

Event – Fox Hunt



Introduction to Fox Hunting

Fox hunting, also known as radio direction finding (RDF), is a popular activity among amateur radio enthusiasts. It involves a fun yet challenging pursuit where participants use their radio equipment to locate a hidden transmitter, referred to as the "fox." The activity combines skillful operation of radio gear with navigational techniques, testing both technical skills and strategic thinking.



The Basics of Fox Hunting

In a typical fox hunting event, an amateur radio operator conceals a small transmitter in a specific location. This transmitter emits a continuous or intermittent radio signal, which can be picked up by other operators using direction-finding techniques. The participants, equipped with antennas and receivers, must track down the source of the signal by interpreting signal strength and direction data.

Fox hunts are commonly held in outdoor settings, such as parks or rural areas, and can vary in length and difficulty. The transmitter can be hidden at a distance ranging from a few hundred feet to several miles away, providing varying levels of challenge based on the environment. Participants may use hand-held radios, yagi antennas, and even GPS devices to navigate towards the hidden fox.

Equipment Used in Fox Hunting

To successfully locate the hidden transmitter, participants utilize specialized equipment. The most crucial tool is a direction-finding antenna, commonly a Yagi or a loop antenna, designed to detect the direction of the transmitting signal. Operators may also use handheld transceivers (HTs) or mobile radios capable of operating on VHF or UHF frequencies where the fox transmitter operates.

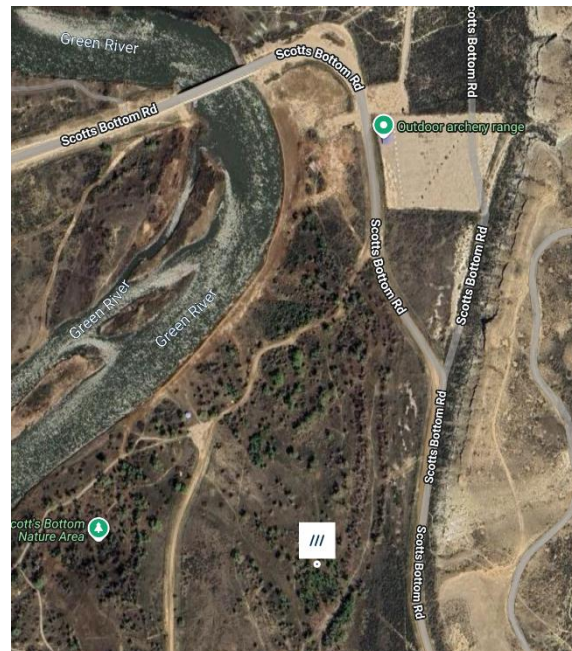
Location:

For this event, we utilize the nature area around the Green River in the area of Scotts Bottom. This allowed the fox to be hidden fairly easily as visibility from the starting position to the location of the fox was very limited, as there were obstructions in the way. This location also fairly accessible, we stuck to the main trails as to allow easier access. Total, round trip was about 0.6 miles

We hid the fox in the following location:

41.491901, -109.438022

<https://what3words.com/indecision.dialect.owned>



Conclusion

Fox hunting is a captivating aspect of amateur radio that combines technology, strategy, and adventure. It encourages participants to use their skills in inventive ways while fostering a sense of community within the amateur radio world. As interest in radio direction finding grows, amateur radio organizations continue to support and promote fox hunting as a unique and engaging activity for operators of all experience levels.