

SOTA

(Summits on the Air)

Eric Nystrom W4EON

Activators

Operate portable from a defined summit

All equipment must be carried to summit

Four unique contacts required for activation

Points for summit are based on altitude

Allowed to activate a summit for points once per year

Chasers

Contact activators

Points same as activator points

Allowed chaser points for a summit once per day

More info at

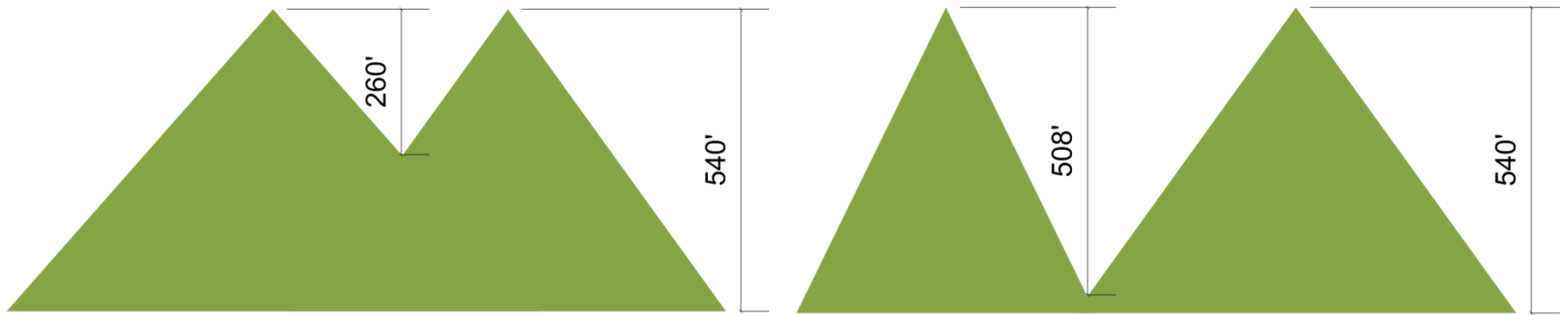
www.sota.org.uk

www.sotawatch.org

What is a Summit?

One Peak

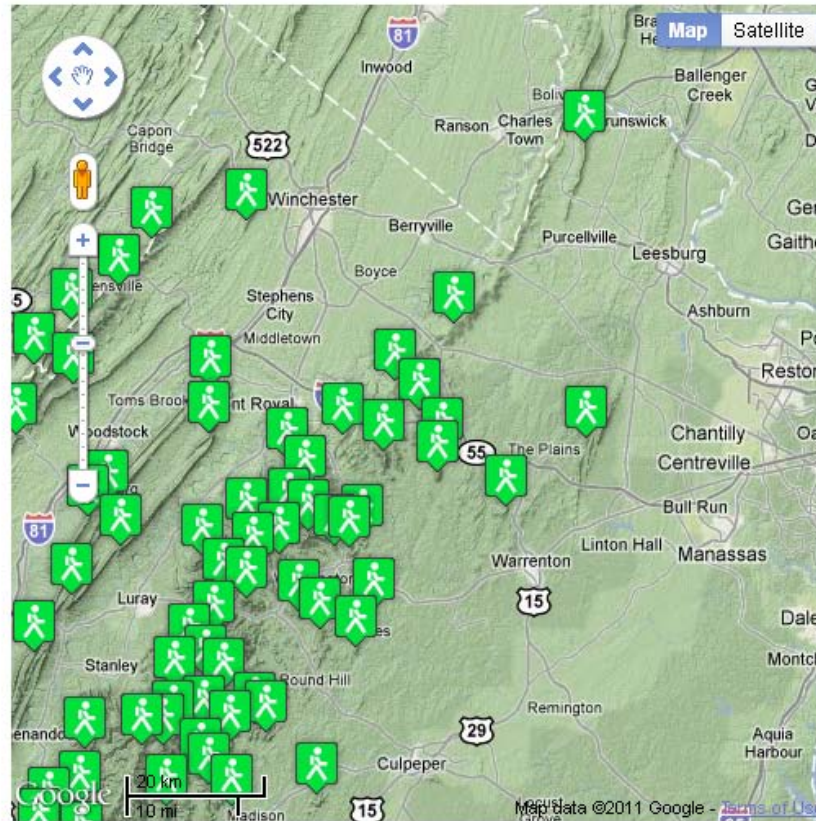
Two Peaks



The 500' Golden Rule

Virginia has lots of SOTA peaks

Naked Mountain - W4/SH-039



- County: [Fauquier](#)
- GridSquare: FM18aw
- Range: [Shenandoah\(SH\)](#)
- Points: 1
- Coordinates: 38.919, -77.9833
- Height: 1470 feet
- Prominence: 560 feet

<http://sota-w4-va.hamradio.me/>

Fauquier too...

```
SELECT * FROM summits WHERE 1 AND County = 'Fauquier' ORDER BY name
```

| Reference | Name | Height Meters | Height Feet | Latitude | Longitude | Valid Start Date | End Date | Points | From Grid Square | County |
|---|------|---------------|-------------|----------|-----------|------------------|----------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|
| W4/SH-036 Big Cobbler Mountain | | 478 | 1570 | 38.8382 | -77.9531 | 2011-02-01 | | 2 | 880 FM18au | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-030 Blue Mountain | | 672 | 2210 | 38.9565 | -78.0239 | 2011-02-01 | | 4 | 1280 FM08xw | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-042 Little Cobbler Mountain | | 440 | 1445 | 38.8679 | -77.9447 | 2011-02-01 | | 1 | 655 FM18au | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-039 Naked Mountain | | 447 | 1470 | 38.919 | -77.9833 | 2011-02-01 | | 1 | 560 FM18aw | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-032 Rattlesnake Mountain | | 654 | 2150 | 38.8648 | -78.0434 | 2011-02-01 | | 4 | 980 FM08xu | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-049 Signal Mountain | | 416 | 1369 | 38.8816 | -77.7033 | 2011-02-01 | | 1 | 799 FM18dv | Fauquier |
| W4/SH-048 Wildcat Mountain | | 417 | 1370 | 38.7925 | -77.8391 | 2011-02-01 | | 1 | 760 FM18bt | Fauquier |

Upcoming Activations

[new alert](#)

Saturday 21st May 2011

- 18:00 AA5CK on [W5/QA-008](#) 10.106-cw, 14.062-cw
time approx, plan on a couple of hours, ssb if cndx ok (Posted by AA5CK)
- 19:15 W4EON on [W4/SH-026](#) - [\[edit\]](#) 14.275-ssb, 144.200-ssb, 146.470-fm
2 m at 19:15 and 20 m around 19:30 (Posted by W4EON)

Sunday 22nd May 2011

- 07:00 OE5HCE/P on [OE/OO-332](#) 145.500-fm, 14.285-ssb, 14.060-cw
+/- 30min, +/- QRG in CW pse QRS QRS QRS (Posted by OE5HCE)
- 08:00 S57AX/P on [S5/KA-013](#) 145.575-fm, 433.400-fm
with S57CJ/P +/- UTC ??? (Posted by S57AX)
- 08:00 E71DX on [E7/BO-032](#) 14.060-cw, 7.030-cw
Depending on WX (Posted by E71DX)

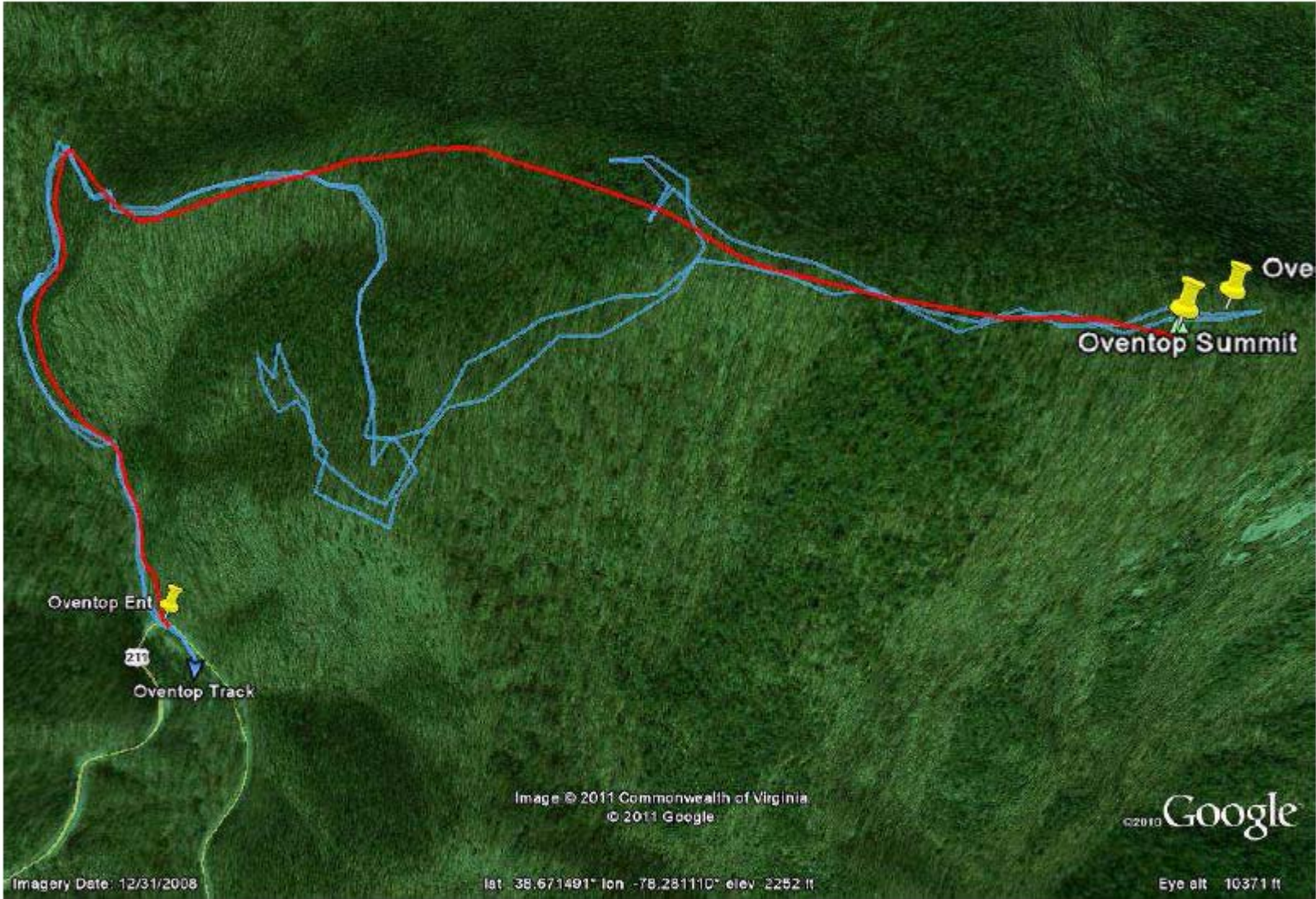
Latest Spots

35 spots in the last 12 hours | [new spot](#)

- Sat 19:48 W4EON/P on [W4/SH-026](#) 14.2725 ssb
In and out of noise in NM (Posted by KE5AKL)
- Sat 19:36 W4EON/P on [W4/SH-026](#) 14.272.5 ssb
Eric here now with a wee bit QSB but workable (Posted by MM0USU)
- Sat 18:59 AA5CK on [W5/QA-008](#) 14.0621 cw
Ted - 569 with QSB in MN (Posted by NDOC)

Sat 18:37 W4EON/P on [W4/HB-036](#) 14.340 ssb
*Spot[W4EON]: qrv now (Posted by SMS_NA)





Oventop Ent

211

Oventop Track

Oventop Summit

Image © 2011 Commonwealth of Virginia
© 2011 Google

©2013 Google

Imagery Date: 12/31/2008

lat: 38.671491° lon: -78.281110° elev: 2252 ft

Eye alt: 10371 ft



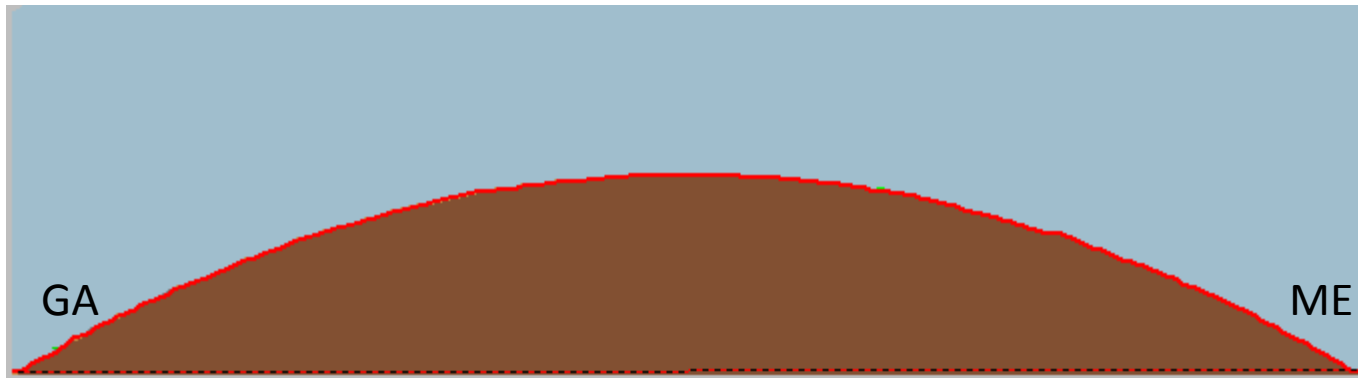
APRS Golden Packet

Bob Bruninga's combining of hiking,
hamradio and packet radio.

John Huggins KX4O

Simple Goal

- Move an APRS packet the entire length of the Appalachian Trail. (Parallel effort on the Pacific Coast)
- Only one problem...



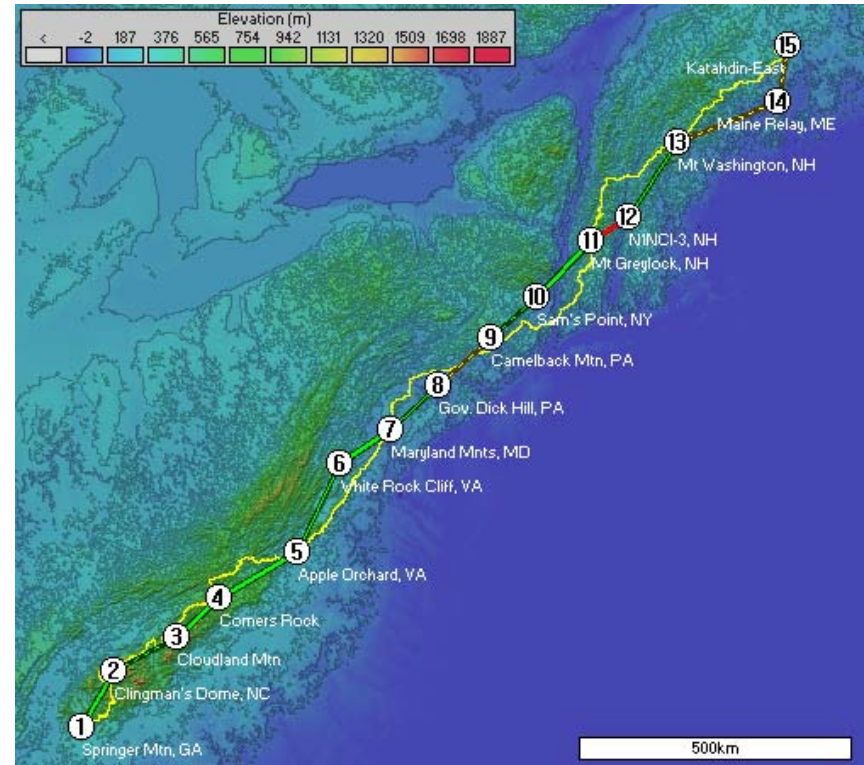
- Earth is in the way!
- Digipeating to the rescue.

Requirements

- Pass packet from GA to ME and back.
- Line of Sight between stations – No Sporadic E here.
- Kenwood D700, D710, D7 or the new D72
 - to attain tested sensitivity of -115 dBm
 - Yaesu equiv. might work also – not tested
- Path set to HOP7-7,HOP7-7
- 144.340 Packet (the balloon frequency)
- 445.925 MHz station to station voice

Break the problem into pieces.

| Name | Latitude | Longitude | Altitude | Station # |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Springer | 34 37 36.0 N | 84 11 37.5 W | 1,146 | 1 |
| Clingmans | 35 33 08.4 N | 83 29 42.0 W | 1,777 | 2 |
| Roan Mtn | 36 06 15.6 N | 82 07 57.6 W | 1,881 | 3 |
| Comers Rock | 36 45 48.0 N | 81 13 25.8 W | 1,152 | 4 |
| Apple Orchard | 37 31 03.0 N | 79 30 36.0 W | 1,281 | 5 |
| Wht Rk Clfs | 38 58 24.0 N | 78 35 30.0 W | 913 | 6 |
| MD Mtns | 39 29 42.0 N | 77 29 56.4 W | 522 | 7 |
| GD Hill | 40 14 45.0 N | 76 27 19.8 W | 347 | 8 |
| Camelback | 41 02 33.0 N | 75 20 58.8 W | 642 | 9 |
| Sams Pt | 41 42 18.0 N | 74 20 30.0 W | 675 | 10 |
| Greylock | 42 38 13.2 N | 73 10 01.2 W | 1,057 | 11 |
| N1NCI-3 | 43 02 00.0 N | 72 22 02.4 W | 459 | 12 |
| Mt Wash | 44 16 12.6 N | 71 18 12.0 W | 1,911 | 13 |
| Maine Rly | 44 56 36.0 N | 69 07 06.0 W | 152 | 14 |
| Katahdin-Abol | 45 52 25.8 N | 68 57 49.2 W | 397 | 15 |



Location of GP-AOMTN,GP-CLNGMN,GP-CMLBCK,GP-COMERS,GP-GDHILL,GP-GRYLCK,GP-KATHDN,GP-KQ1L,GP-MDMTN,GP-MTWASH,GP-N1NCI,GP-ROAN,GP-SAMSP... S...

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Gmail - [at-golden-packet] GP-* objects c... Hex Array - Phasing Networks Golden Packet Event Location of GP-AOMTN,GP-CLNGMN,GP-...

http://aprs.fi/?call=GP-AOMTN,GP-CLNGMN,GP-CMLBCK,GP-COMERS,GP-GDHILL,GP-GRYLCK,GP-KATHDN,GP-KQ1L,GP-MDMTN,GP-MTWASH,GP-N... Google

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines

46°52.37' N 76°6.01' W, FN16WU

Overlays Map

aprs.fi · Login

Show last: 1 hour

Track callsign: [Clear / Show all] HAWKBL,GP-STONY Search [?]

Address, city or Locator: [Clear] Search [?]

GP-AOMTN Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 37°31.05' N 79°30.60' W

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GP-GRYLCK Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 42°38.22' N 73°10.02' W

GP-KATHDN Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 45°51.60' N 68°53.13' W

GP-KQ1L Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°56.60' N 69°7.10' W

GP-MDMTN Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 39°32.26' N 77°30.01' W

GP-MTWASH Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-N1NCI Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-ROAN Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-SAMSP Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-SPRNG Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-WHTBC Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

GP-STONYL Updated: 2011-07-14 18:45:18z (29m) Position: 44°16.21' N 71°18.20' W

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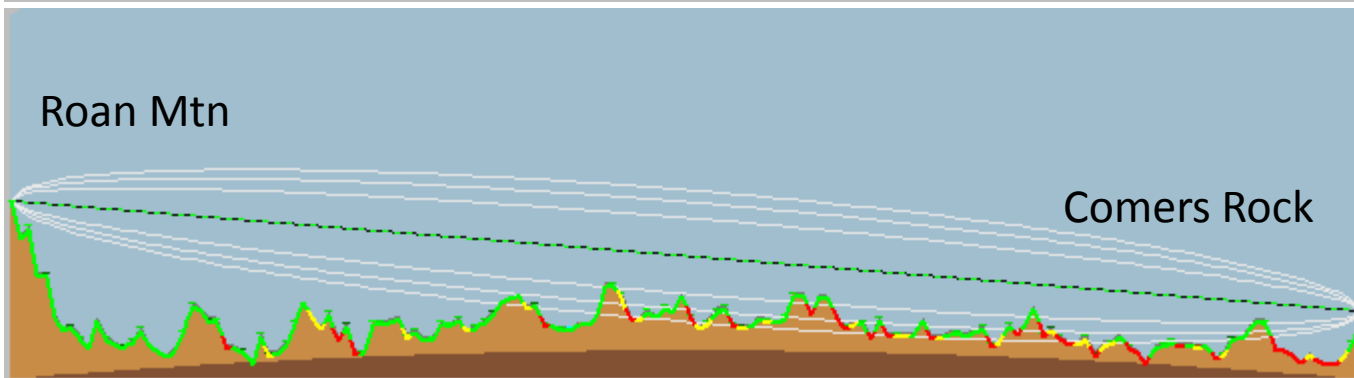
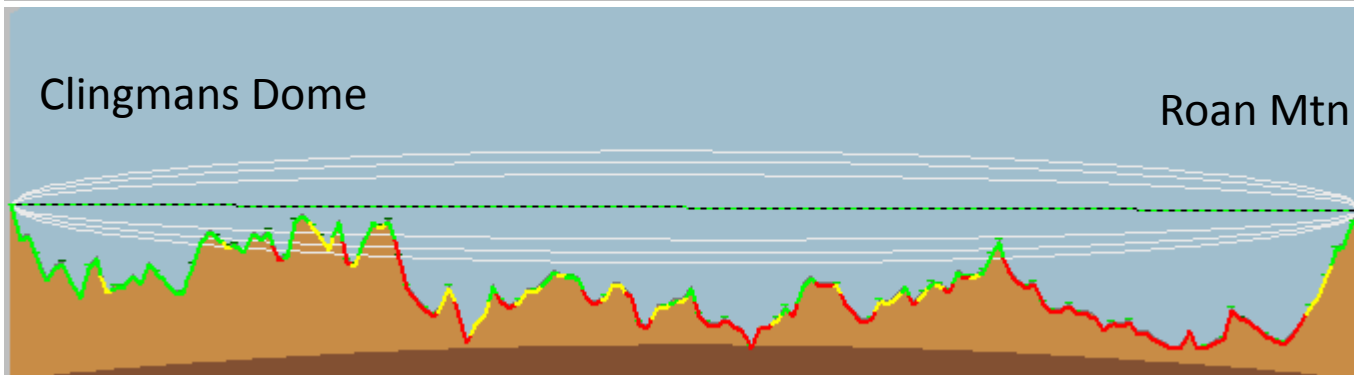
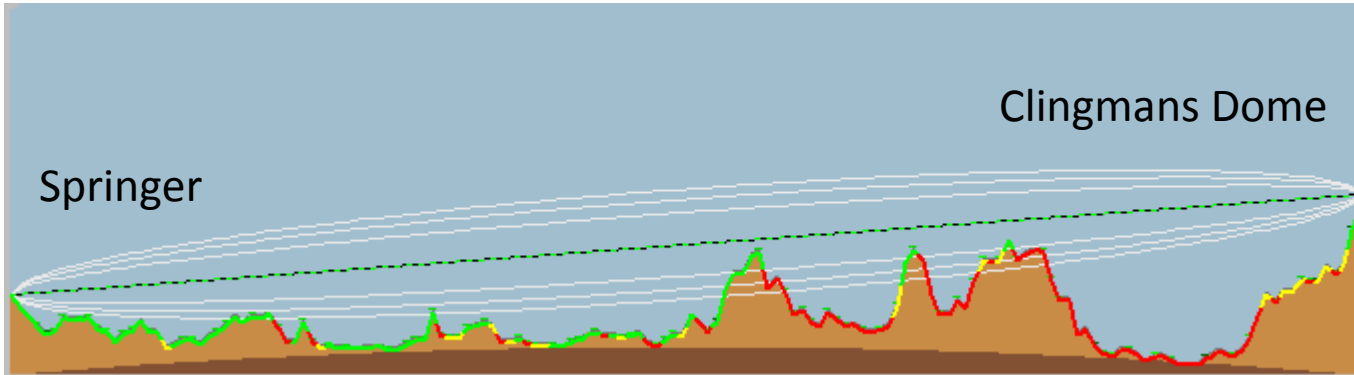
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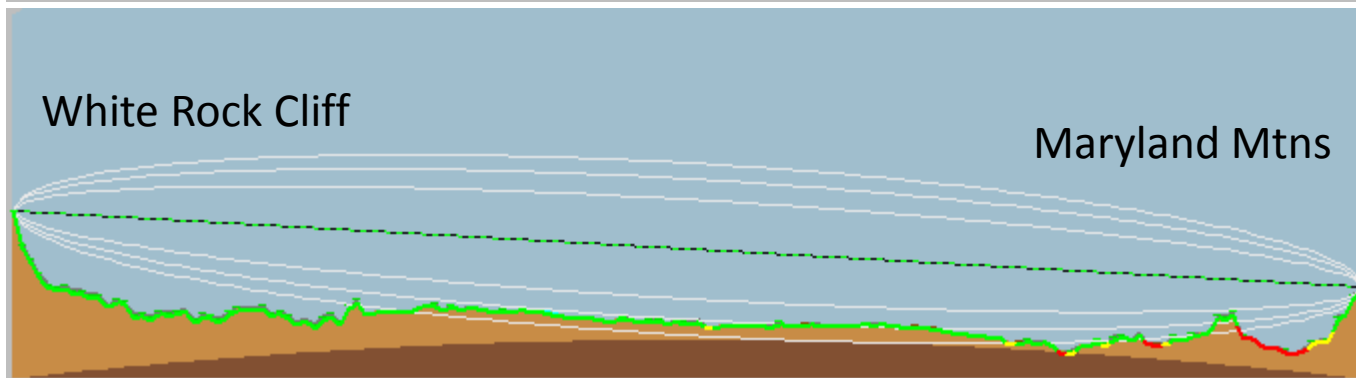
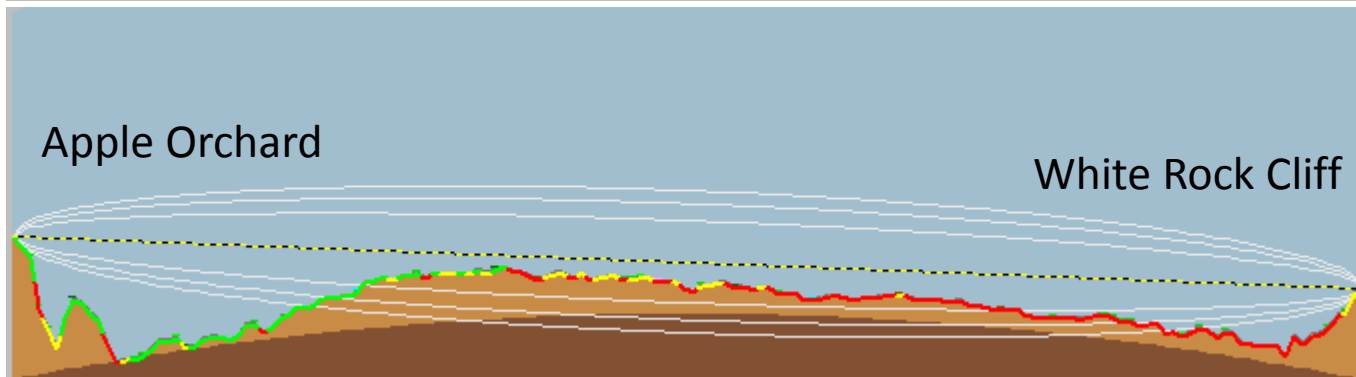
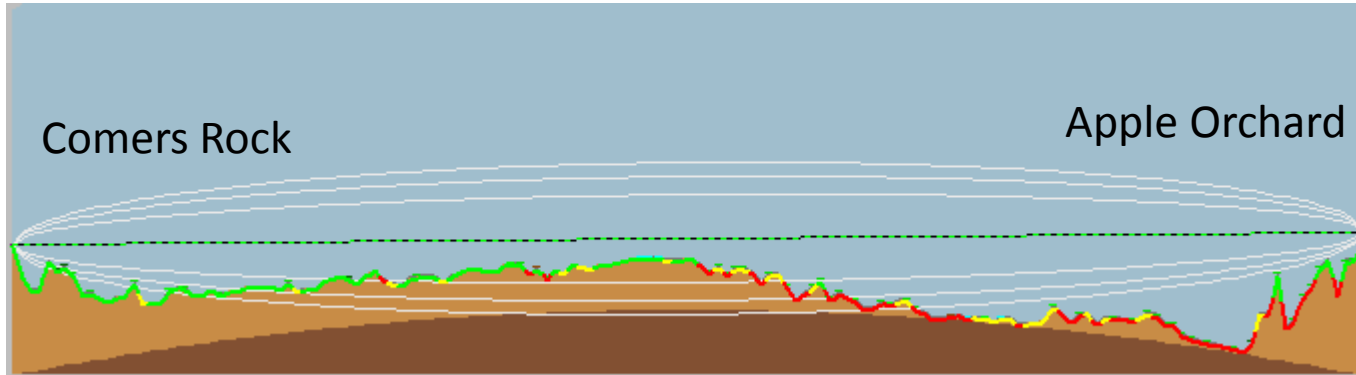
Find: 445 Next Previous Highlight all Match case

<http://tinyurl.com/65e7jpt>

Links from GA to MD



Links from GA to MD cont.



and so on...

White Rock Cliff 2009-2010

**2009 – Me, my son, and two
hiking friends at the Cliff
looking East**



2010 –Eric and I Cliffside



The View from White Rock Cliffs



You should here 144.390 from up here!

White Rock Cliffs - Weather

Clear one minute...



...stormy the next.



More pics from 2010.

Eric and John under cliff-side tree...

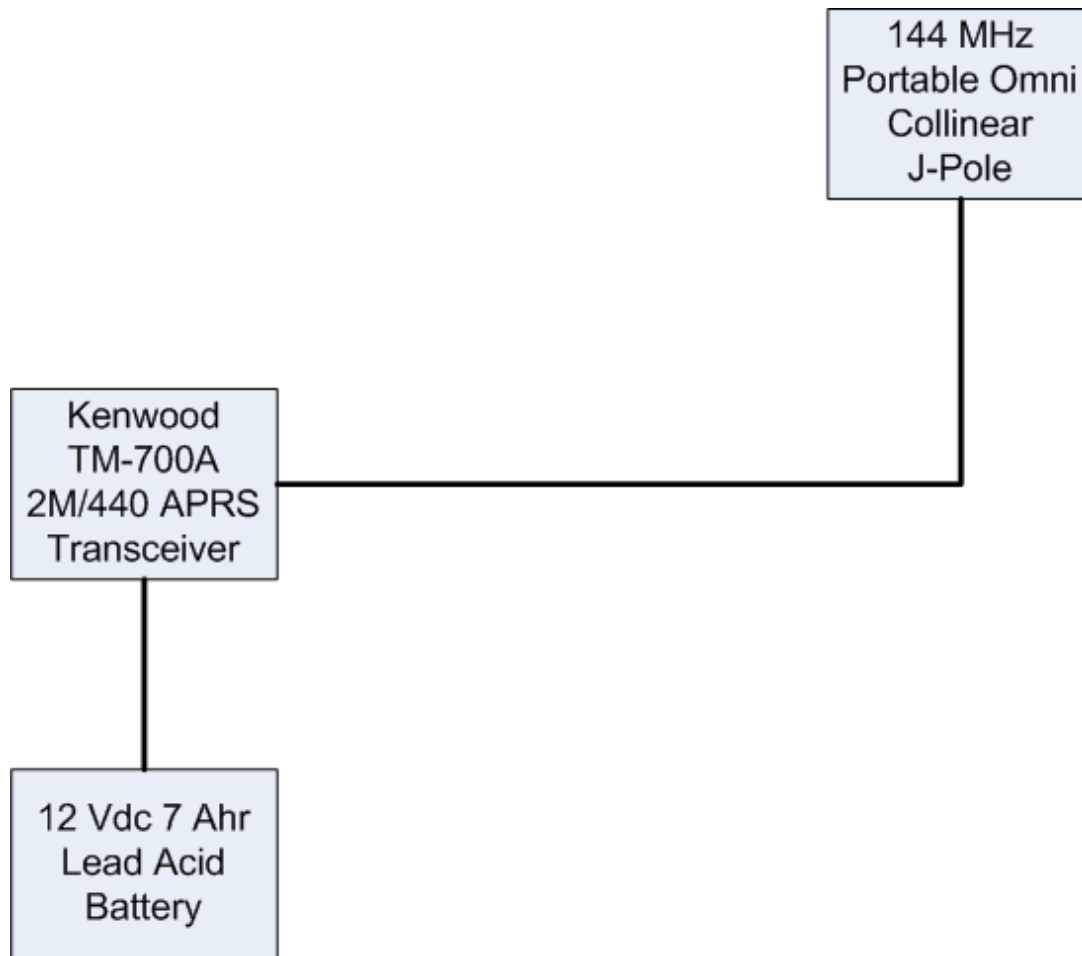


Team hiding from the rain and lightning in stone 'bunker.'



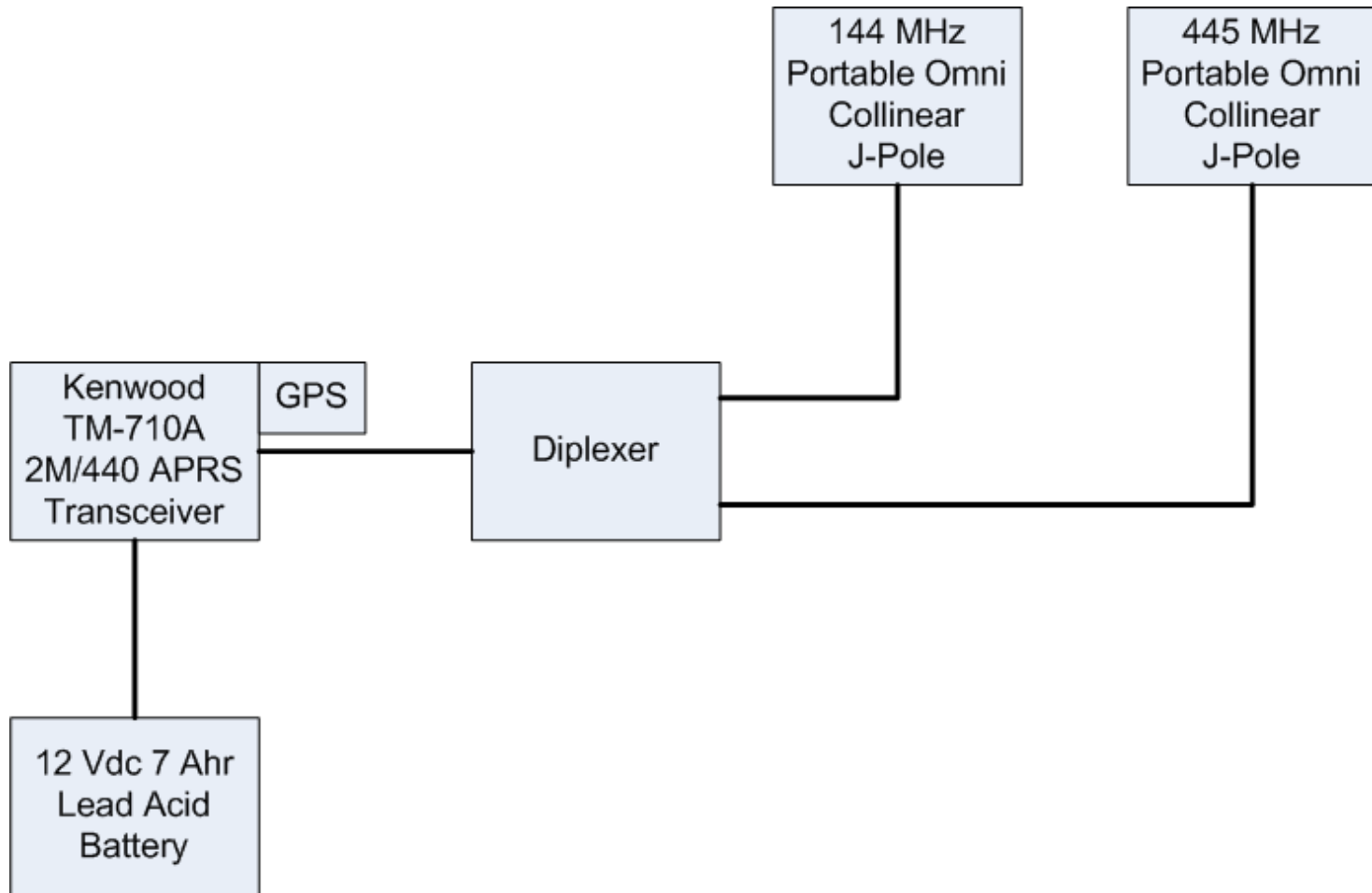
NOVA ATGP Ham Gear 2009/10

Single Line Drawing



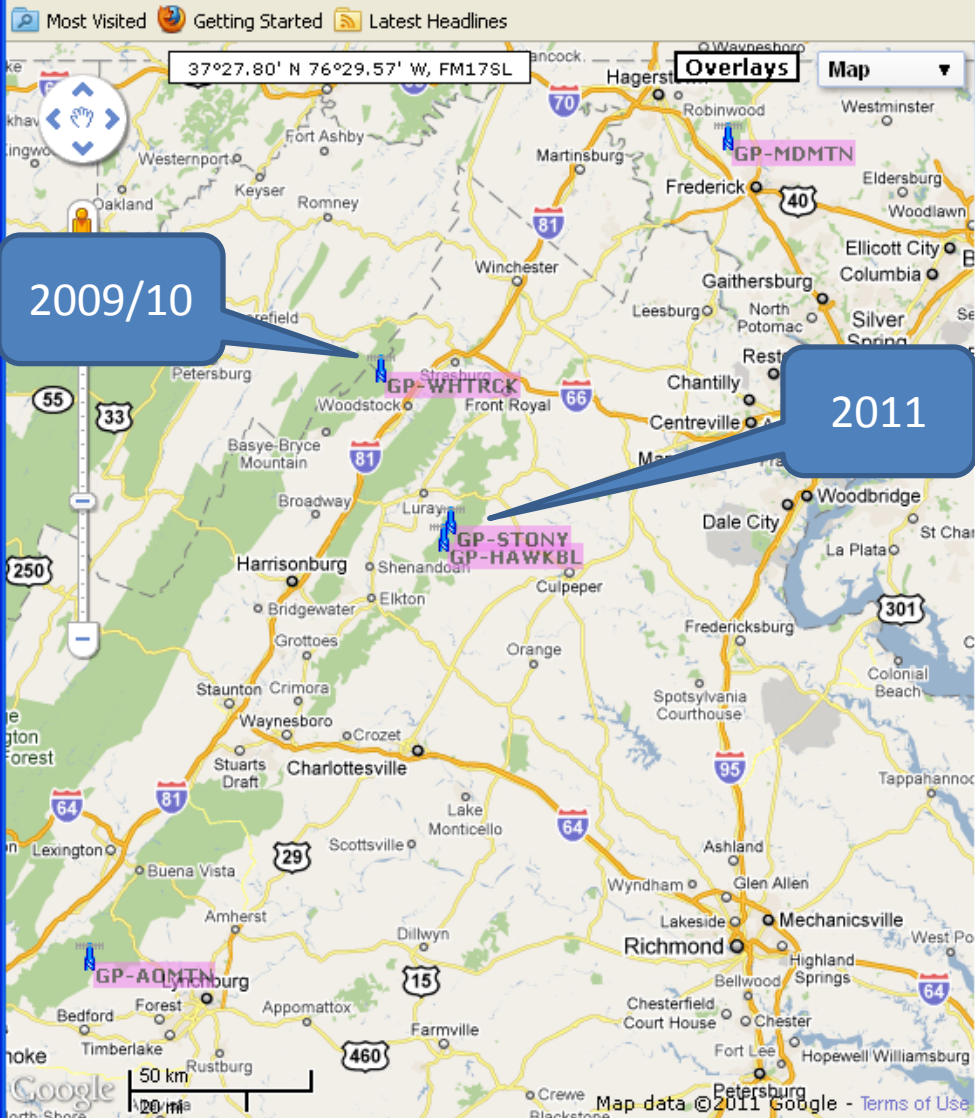
NOVA ATGP Ham Gear 2011

Single Line Drawing



Alternate NOVA Station Locations

- Eric suggests Hawksbill or Stony Man peaks instead of White Rock Cliff
 - Closer
 - More inline with the AT
 - Shorter Hike
 - Hawksbill has a shelter available
 - Because we want to do something different!
- Can the RF links be made north and south?
 - Let's see using Radio Mobile...



2009/10

2011

aprs.fi · Login

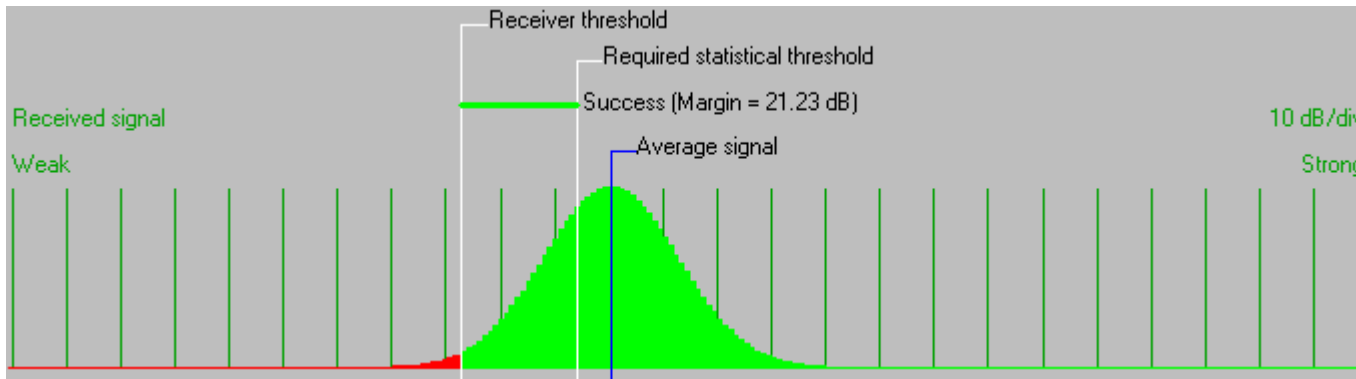
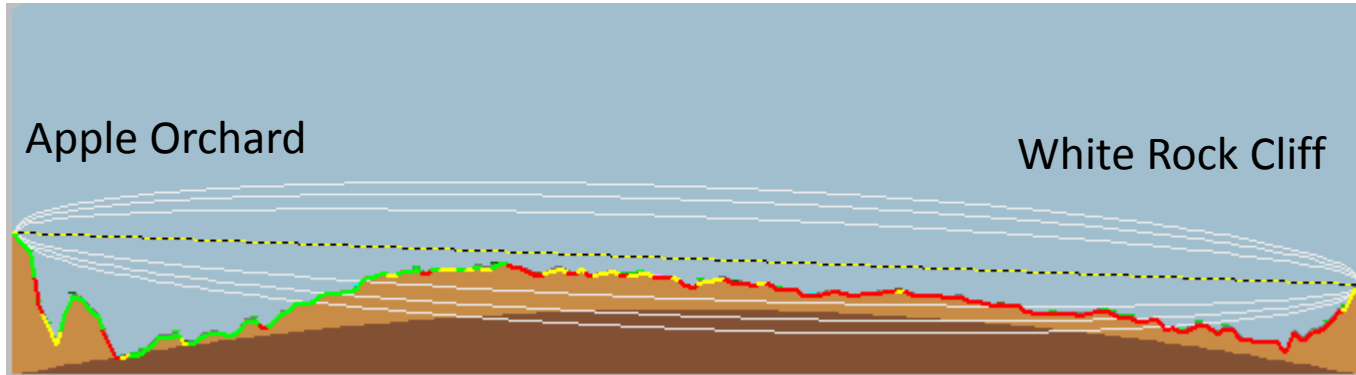
Show last: 1 hour

Track callsign: [Clear / Show all]
-HAWKBL,GP-STONY Search [?]

Address, city or Locator: [Clear] Search [?]

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White Rock-South Analysis



70% Probability the Packet will make it through + 21.23 dB

Terrain from NOVA

South to Apple Orchard (AO)

North to Maryland Mtns (MM)

Link between AO and White Rock

Link between White Rock and MM

Apple Orchard

White Rock Cliff

White Rock Cliff

Maryland Mountains

Link between AO and Hawksbill

Link between Hawksbill and MM

Apple Orchard

Hawksbill

Hawksbill

Maryland Mountains

Link between AO and Stony Man

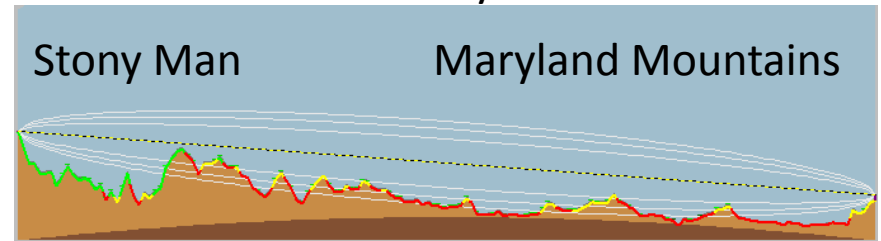
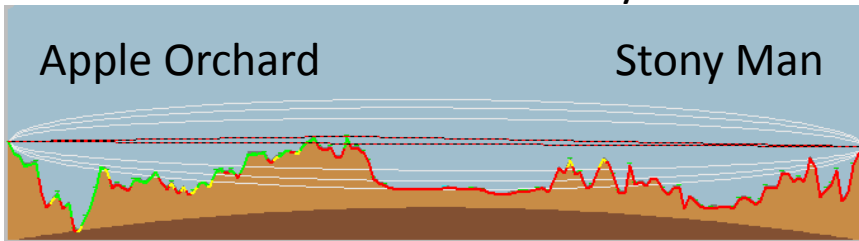
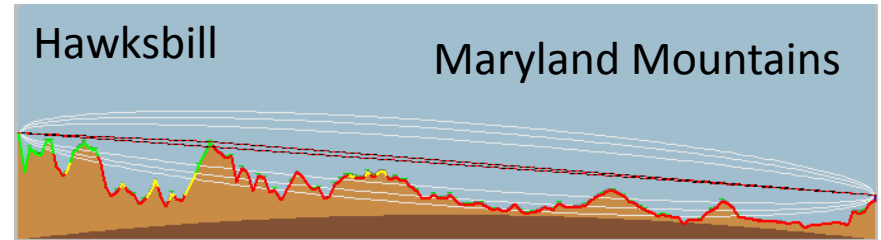
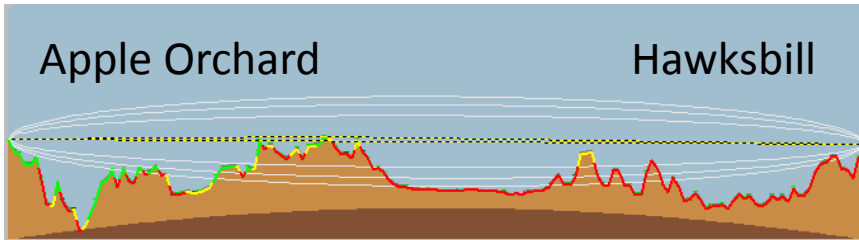
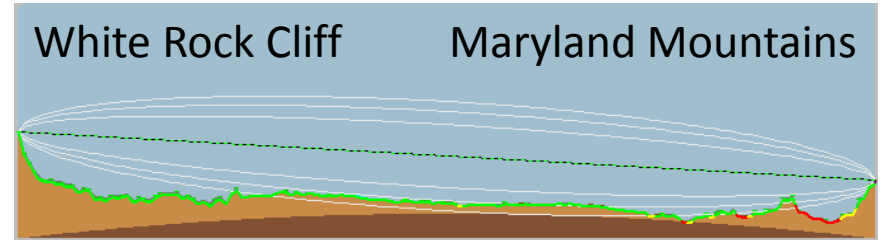
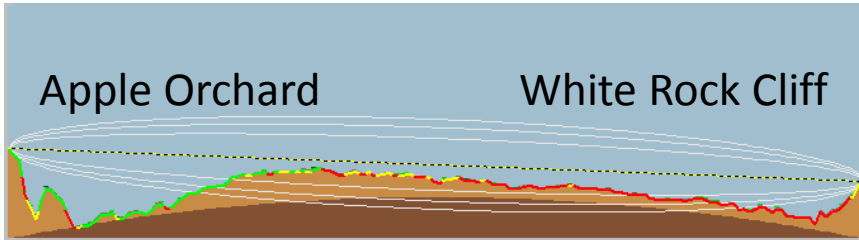
Link between Stony Man and MM

Apple Orchard

Stony Man

Stony Man

Maryland Mountains

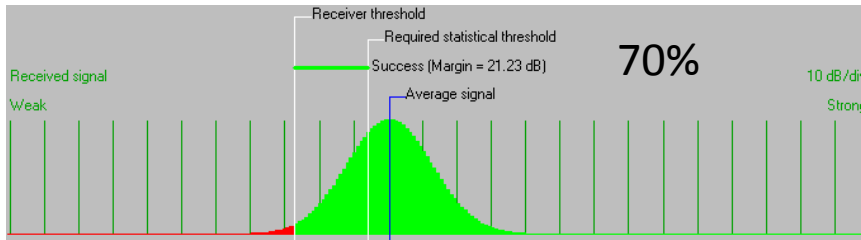


Link Probabilities from NOVA

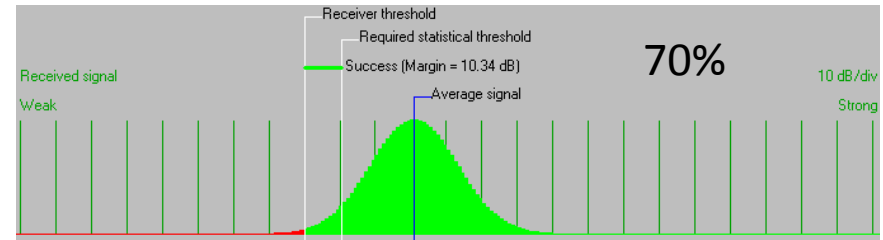
South to Apple Orchard (AO)

North to Maryland Mtns (MM)

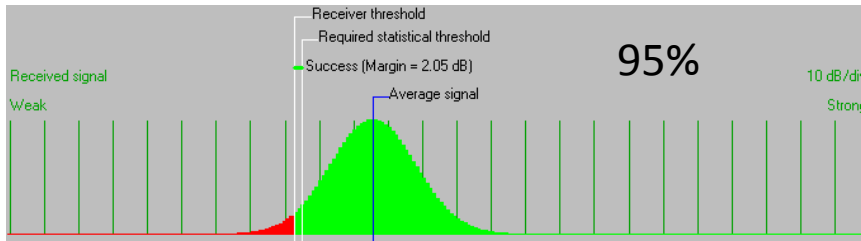
Link between AO and White Rock



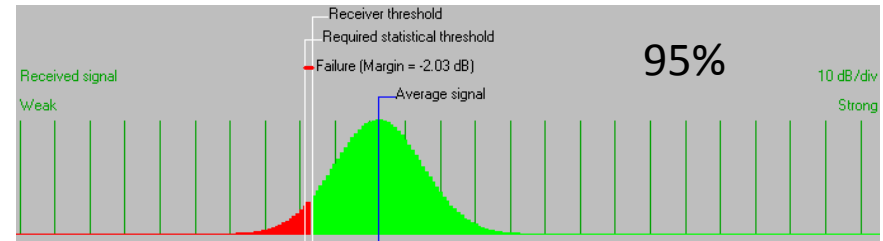
Link between White Rock and MM



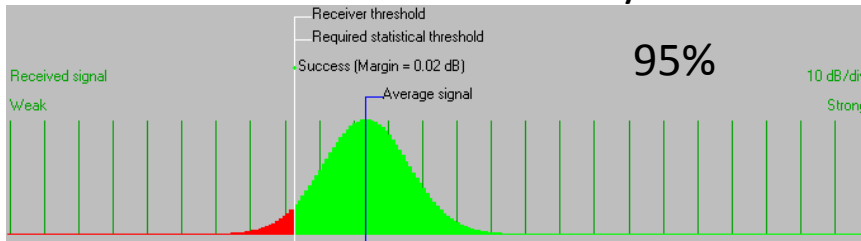
Link between AO and Hawksbill



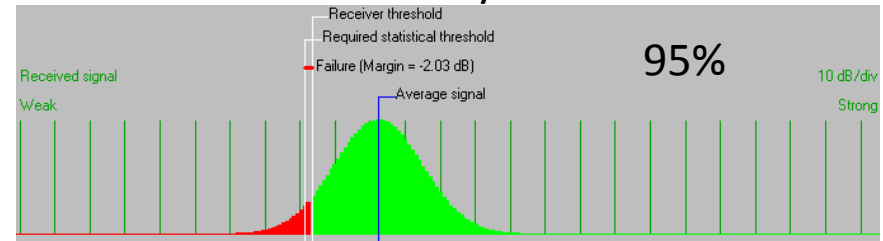
Link between Hawksbill and MM



Link between AO and Stony Man



Link between Stony Man and MM



ATGP 2011 Schedule

- When: Sunday July 24
- Information: <http://www.aprs.org/at-golden-packet.html>
- 0800-1100 Setup on Peaks
- 1100-1200 Station Checkouts
- 1200-1300 Golden Packet Attempts from Both Ends
 - using HOP7-7,HOP7-7
- 1300-1400 Digipeater Site to Site Messages
- 1400-1500 All other TRAIL hikers
- 1500-1600 Any other APRS or Packet Stations in Range
- 1600 Tear down and go home

How you can help

- Listen and record APRS packets received at your home on 144.340 for the entire event.
 - This is extremely helpful
- See if you can hit us on 445.925 MHz Voice
- Eric may setup for SOTA so you can work him too for SOTA Chaser Points