



## **FSDXA St. Brandon DXpedition – Bulletin No.3**



Two members of FSDXA recently visited Mauritius to set up logistics for the September operation from St.Brandon (see previous press releases). We are pleased to say that all the necessary permits and licences are in hand, and a suitable ship has been located to take the team members and something like 6 tonnes of equipment to the island. There is still a lot to be done, but we are all looking forward to putting another rare one on the air.

### **DX MAGAZINE MOST WANTED SURVEY**

The latest DX Magazine “Most Wanted” survey puts 3B6/7 at No.45 overall, but at a high 18th place on the US West Coast. Other rankings are: Europe 55th; Asia 47th; North America overall 40th; US Eastern 40th; US Central 63rd; US Mountain: 66th; Rest of World: 26th. Clearly this means we will make a particular effort to work US West Coast as well as ensuring we don't forget those “other” parts of the world (Africa, South America, VK/ZL, etc.).

### **COLVIN AWARD**

FSDXA are delighted to announce that we have been selected to receive a Colvin award in respect of 3B7C. In notifying us of this award, Wayne Mills N7NG (while still at ARRL) said, “We are confident that the Five Star group will fill a need by making this country available to many who might not be able to get into the log of a more focused operation. Certainly, your past performances, particularly D68C, presage this result. And here's another thought. With the removal of the code requirement for all licensing in the US, coupled with earlier changes around the World, 3B7C could be the first DXpedition to focus on those operators who are not as capable with Morse. Who can reject the new HF amateur who is trying to build on his desire to improve his CW capability? This is not a new phenomenon, but recent changes in licensing requirements certainly present an opportunity for major DXpeditions to spend (and promote spending) significant time, perhaps near the end of the operation, catering to those whose CW capabilities are less than we might like. Such a campaign would be another ground-breaking effort by the FSDXA” Needless to say, the 3B7C team is only too happy to comply with this request, which is entirely in keeping with our philosophy of making new ones available to as wide a constituency of amateurs as possible. We will ensure, once we are on the island, that we publicise our operating schedules such that inexperienced CW operators can maximize their chances of a contact.

## SPONSORS

As well as the Colvin award, we are delighted to announce that NCDXF (Northern California DX Foundation) and the UK's CDXC (Chiltern DX Club, the UK DX Foundation) have recently come on board with sponsorship. But further sponsorship is still required to make this very large scale operation possible. Details appeared in previous press releases or can be obtained from the author.

Learn about our approach to DXpeditioning. Get "DXing, Behind the Scenes" from Nevada Communications. Now available for the special price of £12.95 [www.nevada.co.uk](http://www.nevada.co.uk) (Amateur Radio/Books)

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