



# National Parks on the Air (NPOTA)

Licensed amateur radio operators associated with the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) program are authorized to set up and operate small, individual, amateur radio stations, with antenna, within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park. Individuals and groups of 10 or less do not need to apply for a Special Use Permit. Groups larger than 10 should contact the Office of Special Park Uses to see if a permit will be required (209-379-1851). This authorization is valid for 2016 only. The following regulations must be followed.

1. **Park Regulations:** Participants must abide by all park regulations ( Information regarding park laws and policies and safety information may be found at the following link: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm>)
2. **Park Fees:** Participants must pay the appropriate entrance fee, and campground fees if applicable.
3. **ARRL Rules:** Radio operators must abide by ARRL rules for the 2016 NPOTA event. Rules may be found at the following link [www.arrl.org/npota](http://www.arrl.org/npota).
4. **Authorized Areas:** Radio operators are authorized to use areas within the park open to the general public. (Areas operated under contract by the park concessioner are not permitted to be used.)
5. **Exclusive Use:** Permission for this activity does not guarantee exclusive use of an area. The area will remain open to the public during park visiting hours. Activities must not interfere with other park uses and visitor enjoyment of the area.
6. **Impeding Area:** Participants will at no time impede the normal flow of pedestrian or vehicle traffic during the activity.
7. **Visitor Encounters:** Visitors will be allowed to observe the activity when conducted in a public area. Participants will communicate and interact with visitors in a courteous and professional manner at all times. ARRL interpretive brochures may be made available to visitors on site.
8. **Sales & Solicitation:** Participants are not authorized to sell merchandise, or solicit business inside the park.
9. **Parking:** The NPS cannot guarantee parking availability or access to parking locations during peak hours or weather related events. All vehicles must be parked safely in designated areas; vehicles may not block emergency access and must be legally parked at all times. Parking on or blocking roads or sidewalks is strictly prohibited. Driving off roadways or entering closed or restricted areas is prohibited.
10. **Noise Regulations:** Participants will comply with all noise regulations. The Code of Federal Regulations CFR-36, 2.12 (a)(1) prohibits the playing of audio devices in a manner that exceeds a noise level of 60 decibels. No amplified music or public address systems are allowed.
11. **Visitor Safety:** Amateur radio operators must consider visitor safety when determining location and set up of their radio station.

12. **Equipment Set Up:** Radio stations including antennas set up outside of a self-contained vehicle may not be left unattended when the operator is not on site. To protect fellow campers from accidentally walking into the stand in the dark, antennas set up in a campsite must be moved to a safe location at night when operations have completed.
13. **Location Restrictions:** Radio stations may not be set up in meadows. When operating in a campsite the operator must abide by all campground rules including quiet hours and generator use.
14. **Area Conditions:** All park areas utilized under this authorization must be left in the condition that existed prior to the activity, with no disturbance or adverse effects on natural, historic and/or cultural resources.
  - a. Participants are prohibited from collecting, moving or destroying any natural and/or historic and/or cultural artifacts including arrowheads, rock mortars, glass bottles/jars or similar artifacts. Rocks, flowers, plants and parts of plants (alive or dead) as well as other natural resources may not be removed. Digging, scraping, chiseling or defacing natural features is prohibited.
  - b. Set up of equipment will be conducted in such a manner as to avoid trampling or damaging natural habitat. Vegetation may not be removed or cleared.
  - c. Feeding, capturing, harassing or the killing of wildlife is prohibited.
  - d. Creating new trails, marking trails or other locations by flagging, rock cairns, removing vegetation or dead wood, or by use of marking paint of any kind, or by any other means is prohibited.
15. **Food Storage:** Park regulations require proper food storage throughout Yosemite National Park. Food must be stored in a bear resistant canister food locker or sealed and out of sight in the operator's vehicle, unless it is within arm's reach. Food includes all edible items and beverages. In addition, all trash, toiletries, and other scented items must be properly stored. Permittee will avoid accumulation of garbage on site. All food and beverages brought to the activity site by the permittee must be removed by the permittee at the end of the activity
16. **Termination of Permission:** This authorization is revocable without notice if park regulations are violated. This Authorization will be revoked if damage to resources or facilities is threatened, or if there is a clear danger to public health and safety.

Note:

Visitation to Yosemite National Park is expected to be high during 2016 for the National Park Service 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. Participants should expect weekend and holidays to be very busy. Participants may want to consider visiting during mid-week when visitation is lower. Questions regarding this authorization may be directed to the Yosemite National Park Office of Special Park Uses.

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