

SOTA Weekend – Black Hills SD Information Sheet

The Black Hills Amateur Radio Club Is planning to host a Summits on the Air weekend July 17, 18 2021.

There are 160 summits within 50 miles of the center of the Black Hills of SD. A large percentage of them are within a mile of a road accessible by a high clearance vehicle or passenger car. Six of the summits are 10's and thirty are 8's. It will be reasonable to attempt to activate 8 summits in the 2 day weekend. A significant number of the contacts can be summit to summit.

If you are interested in participating send an email to: terryfuller@rushmore.com or compass@rap.midco.net expressing interest or with questions or suggestions.

Kickoff BBQ

We are planning to get together Friday July 16 to meet and greet, plan out our activities and partake of some food. We will be meeting at Canyon Lake shelter #2 in Rapid City. Google maps knows where it is. We plan to have food ready about 6:00 pm. Come a little early if you want. PLEASE let one of us know if you are planning to eat so we can prepare the right amount of food.

We plan to have maps and information available to help pick summits as well as a signup to indicate which summits you plan to activate.

SOTA maps for AVENZA Maps

Don – KODAJ has put together 3 maps that combine the Forest Service road and trail maps with the SOTA summits. These maps can be loaded on your phone or tablet using the Avenza Maps app.

These maps are available here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_c8WpR29Ag5ZU9sUuFQ9e6cL-wrIA?usp=sharing

Summit information

There is a lot of information available on the SOTA site. Gary – KOTA has some very good write ups on a lot of the summits in the Hills as well as great pictures.

Trail stickers and park passes

If you are planning to drive on any of the trails the Forest Service has made part to the Motorized Trail system you will need to purchase a trail sticker. This can be done on the FS web site or the visitor center. I seriously doubt that anyone will need this.

If you are planning to activate peaks in Custer State Park you will need a park pass that can be purchased at the entrance.

Frequencies

For those wanting to activate on 2meters and 70 cm we will be using the standard call frequencies. 146.52 and 446.00. Those wanting to use HF bands can pick a frequency and spot yourself.

For coordination and other communication during the event the Black Hills linked repeater system provides good coverage throughout the Hills.

Radar Hill (Rapid City)	146.940 MHz	146.2 Encode
Terry Peak (Lead)	146.760 MHz	146.2 Encode
Bear Mountain (Custer)	146.850 MHz	146.2 Encode

New to SOTA

If you are new to SOTA this is a great chance to try it out. Get a login to the SOTA web site as well as the SOTA watch site and do some reading. Don't hesitate to ask any questions you have. I am sure some of the experienced activators will have an extra seat if you would like to ride along. Even if you don't want to activate summits you can help those activating and get some chaser points by making contact from any high point.