

FIELD DAY 2022 POSSIBLE LOCATIONS REV 1

LOCATION	drive time from Transtar	Toilets?	Sleeping area?	Power?	Cost	trees ?	Open area?	Need Permission?	Cooking area	Limitations?
VFW Park	in Oak Forest; about 20 minutes from Transtar	N	N	N	NONE	Y	Y	N	N	Daylight operations only
Brazos Bend State Park; OBSERVATORY	about an hour from Transtar	Y	Maybe?? SHOULD PLAN ON GETTING A SHELTER OR CAMPSITE	Y	have to pay to use upper deck for the night + PARK ENTRANCE \$7 PER PERSON	Y	y	Y	N	Deck Space limited, so night operations will conflict with observatory tours (8PM-11PM)
Brazos Bend State Park; GROUP SHELTER	about an hour from Transtar	Y	Y	Y	\$150 PER DAY. + \$7 PER PERSON	?	Y	N	kitchen	No overnight
Brazos Bend State Park; REGULAR CAMP SITE or SCREENED	about an hour from Transtar	Y	TENTS or screened shelter	Y	\$75 (\$25 PER NIGHT PER SITE Allow for 3 camp sites, 1 night) + \$7 PER PERSON	Y	Y – if we choose carefully	N	CAMP FIRE/GRILL	Would noise bother neighboring camp sites?
EMPTY RENT HOUSE (West Beltway 8 at W. Airport)	About 20 minutes from Transtar	Y	Y	Y	\$50 for utilities	Next door	Y	N	Yes – kitchen + can set up grill	Power lines run across back of property next to sound wall

RECOMMENDED OPTIONS FOR BRAZOS BEND

2 (OR 3) CAMP SITES WITH POWER – ONE AS OPERATING STATION, THE OTHER AS SLEEPING/EATING

We can have up to 8 people camp at each site.

MAYBE 2 WITH POWER AND 1 WITHOUT POWER – JOIN UP WITH SCOUTS AND WORK BATTERY OR QRP FROM THEIR CAMP (some scouts have expressed interest in camping and doing FD with us)

How many will be staying overnight?

Some have expressed interest in going out Friday night and staying through Sunday

RECOMMEND WE RESERVE 2 SCREEN SHELTERS NOW

Operations at Brazos Bend State Park

6 stations: 3 HF, 2 VHF/UHF

2 VHF/UHF for GOTA (1 at main site, 1 at the observatory during public time)

3 for HF (Need band pass filters.)

Plus One HF station set up for POTA (if)

antennas

20M vertical (ralph)

Multi-band vertical (Stephen)

End fed or dipole in trees for other bands

Operations at VFW park or empty rent house

4 stations: 3 HF, 1 VHF/UHF

One VHF/UHF for GOTA

3 for HF (Need band pass filters.)

antennas

20M vertical (ralph)

Multi-band vertical (Stephen)

Dipoles strung from neighbor's trees sloping to temporary supports (I can probably convince the neighbors to let us tie a line up in their trees)

QUESTIONS FOR BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK AND THE OBSERVATORY

OBSERVATORY

Current observatory rules require a staff member present when anyone is on the deck or at the telescopes. CONFIRMED

Groups wanting to use the deck must pay a fee to cover the staff member and building usage CONFIRMED

We may be able to set up in the picnic area next to the observatory BUT that is about 15 ft below the deck elevation

Observatory domes and concrete/rebar base may interfere with radio signals BLOCKS LARGE AREA OF HORIZON FROM THE GROUND

CAMP AREAS

Need to evaluate how far the group shelter or camp sites are from the observatory if we want to have a GOTA station at the observatory

Are the camp sites with power and water under trees or in open areas or some of both? BOTH

Can we get someone out Friday Afternoon to grab suitable camp sites (NOT NECESSARY ANYMORE; NEED TO RESERVE SPACE SOON BECAUSE PARK FILLS UP QUICKLY)

Assume 3 camp sites: 2 sites to allow for 16 people overnight plus 1 for the station

Reserve camp sites for 2 nights so we can pick out sites Friday afternoon and beat the crowds (NOT NEEDED, BUT SOME MEMBERS HAVE SAID THEY PREFER TO GO OUT FRIDAY NIGHT FOR THE QUIET CAMP TIME)

Field trip DONE April 8 to resolve SCOUT LOCATIONS