

## Team Information

Team Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Team call sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Simplex report frequency: \_\_\_\_\_

## Helpful Tips

- Directional antennas are clearly beneficial. They can be easily constructed loops or hand-held yagis, all the way up to Handi-Finders and other active antennas. Search the Internet for ideas.
- But you can hunt with nothing more than your 2-meter HT! By itself, your HT is omnidirectional. But if you hold it against your chest, your body becomes a shield. Turn slowly until you find the weakest signal—that's the direction of the incoming signal.
- Check your gear on the test range before the hunt and see what a fox looks like in the open.
- When you get in close, the fox signal will be too strong for most directional techniques to work. Try these tricks to intentionally make your HT a bit deaf:
  - Tune your HT 5 or 10 KHz above or below the transmitted frequency.
  - Remove the antenna completely.
  - Use an aluminum foil shield.
- VHF signals will reflect from solid walls or metal structures resulting in ambiguous or multiple signal directions. If you find this condition, try moving away from such structures.
- Be casual as you find a Fox, no need to give away your discovery.
- For the same reason, move away from the Fox before sending your report.

## NCRC Fox Hunting Instructions

1. This is a casual activity intended to be user-friendly to people of all abilities. No foxes require scrambling on the rocky shores or bush whacking into the brush. Please walk as you hunt.
2. Although you may hunt as an individual, two or three member teams are encouraged.
3. All foxes transmit on dedicated frequencies in the 2-meter band: 146.400, 146.430, 146.460, 146.490, and 146.58 MHz.
4. The fox transmit sequence begins with the Morse letters "MO" followed by a number of dits identifying that fox. For example, Fox 2 sends MOI:

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This is followed by a multi-tone segment, then a carrier only segment, then the call sign of the control operator.

5. Each fox has a brown paper list attached near the bottom of its cylinder.
6. Upon finding a fox, find your team number and your corresponding report number on this list, and then report your find.

*"Fox Control, please copy (report number) (your call sign)"*

7. Fox Control will acknowledge your report by repeating your report number. This number will identify your team, the found fox, and the time of the report.
8. If you are the last team to find a fox, Fox Control will ask you to collect the fox.
9. Beavertail is a State Park and there will be other people enjoying the day; you likely will be the subject of much curiosity. Take the initiative—explain what is going on and show them your HT and antenna. Tell them that if they are interested, they can see the ongoing results at Fox Control in Parking Lot 4. This small consideration generates enormous good will and showcases Amateur Radio.