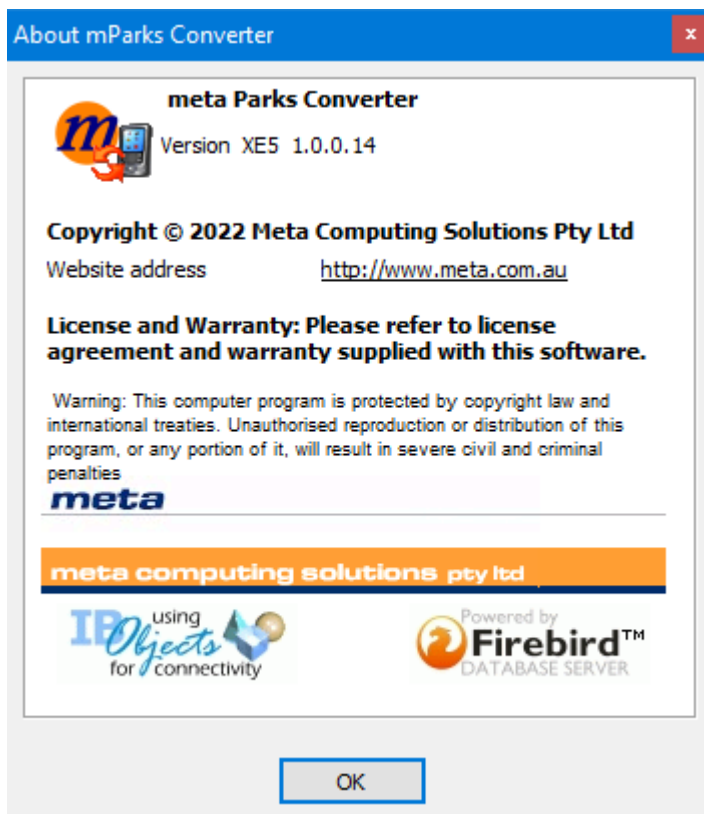


mParks Converter Help

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mParks Converter Application Documentation

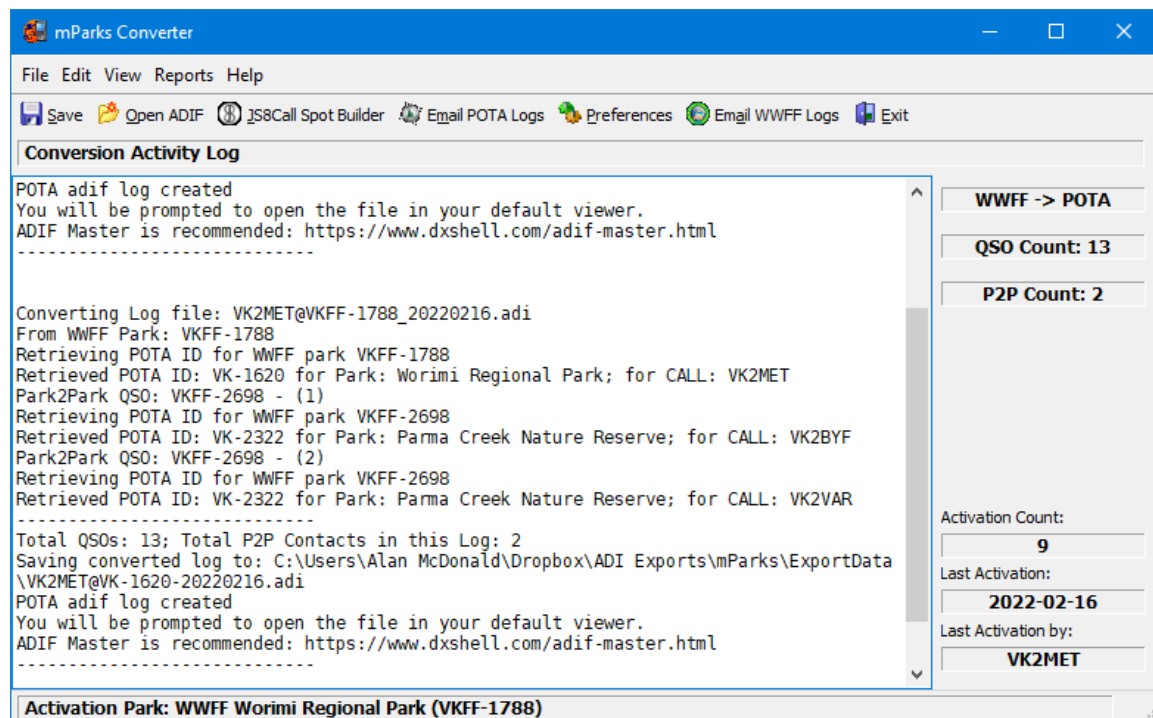
for the Amateur Radio Community

by meta computing solutions pty ltd

Revision 2

1 Introduction

The mParks Converter Utility was created to quickly and easily switch your activation logs from WWFF format to POTA format or vice versa.



The WWFF and POTA Park IDs are unique and correspond to the same park with the same name.

The difference between a WWFF log and a POTA log are made in the MY_SIG, MY_SIG_INFO, SIG and SIG_INFO field values.

	Values for WWFF logs	Values for POTA logs
MY_SIG	WWFF	POTA
MY_SIG_INFO	VKFF-9999	VK-9999
SIG	WWFF	POTA
SIG_INFO	VKFF-9999	VK-9999
Log File Name	CALLSIGN@VKFF-9999_YYYYMMDD	CALLSIGN@VK-9999-YYYYMMDD

It's a simple but tedious job to manually change the MY_SIG and SIG values from or to POTA from WWFF or vice versa.

It's a little more onerous to look up the activation park and every park to park contact to replace it with the corresponding IF number from the other program.

Fortunately, the ParksNPeaks website provides an API for querying the Park IDs and other information where required. Armed with this ability, it is a perfect automation task to search and replace the values in the adif log file and re-write the log file using the naming convention for the other program.

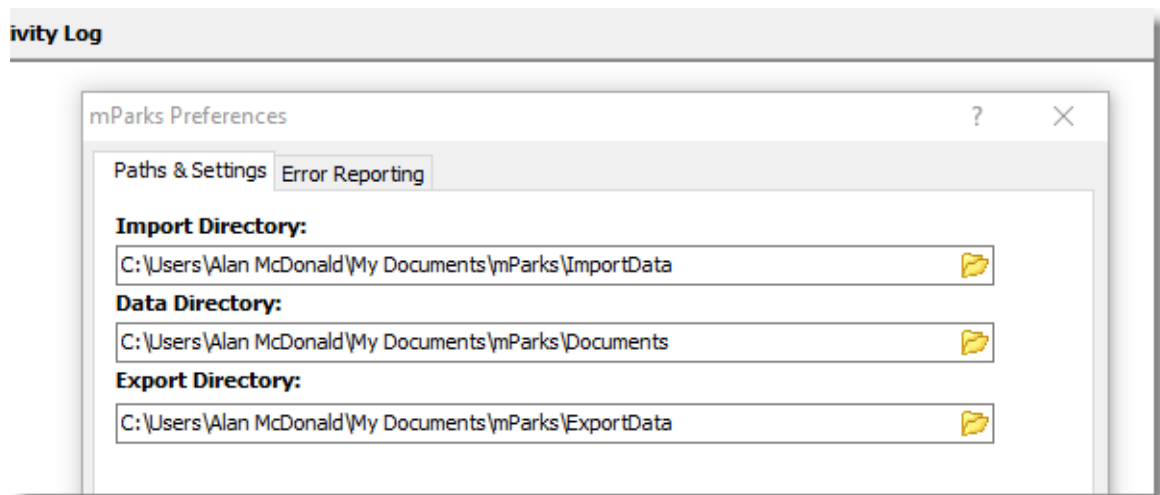
1.1 Application Preferences

Before starting to use the application, some user preferences should be checked for suitability to the user's PC and file/folder locations.

1.1.1 Paths & Settings

This tab is visible to all users.

Program Directory: Is not editable. Confirms the path to the executable file ers.exe.

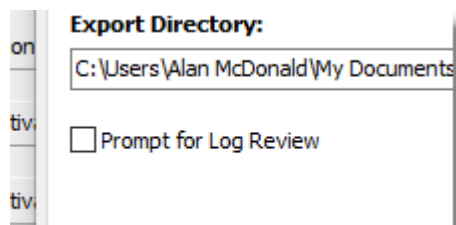


Import Directory: Place your source logs in the Import Directory. This folder is created during installation but it can be changed if you have another favourite place you keep your logs..

Document Directory: Used to save the Conversion Activity Log as text files if desired.

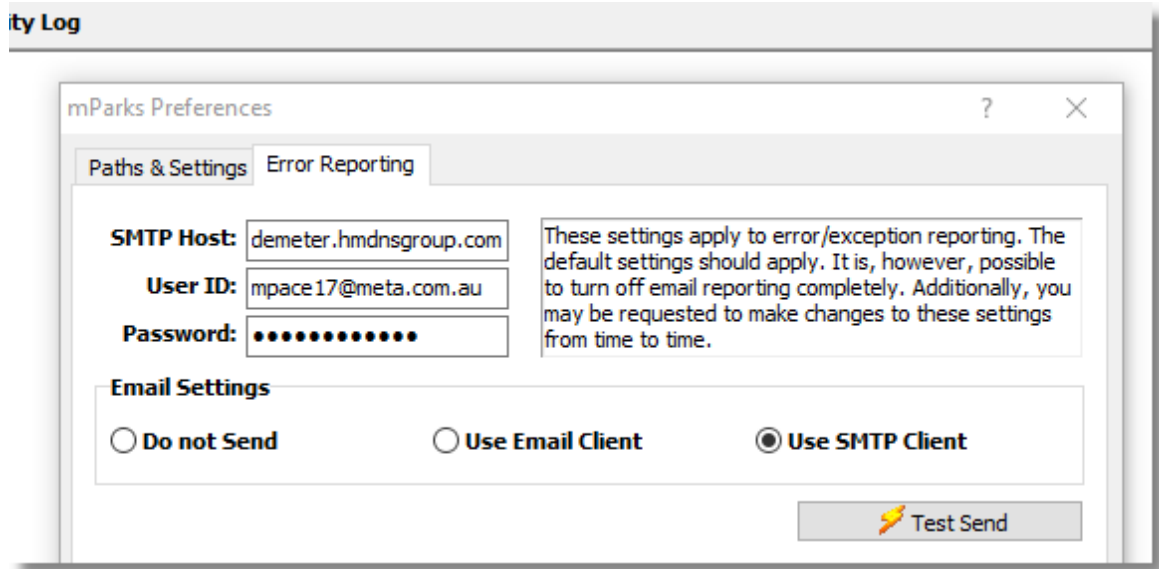
Export Directory: After Processing, the new logs are saved in the Export Directory. You may change this position if desired. Your original logs are never changed. They are just read and re-written to an alternative file and location..

It is possible to disable the Prompt to Review your log(s) by unchecking the Prompt for Log Review. This reduces interruptions when processing a lot of batch logs.



1.1.2 Error Reporting

The application is designed to report errors to the developer directly via email.



For operation of mParks from the desktop

SMTP Host: mail.meta.com.au

User ID: mparks@meta.com.au

Password: is hidden

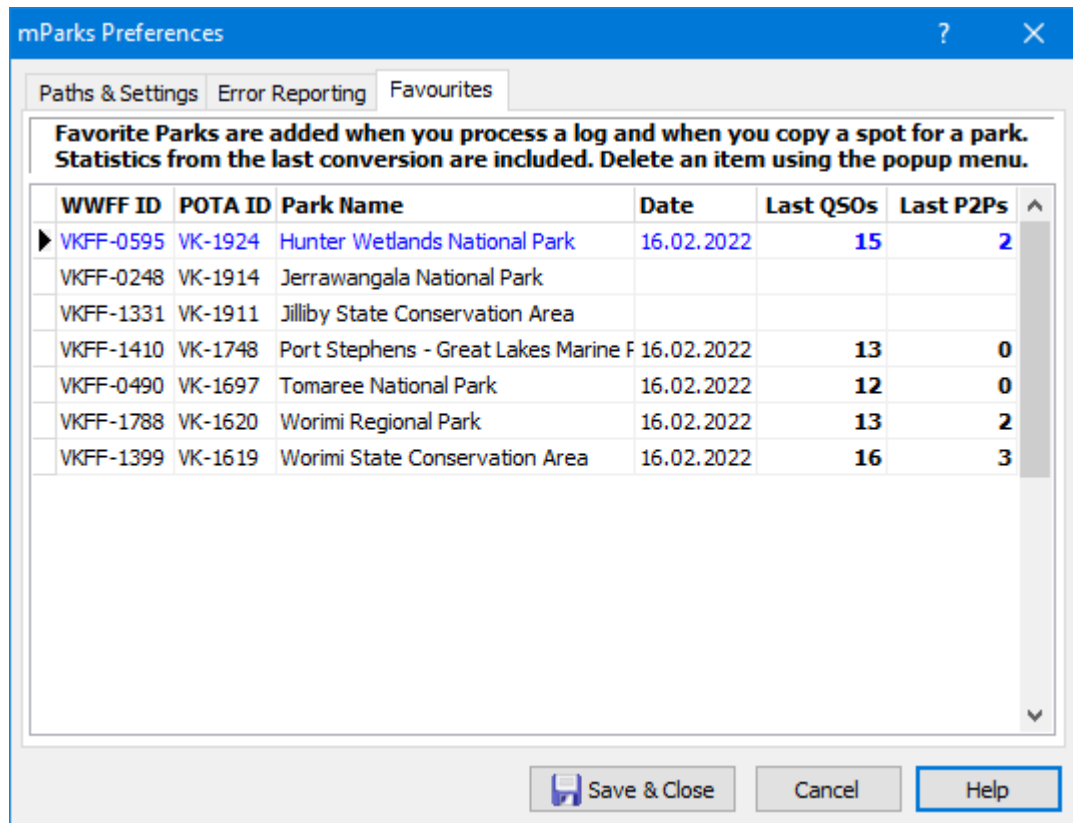
Ensure that "**User SMTP Client**" is selected.

Finally, click the **Test Send** button to receive a confirmation popup message. If the settings are incorrect, an error message will be displayed.

1.1.3 Favourites

Favorite Parks are added when you process a log and when you copy a spot for a park.

Having **Favourites** makes it quicker to select the park you need to spot because it's a much smaller list than the entire list of 3000+ parks in Australia. Often you return to the same park more than once.



Click the column titles to sort the column by park name, ID or in the case of counts, in descending order.

Statistics from the last conversion are included/updated when you process a log. Delete an item using the popup menu.

See JS8Call Spot Builder for the use a favourites filter.

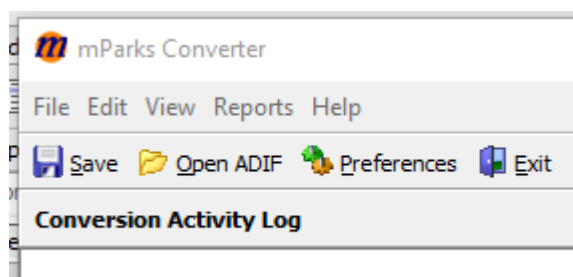
2 What's New

1.0.0.13

Activation Tally Sheet added. Log conversions are summarised in a tally sheet showing summary QSO counts

Refer to Version History for a complete list of revisions so far.

3 Open ADIF Function



Start the conversion by selecting an existing Log file.

The log file will be either a WWFF log file OR a POTA log file. The format of the log name will reveal the program origin and so determine which way you wish to convert.

A filename in this format **CALLSIGN@VKFF-9999_YYYYMMDD** from WWFF will be converted to this format **CALLSIGN@VK-9999-YYYYMMDD** to POTA

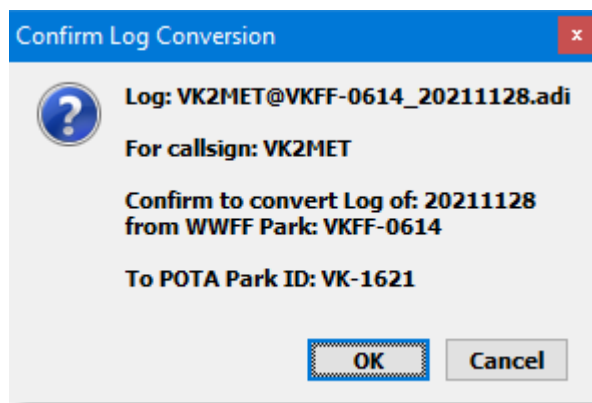
If a POTA log is selected, it will be switched to a WWFF log.

4 Conversion Activity

During the conversion, calls are made to the web service to obtain the alternative details from the log file. The values are re-compiled and written out in a new file in the Documents folder.

There is plenty of feedback during the conversion for the purpose of lifting your confidence that all it as expected.

Park to Park contacts are also changed to reflect the park IDs from the other program.



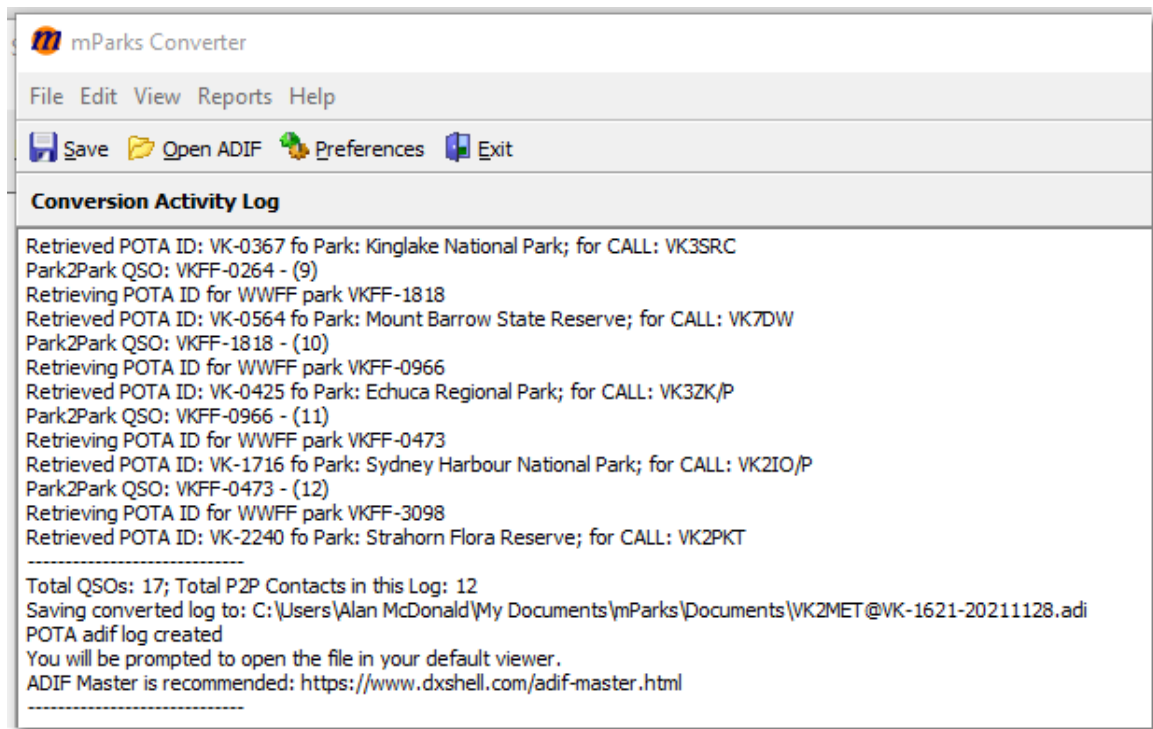
Before commencing the conversion, a confirmation popup message provides preliminary analysis of the log file.

You may cancel the operation at this point if you consider there is something wrong.

The activity of conversion is logged in detail for your review in the main application memo field.

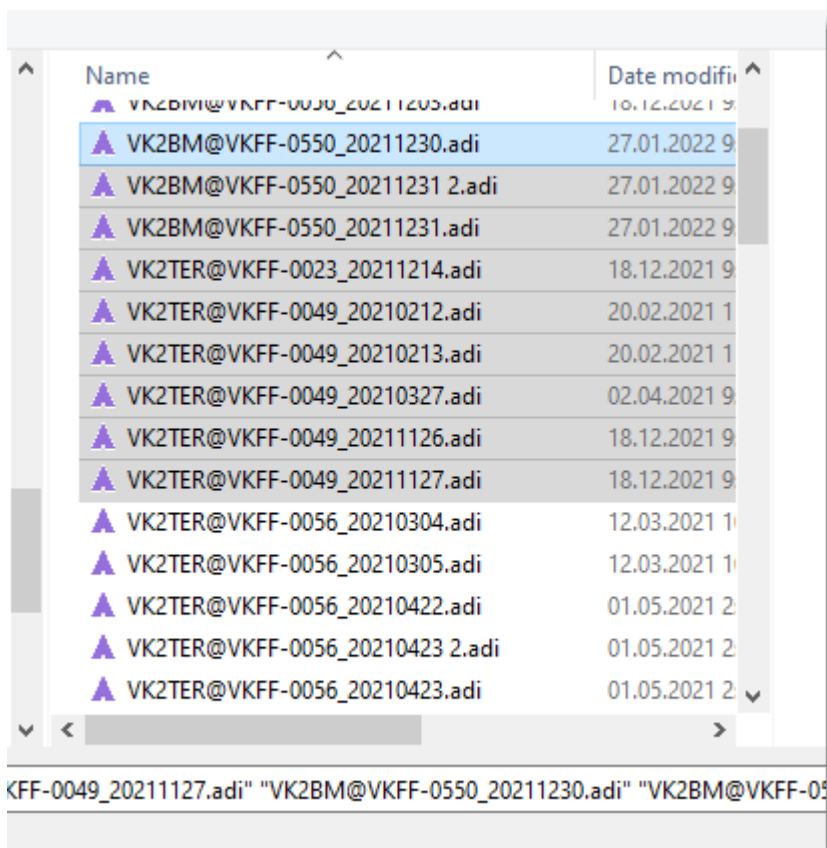
A summary of activity is also provided. This activity can be scrolled for review, and can be cleared between operations if desired.

The activity log can be saved by clicking on the Save Button. It clears when the application is exited, if not cleared beforehand.



5 Multiple Conversions

The Open File dialog permits selection of multiple log files. Use the Shift and Ctrl key mouse click combinations in the dialog window to select multiple files.



In this case, all selected log files will be converted one after another and saved to their corresponding output file.

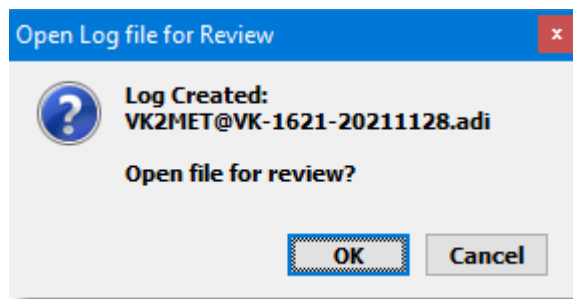
Any errors which occur during this batch process will be displayed at the end of the batch process and also recorded in the Activity Log.

The Conversion Activity Log can be saved to the Documents Folder as a text file for record keeping.

There is an artificial wait between log conversions when done in a batch. It's also probably best to do batches of logs in groups of approximately 10 files. There appears to be an occasional rejection by the server when multiple queries are made in a short space of time. This artificial delay and limiting your batch size may avoid this issue.

6 Final Review

Once the Conversion is complete, you will be prompted to open the new log file to make a visual check on the contents



You may cancel this step but if you have a default program for viewing ADIF files on your PC, the file will open for review.

ADIF Master is an excellent tool for manipulating/editing ADIF files, this example shows ADIF Master being triggered to open the log file.

Line	STATION_CALLSIGN	CALL	QSO_DATE	TIME_ON	BA
1	VK2MET	VK2XCI	20211128	0054	40
2	VK2MET	VK5PAS	20211128	0114	40
3	VK2MET	VK5MAZ	20211128	0115	40
4	VK2MET	VK2EMS	20211128	0117	40

You may wish to download a copy of ADIF Master to accompany these activities.
<https://www.dxshell.com/adif-master.html>

After installing ADIF Master, you should see all .adi files listed in Windows Explorer with the ADIF Master icon (see below). This means that when you accept the prompt to review the log after conversion, ADIF Master will be called to open the file. ADIF Master can also be started the the View menu.

Name	Date modified
▲ VK2BML@VKFF-0050_20211203.adi	10.12.2021 9
▲ VK2BM@VKFF-0550_20211230.adi	27.01.2022 9
▲ VK2BM@VKFF-0550_20211231 2.adi	27.01.2022 9
▲ VK2BM@VKFF-0550_20211231.adi	27.01.2022 9
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0023_20211214.adi	18.12.2021 9
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0049_20210212.adi	20.02.2021 1
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0049_20210213.adi	20.02.2021 1
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0049_20210327.adi	02.04.2021 9
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0049_20211126.adi	18.12.2021 9
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0049_20211127.adi	18.12.2021 9
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0056_20210304.adi	12.03.2021 1
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0056_20210305.adi	12.03.2021 1
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0056_20210422.adi	01.05.2021 2
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0056_20210423 2.adi	01.05.2021 2
▲ VK2TER@VKFF-0056_20210423.adi	01.05.2021 2

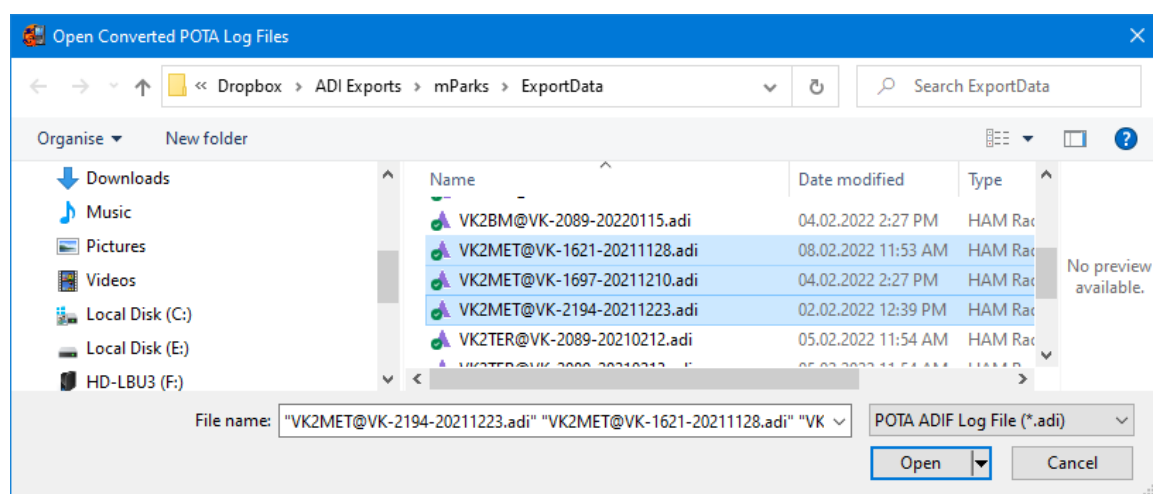
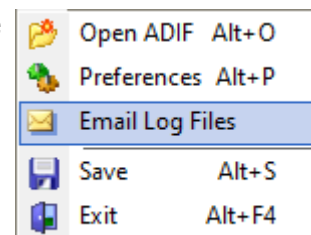
VKFF-0049_20211127.adi" "VK2BM@VKFF-0550_20211230.adi" "VK2BM@VKFF-05

7 Log Submission

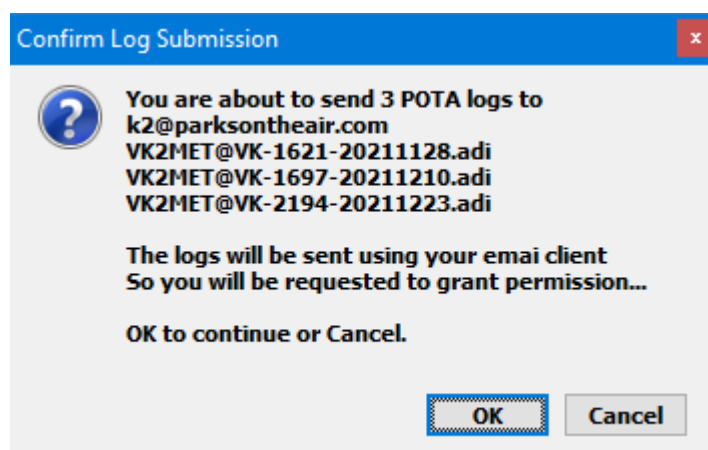
Once log conversion has completed, you may choose to email the logs using a Messaging Application Program Interface (MAPI).

Since the log file names now comply with the POTA submission protocol, the log files contains your callsign which provides the numeral of the POTA co-ordinator. Thus a VK2 callsign will be submitted to the k2 co-ordinator email address.

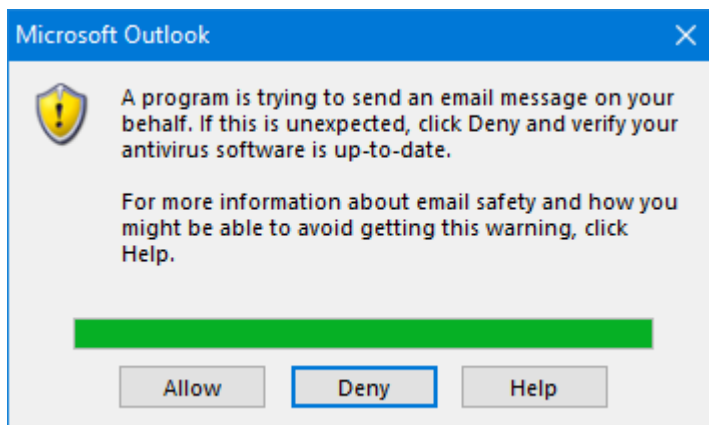
Select **Email Log Files** from the File menu, then select one or more log files from the **Open Converted POTA Log Files** dialog (which opens at the Export Directory). Click Open to confirm.



The email will be created and you will be asked to confirm the file selection and intention to email the logs.

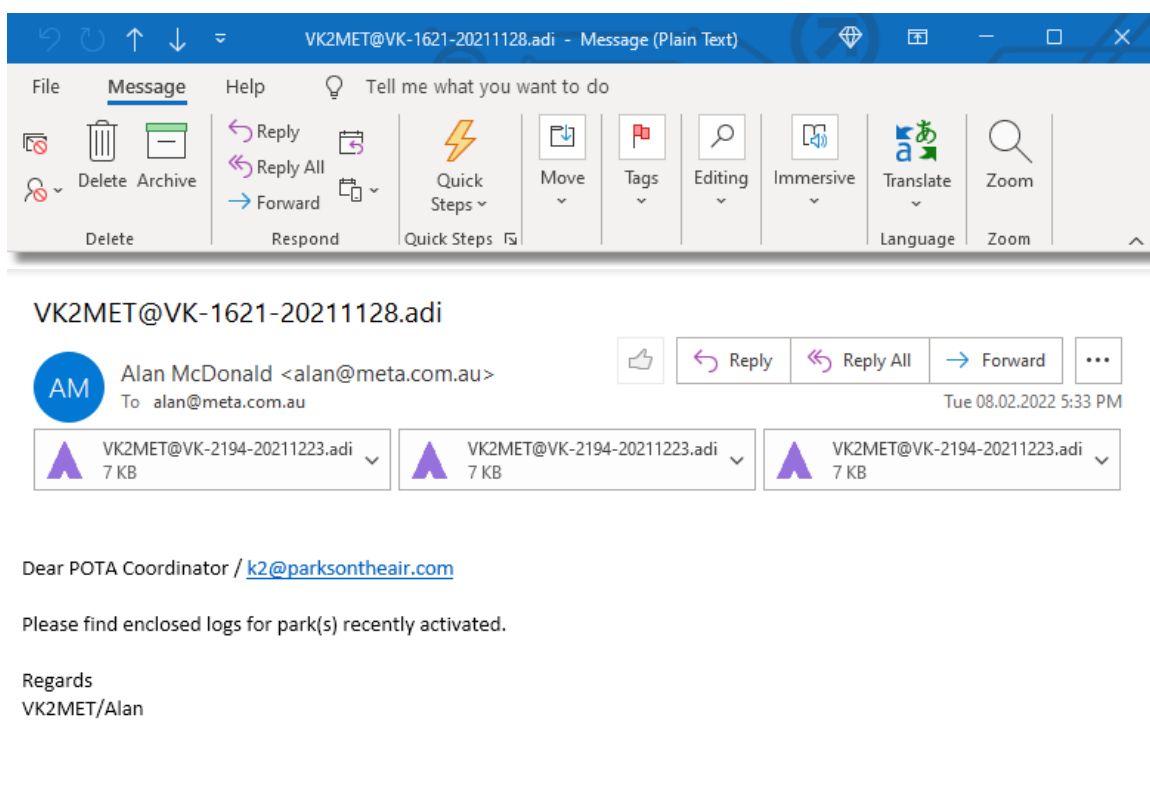


Since the process uses MAPI, you are asking your normal email client to accept the request to send email. Outlook (or other email client) will ask you for authority to send the email on behalf of mParks.



You may finally Deny access if you wish, or Allow it, in which case, the email will be sent as per the Confirm Log Submission details provided - see example above. The email body text will also be formatted automatically for you as follows and the email will be included in your normal Sent folder.

Below is an example of the email sent to the k2@parksontheair.com
The subject of the email is, as required, the first log filename in the group if there is more than one log file being submitted.



Note: Some email client software may not accept MAPI as a transport so there are no guarantees. This feature is not foolproof.

8 Tally Sheet

During the log conversion process, summary statistics are accumulated of the contacts made and the modes in which the contacts were made.

The counts are editable but it is up to the operator to maintain internal consistency. The totals are recalculated upon Refresh but the individual activation counts are not checked for validity. Deleting, correcting the source log and reprocessing the log may be a better option in this case.

The .csv file containing the summary is named ActivationTally.csv and is stored in the Document folder. This file can also be renamed and opened in MS Excel. **Care should be taken if editing the .csv files since their format is assumed by mParks to be unaltered. Copying, renaming or deleting the file is acceptable to normal operation.**

The screenshot shows the mParks Converter application window. The 'Conversion Activity Log' pane displays the following text:

```

Converting Log file: VK2MET@VKFF-1410_20220216.adif
From WWFF Park: VKFF-1410
Retrieving POTA ID for WWFF park VKFF-1410
Retrieved POTA ID: VK-1748 for Park: Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park; for CALL: VK2MET
-----
Total QSOs: 13; Total P2P Contacts in this Log: 0
SSB QSOs: 13; FM QSOs: 0; CW QSOs: 0; Digital QSOs: 0; Other QSOs: 0
-----
Saving converted log to: C:\Users\Alan McDonald\Dropbox\ADI Exports\mParks\ExportData\VK2MET@VK-1748-20220216.adif
POTA adif log created
You will be prompted to open the file in your default viewer.
ADIF Master is recommended: https://www.dxshell.com/adif-master.html
  
```

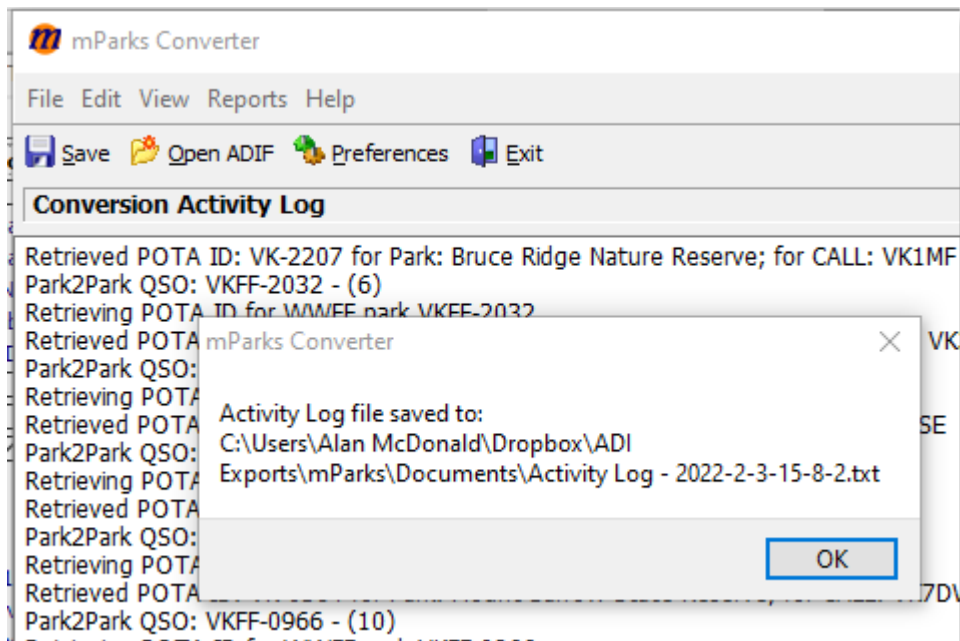
Overlaid on this is the 'TallySheet' window, which displays a 'Summary of Activation Contacts' table:

WWFF ID	POTA ID	Park Name	Date	SSB	DIGI	CW	FM	Other	Total	P2P
VKFF-1788	VK-1620	Worimi Regional Park	23.02.2022	22	11				33	4
VKFF-1410	VK-1748	Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park	16.02.2022	13					13	
VKFF-1788	VK-1620	Worimi Regional Park	16.02.2022	13					13	2
VKFF-1399	VK-1619	Worimi State Conservation Area	16.02.2022	16					16	3
VKFF-0614	VK-1621	Worimi National Park	16.02.2022	15					15	2
VKFF-1410	VK-1748	Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park	16.02.2022	13					13	
VKFF-0595	VK-1924	Hunter Wetlands National Park	16.02.2022	15		2			15	2
VKFF-1399	VK-1619	Worimi State Conservation Area	09.02.2022	29	8				37	
				136	19	2	0	0	155	13

At the bottom of the TallySheet window are buttons for 'Save & Close', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

9 Activity Log Saving

At any time, you may save the contents of the **Conversion Activity Log**. Just click the Save button, a file name will be auto created based on the current date and time and saved to the Documents Directory. You may consider this a benefit especially after a batch process. Any/all errors will be summarised at the bottom of the log so you can track back thru the log to see in more detail what might have happened.



And it's OK to do the same conversion over and over. The only thing that happens from multiple conversions is the output file gets re-written. No source file gets lost.

10 Quick Support

The Help menu provides access to a mini Teamviewer client in case you wish to demonstrate something to the developers.

Upon negotiation, you may select this menu option to start the connection and desktop sharing feature.

No access to your PC is possible unless you provide permission to do so.

For support via email, please contact mparks@meta.com.au

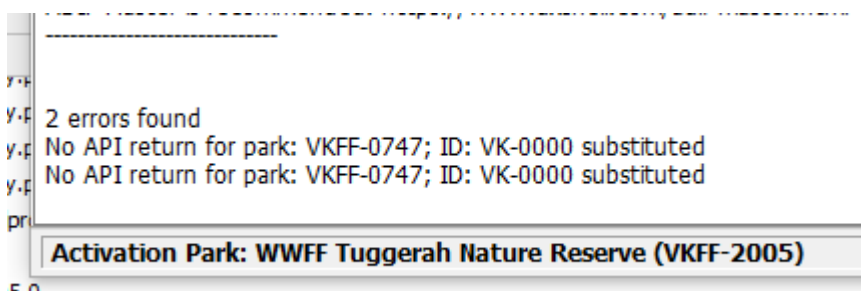
11 Example Errors

Occasionally a conversion might strike a problem.

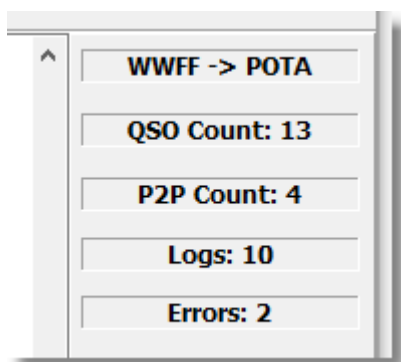
Two such errors are:

- ❖ The API call to retrieve park INFO fails
- ❖ No corresponding park ID exists or is recorded for the park in question.

When errors occur, the Activity log will complete with some indication of the issue



The error count is also displayed on the side panel when they exist.



When this occurs, it is best to scroll back through the activity to see which log (s) produced the errors. In the example below, to P2Park QSOs in Park VKFF-1908 were made to park VKFF-0747 but there is no POTAID returned for this park. It either does not have a corresponding POTA park, or the POTA ID is missing from the ParksNPeaks database.

In this case a POTA ID of VK-0000 is substituted and this must be manually corrected by replacing the value with the POTAID if it does exist, or removing the P2P QSO from the log where no such POTA park corresponds.

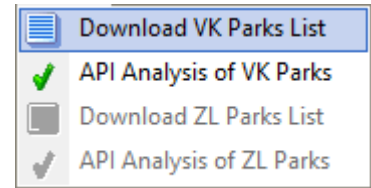
```
Converting Log file: VK2TER@VKFF-1908_20210221.adf
From WWFF Park: VKFF-1908
Retrieving POTA ID for WWFF park VKFF-1908
Retrieved POTA ID: VK-2035 for Park: Cockle Bay Nature Reserve; for CALL: VK2TER
Park2Park QSO: VKFF-0747 - (1)
Retrieving POTA ID for WWFF park VKFF-0747
No API return for park: VKFF-0747
Exiting with dummy park ID: VK-0000
Park2Park QSO: VKFF-0054 - (2)
Retrieving POTA ID for WWFF park VKFF-0054
Retrieved POTA ID: VK-2083 for Park: Brindabella National Park; for CALL: VK1DA/P
Park2Park QSO: VKFF-0747 - (3)
Retrieving POTA ID for WWFF park VKFF-0747
No API return for park: VKFF-0747
Exiting with dummy park ID: VK-0000

Total QSOs: 19; Total P2P Contacts in this Log: 3
Saving converted log to: C:\Users\Alan McDonald\My Documents\mParks\Documents\VK2TER\VK2TER@VK-2035-20210221.adf
POTA adif log created
You will be prompted to open the file in your default viewer.
ADIF Master is recommended: https://www.dxshell.com/adif-master.html
```

12 API Analysis

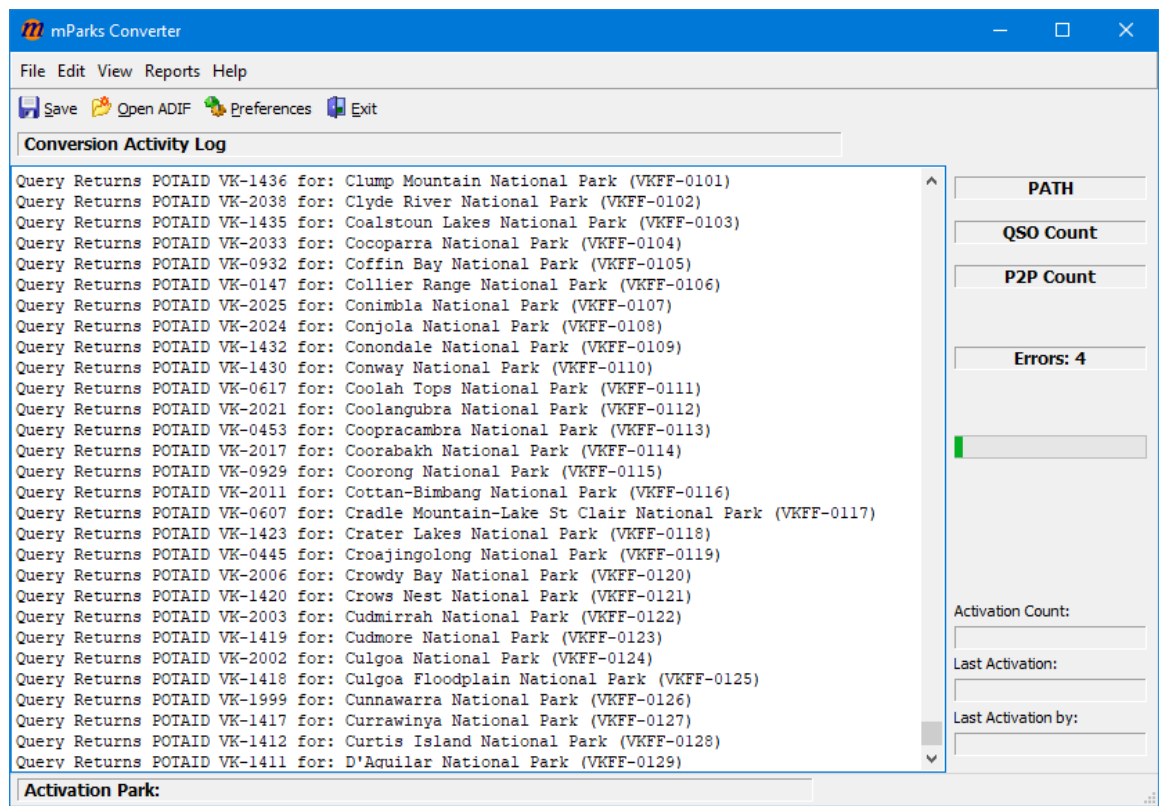
The API analysis function is available for checking if the park details for your park is accurate or perhaps missing from the ParksNPeaks.org database.

Not all WWFF parks are in the POTA program. And some WWFF parks may be missing their POTA ID. Please alert ParksNPeaks or meta if you find an issue.



To check the current status of the database, first Download the VK Parks List. The reference list will be saved to your Document folder and used in the analysis. Once downloaded you can analyse the list of parks for correct information.

At this time, the ZL list is quite inaccurate so download an analysis may be of interest only.



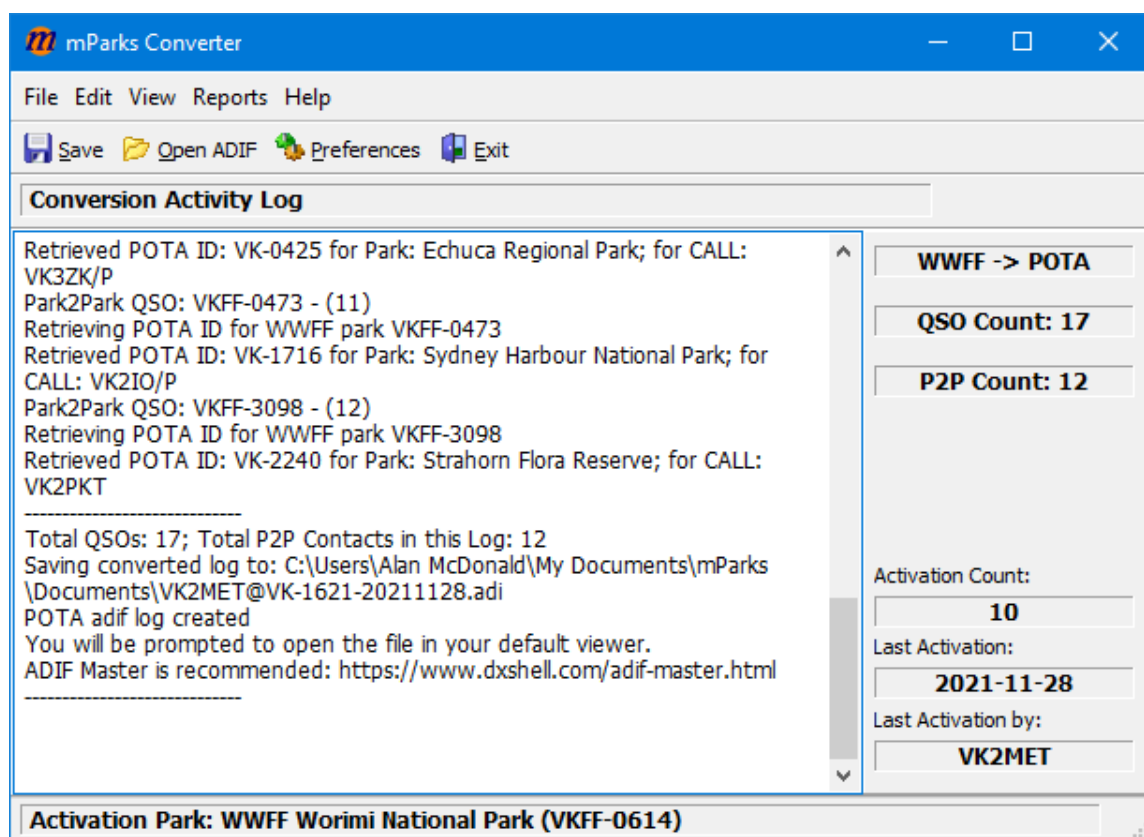
13 Version History

The following Versions have been released:

Build	Notes
1.0.0.1	Initial test version, WWFF->POTA conversion
1.0.0.2	Auto detect reverse log - goes WWFF->POTA and POTA->WWFF. Help file added, Teamviewer Support module added.
1.0.0.3	Statistics panel added with persistent reference headings, font sizes adjusted

Build	Notes
1.0.0.4	Activation Count, Last Activation (date), Activated by (callsign) are listed for each log being processed. Batch Processing introduced by multi-select files option in the Open ADIF dialog You can now turn off the prompt to Review the adi export file after each conversion Document Directories rearranged to align with Import, Export and Document function. Document folder used to save Activity Log Activity Log save function added - any errors are clearly documented in the activity log e.g. missing park IDs A false delay in processing has been introduced to avoid flood protection on the API server. Errors are shown in a dialog after processing and also recorded in the Activity Log so you can track down the issue. Help file updated to demonstrate possible errors and multiple log processing feature.
1.0.0.5	Application Updates handled from the Help Menu Auto detects update available, prompt on exit, update menu enabled when available. ADIF Master Download link added to help menu
1.0.0.6	Added Links to website, admin processing features, performance/reliability improvements Open Explorer, and ADIF Master menu option
1.0.0.7	Download the Parks database listing for VK and ZL. The download will provide insight into possible errors where park IDs are missing. The log of the download is saved and used as the master source of an analysis of the /REL park returns. Refer to API Analysis topic. Fixed pitch font in Activity window to allow for alignment of output and easier reading for anomalies.
1.0.0.8	JS8Call Spot Builder added for both Parksnparks and POTA gateway spots.
1.0.0.9	Log Files containing spaces in their name will terminate the conversion process. Log Submission feature added - logs may be selected from the Export folder and submitted to your POTA coordinator from within the mParks Application. The WWFF submission process needs the name and email address of your WWFF Coordinator to be stored in the Application Preferences. The POTA coordinator is calculated from your callsign. Spot Builder enhanced to include POTA reference number and spot website link.

Build	Notes
1.0.0.10	Test Mode added for sending emails - in Test Mode all outgoing email go to your won email address (set in Preferences) Email submissions now have no embedded logo file in the email header. Instead there is a linked URL to a logo file. Muted the message when it's the first time opening JS8Call SpotBuilder where no pre-selected park exists.
1.0.0.11	Standard Spot Comments added - fully editable and saved, making it quick to select your spot comment in the field. A Favourite list of parks is created when you convert a log, or copy a spot comment to the Clipboard
1.0.0.12	Fixed bug on JS8Call Spot Builder form displaying incorrect POTAIID - on screen issue only
1.0.0.13	Activation Tally Sheet added. Log conversions are summarised in a tally sheet showing summary QSO counts



14 JS8Call Spot Builder

JS8Call can be used for Spotting via the ParksNPeaks Cluster OR the POTAGW as long as the syntax of the messages follows the correct format.
mParks can generate the spot message in the correct syntax so you can copy and paste the message into JS8Call and avoid possible syntax errors.

Favourites

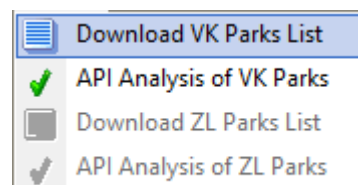
Select the Favourites checkbox to limit the parks list drop down to your favourites list (see Favourites in Preferences).

Spot Comments

When you select a pre-defined spot comment, you may edit or change it. When you Exit references with the Save & Close button, your edited spots are saved for next time.

Parks List

To build the spots, you need to Download the VK Parks list from the Reports Menu. No need to do the analysis which has only been required for admin purposes. But by downloading the Parks List, you will be able to build the spots when you are offline.

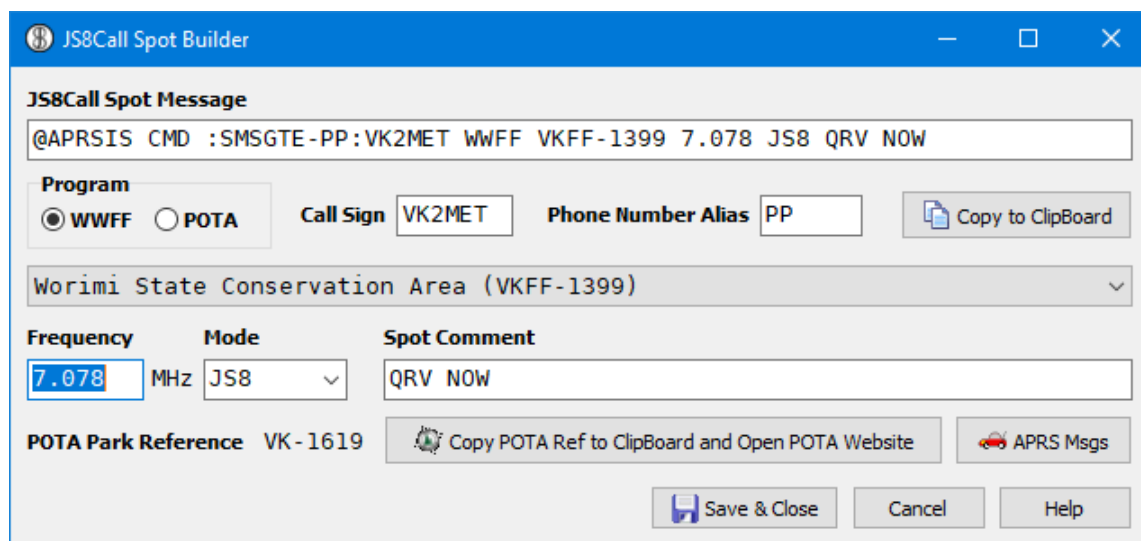


This download action builds a .csv file used by the Spot Builder. If the file is missing

Once you have those set, it's a matter of searching for and selecting your park number, setting your mode and frequency and then adding a comment. The message will be generated as you modify these values.

When done and error checking indicates a valid message, click the "Copy to Clipboard" button and move over to JS8Call.

In JS8Call, you can paste the message into the outgoing Message field and then transmit, or you can add the formatted message to the Saved Messages for re-use.

A screenshot of the 'JS8Call Spot Builder' application window. The title bar says 'JS8Call Spot Builder'. The main area is titled 'JS8Call Spot Message'. It contains a text field with the message '@APRSIS CMD :MSGTE-PP:VK2MET WWFF VKFF-1399 7.078 JS8 QRV NOW'. Below this are fields for 'Program' (radio buttons for WWFF and POTA, WWFF is selected), 'Call Sign' (VK2MET), and 'Phone Number Alias' (PP). There is a 'Copy to Clipboard' button. A dropdown menu shows 'Worimi State Conservation Area (VKFF-1399)'. Below that are fields for 'Frequency' (7.078 MHz), 'Mode' (JS8), and 'Spot Comment' (QRV NOW). At the bottom, there is a 'POTA Park Reference' field with 'VK-1619', a button to 'Copy POTA Ref to Clipboard and Open POTA Website', and an 'APRS Msgs' button. At the very bottom are 'Save & Close', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons.

Just switch to POTA for the correct syntax for the POTAGW

14.1 PnP and SMSGTE Registration

If you wish to Spot yourself on the ParksNPeaks Cluster using JS8Call, you'll need to follow these steps.

Step 1

Register your **callsign on ParksNPeaks here** before you do anything. Also, when you register, include your mobile phone number in the registration process so you can spot using your phone if you need to. The instructions for sending spots via SMS on the ParksNPeaks website so they're not repeated here.

Step 2

Next up, go to **the findu.com website** and send a message to SMSGTE. [the website address is <https://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/entermsg.cgi>]

Enter:

- ❖ your callsign in the **Your Callsign** field,
- ❖ SMSGTE in the **Send message to** field, and
- ❖ your mobile number and a message in the **Message** field

The mobile number **must in the form starting with @ symbol followed by 61 (for Australia) and drop the normal 0 prefix.**

Once you send the message, you will receive a text on your phone from SMSGTE. You can save the SMSGTE phone number in you contacts if you wish. The message received will be the message you sent, in this case, @61NNNNNNNNN No cell coverage

The webform will jump the msg list for your callsign. It will list the messages sent and received via SMSGTE and in this case it will show the message above as received in red. You will use the Send another link later in the steps below.

VK2MET messages				
from	to	time		message
SMSGTE-KC	VK2MET	02/11 05:18:21z	Reply	No{M9142
VK2MET	SMSGTE-KC	02/11 05:12:42z	Send another	VK2MET DID YOU GET ANY EMAIL LOGS?

Step 3

You then need to reply **on your phone** with a specific message to verify your mobile number with your callsign.

So, on your phone, **not** on the findu webform, reply to the received SMS with the following message:

```
#mynumber add <number>
```

<number> must be in the form 61NNNNNNNNNN

There is no @ or + plus symbol this time.

e.g

```
#mynumber add 61444123456
```

If you do not get a response from this text message, then try sending it via the webform. Click the Send another and send the message in the message box.

Step 4

You will receive a response from step 3

The number +61444123456 has been associated with this callsign.{C9150

The last characters are just ack/crc characters and can be ignored.

Step 5

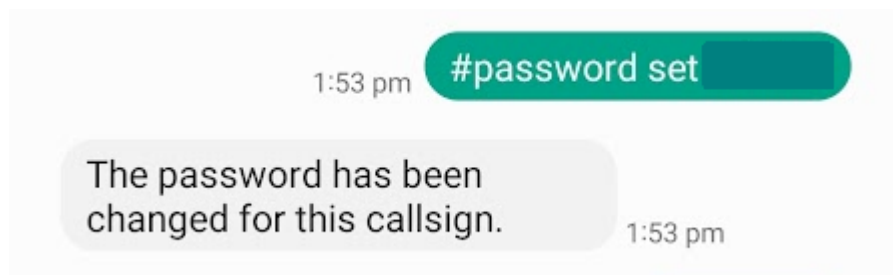
Next you need to set your password, so again **on your phone** so it's not made public, send the following message

```
#password set  
<password>
```

where <password> above is replaced with your chosen password.

e.g.

```
#password set pass12345
```



Step 6

Time to add an alias. More information about managing aliases can be found on the msgte website but here's the initial setup command.

```
#alias add
<alias> <number> <ssid>
```

an Alias or name also has an SSID, two letter abbreviation used in JS8Call/APRSIS CMD so to set an alias and SSID for ParksPeaks use the following message example

```
#alias add vkff 61447568667 WW
```

The password command will not show on the messages form for the sake of security, but can check the messages for the alias addition response. It will respond with the same message as on your phone.

Step 7

Now it's time to test the setup. Go to mParks Spot Builder, dial up a park, set the message to something along the lines of it being a test and to please ignore.

Then **Copy to Clipboard**, paste it into JS8Call and send it.

Comments

Be sure to log onto ParksPeaks beforehand and get ready to delete the test so as not to confuse the Chasers.

If you are registered on APRSIS, you can go here to see the decoded packets go through the system for your callsign

`https://aprs.fi/?c=raw&call=CALLSIGN&limit=50&view=decoded`

replace CALLSIGN above with your callsign..

or just go here and click the [Raw packets](#) link, then select decoded from the drop down.

You will be able to verify that your message has gone thru APRSIS, been decoded correctly and which station was the first to get it through. You may also see **[Duplicate message content]** in some places. This, by design, is where the message forwarded is a duplicate and APRSIS will ignore it.



Delete Spot

Go to the Spots on ParksNPeaks to see your spot arrive, then delete it using the Button.

This example of a spot shows VK4KC has requested the spot for park VKFF-0001. It was picked up by both VK2LI and VK2XOR. the duplicate to VK2XOR/Max was dropped and the one from VK2LI was successfully sent on to ParksNPeaks for the listing.

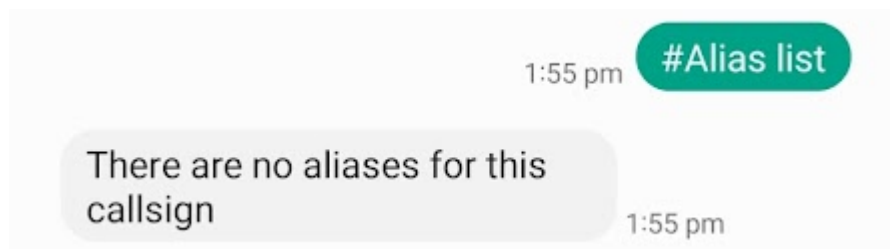
```
2022-02-12 10:29:01 AEDT: VK4KC>APJ8CL,qAS,VK2LI::MSGTE-PP:VK4KC WWFF VKFF-0001 7.144 SSB TEST PLS IGNORE
type: message
srccallsign: VK4KC
dstcallsign: APJ8CL
destination: MSGTE-PP
message: VK4KC WWFF VKFF-0001 7.144 SSB TEST PLS IGNORE
```

```
2022-02-12 10:30:17 AEDT: VK4KC>APJ8CL,qAS,VK2XOR::MSGTE-PP:VK4KC WWFF VKFF-0001 7.144 SSB TEST PLS IGNORE [Duplicate message content]
type: message
srccallsign: VK4KC
dstcallsign: APJ8CL
destination: MSGTE-PP
message: VK4KC WWFF VKFF-0001 7.144 SSB TEST PLS IGNORE
```

14.2 MSGTE Alias Management

The #alias list command will initially shows no aliases.

Add an alias with the #alias add command. Add the ParksNPeaks SMS phone number with an appropriate alias AND a 2-letter SSID. This SSID is used in mParks. In this case, I have added and

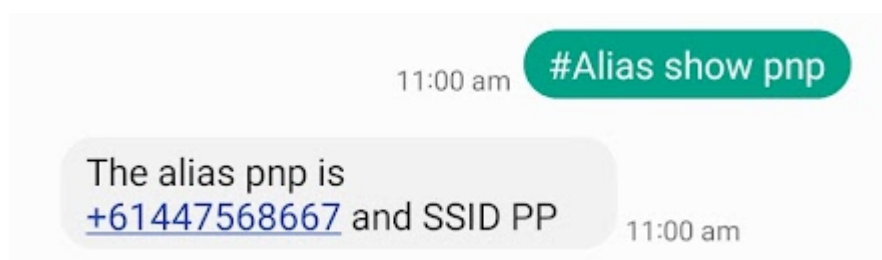


alias vkff with an SSID of WW.

Each number you register has an alias AND an SSID.

You may add additional aliases and once you have done so, you can list the aliases again and show a particular alias. You show a particular alias with the #alias show command.

You can also delete an alias.. more information is found here..



14.3 JS8Call Spot Specification

POTA

Pota has a dedicated gateway for spots so no phone alias is required and your ParksnsPeaks alias is ignored by the Spot Builder.

ParksnsPeaks

ParksnsPeaks uses their SMS Phone number to receive spots and then publish them in their cluster, so you need to be register your callsign with ParksnsPeaks.

You will also need to register on **MSGateway**: <https://msgte.org/>

And you will need to register a phone number alias for the ParksnsPeaks SMS number +6148812345 following this method: <https://msgte.org/ug-aliases/>

And it's also best to set an alias in your registration for your favourite numbers. Using 2 letter aliases for phone numbers has 2 effects, it shortens the message and also hides the phone number e.g. when you are sending a message home.

Format

ignore the < and > characters below - they represent a space.

For POTA Spots, the message comprises of 7 words plus a comment. For ParksnsPeaks the message comprises 8 words plus a comment.

@APRSIS
< >

CMD must be 9 characters padded with spaces
 e.g. :POTAGW - sending to the POTA GW with no SSID required
 or :MSGTE-PP - sending to ParksPeaks where their phon number is required via
 SMS Gateway
 < >
 Your Callsign
 < >
 <Park ID> for POTAGW;
 <WWFF>< ><VKFF-NNNN> Program followed by Park/Summit/Silo ID for ParksPeaks
 < >
 Frequency is in kHz for POTA and MHz for ParksPeaks
 <FREQ>
 < >
 Mode can be JS8 for ParksPeaks, FT8 is a mode. POTAGW may want MFSK for JS8 data
 <MODE>
 < >
 Keep it short - spaces are permitted
 <COMMENT>

e.g. POTAGW Spot
 @APRSIS CMD :POTAGW :CALL PARK FREQ MODE COMMENT
 @APRSIS CMD :POTAGW :VK2MET VK-0619 7144 SSB QRT NOW

e.g. ParksPeaks Spot where PP is a two-letter alias for the ParksPeaks SMS Phone
 Number
 @APRSIS CMD :MSGTE-PP:VK2MET WWFF VKFF-0490 7.078 JS8 QRT NOW

15 Activation Log Work Flows

You may be using:

- ❖ Paper Logs and then use Fast Log Entry to create your ADIF files
- ❖ VK port-a-log (Android App), or
- ❖ Parks&Peaks (iOS app)

Separate topics cover FLE and VK port-a-log, iOS users can further document their work-flow elsewhere.

Once you finish your activation you will want to prepare your logs for submission to WWFF and/or POTA. mParks will save you a lot of time in this process.

If you wish to incorporate your digital contacts and/or further enhance your logs for your permanent logging software and submit QSL data to external services, the following sections may give some ideas about that process.

Digital Contacts

If you make digital contacts (FT8 or JS8Call) you will need to merge the logs from these applications into your logs from SSB contacts. The following flowchart describes the process.

VK port-a-log provides one log per park per UTC day, plus one Master Day Log per local day, plus a csv file for SOTA

VK port-a-log, Parks&Peaks or FLE created log files
AND
Digital Logs (FT8 and JS8Call)

Line	QSO_DATE	TIME_ON	TIME_OFF	CALL	FREQ	BAND	MODE	NAME	COMMENT
18	20220223	035543	035543	VK2MK	7.139	40M	S5B	Jim	QTH = VKF
19	20220223	035736	035736	VK2VW	7.139	40M	S5B	Brett	QTH = VKF
20	20220223	035742	035742	VK2HFI	7.139	40M	S5B	Brett	QTH = VKF
21	20220223	040015	040015	VK5NHL	7.139	40M	S5B	Sue	QTH = VKF
22	20220223	040034	040034	VK1CT	7.139	40M	S5B	Chris	QTH = VKF
23	20220223	045032	045032	VK4RKK	7.139	40M	S5B	Noel	QTH = VKF
24	20220223	045455	045455	VK2TIO	7.139	40M	S5B	Gerard	QTH = VKF

Are there any digital contacts?

YES

Copy and distribute the log entry lines from the digital logs into the related park logs

Copy down the MY_SIG and MY_SIG_INFO columns into the records of the digital lines

Add any P2P Contacts into the digital log lines

Delete the columns from the park logs which are not required (those added from the digital lines)

Copy the modified digital contacts from the park logs to the Master Day log

You may need to add SIG and SIG_INFO columns, if no P2P contacts were made in the port-a-log files, these columns will be missing

Use the Ctrl-C and Ctrl-V commands to copy and paste lines from one log to another

NO

Save the VK port-a-log files to filenames compliant with import and submission to WWFF

mParks Process all park logs (bulk process)
unless there are errors found later, these files can be submitted
any errors will be corrected later in the WWFF version
and re-processed to POTA

Submit Logs to POTA and WWFF Co-ordinators

END

15.1 Fast Log Entry

Paper Logs

After recording your contacts you will need to transform your entries into an ADIF log acceptable for WWFF and/or POTA submission.

Note: If you are not storing your QSOs in your own, master logging software, then you may wish to keep this work-flow to an absolute minimum. The exchange, on radio, requires a signal report exchange. This signal report is not required for submission, so you may leave it on paper and save yourself some work.

The only fields needed for submission are the 9 shown below, or the extra 2 when you work "park-to-park". Each park to park contact needs **SIG** and **SIG_INFO** field entries for their park.

Line	QSO_DATE	TIME_ON	CALL	BAND	MODE	OPERATOR	STATION_CALLSIGN	MY_SIG	MY_SIG_INFO
1	20220306	040507	VK2ZZM	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
2	20220306	040731	VK2IO	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
3	20220306	041731	VK2IJS	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
4	20220306	041801	VK4KC	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
5	20220306	041824	VK4MAD	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
6	20220306	041830	VK4DOG	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
7	20220306	042850	VK2LP	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
8	20220306	043243	VK2KV	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
9	20220306	043330	VK2LWK	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410
10	20220306	043936	VK2EMS	40M	SSB	VK2MET	VK2MET	WWFF	VKFF-1410

Minimal Fast Log Entry

The most basic FLE file transferred from paper can amount to nothing more than this:

```

{ Sample WWFF and SOTA log }
{ Notes must then be updated from MY_SIG_INFO to NOTES field }
# Header
mycall VK2MET
operator
mywwff VKFF-1399

date 2021-11-26
40m ssb wwff
2304 vk2byf
2306 vk2hbg
2308 vk2io wwff vkff-1410
  
```

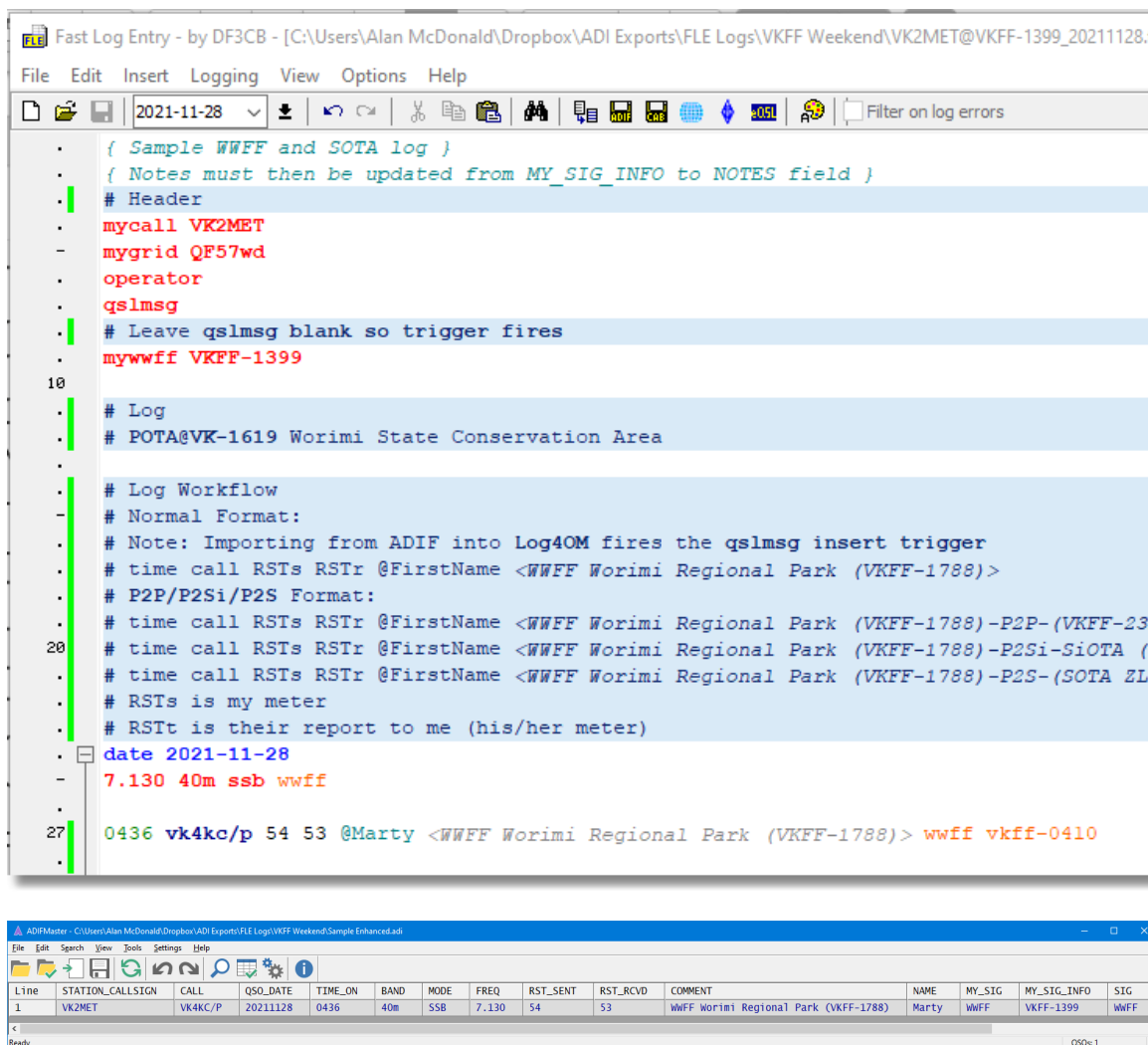
Which will result in this adif file ready for submission:

Line	STATION_CALLSIGN	CALL	QSO_DATE	TIME_ON	BAND	MODE	RST_SENT	RST_RCVD	MY_SIG	MY_SIG_INFO	SIG	SIG_INFO
1	VK2MET	VK2BYF	20211126	2304	40m	SSB	59	59	WWFF	VKFF-1399		
2	VK2MET	VK2HBG	20211126	2306	40m	SSB	59	59	WWFF	VKFF-1399		
3	VK2MET	VK2IO	20211126	2308	40m	SSB	59	59	WWFF	VKFF-1399	WWFF	VKFF-...

FLE will insert default values for RST_SENT, RST_RCVD which are ignored for submission to WWFF or POTA.

Enhanced Fast Log Entry

A more enhanced FLE file provides for entry of filed you may wish to then include in your logging software. In the example below, frequency, RST values and a comment field. Other field values can also be included, but again, the extra fields are ignored during submission.



15.2 VK port-a-log

VK port-a-log is a logging application written by VK3ZPF/Peter and it saves a lot of the work transferring from paper to ADIF file format.

The application (.apk file) and Basic User Guide can be found in the files section of the **vk2zpf-logger groups.io group**.

This link will take you to the Basic User Guide pdf file but you will need to log into groups.io to get access.

Once setup to save its logs and sync them into the cloud, the setup is very reliable and adds many handy features like a Names lookup file, default activation values, quick spotting and location tools. The names.csv is a great tool to be able to call people in while logging their other details.

You may run the app on your phone but I find the tablet form factor a lot easier to work with. The application saves the output to the device's file system but by setting up **DropSync** you can have your logs available to your other devices as soon as you need them. When you get home, the files are all ready to open and edit for the next stage.

16 Licence

The mParks Converter (mParks) software application was developed to save time

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