

Summary of **CQ Gorge! Winter Field Day 2026:**

Purpose

- Gorge Area **Fox and Hound exercise** to practice emergency radio readiness during winter conditions.
 - Goal: prepare operators to support the community in emergencies.
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Event Details

- **When:** Sat Jan 24, 0800 → Sun Jan 25, 1400 (focus Sat 9–noon).
 - **Where:** Anywhere a Fox sets up (home under simulated emergency, or in the field).
 - **Bands/Frequencies:** 80–40–20–15–10–6m + 2m & 70cm.
 - Simplex: **147.5 & 446.0 MHz** (primary).
 - Repeaters: allowed for spotting, then QSY to simplex.
 - Runs alongside **ARRL Winter Field Day (WFD)**, so HF bands may be congested.
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Foxes vs Hounds

- **Foxes:** simulate emergency stations (portable, alternate power, mobile, garage setups, temporary antennas).
 - **Hounds:** operate normally, relay info, monitor repeaters, collect data, act as “watering holes.”
 - Both track QSOs and share findings.
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Operating Guidelines

- **No strict rules** – learning-focused, “fault-free zone.”
- Exchange: Callsign, Name, Location, Radio Equipment.
- Prioritize emergency traffic.

- Share channels, identify properly, log QSOs.
 - Spot yourself on repeaters, then move to simplex.
 - “CQ Gorge” or “CQ WFD” calls encouraged.
 - Digital modes allowed locally (FT8/FT4 not valid for official WFD scoring).
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VHF/UHF Suggestions

- **Before event:** program radios, create scan lists, test setups.
- **During event:**
 - Foxes announce “W7PCT Monitoring” on repeaters.
 - Timed check-ins (Augsburger, Seven Mile, Haystack, TBD sites).
 - Short repeater QSOs → move to simplex.
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Please exercise our area repeaters:

Foxes: Call on the repeater to announce yourself or make a QST

“Your C/S Monitoring, I am on 14.255 USB looking for a call” on Repeater.

Or “This is KJ7TTT on Haystack. Looking for a contact... Listening”

Anytime is OK, but the schedule below increases your chances of someone on the other end.

- ***Augsburger:*** Every hour on the hour (440.325 + PL 1000)
- ***Seven Mile:*** Every hour on the half hour (147.2 + pl 100)
- ***Haystack:*** Every hour at :15 past (146.74 – PL 100)
- ***Booth Hill:*** Every hour at :45 past (444.9 + PL 100)
- ***“CQ Gorge”*** on simplex freqs
- ***Make short repeater QSO’s,***

Once you make contact on the repeater, move to simplex 147.5 & 446.0 MHz, Perhaps 146.58 if possible

HF Suggestions

- HF Foxes: call “CQ Gorge” or “CQ WFD.”
 - Spot on VHF if you like, then QSY to HF bands.
 - Operate across multiple bands/modes.
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Suggested Locations

- **Free/POTA sites:** Catherine Creek, Bingen Sail Board Park, Rowena Viewpoint, HR Waterfront Park, Memaloose Overlook, Sorosis Park, Hess Park, The Dalles Discovery Center.
 - **Nearby State Parks:** Viento, Doug’s Beach, Mayer, Maryhill, Columbia Hills, Spring Creek, Goldendale Observatory, Brooks Memorial, Memaloose SP.
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Resources

- Contact: **W7PCT (Kim)**, club Groups.IO pages, repeater lists, quick reference aids.
 - Volunteers needed for Fox sign-up schedule and meetup coordination.
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Key Takeaways

- Practice emergency readiness in winter conditions.
 - Foxes simulate emergency setups; Hounds support and relay.
 - Use repeaters for coordination, simplex for QSOs.
 - Share findings at next meeting to improve skills and equipment readiness.
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