



TERTIARY

PREPPER

FIELD

INTEL

REPORT

REAL-WORLD OBSERVATIONS.

ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE.



ON THE GROUND

INSIGHTS



SITUATIONAL

AWARENESS



FACTS, NOT

OPINIONS



USEFUL TODAY.

CRITICAL TOMORROW.



SEE WHAT OTHERS ARE SEEING.

REPORT WHAT MATTERS.

SHARE YOUR INTEL BELOW >>



HOW TO FILL OUT THIS REPORT

Share real-world experiences so others can learn, prepare, and adapt. Be accurate, concise, and honest. Photos are optional but encouraged.

REPORT TITLE HOW LIGHT CAN AN HF HAM RADIO FIELD KIT GET?	CATEGORY (Select One) SKILLS	LOCATION North Carolina	DATE OF ACTIVITY 07/09/25
TIME TO EXECUTE 1 Month to Assemble	DURATION NA	CONDITIONS NA	SEASON SUMMER
TEAM SIZE (If Applicable) Solo	Radio / Communications	DISTANCE COVERED NA	ELEVATION RANGE 967

ASSESSED SITUATION

Describe the environment, context, and situation.

Built a lightweight HF Ham radio kit around a (tr)uSDX, EFHW antenna, CW key, NESTOUT battery, and adapter. Packed in a waterproof Pelican case, the complete kit weighs 3.66 lbs and serves as the long-range communications component of my ARK Pack. The goal was simple: maintain HF capability without adding unnecessary weight to an already purpose-built long-range get-home system.

RECOGNIZED PROBLEM

What challenges or risks did you identify?

- Bags become overloaded, lightweight options are necessary.
- Heavier weight reduces stealth.
- Navigation skills are still required with good comms.
- Poor comms, or no comms can limit mobility.
- Weather can damage equipment, waterproofing is crucial.
- Not being able to charge equipment renders it useless.
- Cheap doesn't work if I wanted all lightweight options.

ACTION TAKEN

What steps did you take? Include gear, techniques, and strategies.

- Ordered all gear as small and lightweight as possible.
- The goal was 3lbs. or under. (Went over goal) Total = 3.66lbs
- Practiced on which items mattered most over a month.
- Worked on multiple channels to ensure proper transmission.
- Used a lightweight solar panel to recharge the NESTOUT to help extend communications capability.

KEY FINDINGS / RESULTS

What happened? What worked? What didn't?

- A waterproof hard case is helpful protection for all equipment.
- Lightweight comms solution works.
- Had to forego cost-effective for lightweight equipment.
- Compact is crucial as an ARK pack is limited on space.
- A water inundated pack won't affect the comms kit.
- Proper field set up and use is critical to your get home mission.

LESSONS LEARNED

What would you do again, do differently, or tell others to know?

Every item must earn its weight. A stout comms kit requires careful planning to operate properly in austere conditions, but also space limitations in a pack. Having the ability to quickly get comms up without weather or water compromising the equipment is crucial to successful field intelligence gathering and mobility.

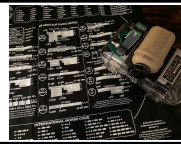
FIELD VALUE ASSESSMENT

Rate the overall value of this intel for other preppers.

	1	2	3	4	5
RISK LEVEL (To Self)	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
REPEATABILITY (Can others do this?)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
PRACTICAL VALUE (How useful is this?)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
DIFFICULTY (Skill / Effort Required)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
RESOURCE COST (Low to High)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒
OVERALL VALUE (Would you do this again?)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒

PHOTOS (OPTIONAL BUT ENCOURAGED)

Real images help others learn. Add up to 4 photos.



FINAL VERDICT

In one or two sentences, sum up the value of this experience.

A lightweight high-frequency ham radio kit can improve intelligence gathering and help determine whether to move, shelter in place, or identify a safer egress route. Keep it light, purpose-built, and field tested.

DISCLAIMER & SUBMISSION AGREEMENT

By submitting this Field Intel Report, I confirm that the information provided is truthful and based on my real-world experience to the best of my knowledge. I understand Tertiary Prepper may edit my submission for clarity, formatting, length, or editorial standards prior to publication. Submission does not guarantee publication.

- Do not submit illegal activity.
- Do not submit intentionally dangerous misinformation.
- Do not submit copyrighted material you do not own.
- Do not submit content that could place others at unreasonable risk.

☒ I AGREE TO THE ABOVE

YOUR NAME / CALLSIGN (Optional)

Sgt. Silverman

THANK YOU FOR SHARING.

YOUR EXPERIENCE BUILDS A STRONGER COMMUNITY.

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORM TO:

FOR EDITORIAL USE ONLY.

DATE RECEIVED: