

Game: radio listening - stations from all over the world

In the short waves it is possible to listen to broadcasting radio stations from countries with different languages and cultures. A good way to train hearing in reception but also to enrich or introduce multicultural activities as JOTA-JOTI.

Learning targets: Let Scouts/Guides discover the exploration and listening of the radio spectrum by means of online receiver - Apply and understand the importance of knowing foreign languages - Discover cultures that differ from one's own.

Material:

Hardware:

- PC with Internet connection and headphones/audio speakers.

Software:

- browser (preferably Chrome)
- video conference/social app if the activity is performed in groups.

Time and preferred place: 1 day or more (not necessarily continuously). Activity from home in the free time during the week.

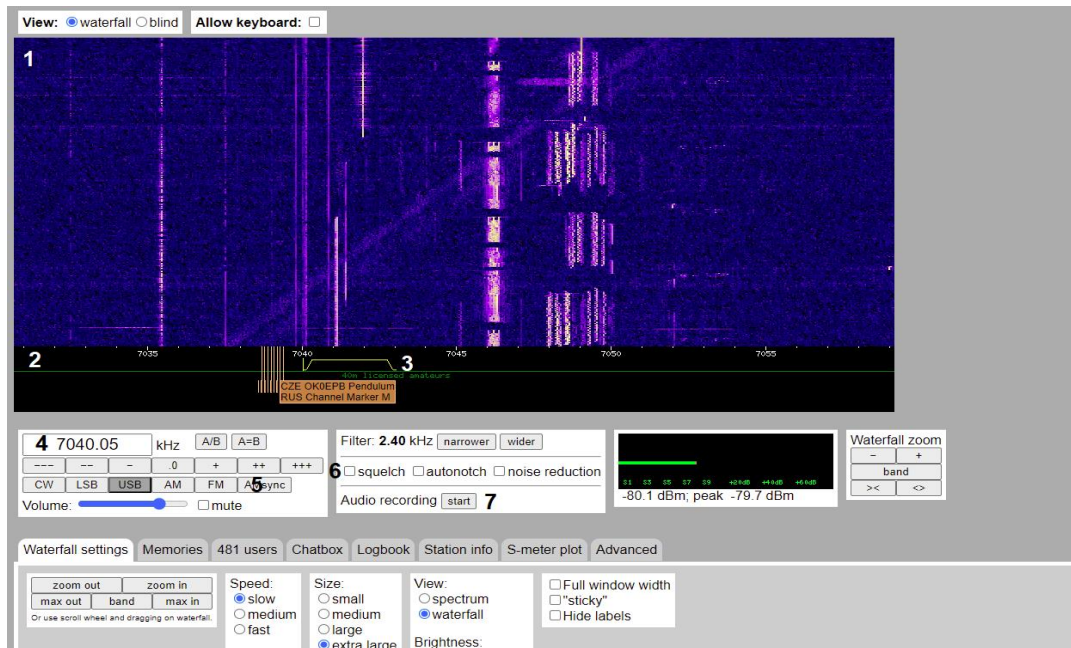
Description: Single Scouts/Guides or patrols receive the task to listen to a specific foreign broadcasting station (or to listen to a frequency at a certain time) using online receivers in the medium frequency (MW, 0.3-3 MHz) or high frequency range (HF, 3-30 MHz); lists of receivers are available at <http://websdr.org/> and <http://kiwisdr.com/>. Scouts/Guides must then report about what they heard (and the station name if it was communicated at the beginning).

A list of active broadcasting stations is available here: <https://short-wave.info/>

More information about shortwave broadcasting stations and the use of online receivers is available in the **JOTA-JOTI Ham Radio Handbook** and on this website.:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shortwave_bands

Here are some basic tips: when the page of an online receiver is opened, a moving waterfall of colours appears, with an horizontal axis indicating the frequency. Blue colors indicate noise; yellow-red areas indicate strong interference or human transmissions. The frequency axis shows a movable rectangle/trapezoid; the sound given by the page is the result of the signals falling inside that bar, demodulated according to the specified mode. The rectangle/trapezoid should be put under a yellow/red area to hear the transmission.



1. Waterfall
2. Frequency axis
3. Frequency selector (rectangle)
4. frequency selector (keyboard input). Sometimes it's also possible to select among radio bands.
5. Demodulation mode selector: CW=Morse, LSB for ham radio communications below 10 MHz, USB for ham radio communications above 10 MHz, AM for broadcasting stations (use this one), FM for most voice/broadcasting communications above the shortwave range.
6. Squelch (blocks the loudspeaker if only noise is received).
7. Record button. The audio is recorded from the first click on the button up to the second click.