

CLE193 CO-ORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

I often think that these Co-ordinator's Comments can be given a rest after 'normal' listening events like the recent one. Somehow, though, unusual things seem to happen even in the routine Events and I often want to share them.

Conditions during CLE193 seemed to be quite different between Europe and CAN/USA, as shown by the number of new loggings on each of the three nights. We were listening for the NDBs in the range 400 - 419.9 kHz.

In the figures below, you can see that the 19 Europe listeners caught **nearly 2/3** of their night-time NDBs on their first night and less than 1/4 on the second. The 20 listeners in CAN/USA heard **well under half** on the first night with **over half** being first heard on their second night. Can anyone offer explanations for that big difference? One thing that wasn't different was the overall total of 127 different NDBs reported by the listeners in both Europe and in 'Rest of the World'.

NIGHT	loggings		percentage	
	EU	NA	EU	NA
Fri 24	622	176	65	41
Sat 25	225	220	24	51
Sun 26	108	35	11	8

Totals:	955	431	100	100

Goodbye - Hello!

At this time of year some listeners are announcing the end of their listening season and saying a temporary 'goodbye' to beacons. Meanwhile others seem to be re-joining us after a long break and from unusual locations - welcome back to Geir, Marcus and Mike. Marcus's loggings from Brasil will surely help to open up new hunting grounds for some USA listeners when the conditions improve.

I hope Geir won't mind my re-using his picture of the ideal away-from-home listening site for CLE193.

My totally neighbor and RFI free cabin at the lake in the deep woods of Telemark, Norway:



Thanks, Steve and Don, for your regular help which may not be known by all of us..

Have you ever looked at **Steve's Amateur Radio blog?** - if not, do have a look at <http://ve7sl.blogspot.ca/>

Among his interesting and frequently-updated radio news, there is often a reference to our Listening Events and we have won extra logs and new members who discovered us that way.

And **Don** regularly gives added value to the '**Missing NDBs?**' lists that are found in our listening events. He searches the NOTAMs, etc., for confirmations of OTS (out of service) or of decommissioned NDBs. An interesting one this time is NTD-400 at Geir's nearby very small Notodden ("*Notodden International Airport - a joke of course*") which he plans to check with his portable Tecsun PL-880 and whose disappearance would be a sad outcome for him and for many of us. (Wouldn't we all be sad to lose a local blockbuster!). The 'missing NDBs' lists are getting longer - six Decom/OTSs in the States just in the 400-419 kHz range this time.

Finally I continue to be amused and amazed by some of the listeners' comments about their CLE listening experience. Just about all the more unhappy listeners still said positive things in their logs, like they had "enjoyed the challenge". Here are eight views from the CLE193 listeners:

It is always fun to prepare ahead of time, review the whole listening system and hope the fairies reward us

I have no idea why I do this every month but I am glad to have this group to do it with.

This is what I found in four hours of listening to a recording, made by torch light, standing in the garden in sub-zero temperatures at 1am local time with a light dusting of snow. For some reason, my neighbours think I'm crazy. You, of course, all understand the drive to take part in a CLE.

Thanks to the organizers for untiring efforts to keep me listening in deteriorating local conditions.

The very worst CLE event I've taken part in.

I found conditions to be surprisingly better than expected.

I definitely must make my mind to climb on my roof and set up a decent antenna... or try a hearing aid, perhaps ?

I don't often quote kind things that listeners have said about the co-ordinator, but this one really made me smile:

What a fantastic work sir ... congratulations.

Next CLEs for your diary?

CLE194 is being planned for 22-25 May and CLE195 for June 19-22 (a week early).

Good listening

Brian

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