

# 2012 SSB Test Net

**Sunday April 29, 3:00-4:00 PM PDT (2200-2300 UTC)**

**3:00 – 3:15 PM : 4A (4146 kHz)**

**3:15 – 3:30 PM : 6A (6224 kHz)**

**3:30 – 3:45 PM : 8A (8294 kHz)**

**3:45 – 4:00 PM : 4A (4146 kHz)**

San Francisco Net Control: Paul Elliott – S/V VALIS – call sign WDB2898

SoCal Net Control: Gordon West – call sign WMD

PNW Net Control: Jim Innes – S/V Red Sheilla – call sign CFN5335  
and/or David Sutcliffe – S/V KINETIC – call sign CFG7437

The SSB Test Net is designed to let you try out your marine SSB radio system, so you can be sure that all is functioning properly for the upcoming Hawaii races. Even if your system has performed well in the past, remember that wire and connections do corrode, and batteries lose their ability to hold a charge.

While this net is being conducted to help Pacific Cup, Singlehanded Transpac, and Vic-Maui racers prepare for their races, all vessels are welcome to participate.

The net will be loosely controlled by operators in the Pacific North West, San Francisco, and Southern California, and we will be using frequencies from three different bands. This will give us the opportunity to try both local and long-distance communications.

The net will begin operations at 3:00 PM PDT (2200 UTC), on channel 4A (4146 kHz). The net control stations will announce the net, and invite participants to call in. Please listen for a quiet channel before you transmit, then call net control (whomever you can hear). Here's an example:

*VALIS, this is Bequia, WDG2588. Do you copy?*

*Bequia, your signal is loud and clear.*

*Red Sheilla, this is Bequia. Do you read me?*

*Bequia, this is Red Sheilla. Your signal is weak but clear.*

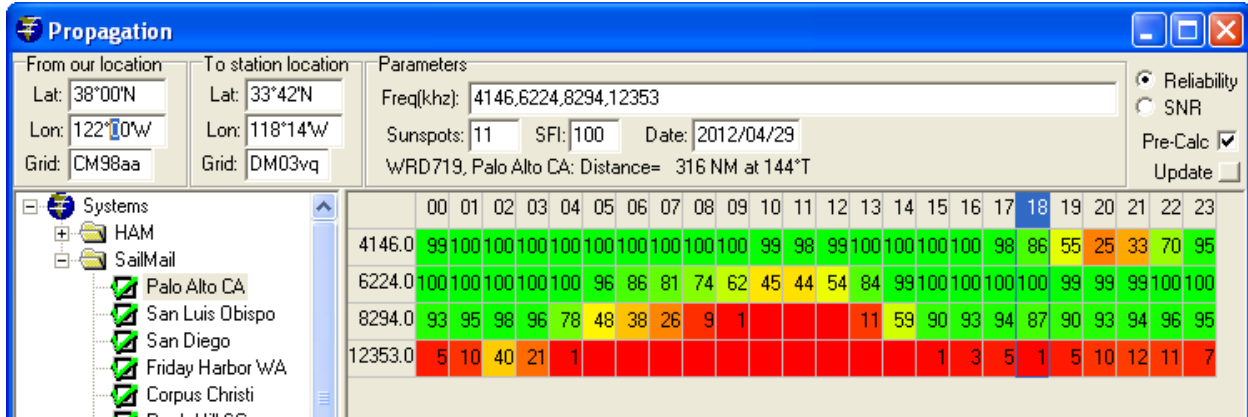
Please wait until the control station is finished with a vessel before calling. If you can't hear any of the control stations, feel free to call "Hello SSB Test Net" on the active channel (and to respond to these calls). With three or more control stations things might get a bit confusing, but if we are flexible and courteous we should be able to get a lot accomplished.

Channel 4A is usually best for local contacts, but for longer paths the higher frequencies usually work better in the afternoon. To test these frequencies we will switch channels at 3:15 and 3:30 PM PDT. At 3:45 we will return to 4A where we will follow up with vessels needing additional assistance in working out any problems.

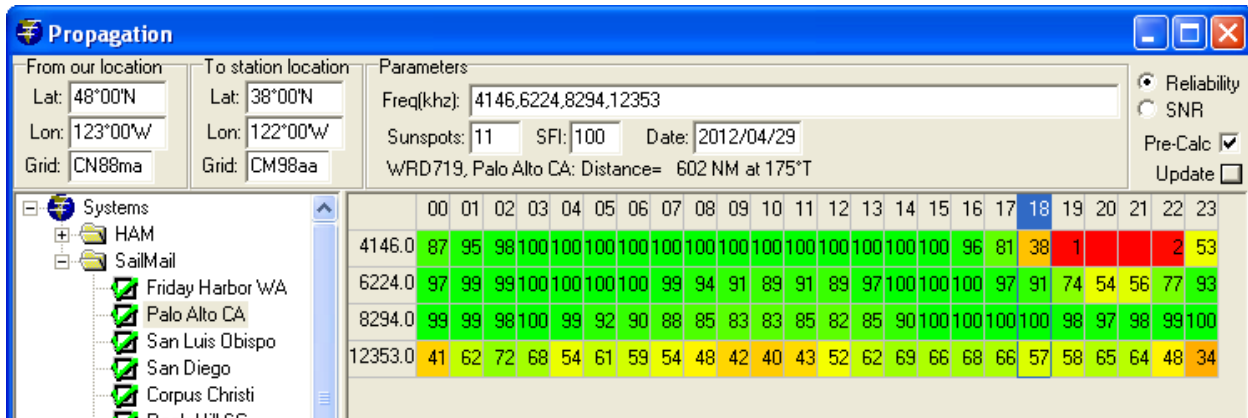
We highly recommend that your battery be fully charged before participating in this net. A large percentage of communications problems during our races have been caused by low (or weak) batteries. Do be sure that your radio channels are programmed with the correct frequencies. This was a common problem in the past, but is less so in recent years.

Channel	Frequency (kHz)	Channel	Frequency (kHz)
4A	4146	8A	8294
4B	4149	8B	8297
4C	4417		
		12A	12353
6A	6224	12B	12356
6B	6227		
<b>These channels are all Simplex, Upper Side Band</b>			

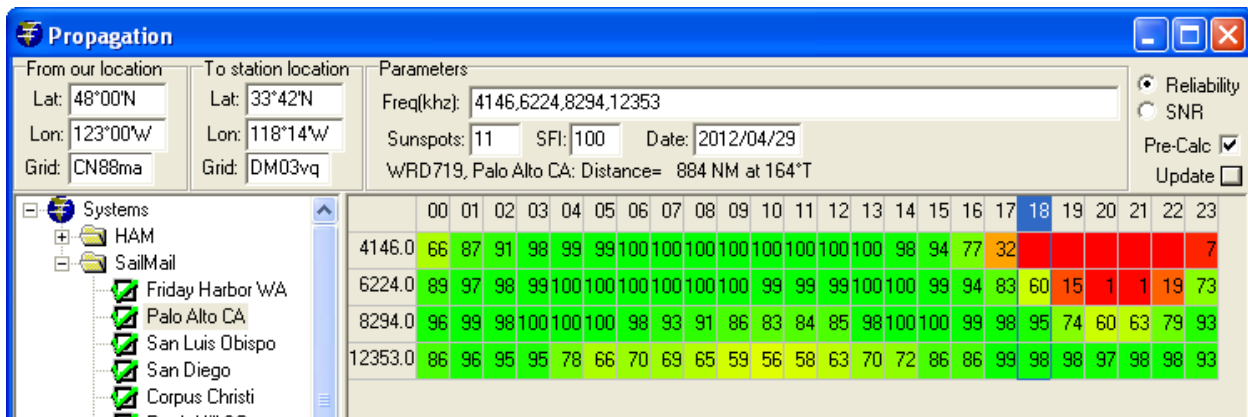
## Propagation forecasts for the Victoria / San Francisco / San Diego paths:



San Francisco to San Diego



Victoria to San Francisco



Victoria to San Diego