego	SDG
Los Angeles	LAX	San Francisco	SF
Orange	ORG	San Joaquin Valley	SJV
Santa Barbara	SB	Sacramento Valley	SV
Santa Clara Valley	SCV	Pacific	PAC
<u>7</u>			
Alaska	AK	Nevada	NV
Arizona	AZ	Oregon	OR
Eastern Washington	EWA	Utah	UT
Idaho	ID	Western Washington	WWA
Montana	MT	Wyoming	WY
<u>8</u>			
Michigan	MI	West Virginia	WV
Ohio	OH		
<u>9</u>			
Illinois	IL	Wisconsin	WI
Indiana	IN		
<u>0</u>			
Colorado	CO	Missouri	MO
Iowa	IA	Nebraska	NE
Kansas	KS	North Dakota	ND
Minnesota	MN	South Dakota	SD
<u>Canada</u>			
Maritime	MAR	Saskatchewan	SK
Newfoundland/Labrador	NL	Alberta	AB
Quebec	QC	British Columbia	BC
Ontario East	ONE	Manitoba	MB
Ontario North	ONN	Northern Territories	NT
Ontario South	ONS	Greater Toronto Area	GTA
Prince Edward Island	PE		

Non US / Canadian stations should be logged as DX



**ARRL/RAC  
SECTIONS**

PR VI



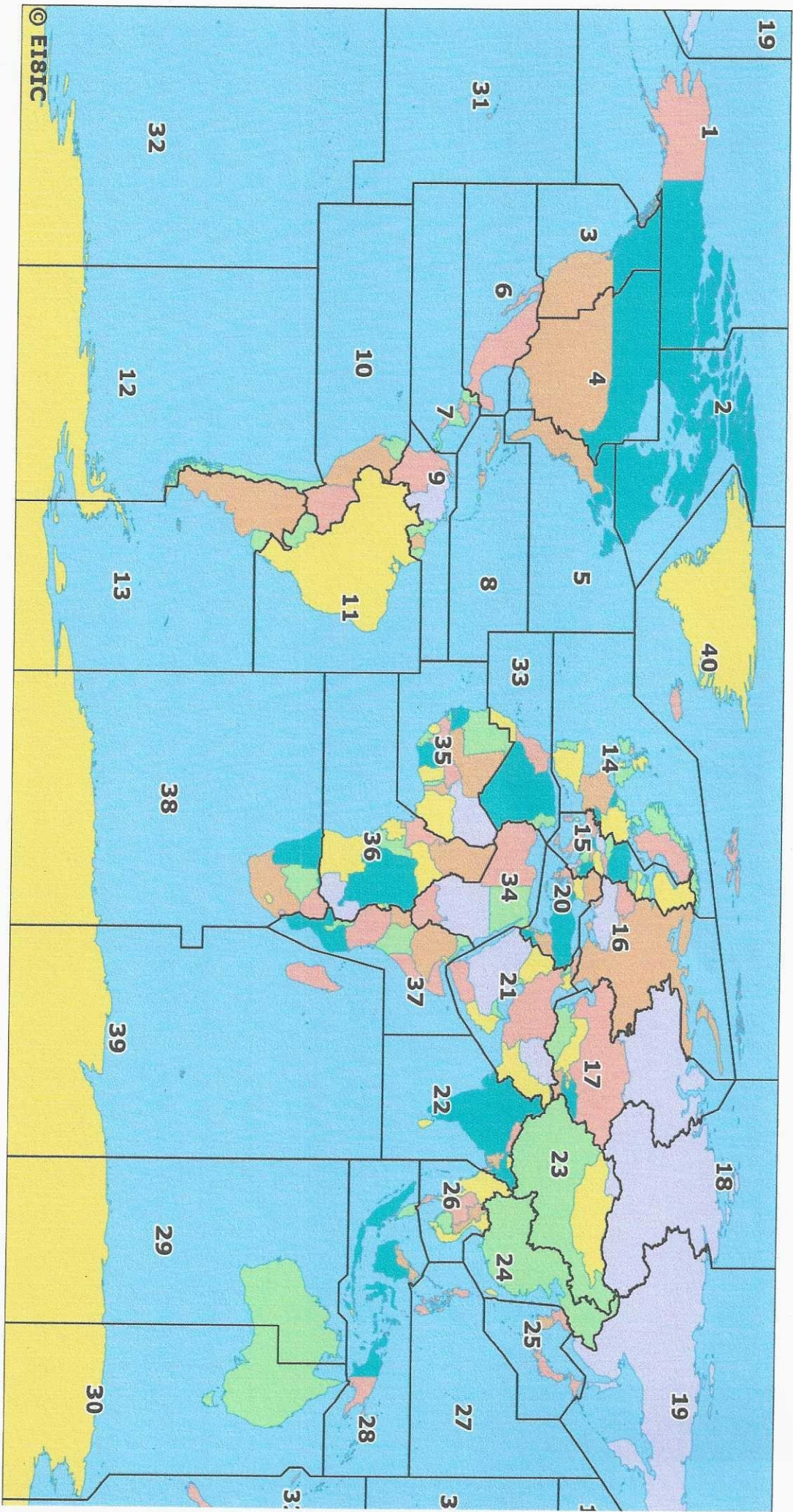
**Region 3**

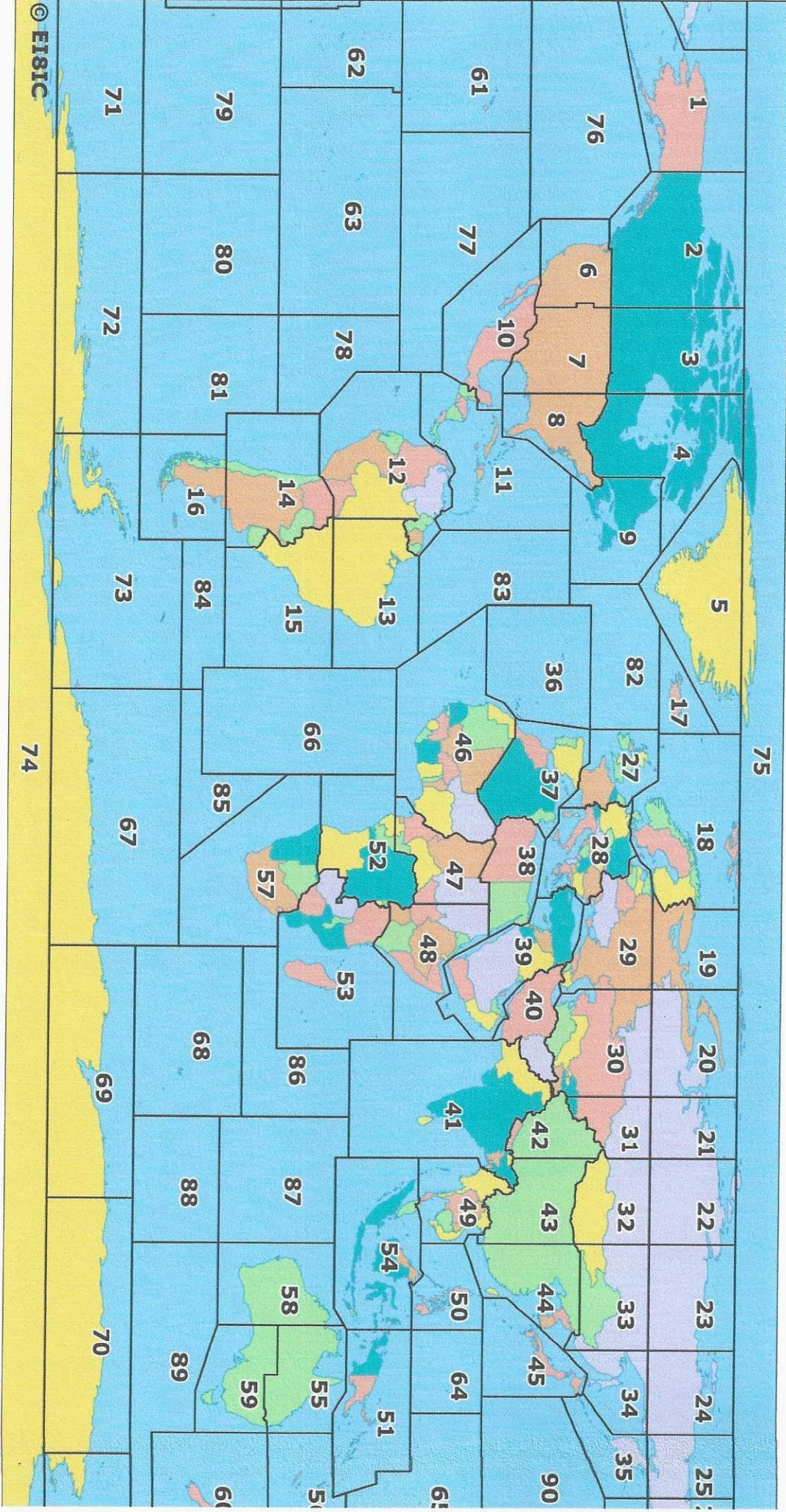
**Region 2**

**Region 1**

**Region 3**

© EHSIC





© FIBIC



# Winter Field Day

January 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2023

**CQ, CQ, CQ...**

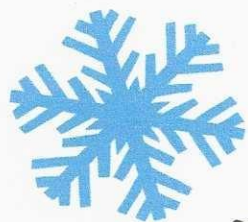
Get out and participate in the 2023 Winter Field Day event! WFD is a winter emergency communications exercise sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association.

For more information visit  
[www.winterfieldday.org](http://www.winterfieldday.org)

Local Information:

We passionately believe that ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operational concerns. WFD is formatted to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operational skills in subpar conditions.

We are sure you will find WFD to be a challenging yet exciting and rewarding event!



WFDA

