



07.07.2020
DQ11WCA

Nature Reserve Lerautal DLFF-0449
Castle Leuchtenberg DL-02339



Nature Reserve Lerautal with a size of 91 ha is located about 10 km away from the city of Weiden in direction bavarian forest.

In the area there are three as important declared geotope.

There exists an extensive net of beautiful hiking and biking trails.

On the other side the hill upward at 565 meters asl is

the castle of Leuchtenberg, built in the 14th century where normally each year the castle-festival happens with a lot of visitors of course this year cancelled.

The only qualifying place where you are able to activate the nature-reserve and at the same time be also in a qualifying distance for WCA is a small wooden parking range directly aside the heavy populated B22 which leads into the bavarian forest.

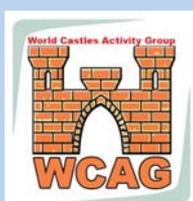
I didn't count, however for sure many hundreds of cars came along during my activity and for sure lot of them were thinking about a possible radar-control or something like that with the wires beside the road.

Started after work and had a lot of delay because extreme traffic also on the way. The first time when I was activating this area was in 2017, a former activity from the castle happened directly from the top of the hill in 2011.

On the location down in the valley of course conditions much bader and also everywhere around covered by a lot of trees. As I had to cross the wire via a hiking trail had to position one end of the wire a bit higher on a metal-mast to avoid that any person has a problem with it.

When switching on the transceiver first time there was only a random noise in the headphones and with tuning via the band, found almost nobody there.

When switching to 20 meter almost the same, looked like no propagation at all. Anyhow started at 1430 UTC with calling CQ on 7.144, because also this frequency was free, because everything appeared free.





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After calling a minute or so DJ1SD came back as first station in the log and then within 5 minutes the next appearing callers were louder and louder until the usual signal-strength almost was reached. Only a lot of QSB on the signals which were sometimes dropping from S9 to S5 within a minute.

The first half hour worked as a good series, log was filling quickly with 100 stations. Then slowly the band faded out again. Only a few more stations and I decided to move to 20 meters.

The start there with USA, followed by Japan promising, then a few other stations and again also 20 meters dropped out almost totally. Tried nearly 40 minutes on the different bands in CW and SSB but only few stations readable at all.

When back on 40 only G7SQW/p in GFF-0391 was as loud as before with S9 signal but everything around was only weak in the background.

So finally closed the station at 1645 UTC with exactly 180 contacts in the log.

Country with the most contacts this time was poland with 39, followed by germany (30) and italy (26). In total 31 countries could be reached

As usual thanks for calling in and cuagn soon.

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