

How do I?

An occasional series

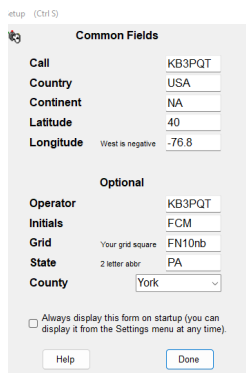
This week: N3FJP Logging Software-
Even more tools!



Long time readers of this space will see there are many articles on radios, antennas, and other tips and tricks for operating. See <https://www.radioclub-carc.com/resources/> for more articles.

Scott Davis, N3FJP and his team have created perhaps the most comprehensive and easiest to use suite of logging software. We have discussed setting up and using his software elsewhere in this series. Today we are going to take a look at some features that have been added, improved, or maybe you didn't know existed.

Hint #1, when setting up a new database, always begin by go to the SETTINGS Tab and make sure that the info there is correct: If the information is great, you may not need to use some of today's tricks. If incorrect, fix it now.



Editor's Note: If our Author was in the same room as me I would ask him – ***Do you think our reader is going to know these Tips and Tools are applicable to the N3FJP Amateur Contact Log software?*** After all, N3FJP/Affirmatech has a robust portfolio of over 120 applications for general logging and contesting. | The Author is not here at the moment so I will step in on his behalf – These Tips and Tools are applicable to the N3FJP Affirmatech Amateur Contact Log software. Some people use the shortcut name **AC Log**.

Trick #1 BULK EDIT

Let's say you came home from a Parks On The Air expedition and were so excited to get your logs uploaded you forgot to change the county from which you were operating.

In the top menu bar, Go to EDIT



Select Bulk Edit

A screenshot of a 'Bulk Edit' dialog box. At the top, it says 'Bulk Edit' and 'Please be VERY, very careful here. Please make a backup of your log before proceeding.' Below this, there are two main sections. The left section is titled 'Select Field to Bulk Edit' and contains a list of fields: Age, ARCI, Band, Call, Category, Check, Class, Comments, Contest ID, Continent, Country, County Received, County Sent, CQ Zone, Date, DXCC ADIF #, Fists, Frequency, Grid Rec, Grid Sent, IARU Zone, Initials, IOTA, and ITU Zone. The right section is titled 'Starting With Record #' and 'Ending With Record #'. The 'Starting With Record #' field contains the number '1'. The 'Ending With Record #' field contains the number '39'. Below these fields, there is a section titled 'Change Field Value:' with 'From:' and 'To:' labels and corresponding input fields. There is also a checkbox labeled 'Case must match'. At the bottom of the dialog, there is a 'Begin Bulk Edit' button and a 'Done' button. A link at the bottom says 'For more detailed bulk edits, please try ADIF Master.'

First, a word of **CAUTION**. You may not want to change every record in the entire log on your first attempt. Use caution. On your first try you may wish to limit yourself to two or three records. If the results are good then you can run the edit a second time with a greater range of record numbers.

Select the ITEM in the left column you need to change. In the right column, enter the record numbers to change and the value to **change FROM** and what you wish to **change TO**. BE VERY, VERY CAREFUL! YOU CAN EASILY DO A LOT OF HARM. Keep a backup copy of the log so you can start over if needed.

HINT 2: DUPLICATES

I am not sure why people struggle with this, but the N3FJP groups.lo site seems to spend a lot of time helping people. N3FJP operates seamlessly with Logbook of the World (LOTW).

When uploading, once you got started, uploaded ONLY ALL CONTACTS NOT UPLOADED. Repeatedly uploading the entire log not only wastes your time and internet bandwidth., but it wastes LOTW resources.

When you download, use the ALL SINCE button.

The screenshot shows the LoTW user interface. On the left, there are fields for 'LoTW User Name:', 'LoTW Login Password:', 'LoTW Station Location:', and 'TQSL Software path:'. Below these are buttons for 'Edit', 'Add', and 'Copy to Clipboard'. The 'Sign and Upload' section has buttons for 'All Contacts Not Uploaded', 'Selected Contacts from Main Form', 'Entire Log', and 'Add Station_Call KB3PQT'. The 'Download' section has buttons for 'All Since 1901/12/12', 'Confirmed Since 1901/12/12', 'All Confirmed', and 'All Data'. The 'Own Call' section has a text input for 'Own Call (only needed if managing multiple calls):' and a 'LoTW Server Download URL:' field with the value 'https://lotw.arrl.org/lotwuser/lotwreport.ad?login='. Below these are instructions on how to sign and upload records, and a 'LoTW Help Page' button. At the bottom, there is a table titled 'Records Downloaded from LoTW' with columns: Rec, Call, Band, Mode, Date, On, R, R Date, Country, CQz, ITUz, Iota, Grid, St, County. The table is currently empty.

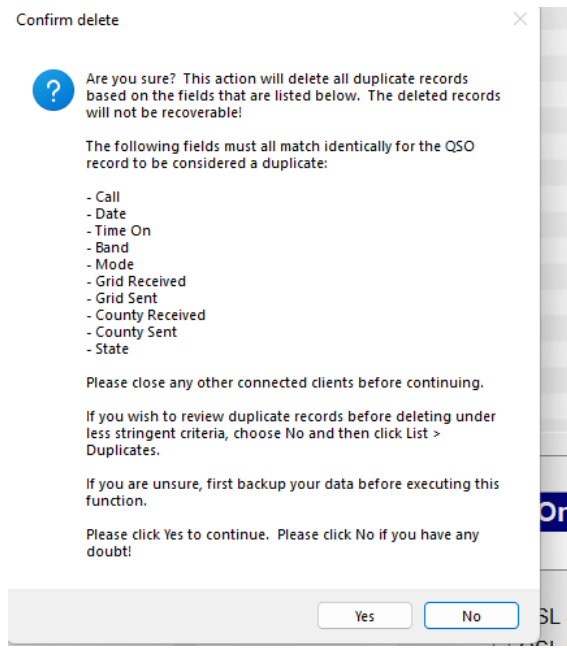
A couple of times a year it is helpful to download ALL CONFIRMED. This sometimes picks up stragglers. It is rarely beneficial to download all data.

If you have data in LOTW that does not exist in your N3FJP log, it will tell you.

Why would that happen? Maybe for some reason, you started a new log and have QSOs in LOTW from an older log. If you do not want that data in the new log, DO NOT tell it to download the missing QSOs.

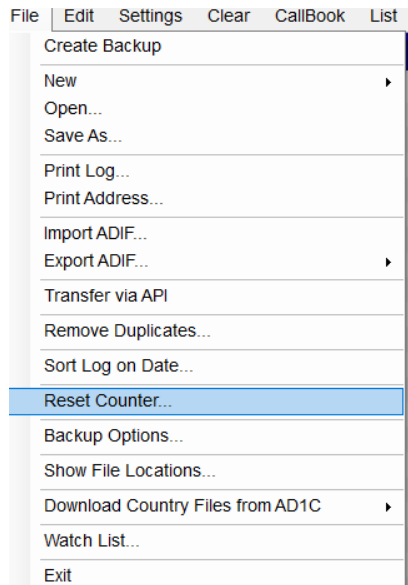
Sometimes you upload then may realize you made an error. You corrected it in your file but cannot correct in LOTW.

If you inadvertently add LOTW data you do not want, or FT8 logged an entry twice, or You imported the FT8 adif file to add any missing items to your N3FJP file, you may have duplicates. If you know what the duplicate is, it is easy to find and delete. But if not, REMOVE Duplicates by clicking on FILE: REMOVE DUPLICATES:



N3FJP will find and remove. It will also re-index your file.

What if you are removing records and do not click the REINDEX file after every one?
Now you have gaps, which can create havoc in database files.

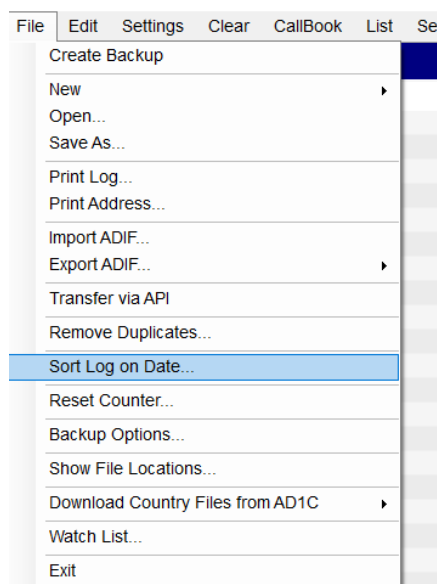


File, RESET COUNTER will make most thing in the N3FJP world right again..

Hint #3 SORT BY DATE

So you merged files, or you added QSOs to a file, then imported older QSOs. Your log may be OK, but it is no longer orderly.

SORT LOG ON DATE will fix that.



SORT LOG ON DATE re-indexes the file by date and time.

Hint #4 CALL BOOK

Many ops like to know who they are working in real time. There are apps and websites like QRZ.com, but N3FJP can do a log lookup as well.



Go to CALLBOOK, Click on AC Log Calldata, download the data files (uploaded every 6 months) and you will have a “current” database of US and Canadian calls.

KB3PQT@K-1356-20230091

Call	Date	Band	Mode	Power	Time On	Sent	Rec	Country

Name	State	County	Frequency	SIG_INFO	<input type="checkbox"/> QSL Sent <input type="checkbox"/> QSL Rcvd	Spot Last	9:19:30 AM 13:19:30 UTC	Log Contact

ring:
s:
it:

Comments

Time Of

When you type a call in the Call box, it will auto populate with current data.

KB3PQT@K-1356-2023009161

Call	Date	Band	Mode	Power	Time On	Sent	Rec	Country
AF3I	2023/09/17	20	SSB	100	13:20	59	59	USA

Name	State	County	Frequency	SIG_INFO	<input type="checkbox"/> QSL Sent <input type="checkbox"/> QSL Rcvd	Spot Last	9:20:58 AM 13:20:58 UTC	Log Contact
Andrew	PA		14.335					

It will also put the operator's address-of-record in the comments field.

Where did it get the band and mode info? From your last QSO. Or if you have N3FJP interfaced with your rig via CAT control, it will get the data from the radio. For casual operation it is a convenience and keeps the carpal tunnel away. For contesting, it is a must-have for serious contesters.

Hint #5 Special Operations

No, we are not discussing Seal Team 6 or Delta Force. But N3FJP makes it super easy to track your 13 Colonies and Route 66 Special Event progress.

- Statistics...
- Country List...
- DX Spots Summary Graph...
- 13 Colonies...
- Route 66...
- Amateur Exam Study Buddy
- WXWarn
- Gray Line Map...
- World Map...
- HamDash...

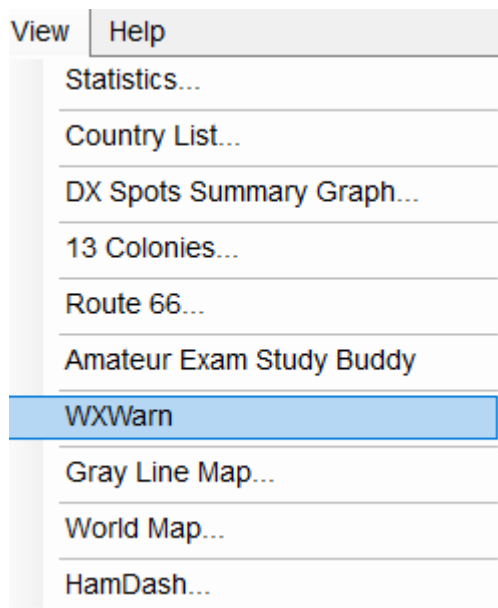
Under VIEW select ROUTE 66

160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	Help
W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A	W6A
W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B	W6B
W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C	W6C
W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D	W6D
W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E	W6E
W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F	W6F
W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G	W6G
W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H	W6H
W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I	W6I
W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J	W6J
W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K	W6K
W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L	W6L
W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M	W6M
W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N	W6N
W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O	W6O
W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P	W6P
W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q	W6Q
W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R	W6R
W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S	W6S
W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T	W6T
W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U	W6U

All the possible calls and bands are listed. As you log them, they turn Blue.
In that respect, you will easily recognize your needed call signs.

Hint #6 WX WARN

WX WARN quite possibly is Scott's hobby. But it can be fun. Clicking here links you to the National Weather Service Weather Warning page. Have you ever been on a net and someone says they need to check out because thunderstorms are close? They may have heard thunder, or they may have received a notification from the WX WARN app.



Hint #7 WORLD MAP

Ever want to know where someone is? The free add-on **World Map** can help.

Click on World Map from the View screen, download and install.

Open the map. Your station will be marked with a star in its approximate location

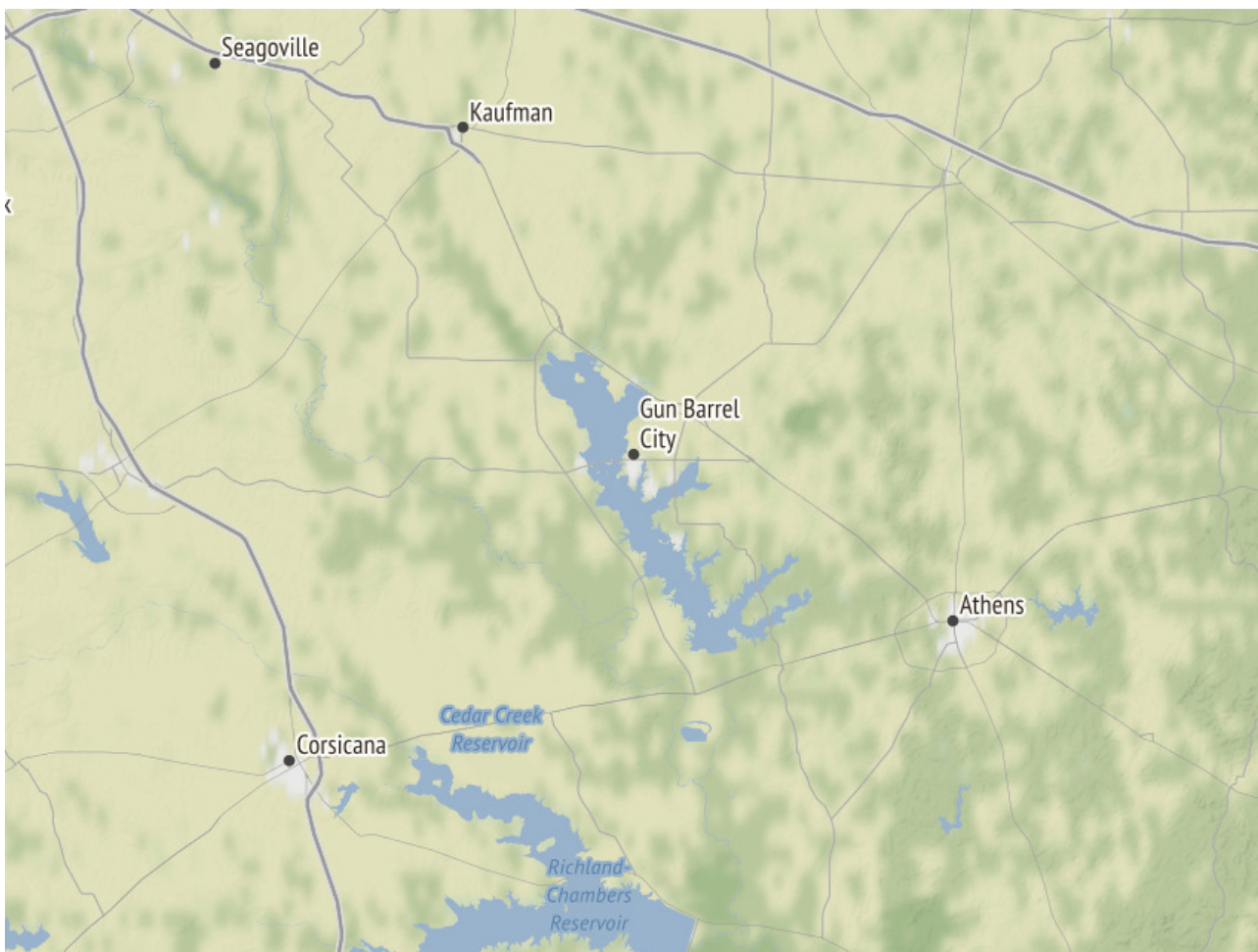


The light shaded area reveals where daylight is.



You can zoom-in to view countries or zoom-in even more for a more local view.

Not sure where Gun Barrel City, Texas is located? But the OM on the other said he is southeast of Dallas?



Scott can help! (Look in the center of this image.)

Keeping a log book is fun.

One of our club members recently gave in and opened an ARRL Logbook Of The World account. He uploaded some 2900 QSOs from his N3FJP Amateur Call log.

When he first downloaded his confirmed, he had over 1400 confirmed and has 49 states confirmed! Wow!

Catch 'ya on the air!