



DAØCW/p - 27.09.2015

WWFF DLFF-306

Nature Reserve Pegnitzau zwischen Ranna und Michelfeld



*Pegnitzau has a size of 198ha and is located near the town Neuhaus an der Pegnitz. Surrounded by the nature-park Veldensteiner Forst it´s mainly composed by the course of the river Pegnitz which riggles through the sub-natural valley. It´s the home of a large number of different species, mainly amphibian and different dragonflies and also the rare agile frog. The water protection area Ranna inside is an important part of drinkwater-ressources for the area Nürnberg.*



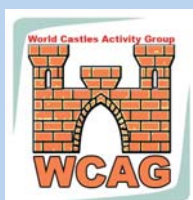
A bit handicapped in the voice with the meanwhile colder weather we started short past 0600 UTC to the nature-reserve. I never was there before, only the first half of the trip was a bit familiar as I used it also for past activities from Veldensteiner Forst DLFF-061 and also Eschenbacher Weihergebiet DLFF-290.

So the only tool we had , were some views we extracted from Google-Maps. The printout showed that there should be a possibility to reach the area by car. There were altogether three sideways we kept in mind, the first two however were only woodtracks and not open.

Finally the third was as expected. On the first view we thought it´s a bikeway only, however the bike only area started two kilometers later. So you really can drive to the nature-reserve were a large parking-array expects you. We thought to be good in time, however the area was already populated by a high number of visitors, walker and of course people with their dogs. The weather

appeared beautiful with sunshine and blue sky, but not too warm. We used a small way into the field to mount the windom-antenna in a height of about 5 meters above the ground along a field-track and moved the car a bit aside.

We started as mostly in the morning on 40 meters and had soon a nice and clear frequency around 7.140. IZ8DFO was station nr. 1 after the first cluster-spot and the interest of calling stations was extreme high. Although I





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*starting point for any tour into the area*

had to work by numbers as the pileup was extreme we could top our previous record result to 195 stations in the first hour. Apparently also the equipment was working well and a lot of stations confirmed a loud signal. We used the FT450 powered by a separate 72AH-car-battery. In phone we made full power 100 watts. In CW had to reduce the power a bit to avoid some RF inside the keyer-electronic but also the 70 watts of course were enough. Of course main-point for the successful activity was the good and clear frequency which could be defended so long, anyway there was some contest-activity around.

At 0852 we moved to 20 meters, however band was not so well. We were spotted several times but as well SSB around 14.237 and CW around 14.045 were not really a big thrill.

After doing there several attempts we finally found back to the magic 40 meter-band. The voice meanwhile was more and more rough and so I tried my luck in CW. Around 7.026 and the first spot from Axel DL6KVA we had again a nice run and a lot of stations were calling.

Sometimes had some physical problems with the keyer however mostly it was running were nice. So here we were active until 0950 UTC until we had the latest contact with OK2EC.

Final result were 338 contacts, the top three countries 39% germany, 16% italy, 9% poland and meanwhile coming closer 6% with france. 75 contacts out of them in telegraphy. In total contacts with 33 countries in 2,5 hours. So many thanks to all stations which were calling in and also to the listeners and cluster-spotters.

In the near of the nature-reserve there is also the Castle of Veldenstein. First I thought, that this would be maybe a follow-up activity but finally the power was gone and we left the area for the home-trip. So castle-activity is planned for another visit in the area.

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All reports from previous activities can be found at:

<http://www.qrz.com/db/da0cw>

WWFF-activities DF6EX:

<http://www.wingsl.com/wordpress/wwff-activities-df6ex>

WCA-activities DF6EX:

<http://www.wingsl.com/wordpress/castle-activities-df6ex>

Manfred DF6EX

