

CLE272 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello All

The Northern Hemisphere's new season seems to be here. For our 272nd Coordinated Listening Event last weekend we were listening in the 385-399.9 kHz frequency range. It was good to see a total of 44 logs – we have to look right back to last January to find more than that.

Thanks everyone - the logs were remarkably problem-free. Joachim and I needed to correct just one typo and remove one out-of-range report and 4 duplicate reports to allow 1,597 loggings to be included. They must be among the most accurate logs we've ever had for a CLE.

We do welcome ALL logs, including the ones with typos, etc.! Joachim's Harvester program is very good at telling us when things are not right, and pointing us to what needs to be done to correct things.

Most-heard DX? No prizes for guessing it this time! 30 of us had 391.0 DDP, San Juan / Dorado, Puerto Rico, in our logs. The furthest two were 9,423 km, from Mike in Hawaii, and 8,400 km from Kari in Finland. The RWW database shows that DDP is the most-logged of all NDBs Worldwide, and it is the NDB that has been most widely-heard - by 347 listeners. However that DX was easily bettered by Tom on Texada Island, BC. His logging of 395.0 PMQ, Port MacQuarie, right across the Pacific in Australia's New South Wales, was from 12,112 km away.

The 385-399.9 kHz range Here is Joachim's comparison of the 7 more recent CLEs that used this range.

CLE	Date	No. of reporters		Average km		Average total km x1000		Average Num of NDBs		Average max km	
		REU	RWW	REU	RWW	REU	RWW	REU	RWW	REU	RWW
179	Feb 14	25	27	934	1345	57	33	57	25	3988	3650
194	May 15	19	24	943	1324	55	27	56	21	2802	3387
211	Sep 16	17	25	1056	1590	67	37	62	25	4704	4143
224	Oct 17	23	27	968	1495	55	53	55	35	3396	3467
240	Jan 19	26	28	985	1587	55	51	50	33	4727	4491
255	Apr 20	26	27	1101	1538	72	31	60	21	4656	4041
272	Sep 21	18	26	1403	1652	84	33	59	21	4658	4683
7-event average		22	26	1056	1504	64	38	57	26	4133	3980

In comparison to CLE211, when we also listened in the same frequency range in September 2016, you can see that the results for CLE272 were similar or even a tiny bit better.

The average NDB count is a little lower, most likely due to a considerable number of NDBs having been shut down in the meantime.

Amazingly, although the number of NDBs is reducing, there were 20 beacons heard by European listeners in CLE272 which were NOT heard in CLE255. Also this is true for another 19 beacons which were heard by listeners from North America but weren't in CLE255. We assume that PSKOV has its share here.

What is your favourite CLE frequency range? Or you might have least favourites - ones to be avoided, maybe? Over the years we have probably 'voted with our feet' a bit, sending a log for our favourites and sometimes missing out on other frequency ranges.

To test this, I've analysed the statistics for all the past CLEs that used each of our standard 10 frequency ranges – that's 126 CLEs from the last 18 years or so.

In the first year or two we were experimenting with various slightly different frequency ranges, trying to get sensible choices to match the different numbers of NDBs in Europe and the Rest of the World. Fortunately, since then we have stayed strictly with the 10 standard ranges, so hopefully the following results are meaningful:

CLE QRG RANGE (kHz)	No. of CLEs	Average Number of Reporters		
		EU	RotW	ALL
190-240 + nnn.5 kHz	11	18.7	21.5	40.2
240-260 / 420-440	12	21.3	20.9	42.2
260-270 / 440-1740	11	19.7	22.3	42
270 - 320	10	21.5	22	43.5
320 - 335	13	20.7	20.3	41
335 - 350	13	21	21.1	42.1
350 - 370	13	20.8	22.3	43.2
370 - 385	15	22.3	21.8	44.1
385 - 400	13	22.9	22.6	45.5
400 - 420	15	21.5	21.1	42.5

Least popular	
∨	
∨	
Most popular	

For example, the table shows that last weekend's CLE range (385 – 399.9) has been used 13 times, and you can see that its average number of reporters has been THE HIGHEST OF ALL, making it the most popular. Surprisingly – for me at least – the 270–320 kHz range is also among the popular ones, though many of us have the strong DGPS transmissions that make NDB reception more difficult there.

Each range has usually been repeated about every 16 months, so over the 18 years there has been a good mix of different times of year for each of the ranges.

'Normal' CLEs have always given way to Specials for the Christmas-New Year events.

If anyone has explanations, suggestions, comments, queries (or disagreements!) about the above results please feel free to send an email via the List (or just to Joachim and me at ndbcle'at'ndblist.info)

Coming CLEs: (The dates are provisional at present)

CLE273 Fri Oct 22nd - Mon. Oct 25th Normal
 CLE274 Fri Nov 26th - Mon. Nov 29th

Good listening

73

Brian and Joachim