

Trends in tropical bands broadcasting 2017

by Anker Petersen, editor of the Domestic Broadcasting Survey

Since DSWCI published its first Tropical Bands Survey in 1973, I have registered which stations are active, based upon loggings from our members and other DX-ers around the world. Here is an updated status where Clandestine and Pirate stations not are included.

Active domestic transmitters on 2200 – 5800 kHz

Region	1973	1985	1997	2009	2017
Central Africa	102	76	40	18	6
Southern Africa	57	39	33	20	12
Middle East	9	4	1	0	0
Indian Subcontinent	62	45	45	29	14
South East Asia	40	29	21	4	1
Indonesia	171	105	65	13	4
China, Taiwan, Mongolia	119	110	75	32	18
CIS (former USSR)	61	59	47	7	6
Far East	38	28	28	9	10
Papua New Guinea	17	20	20	15	4
Australia and other Pacific	10	4	13	8	4
Central America, Mexico	21	23	24	5	1
Caribbean	29	3	3	2	3
Northwestern South America	98	41	19	3	2
Ecuador	47	33	22	5	0
Peru	78	69	78	28	6
Bolivia	35	42	25	14	2
Brazil	107	87	67	35	21
Southern South America	5	2	1	0	0
Total	1106	819	627	247	114

During the past year the previous trend, that Tropical shortwave stations slowly disappear, continued throughout the world. The reason is, that other media get higher priority, than keeping elderly shortwave transmitters alive. This year we had a big loss of 24 frequencies compared to last year's total of 138, particularly because the Australian Northern Territories and several South American stations ceased broadcasting.

Here are some domestic broadcasting stations on the Tropical Bands, which have closed down during the past year:

kHz	kW	Station	Country	Last log
2325	50	VL8T, Tennant Creek, NT	Australia	JAN17
2485	50	VL8K, Katherine, NT	Australia	JAN17
4409,8	0,5	R Eco, Reyes, Beni, Balliván	Bolivia	FEB16
4451,2	1	R Santa Ana, S. A.del Yacuma	Bolivia	JAN16
4750	20	RRI Makassar, Sulawesi	Indonesia	MAY16
4754,9	10	R Imaculada Conceição, MS	Brazil	FEB16
4755,5	1	The Cross R, Pohnpei	Micronesia	MAY15
4760	1	ELWA, Monrovia	Liberia	JUN15
4780	50	R Djibouti, Dorale	Djibouti	FEB15
4795,9	3	R Lipez, Uyuni, Potosi	Bolivia	AUG16
4825	10	R Canção Nova, SP	Brazil	FEB16
4835	50	VL8A, Alice Springs, NT	Australia	JAN17
4880	50	AIR, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	India	MAR16
4885	5	R Dif. Acreana, Rio Branco,AC	Brazil	FEB16
4895	10	Mongolian R, Murun	Mongolia	JAN15
4910	50	VL8T, Tennant Creek, NT	Australia	JAN17
4914,9	10	R Dif. Macapá, Macapá, AP	Brazil	NOV15

4940	1	R San Antonio, Villa Atalaya	Peru	JUL15
4990	50	AIR, Itanagar, Arunachal Pr.	India	SEP15
5010	?	Voice of China Jamming	China	MAR16
5010	100	R Taiwan Int., Kouhu	Taiwan	MAR16
5025	50	VL8K, Katherine, NT	Australia	JAN17
5035,1	5	R Rio Mar, Manaus, AM	Brazil	JUL16
5460	?	R Bolivar, Bolivar, La Libertad	Peru	FEB16