

**2009 Spring Summer Es Season – 1<sup>st</sup> Half (April 25-June 21)**

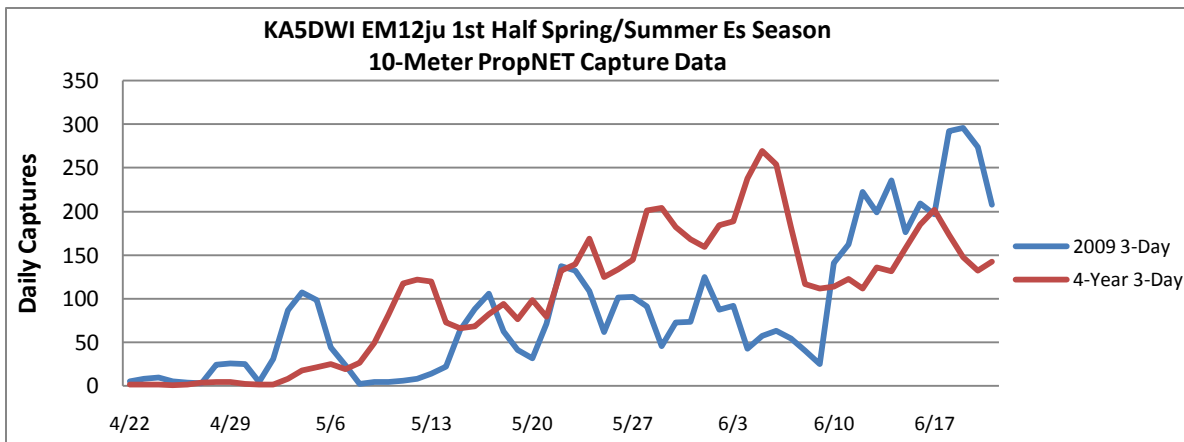
**de Art Jackson KA5DWI EM12ju, Fort Worth, Texas**

This data consists of PropNET captures at the location of KA5DWI. It does not include captures of KA5DWI, nor other station's records.

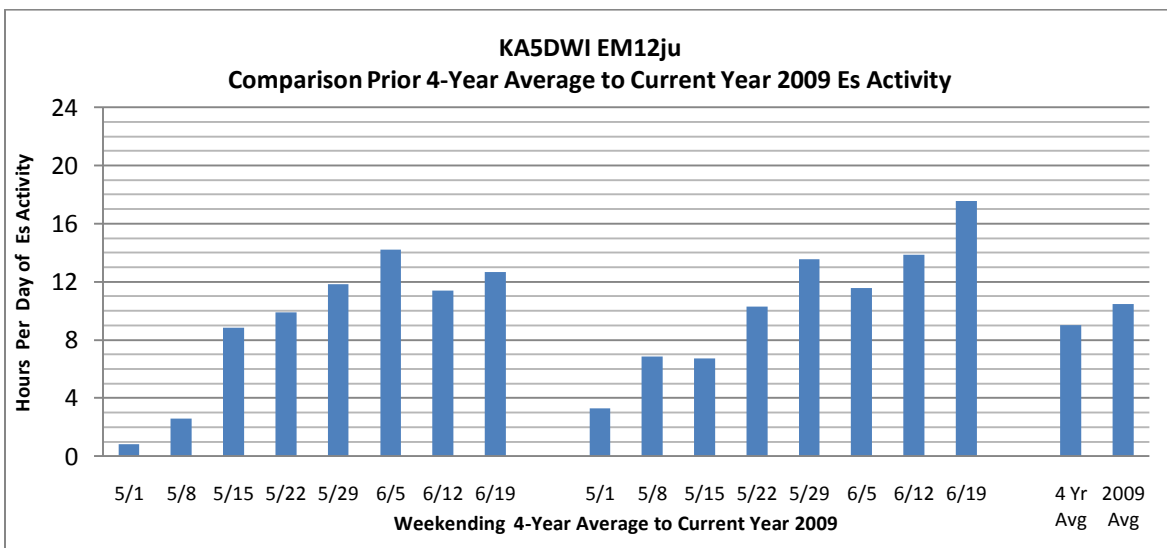
So far this year has been quite interesting. Each year always has a unique personality, but overall will display consistencies from year to year. This season is no exception from the other four I have measured before.

We saw the first indications of Es on April 20<sup>th</sup> and the first multi-hour opening on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This was a fairly early start then on May 7, it then proceeded to become very quiet. Es capture activity kept up with past records soon after and then became less than average throughout the end of May into early June. What was normally a drop in activity prior to the Solstice did not occur again this year. As we approached the Solstice, Es activity experienced was the best of the season.

The Solstice peak was similar to what was experienced in 2008. It redefined and confirmed that Es are really best around the Summer solstice. As the Sun's influence was less, it was more evident that it peaks at the Solstice.



The steady increase in Es opportunities was quite evident in the number of hours each week that Es occurred. In past years, activity will suddenly spurt in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of each season. This year it began early and improved week to week. Some of the firsts this season included one day in which a capture occurred every hour of the UTC day. A few days had 22 hours of activity. This year we are averaging one and a half hours more of Es activity each day compared to prior years.



Once again there are fewer westerly captures this year, but AI -NH7O in Hawaii has been captured frequently. Many northeastern and easterly signals have been captured. Total captures are up this year, but will not exceed 2006 and 2007 levels. Although not experienced at this QTH, Europe has been captured on the East Coast.

As of June 21

Captures: 5283

Different Calls: 53

Grid Squares: 44 - 2X2

Thank you all for your participation. The latter half should be exciting as well.

73's

Art Jackson KA5DWI