## **July 2012 Ham Campout – Willits**

Our 2012 Ham Campout was held July 9-13 at the Willits KOA with 6 RVs, plus one person stayed offsite. This totaled 13 people, including 10 Hams. We had pizza in town the first night to socialize and avoid meal preparation after our trip. We were joined for pizza by George, K7WWA, who lives in Willits and was an MVRC member, 1970-1972. We used George's Willits repeater all over the area.

The second day, we took a hike on a BLM trail East of town. Some of us picnicked in a city park after the hike. HF operating was enjoyed that evening. >>>



Future - No decisions were made but the following was discussed. This KOA had lots of good activities, but we were going out rather than staying in camp and using them. We might go to simpler facilities in the Spring and Fall and go to more areas. We may return to weekends, Fri-Sun, with Thu-Mon for those who have the time. Spring would be on the 2nd or 3rd weekend of June, and Fall would be a weekend in October. >>>





The third day, some of us went to Mendocino and Fort Bragg, while others that expected to take the train from Fort Bragg, kayaked at Lake Mendocino.

On our last full day, we all rode the Skunk Train. Half took the diesel rail car from Willits or the KOA, and the rest took the steam train from Fort Bragg. We met at the lunch stop in the middle, then returned to where we each started.

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PARTICIPANTS (campsite order)

George & Sue Besley, W6GWB TR
Bill Williford & Marilyn, WA6IVI MH
Jim & Linda Koski, KT6W & N6ZFB MH
Peter & Jane Griffith, WA6VAQ & N6UHT MH
Les & Matthew Cobb, W6TEE & W6KDJ TR
Randy & Pip Hall, K7AGE TR
Marc Reitzell, W6MAR (RON in Ukiah)

July 18, 2012, Les, W6TEE See Skunk Train photos on next page.

## **Skunk Train photos**

**Diesel car - KOA to Northspur** 











Photos taken July 12, 2012, by Les, W6TEE

Watch for the video of the Ham steam train ride from Fort Bragg to Northspur the same day to be completed and posted later this month at http://www.youtube.com/user/K7AGE by Randy, K7AGE.