

# VK9WA INSIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Thank You!

Thank you for your generous donations and the incredible help of our sponsors!

Locations like Willis Island are in high demand because they are expensive to get to and operate from. Sponsorship and donations are helping to cover the significant charter boat and equipment expenses.

Operating 10 days from a remote, very small island takes much coordination and equipment. We very much appreciate your support!

## VK9WA Plans

Our eight man team will be on the air Nov. 14th through 23rd. We'll operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 160 through 10 meters. Our primary focus will be providing all time new contacts with this highly demanded, rarely activated entity with an emphasis on difficult paths - primarily US East Coast, Europe, and Africa.

## VK9WA Online

Our web site is [vk9wa.com](http://vk9wa.com). Follow us on Twitter at [@VK9WA](https://twitter.com/VK9WA) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/VK9WA](https://facebook.com/VK9WA)

## Willis Island 2015 DXpedition

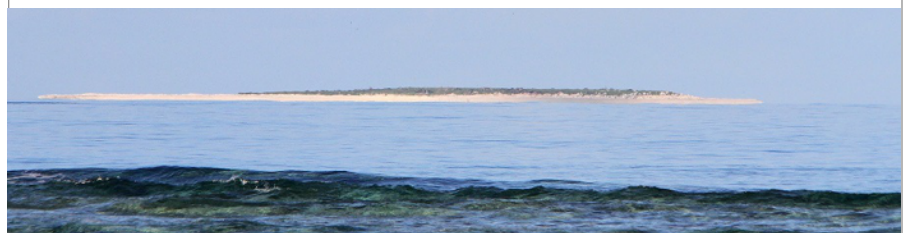
Willis Island is #33 on the Club Log most wanted list. It has not been activated since 2008.

The Willis Islets are a group of three small islands - North, Mid, and South - located beyond the Great Barrier Reef 450km off the Northeast coast of Australia. South Island (often called Willis



Island) has been the target of most previous DXpeditions and houses a weather monitoring station which is manned by 3 or 4 observers year round.

Due to the complexities of operating near the meteorological center, we will instead operate from Mid Islet (also known as Middle Island, Mid Cay, etc.). Mid Islet is only 4 acres in size and rises just 10 feet above high tide. There are no trees, but thousands of sea birds and turtles. The island sees very few visitors - it's likely that more people have landed on the International Space Station than on Mid Islet!



## Planning Progress

VK9WA plans are coming together very well. We have 7 confirmed operators - Rob (N7QT), Jared (N7SMI), Sandro (VE7NY), Adam (K7EDX), Hawk (SM5AQD), Gus (SM3SGP), and Allan (VE7SZ). We will finalize the 8-man team very soon. This (relatively) young team brings a wealth of DXpedition and operating experience. We can't wait to put Willis Island on the air!

The Mid Islet landing and operating permits are in hand. The VK9WA radio license is in process. Our charter vessel, the MV Phoenix, has been secured. Detailed planning is underway for purchasing and renting the extensive equipment and tools necessary for this operation in Cairns, Australia before our departure.



We express special appreciation to Gene (K5GS) who, while planning the TX3X Chesterfield Islands DXpedition, has taken significant time to provide insight and help to us in our planning process.

## VK9WA SPONSORS

We're incredibly grateful to all of our sponsors and to all of you for your support.

