

Propagation Studies Committee

Objectives for 2014:

- To continue to produce HF Propagation Predictions for RadCom (G4FKH)
- To write the propagation pages for the annual RSGB yearbook (G0KYA)
- To produce the solar and ionospheric report for GB2RS (G0CAS and G3USF)
- To write propagation features for RadCom as requested (all)
- To offer propagation-related talks to RSGB Convention and local clubs where possible (all)
- To consider producing a set of video presentations for sharing via (for instance) YouTube and via RSGB. This would be intended not to replace face-to-face presentations but as an alternative, particularly for use by clubs in remote locations. Specifically in 2014, to produce a pilot video on general propagation topics, with potential follow up with a set of more specific presentations later.
- Production of the 6 and 10 report (G3USF)
- IARU Beacon coordination (G3USF)
- The production of monthly HF Propagation charts for the UK, ad-hoc charts for DXpeditions and audio podcasts etc (G0KYA)
- The HF Noise Measurement Campaign (G4FKH)

Other ongoing work includes:

- Research into nanowaves (light propagation) (G8AGN)
- Low frequency propagation (LF) (G3NYK)
- Microwave propagation (G4DDK, G4BAO)
- Six metre propagation (G4IFX)
- 5 MHz propagation (G0IJZ).

Our main points are:

1. We have a vacancy on the PSC main committee. We are looking for someone with an interest in HF who may be actively conducting their own research. It would be useful if it could be the type of research that might lead to a better understanding of HF propagation and/or would make for interesting features in RadCom. The commitment is for the member to join the PSC Yahoo Group, attend two six-monthly meetings in Leicester (Spring and Autumn) and perhaps help out on the PSC stand at Newark. We plan to advertise this position in a future edition of RadCom.

2. The Noise Measurement Campaign is under way with about 10 operators regularly submitting manual observations. Five automatic recording stations are also in operation using the standard equipment. Funding has also been agreed by RSGB for the establishment of a website to collect and display the readings from each of the participating sites. Gwyn G4FKH is acting as the link between the Noise Measurement Campaign (NMC) project and the EMC Committee-sponsored Noise Floor Study (NFS), which is based around an MSc project at Leicester University. Although the two projects are related, they are separate initiatives.

3. The GB3WGI 2m transatlantic beacon is now operational in Northern Ireland. Reports have been received from Spain and Portugal via Es, but not from across the Atlantic at this stage. The group expects to approach OFCOM in six to twelve months to request an increase in power to 1kW.

4. Barry, G8AGN continues to extend the UK daylight and night-time distance records for nanowave (visible light) communications.

Regards, Steve G0KYA
PSC Chairman