

Propagation Studies Committee, Spectrum Report, Oct. 2015

PSC Objectives for 2015/16:

To inform members about predictions of propagation conditions by producing:

- The solar and ionospheric report for GB2RS (G0KYA, G4BAO, G3YLA)
- Monthly HF Propagation charts for the UK and ad-hoc charts for DXpeditions (G0KYA)
- HF Propagation Predictions for RadCom (G4FKH)
- A daily updated forecast chart of jet stream and severe thunderstorms for Es research for the RSGB "Propagation Questions" Forum (G3YLA)

To maintain / improve understanding of propagation by:

- Writing the propagation pages for the annual RSGB yearbook (G0KYA)
- Writing propagation features for RadCom as requested (all)
- Giving propagation-related talks to RSGB Convention and local clubs where possible (all)
- Supplying a video on general HF propagation topics for clubs, with a Skype-based Q&A if required (G0KYA)
- Recording changes in background noise levels through the HF Noise Measurement Campaign (G4FKH)
- Coordinate beacons with IARU: VHF/UHF beacons (G3USF)

Other ongoing work includes:

- Research into nanowaves (light propagation) (G8AGN)
- Low frequency propagation (LF) (G3NYK)
- Microwave propagation (G4DDK, G4BAO)
- Six metre propagation (G4IFX/G3YLA)

Our main points are:

1. The recorded HF propagation presentation for clubs has been well received with more than 60 clubs downloading/using it. Steve G0KYA has also completed about 20 Skype-based Q&A sessions just after the presentation had been shown. The ultimate goal will be to roll out other similar presentations for VHF/Microwave.
2. The new-format GB2RS propagation report, which looks at everything from HF to microwave, has been well received.
3. The March partial eclipse experiment was a big success with three schools taking part in the medium wave experiment and many hams taking part in the LF-40m research. This was written up for the June 2015 edition of RadCom.
4. Gwyn G4FKH is working on a new user-friendly output format for the ITUHFPROP program. The early results are encouraging.
5. PSC still struggles to find new members – and the existing ones get older! A request in RadCom for a new member for a specific 2m research project on behalf of John G4SWX resulted in a nil response.
6. PSC will be discussing some innovative ideas on how to attract new blood at its next committee meeting.

Regards, Steve G0KYA
PSC Chairman