LOGGING SOFTWARE FOR HAM RADIO

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DO I HAVE TO LOG MY CONTACTS?

NO

Logging ham radio contacts is not required by the FCC, *but it is encouraged*.

WHY WOULD I LOG MY CONTACTS?

- **Legal:** A log can be valuable in proving innocence in an interference complaint.
- **Operational:** It helps when filling out DX QSL cards.
- **Personal:** It preserves the memory of special QSOs and captures achievements like the number of grid squares or states worked.

TYPES OF LOGGING SOFTWARE

- **General:** Used for logging the majority of contacts.
- **Specialty:** Loggers used for contesting, POTA, SOTA, etc.

- **Free/DonationWare**
- **Paid**

HOW MANY LOGGERS EXIST?

A LOT!

https://radio-hobbyist.com/ham-radio-logging-software/

LOGGER TECHNOLOGY

- Installable clients
  - Log4OM, N3FJP, Ham Radio Deluxe
- Web Sites.
  - QRZ, LOTW, HamQth, ClubLog
- Web Apps
  - World Radio League, Smart Logger

INSTALLABLE CLIENTS

- May show distance maps
- Uploads to online loggers
- Reporting
- QRZ Lookup
  - (Some data requires subscription)
- Radio Interface

Log4OM

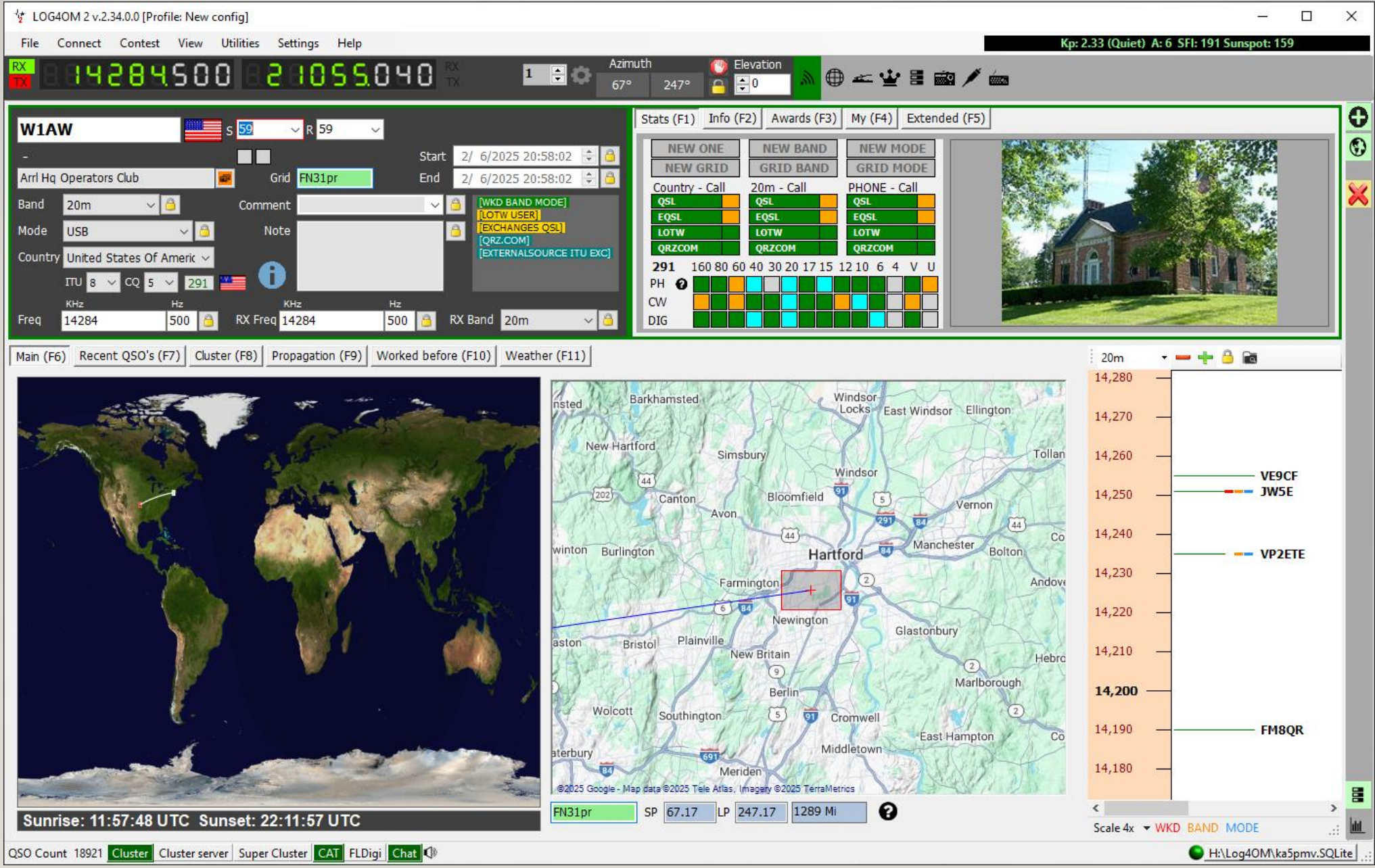
Free

Shows path to contact.

Uploads to online services

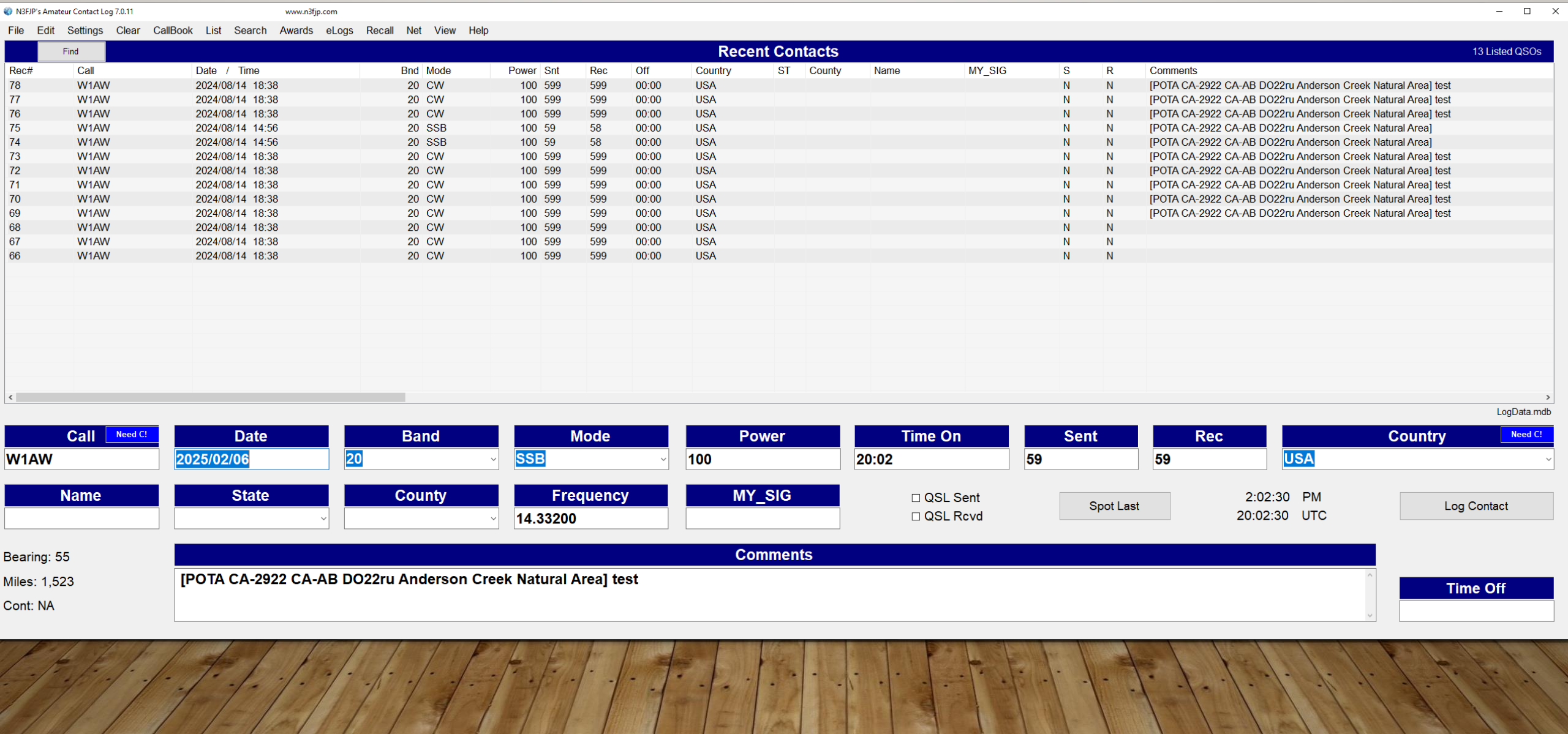
Tracks various awards

Radio & Rotor control



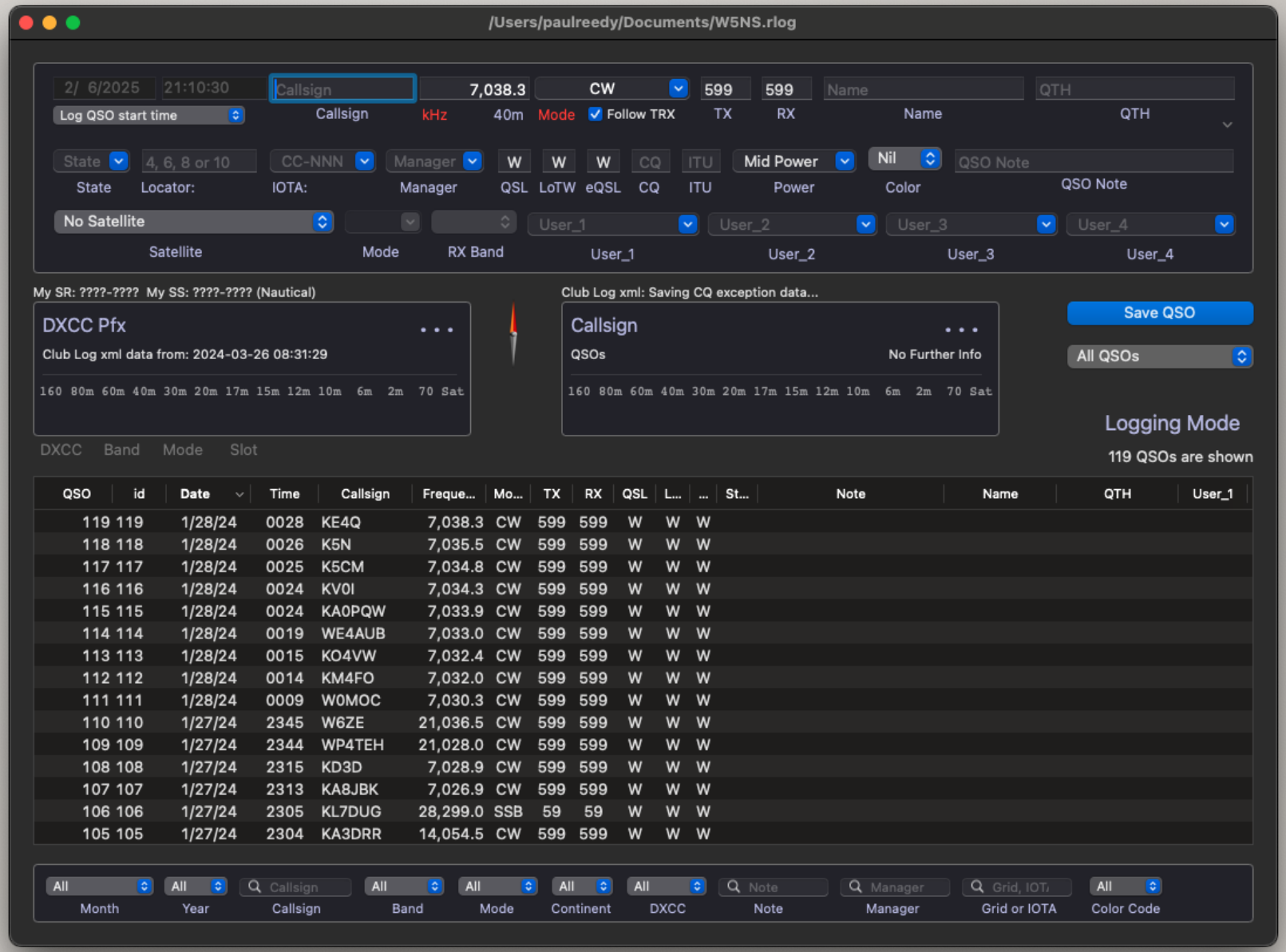
N3FJP (Amateur Contact Log)

Simpler user interface, radio interface, DX Spotting, Uploads to Club Log, eQSL, LOTW, QRZ. Has Contest specific versions



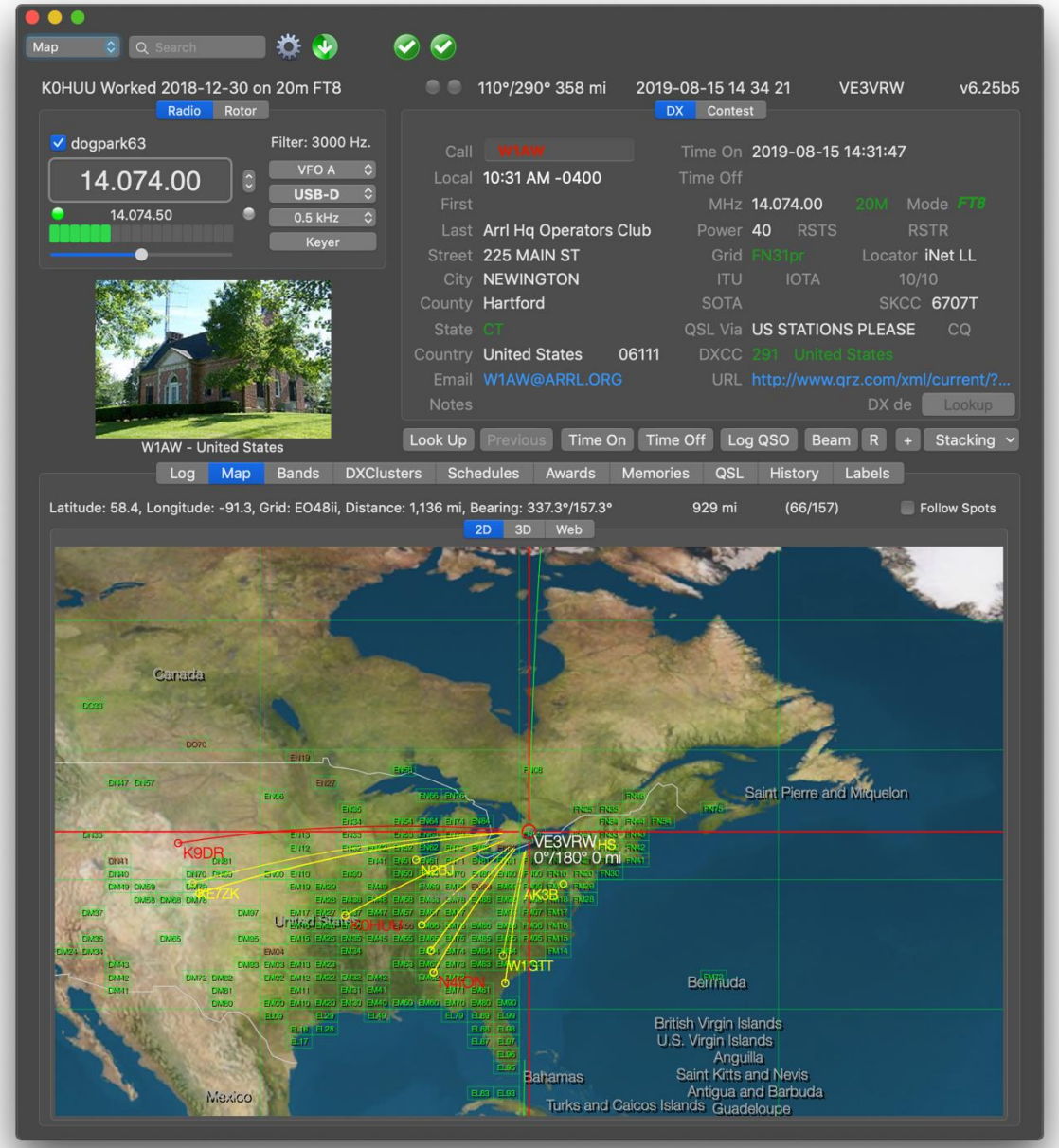
Mac Loggers

- RumLogNG



Mac Loggers

- MacLoggerDX

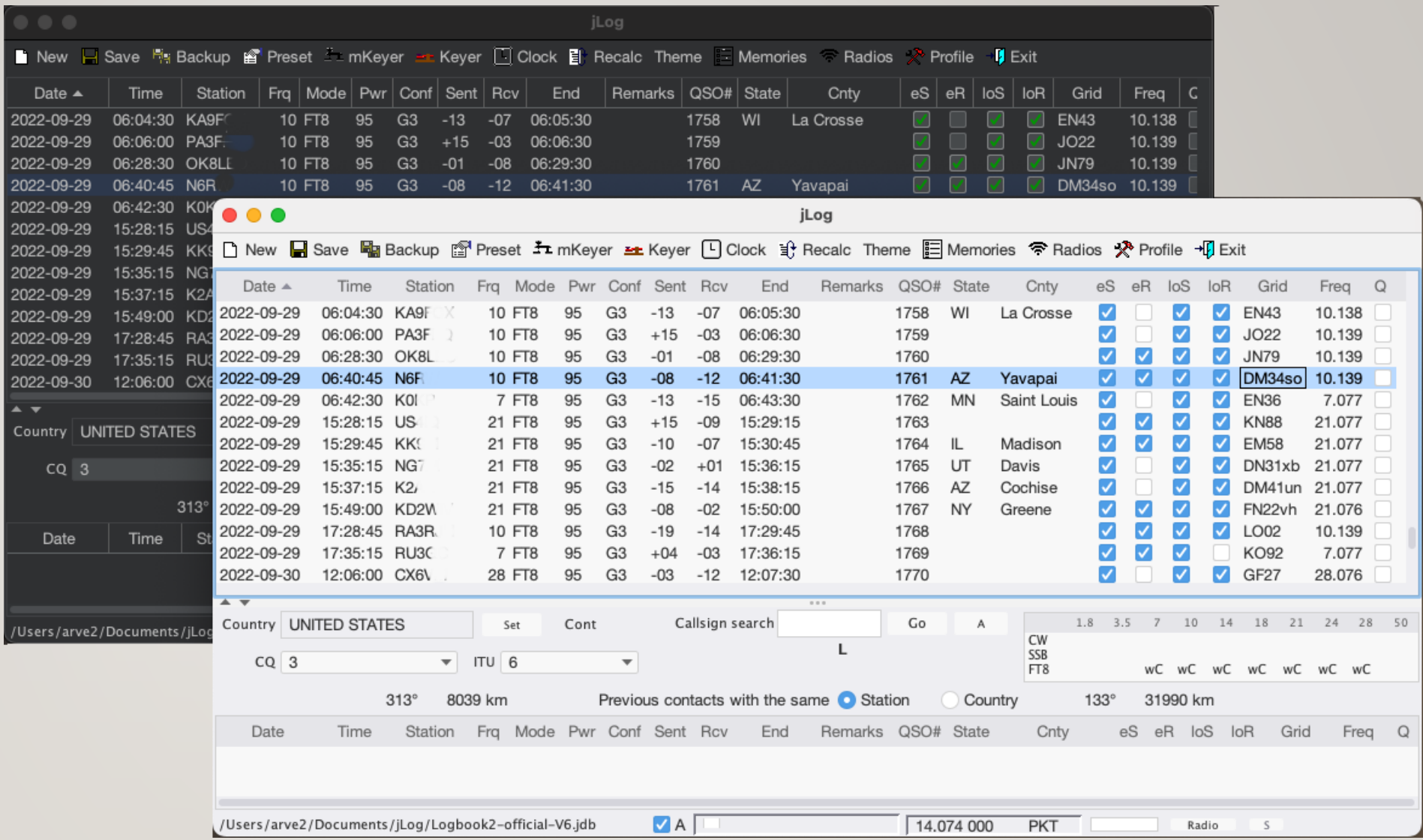


Mac Loggers

jLog

Freeware

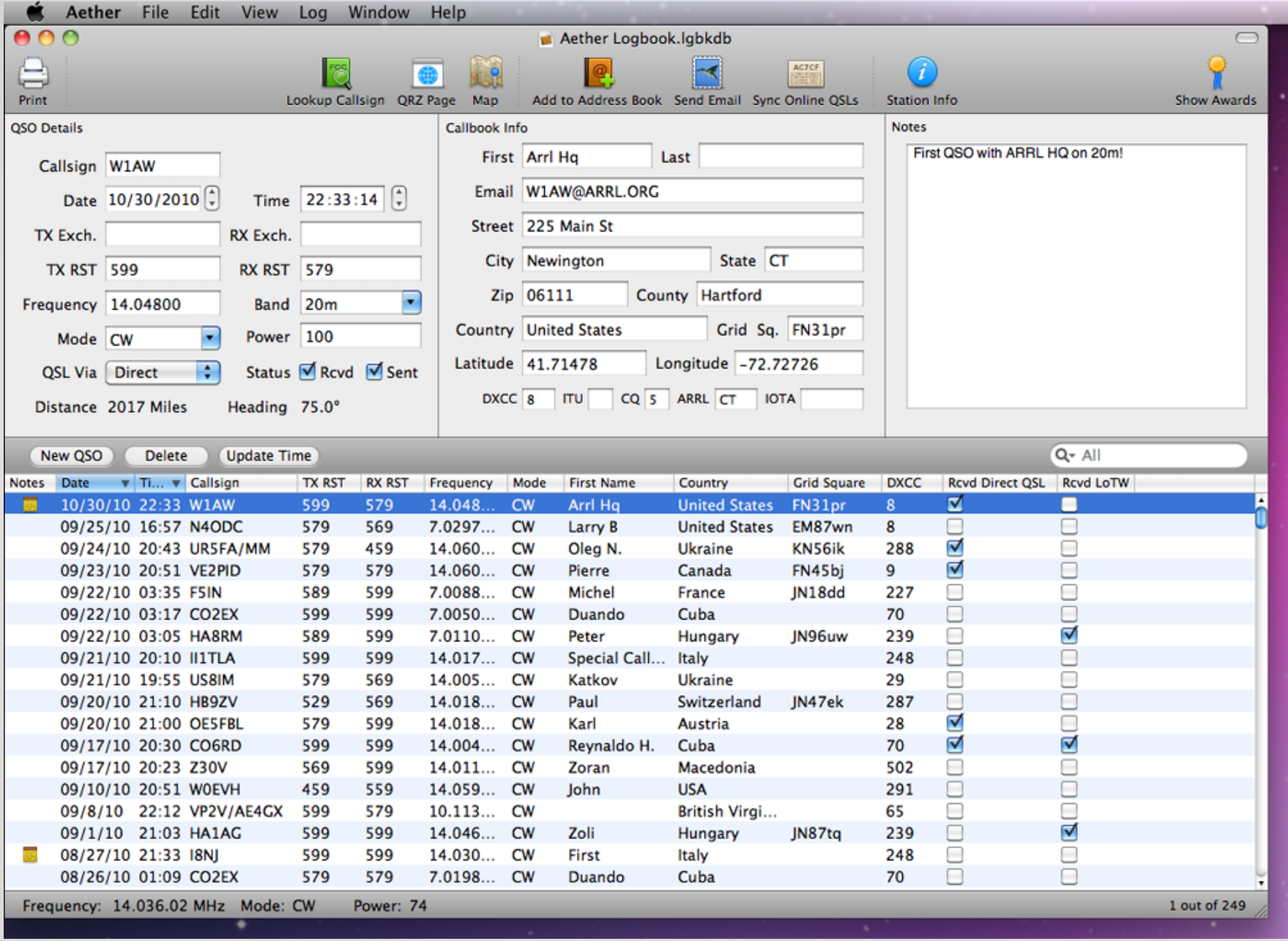
Multi-Platform Win, Mac, Linux



Mac Loggers

Aether

Haven't seen activity since 2020, so check out support forums for status.



Specialty Loggers

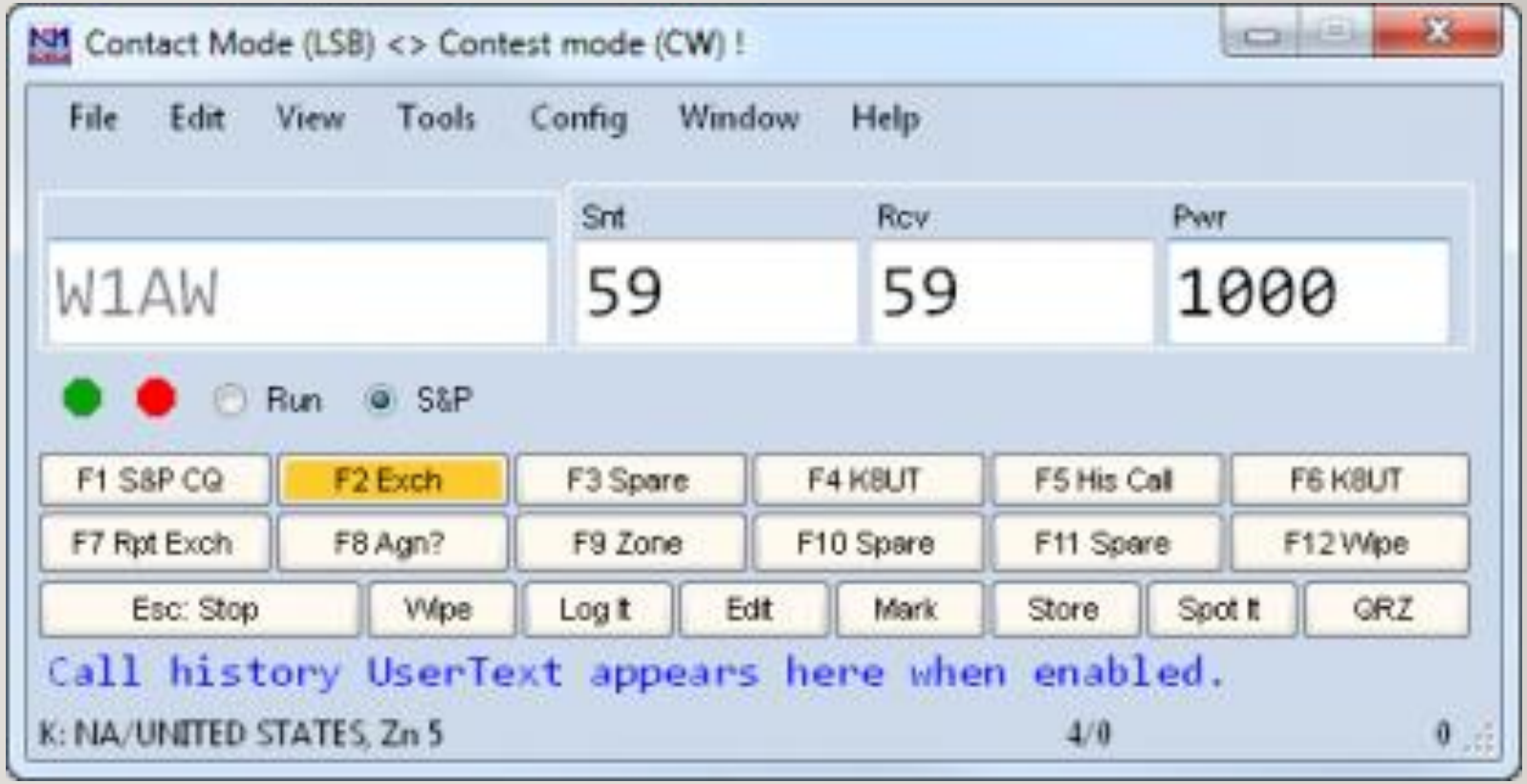
N1MM+

Used for contesting

Many contest templates available, as well as user defined contest templates can be made.

Rig control

Networkable for multiple machines networked together to provide dupe checking and logging of all stations.

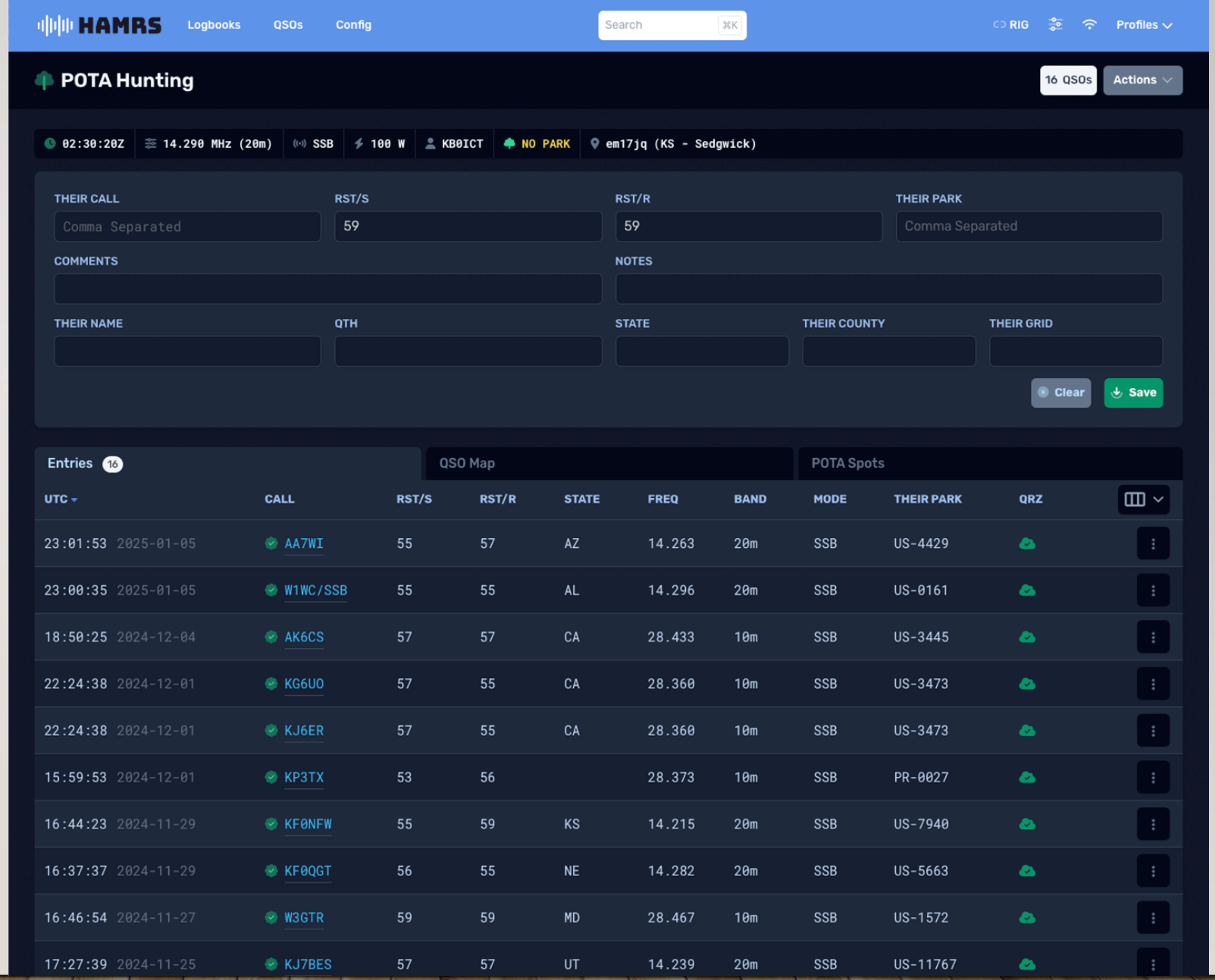


Specialty Loggers

HAMRS

Templates for
- POTA
- SOTA
- Field Day
- Winter Field Day

Lists active POTA spots.
No Rig Control



Web & Offline Web Loggers

World Radio League

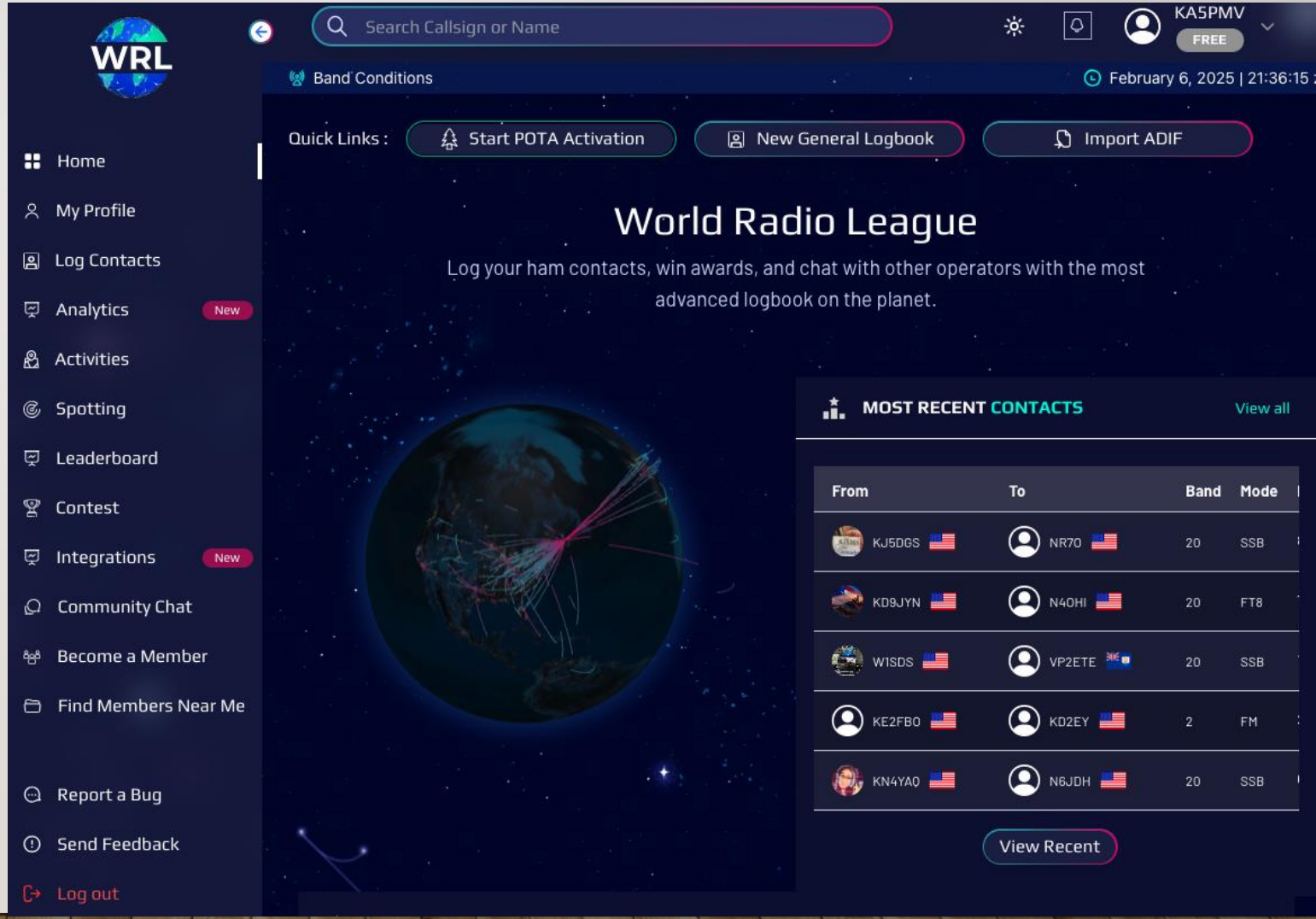
Modern web interface

Subscription model

Offline

Rig control

WSJTX, N3FJP, N1MM integrations



Web & Offline Web

World Radio League

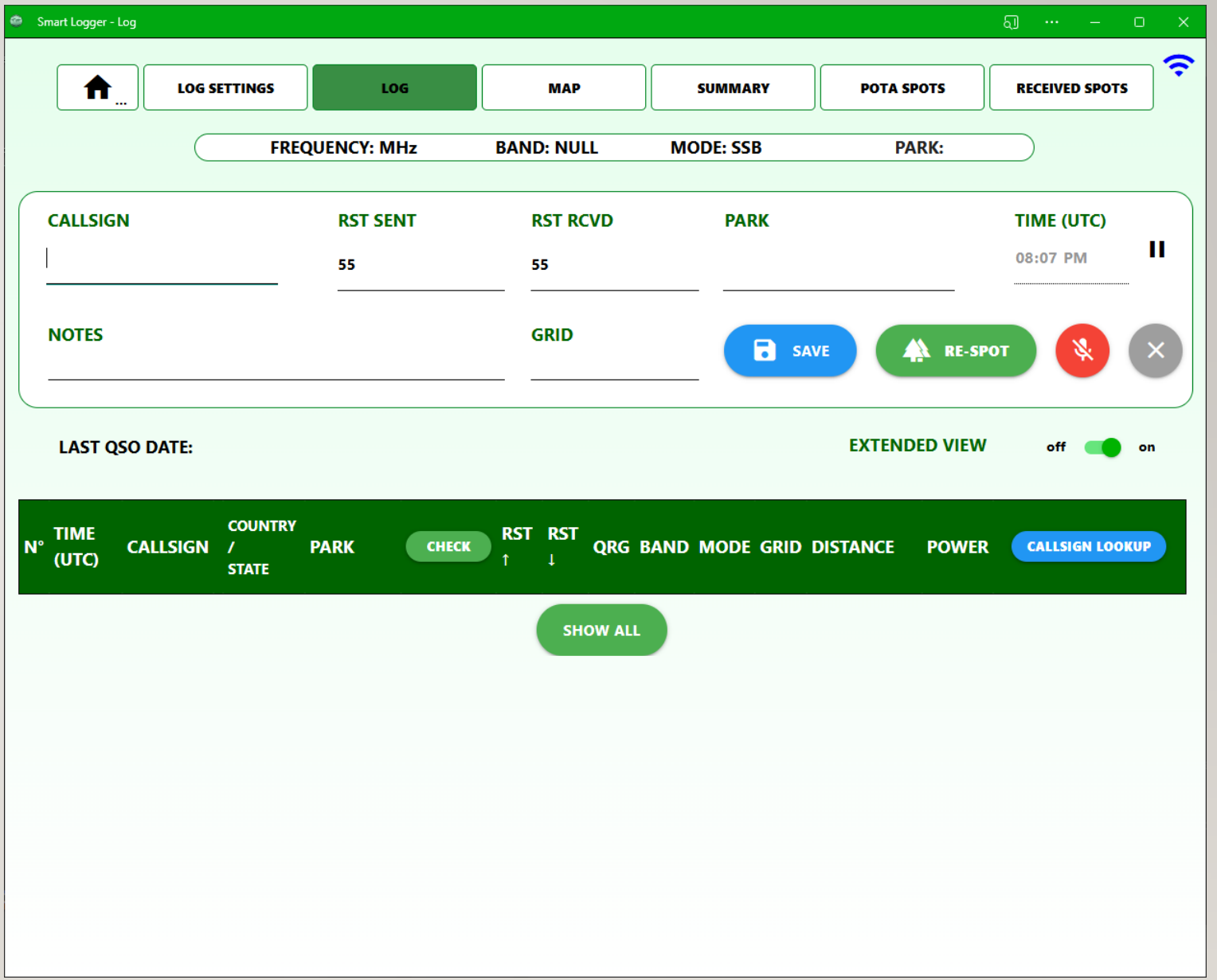
Multi Platform

Modern web interface

Free with Support option

Installs as a portable web application which is supported across Windows, Mac, Linux, and mobile devices.

Syncs via to cloud so all devices can stay in sync.



IN REVIEW:

- Define your requirements
- Review what loggers will work with your OS/Devices
- Review and try out each one to see which is a best fit for you
- Specialty loggers are refined for purpose and can export contacts to be imported into other loggers.