

Winlink Express

Quick Start Setup Guide

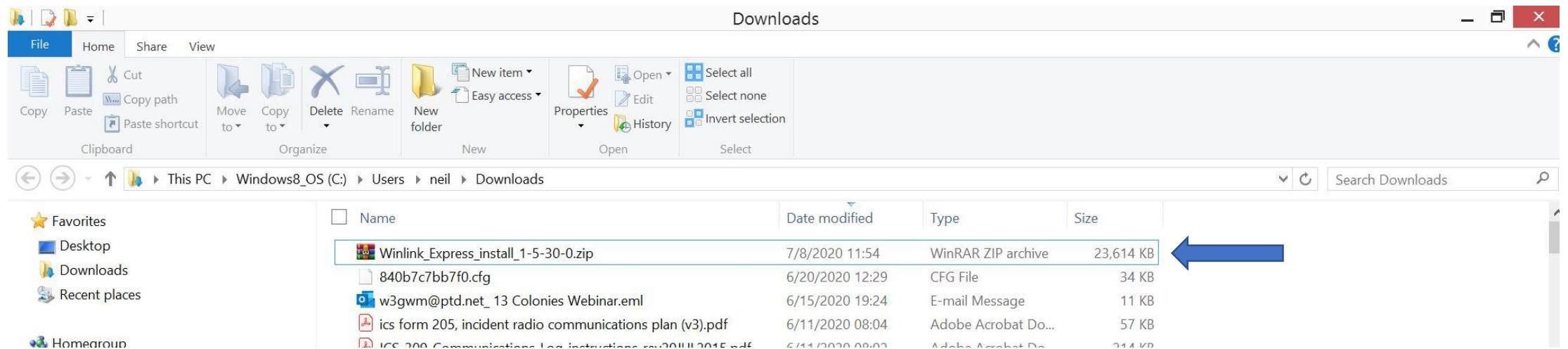
W3XOX Kevin P. Lear

Rev. 2

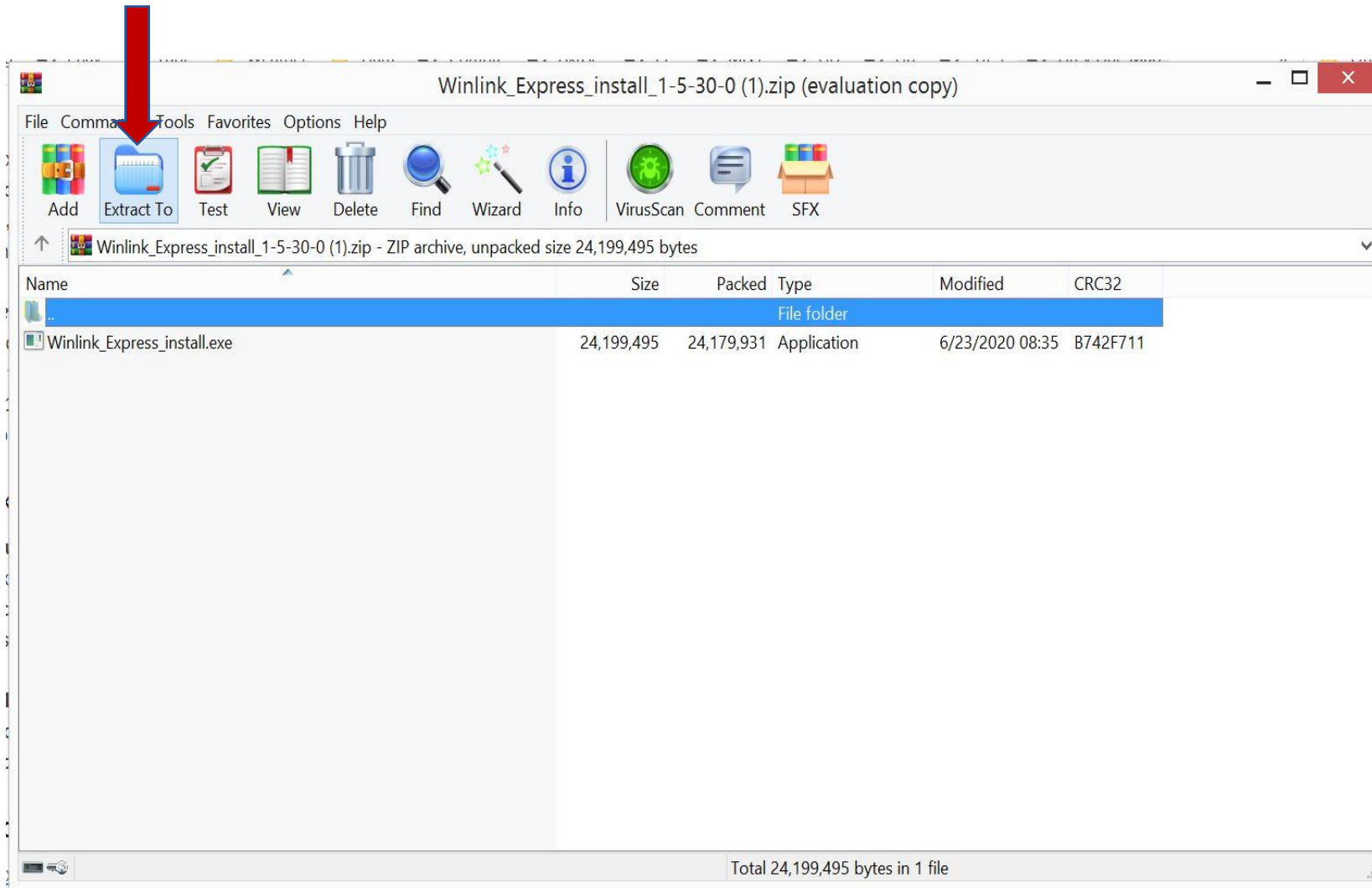
Winlink Express can be downloaded from the following page link

- <https://www.winlink.org/WinlinkExpress>
- [Direct Download](#)

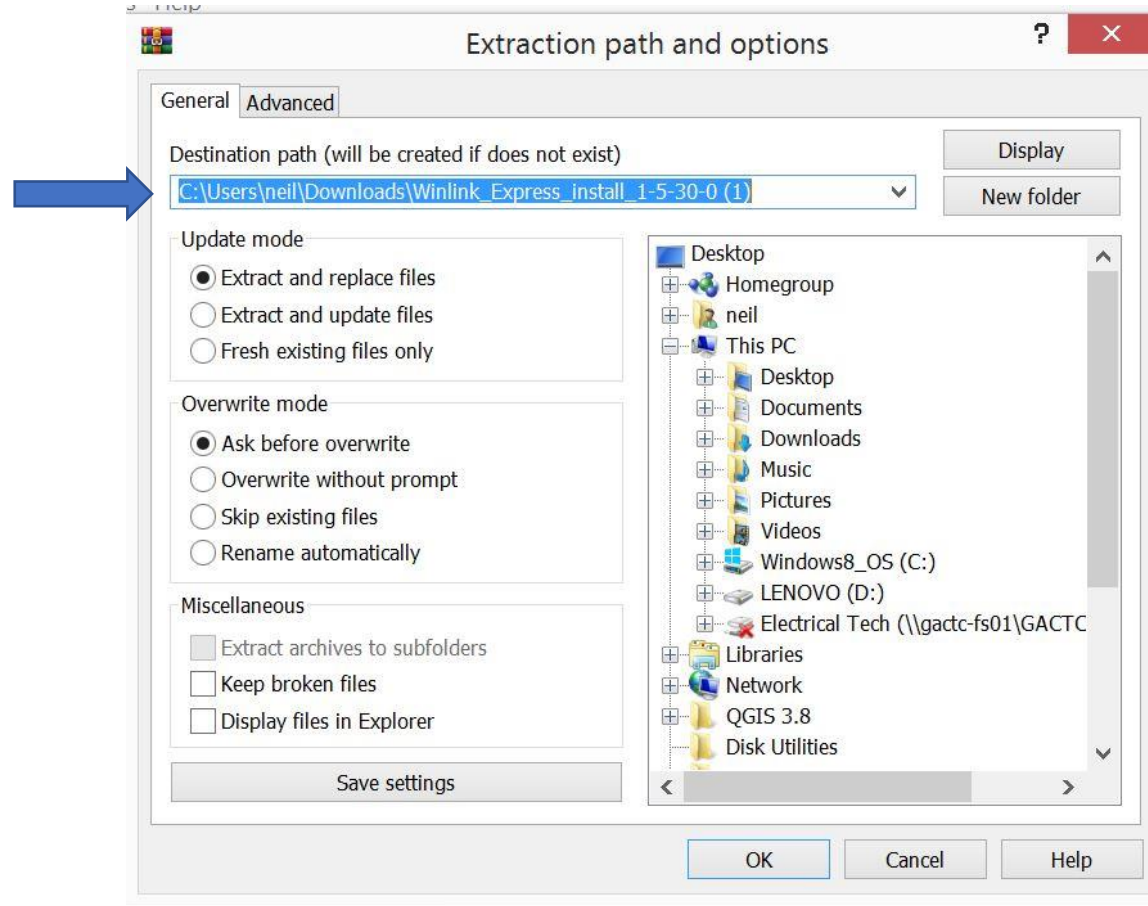
Double click the downloaded Zip file



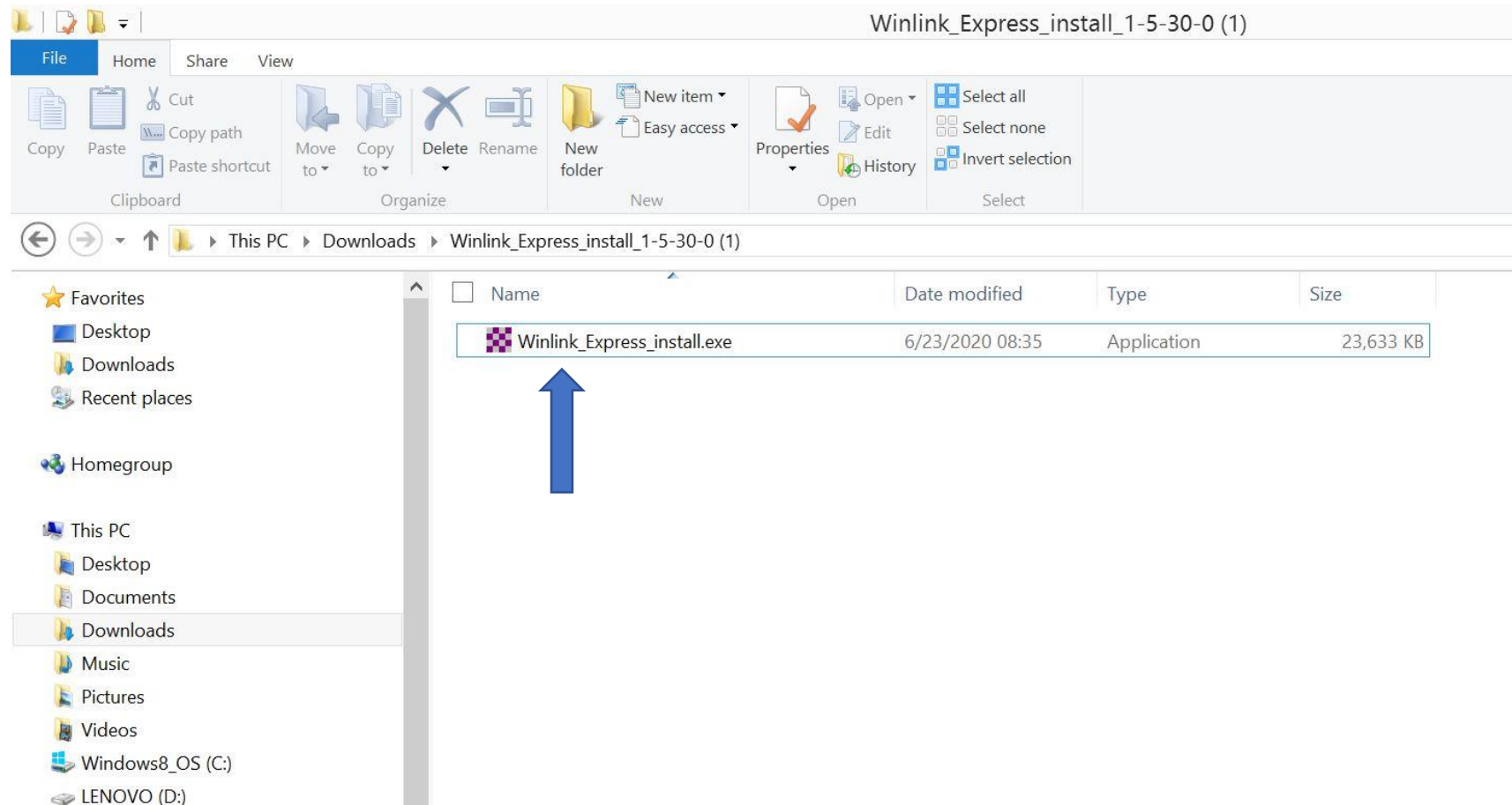
With the zip file open select “Extract to”



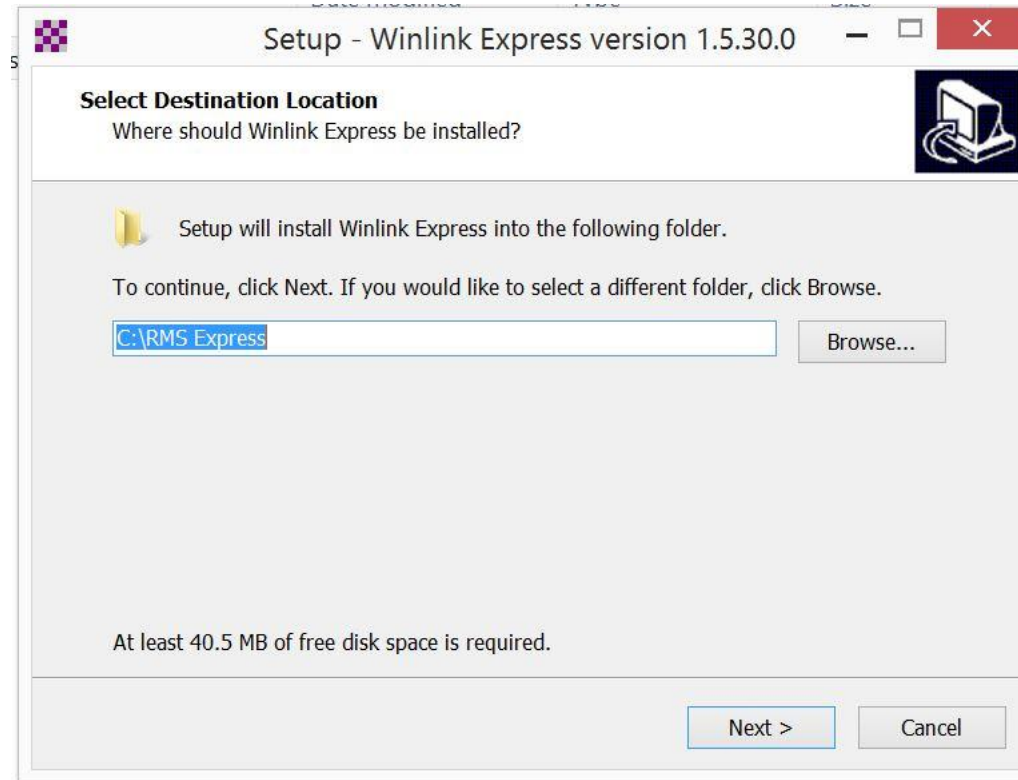
Extract to a location you can remember and navigate to.



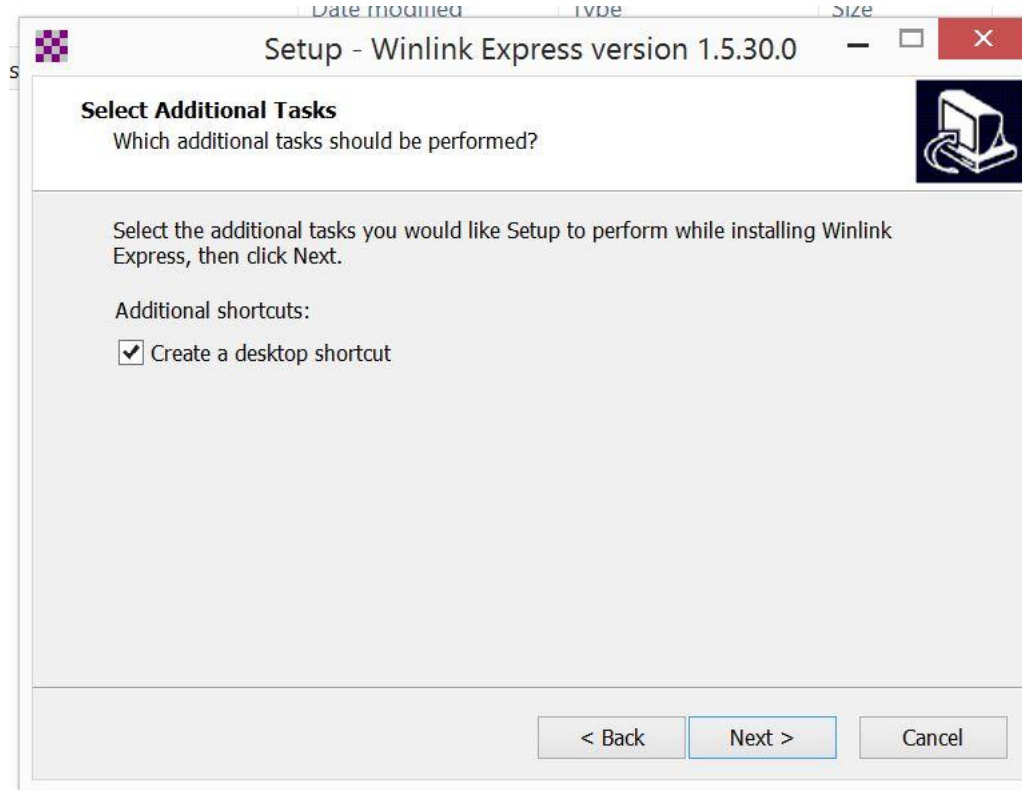
Double click on the Winlink Express setup file to begin setup.



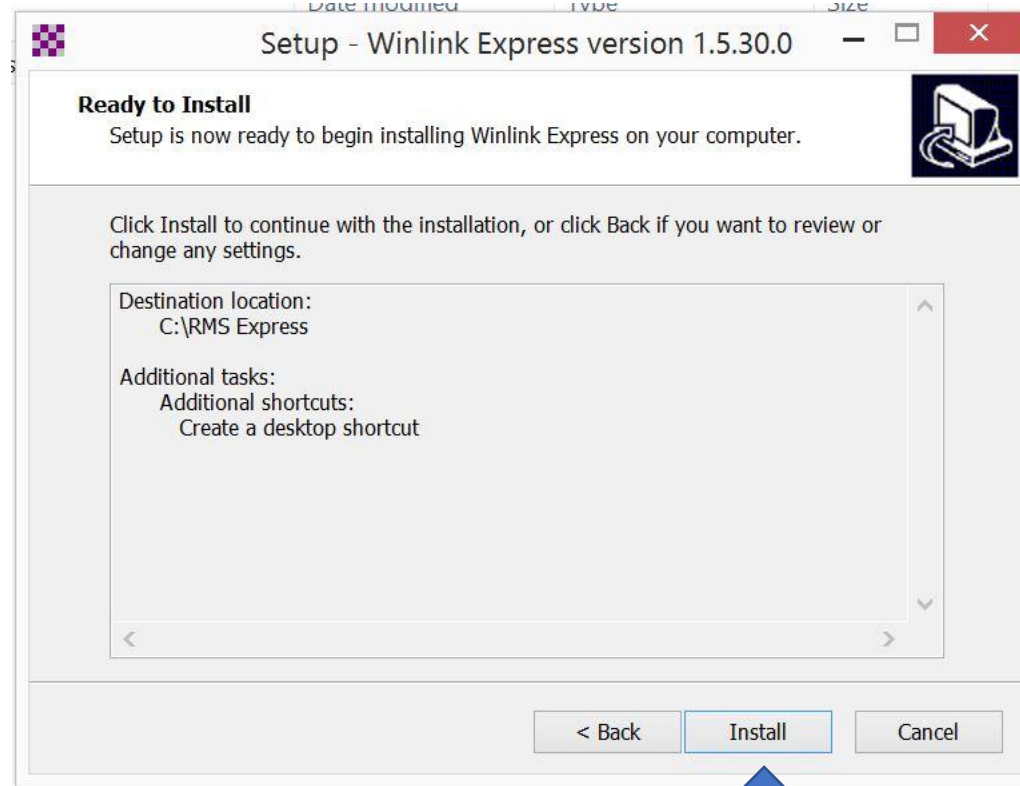
Allow the default location and click “Next”



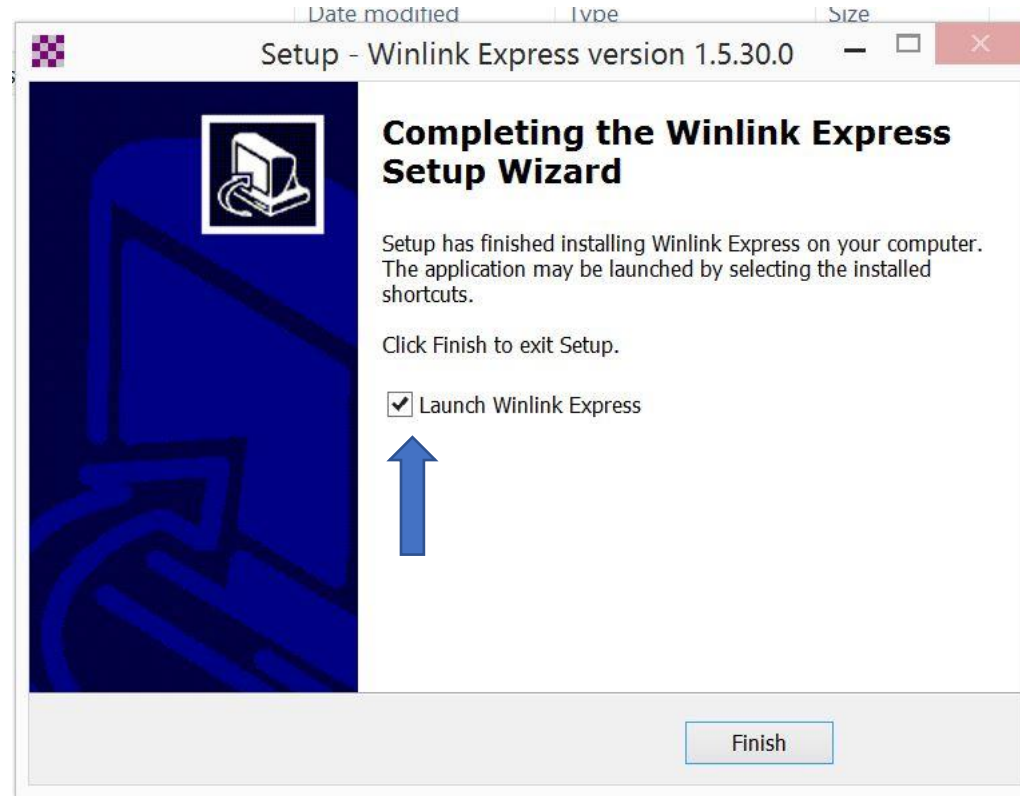
Place a checkmark in the “Create a desktop shortcut” box. Click “Next”



Click the “Install” button.



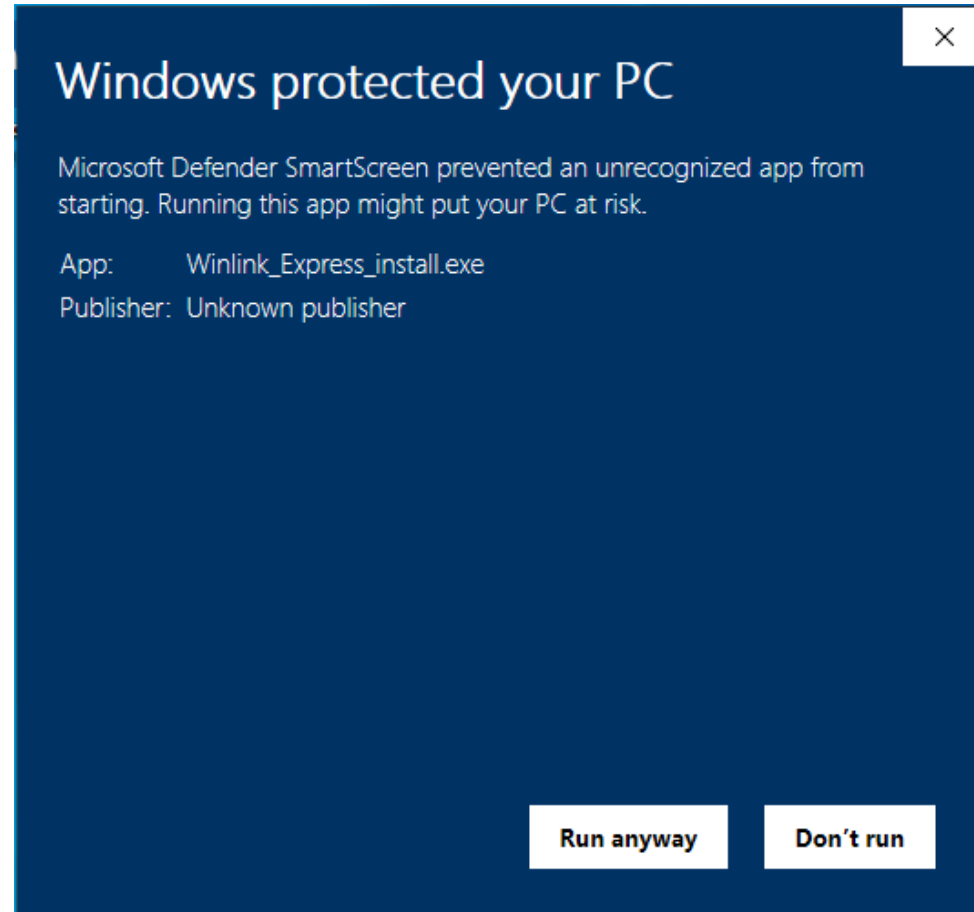
Be sure the “Launch Winlink Express” box is checked and click “Finish”



If Windows displays this box click “More info”



Now click “Run Anyway”



If you don't know your Grid Square follow the link below before continuing.

- http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php

Enter your Call Sign, Password, Password recovery Email address, Contact information(optional, I put my Name, City, State, Zip code), Grid Square.

Winlink Express Properties

Call Signs

My Callsign: My Password: (Case sensitive) ☐ Show password

Callsign suffix (optional): (Used for country code)

Password recovery e-mail:
(Non-Winlink e-mail address where lost password will be sent when requested)

Auxiliary Callsigns and Tactical Addresses

My Grid Square:

Winlink Express registration key:

Service Codes

(Use PUBLIC for ham call signs. Separate multiple service codes by spaces.)
If you change service codes, you must update the list of channels.

Contact Information (Optional)

Name:

Street address 1:

Street address 2:

City:

State/Province:

Country:

Postal code:

Web Site URL (optional):

Phone number:

Non-Winlink e-mail:

Additional information (optional):

Recalculate HF path quality if SFI changes more than:

Keep logs for weeks. Keep deleted messages for days.

☐ Display list of pending incoming messages prior to download

☒ Warn about connections to stations holding messages

☒ Allow diagnostic information to be sent to the Winlink Development Team

☐ Automatically install field-test (beta) versions of Winlink Express

Winlink will prompt you for a registration key.
Registration is Voluntary and NOT REQUIRED to
use the program.

Winlink Express Registration

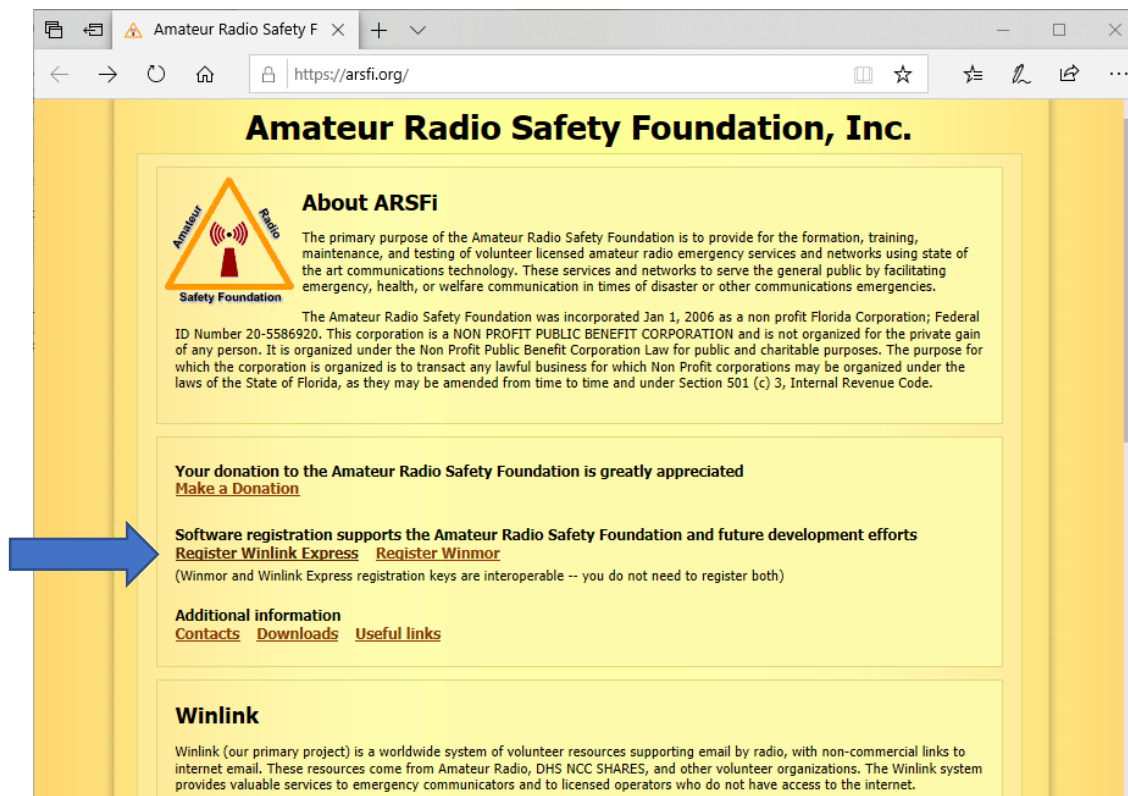
Winlink Express is made possible through the Amateur Radio Safety Foundation Inc. Your registration of Winlink Express and support for the ARSF makes the Winlink system possible. Registering Winlink Express also registers your callsign to use the Winmor TNC.

Registration Site URL (click):
<http://www.arsfi.org/express.aspx>

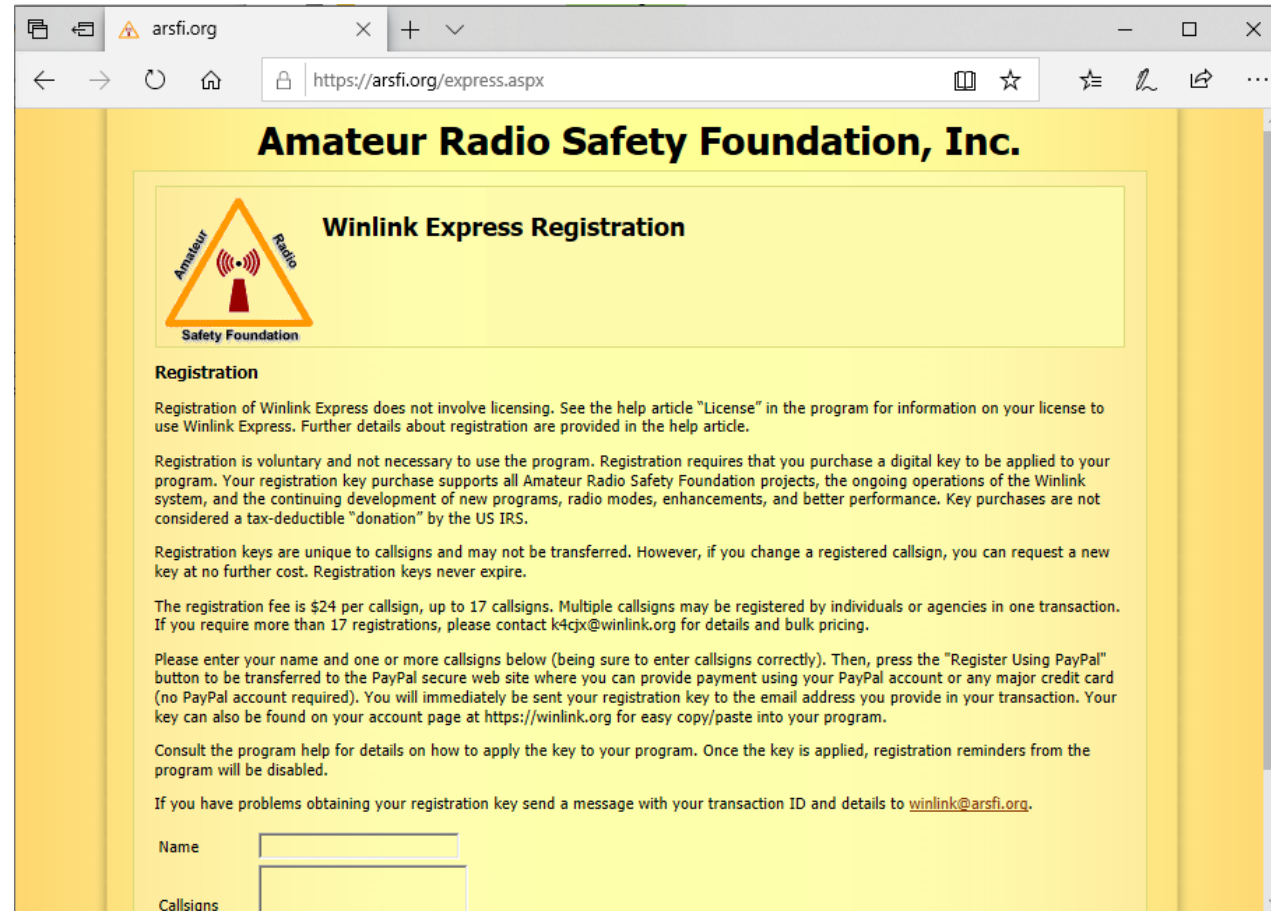
Enter Registration Key

Call Sign: W3XOX
Registration Key:

Although not required please support the “Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc” if you can, to help promote further development of this and other software projects. Click “Register Winlink”



Registration is \$24.00 Per Callsign.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `https://arsfi.org/express.aspx`. The page title is "Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc." and the main heading is "Winlink Express Registration". To the left of the heading is a logo featuring a triangle with "Amateur" on the left, "Radio" on the right, and "Safety Foundation" at the bottom, with a radio tower icon in the center. The page content includes a "Registration" section with several paragraphs of text explaining the registration process, fee, and key details. At the bottom, there are input fields for "Name" and "Callsigns".

Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc.

Winlink Express Registration

Registration

Registration of Winlink Express does not involve licensing. See the help article "License" in the program for information on your license to use Winlink Express. Further details about registration are provided in the help article.

Registration is voluntary and not necessary to use the program. Registration requires that you purchase a digital key to be applied to your program. Your registration key purchase supports all Amateur Radio Safety Foundation projects, the ongoing operations of the Winlink system, and the continuing development of new programs, radio modes, enhancements, and better performance. Key purchases are not considered a tax-deductible "donation" by the US IRS.

Registration keys are unique to callsigns and may not be transferred. However, if you change a registered callsign, you can request a new key at no further cost. Registration keys never expire.

The registration fee is \$24 per callsign, up to 17 callsigns. Multiple callsigns may be registered by individuals or agencies in one transaction. If you require more than 17 registrations, please contact k4cjsx@winlink.org for details and bulk pricing.

Please enter your name and one or more callsigns below (being sure to enter callsigns correctly). Then, press the "Register Using PayPal" button to be transferred to the PayPal secure web site where you can provide payment using your PayPal account or any major credit card (no PayPal account required). You will immediately be sent your registration key to the email address you provide in your transaction. Your key can also be found on your account page at <https://winlink.org> for easy copy/paste into your program.

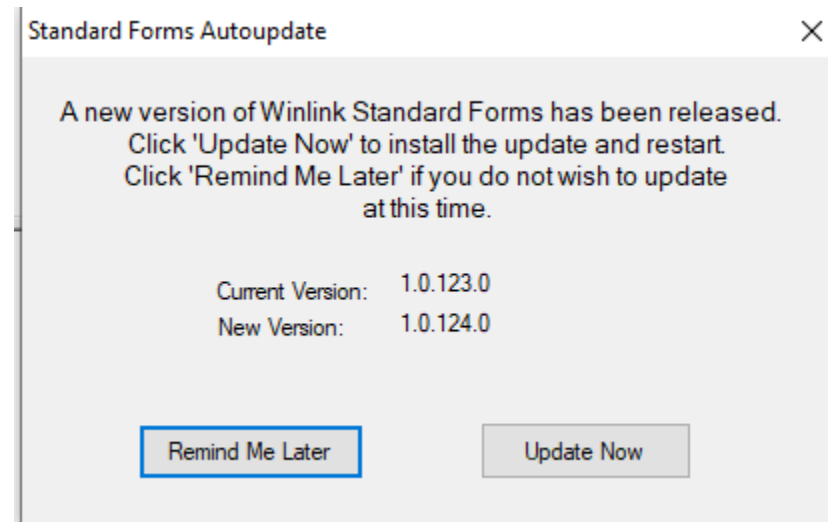
Consult the program help for details on how to apply the key to your program. Once the key is applied, registration reminders from the program will be disabled.

If you have problems obtaining your registration key send a message with your transaction ID and details to winlink@arsfi.org.

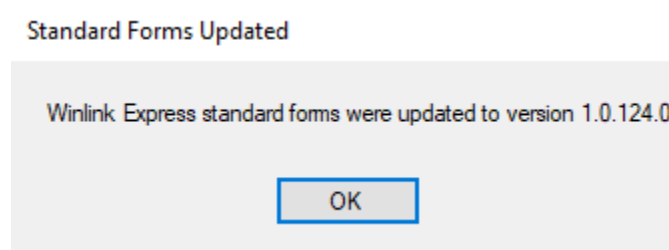
Name

Callsigns

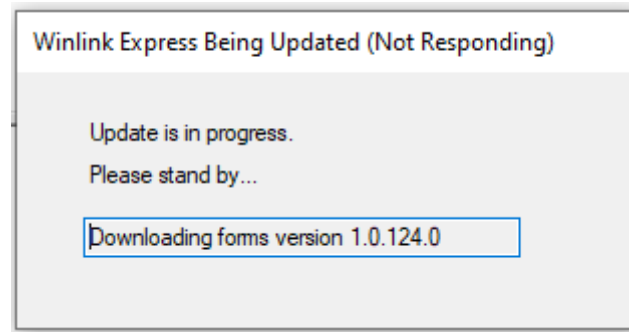
If prompted to update forms, choose “Update Now”



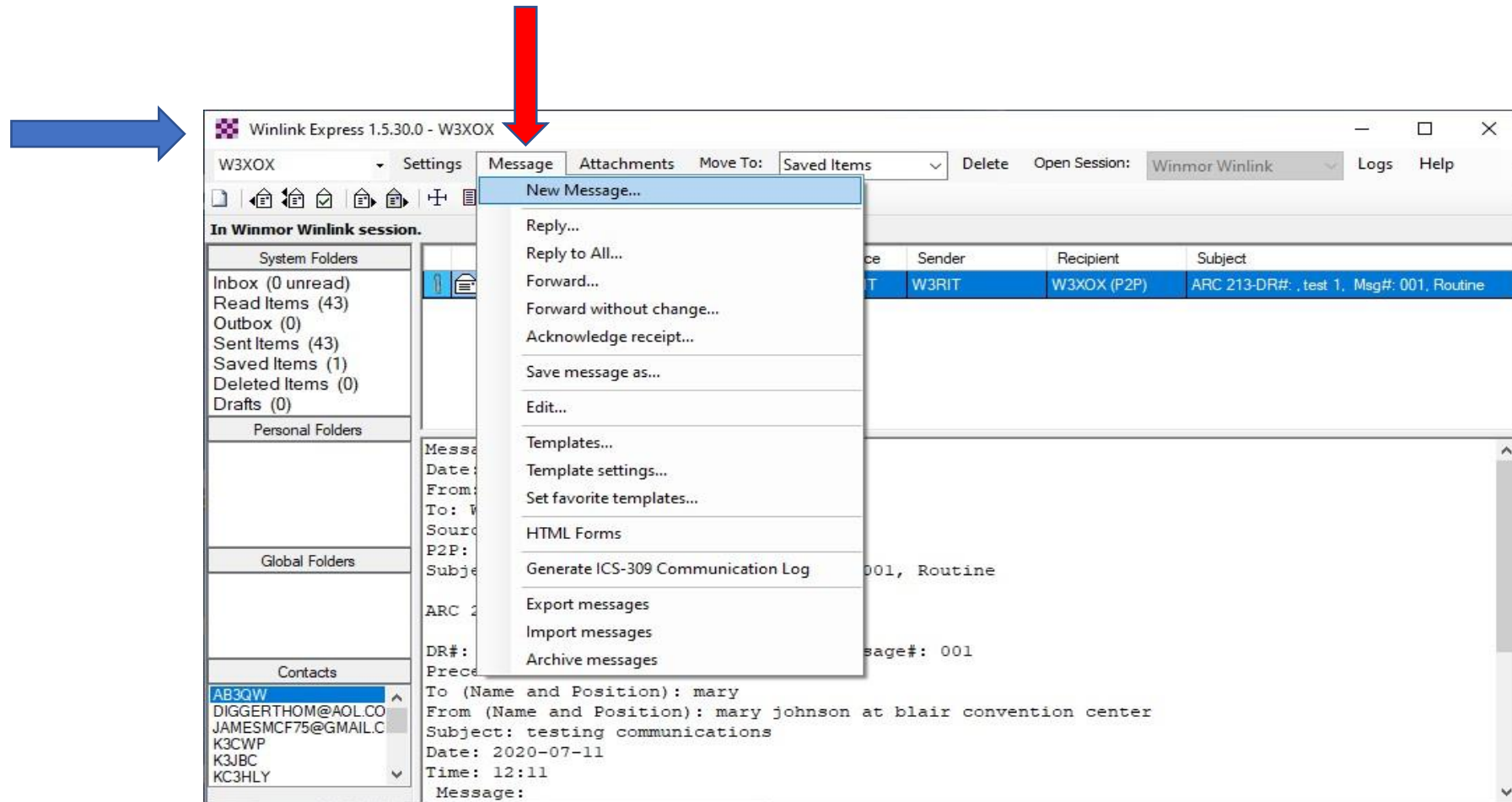
You should receive notification that forms have been updated.



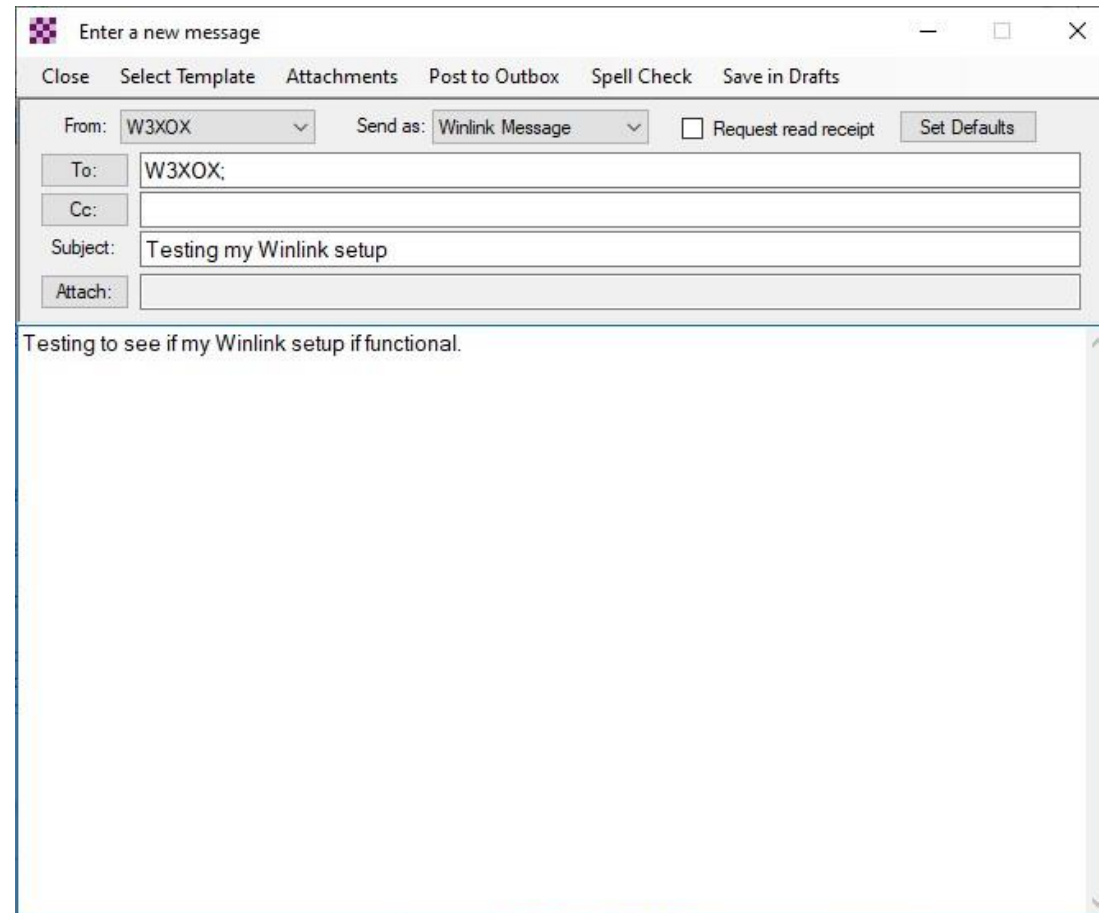
If prompted to update program version
choose “Update”



We will first focus on the “Winlink Express” window, we will left click on “Message” and then “New Message”



In the “Message box” Type W3XOX into the “To” window. “Testing my Winlink Setup” into the subject line and a short message into the body of the message.



Enter a new message

Close Select Template Attachments Post to Outbox Spell Check Save in Drafts

From: W3XOX Send as: Winlink Message ☐ Request read receipt Set Defaults

To: W3XOX;

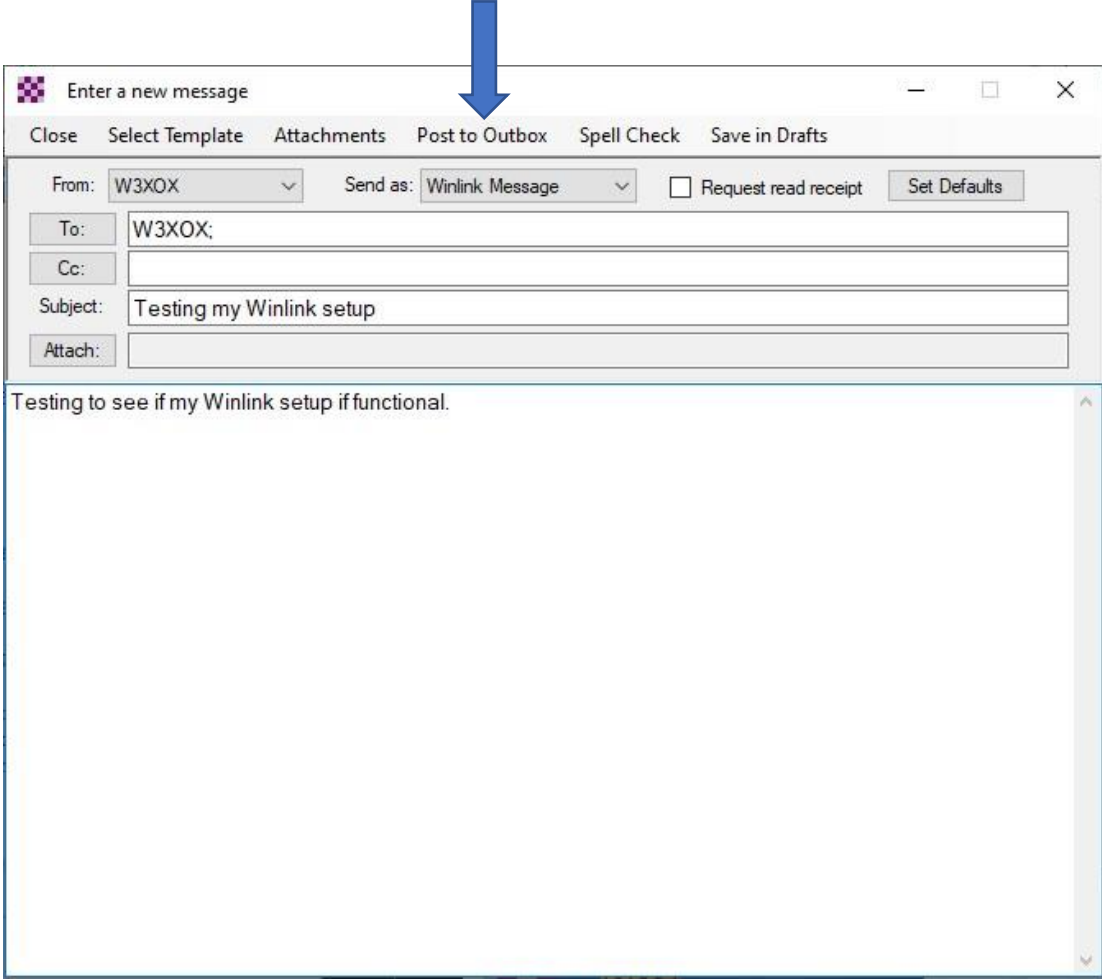
Cc:

Subject: Testing my Winlink setup

Attach:

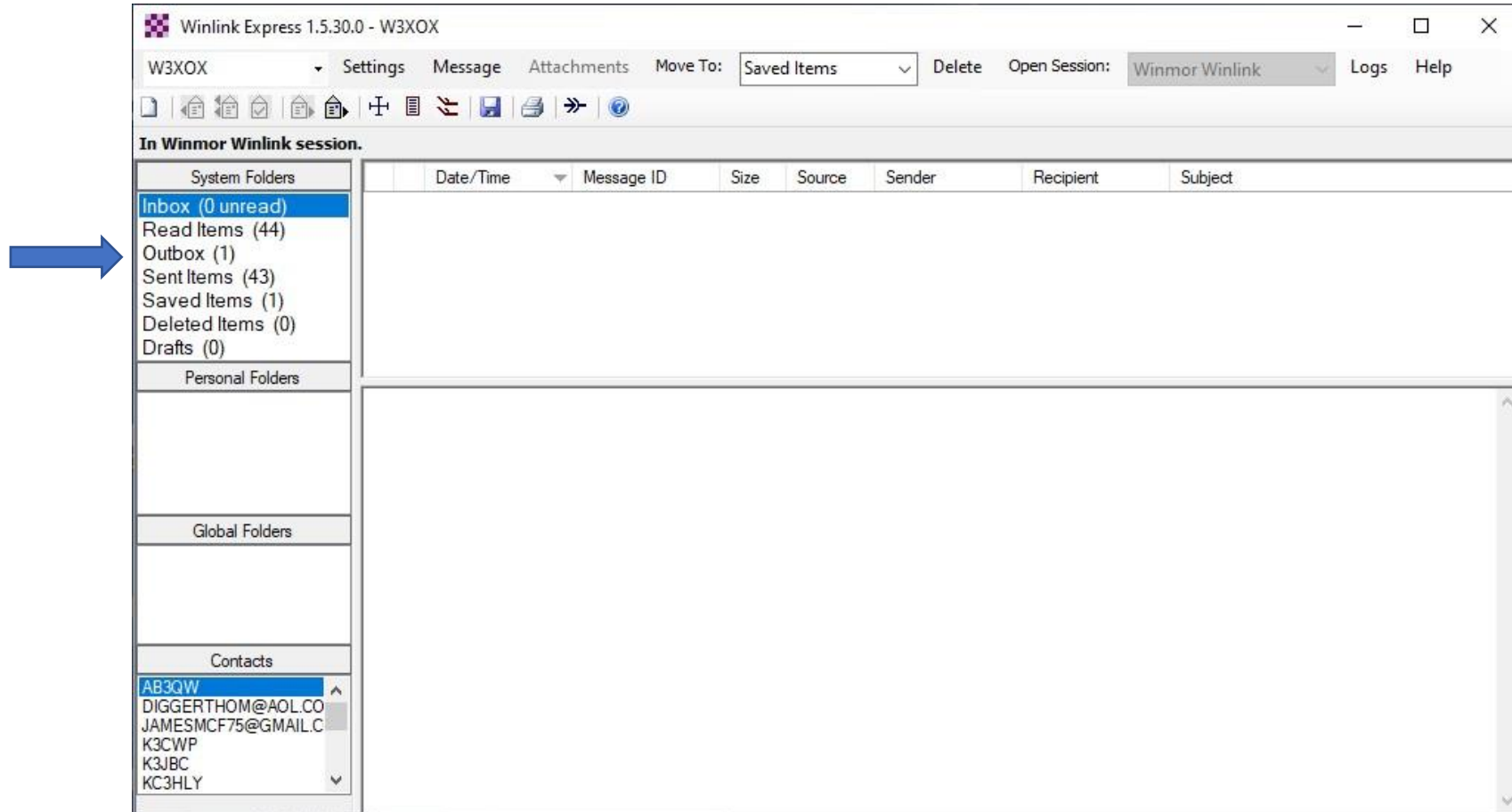
Testing to see if my Winlink setup if functional.

When finished composing the message, left click on “Post to Outbox”

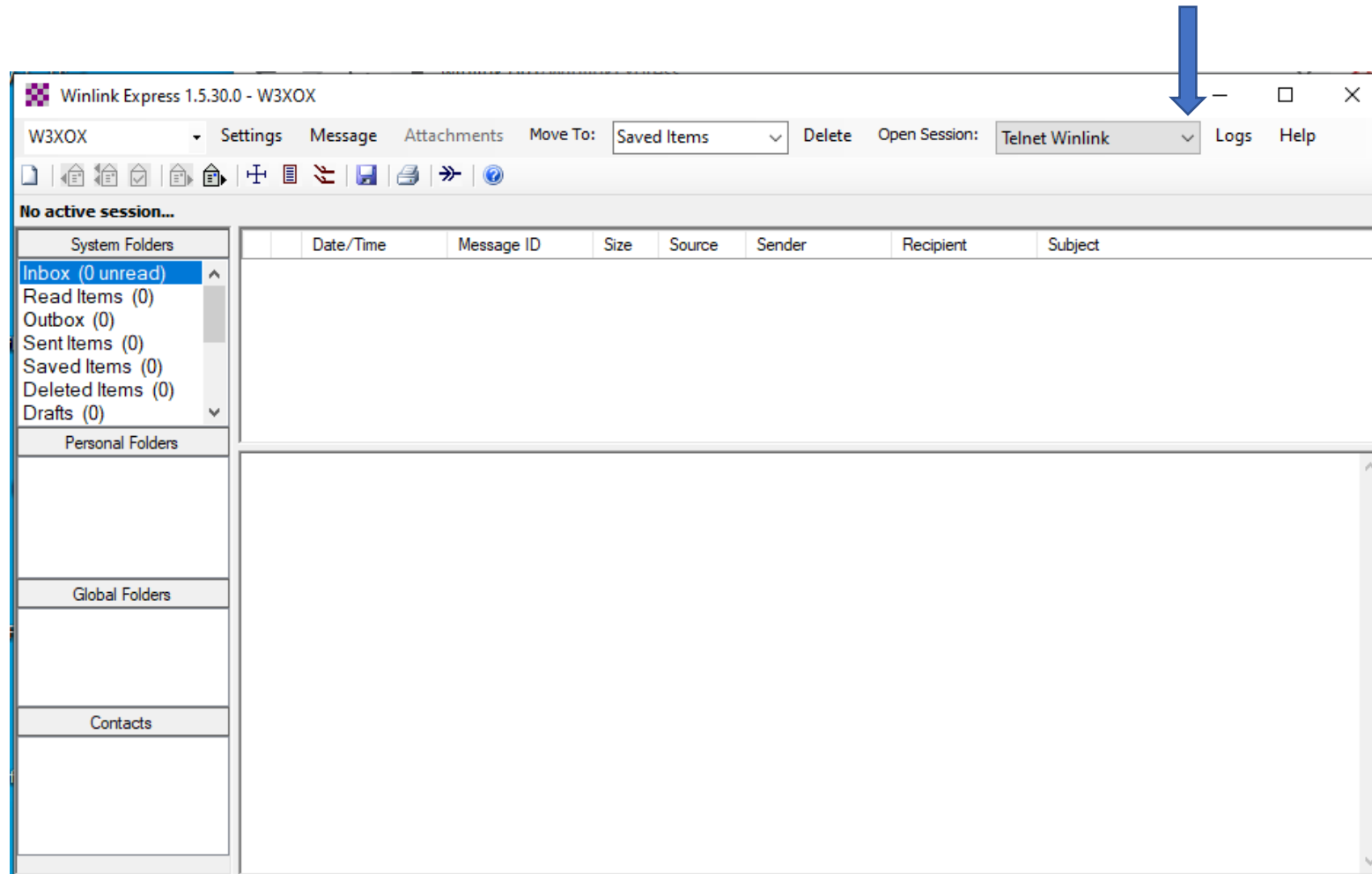


The screenshot shows a software window titled "Enter a new message". At the top, there is a menu bar with the following options: "Close", "Select Template", "Attachments", "Post to Outbox", "Spell Check", and "Save in Drafts". A large blue arrow points directly to the "Post to Outbox" button. Below the menu bar, the message fields are populated as follows: "From:" is set to "W3XOX" with a dropdown arrow; "Send as:" is set to "Winlink Message" with a dropdown arrow; there is an unchecked checkbox for "Request read receipt" and a "Set Defaults" button. The "To:" field contains "W3XOX;". The "Cc:" field is empty. The "Subject:" field contains "Testing my Winlink setup". The "Attach:" field is empty. The main body of the window contains the text "Testing to see if my Winlink setup if functional." and a vertical scrollbar on the right side.

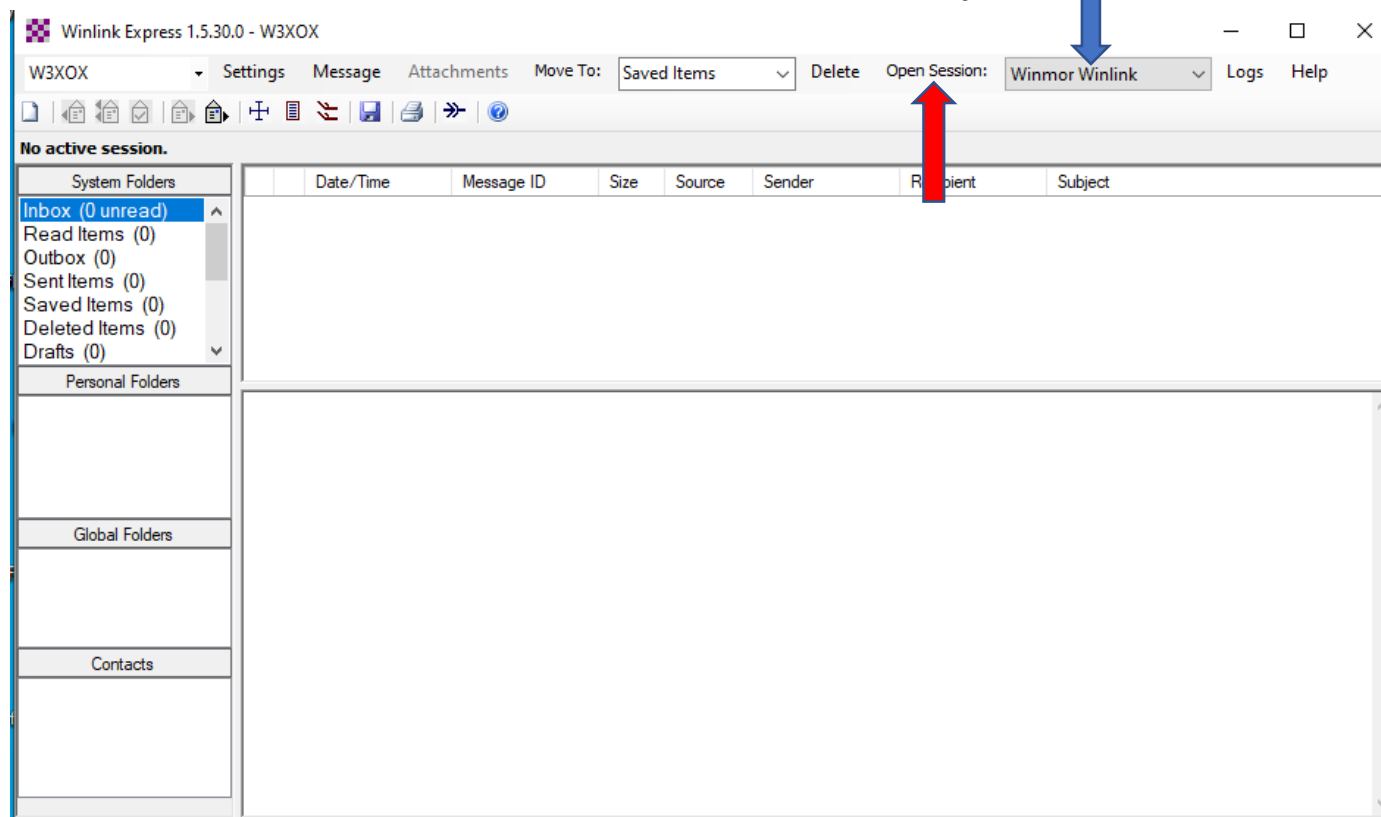
Your newly composed message should now show in your “Outbox”



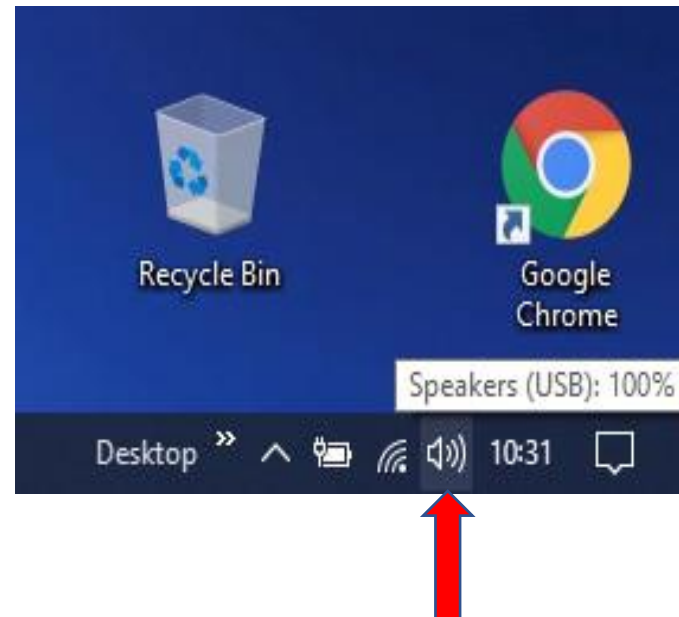
We will now choose our session type from the drop down menu.



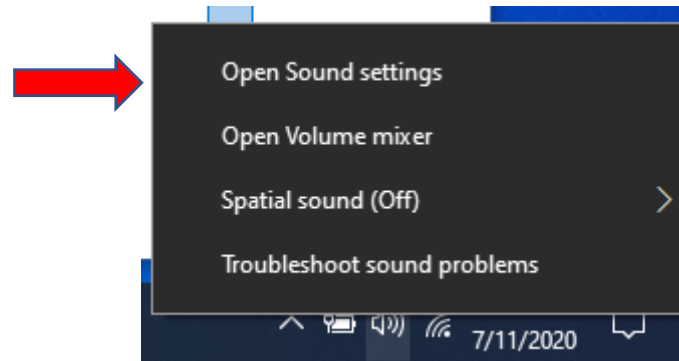
At this point please be sure your radio is connected to your computer and turned on. We will select “Winmor Winlink” session protocol, and then click the “Open Session” (That doesn’t look like a button)



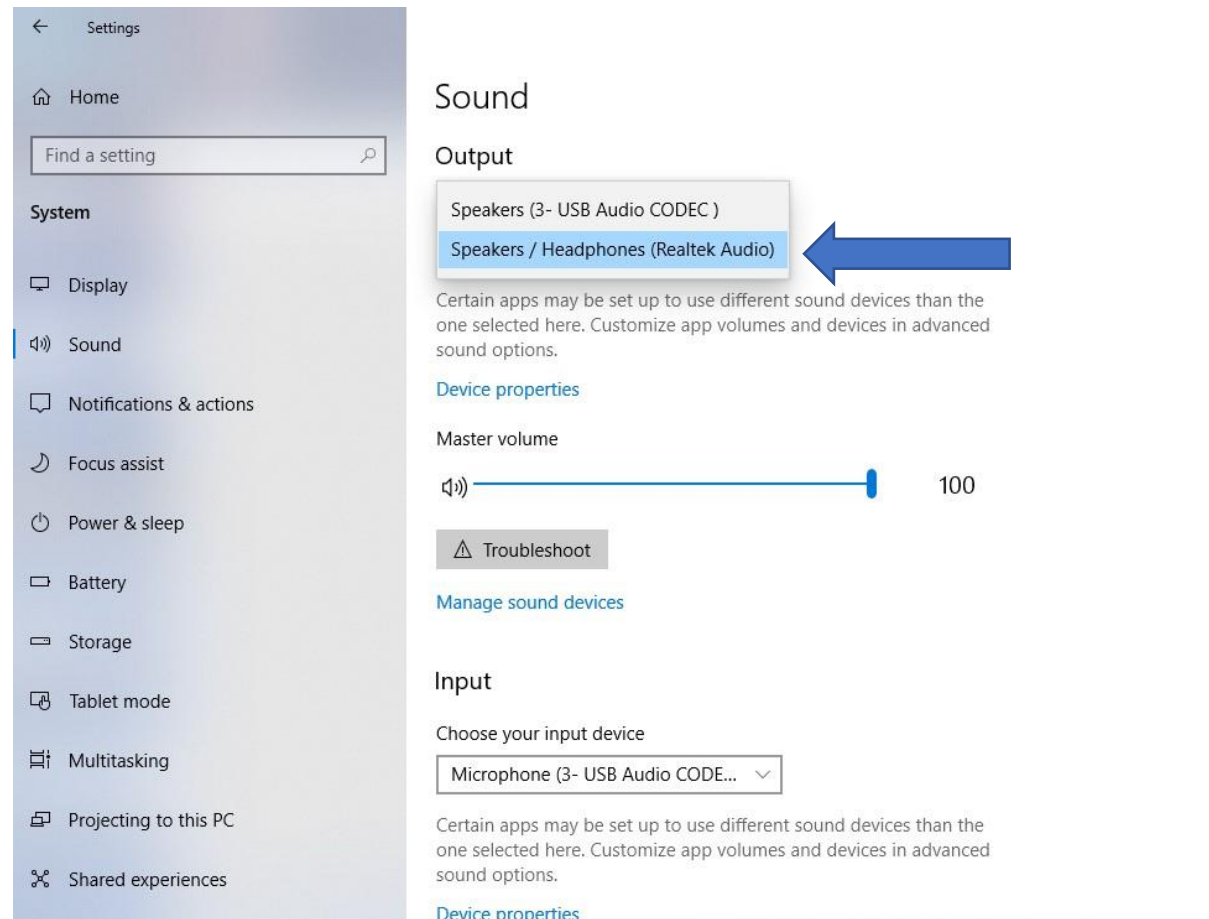
At this point we need to make sure Windows system sounds do not play across your radio. We will right click on the speaker icon at the bottom right of your screen near the clock.



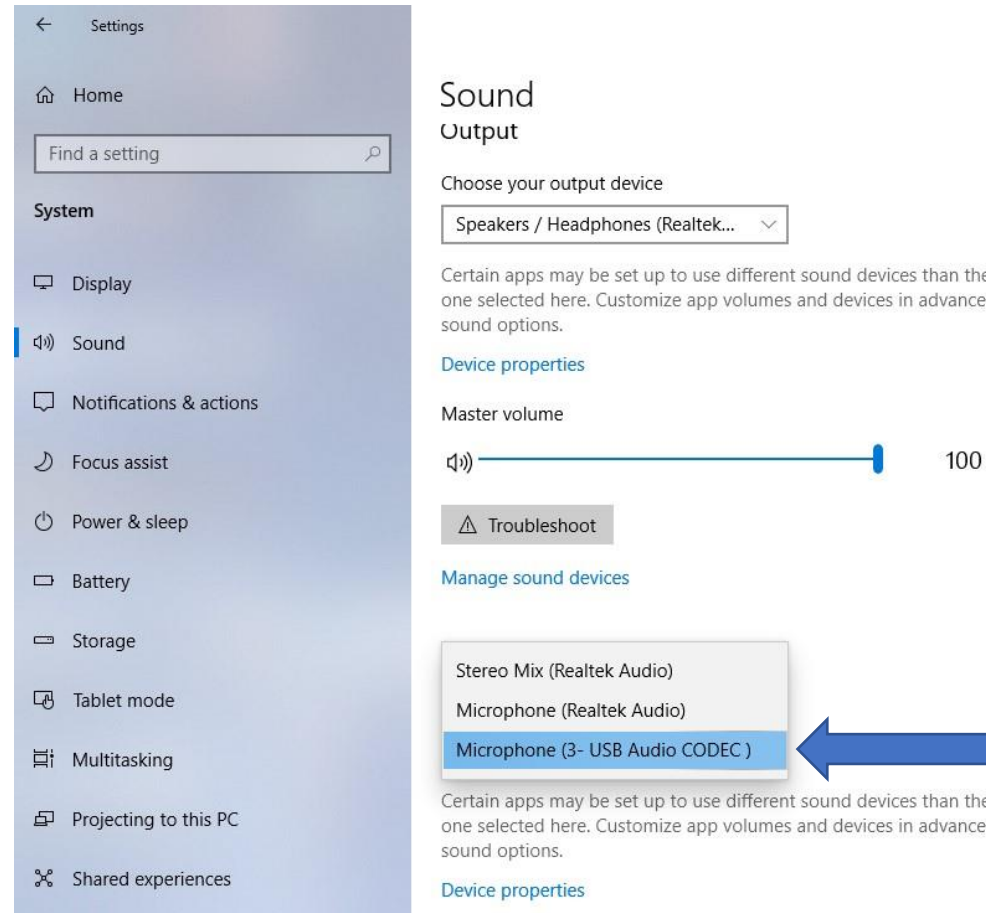
We will left click on “Open Sound Settings”



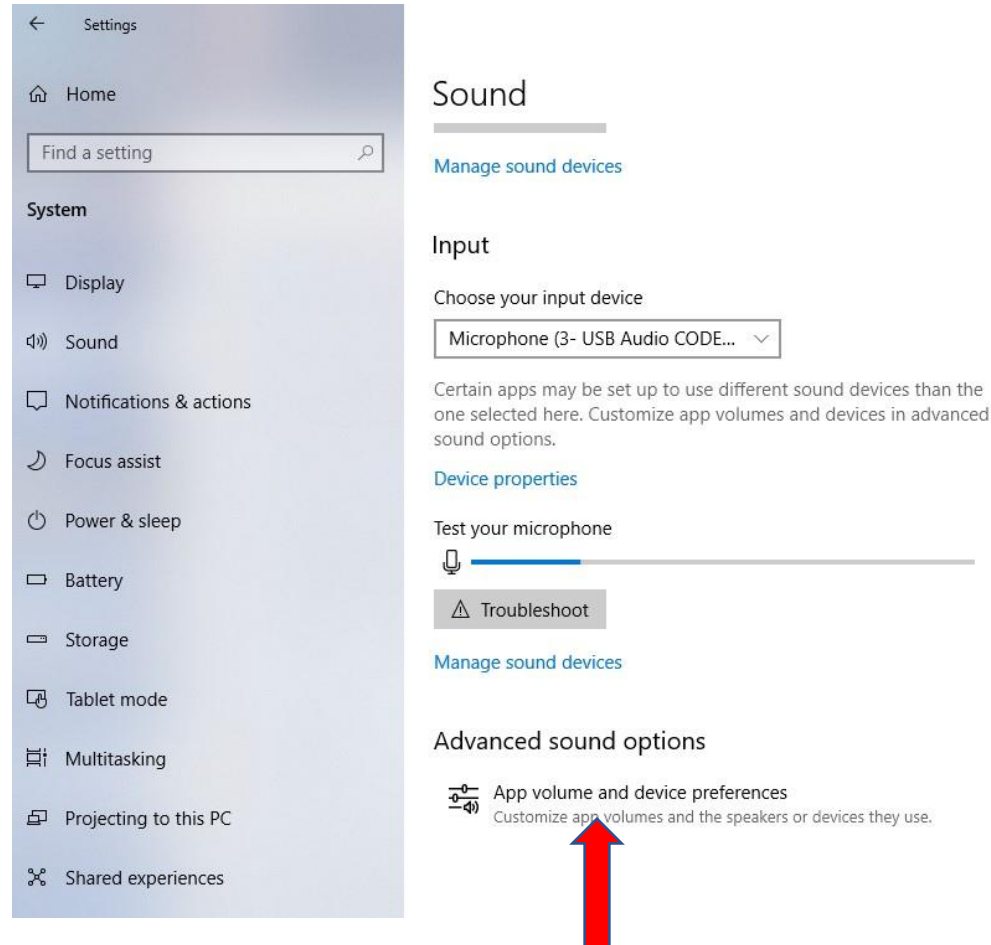
Under “Sound Output” select the drop down box and select your standard speakers or soundcard.
Do not select “USB AUDIO CODEC”



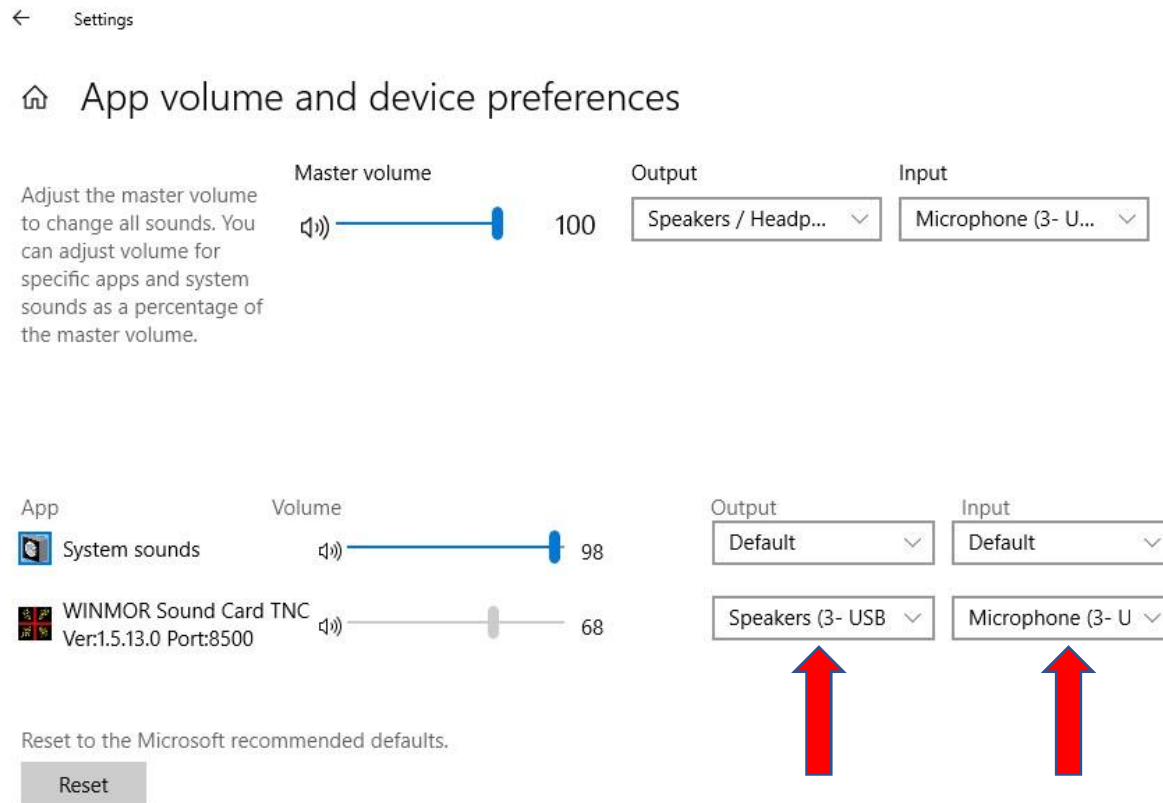
Select the “Sound Input” drop down box and choose “USB AUDIO CODEC”.



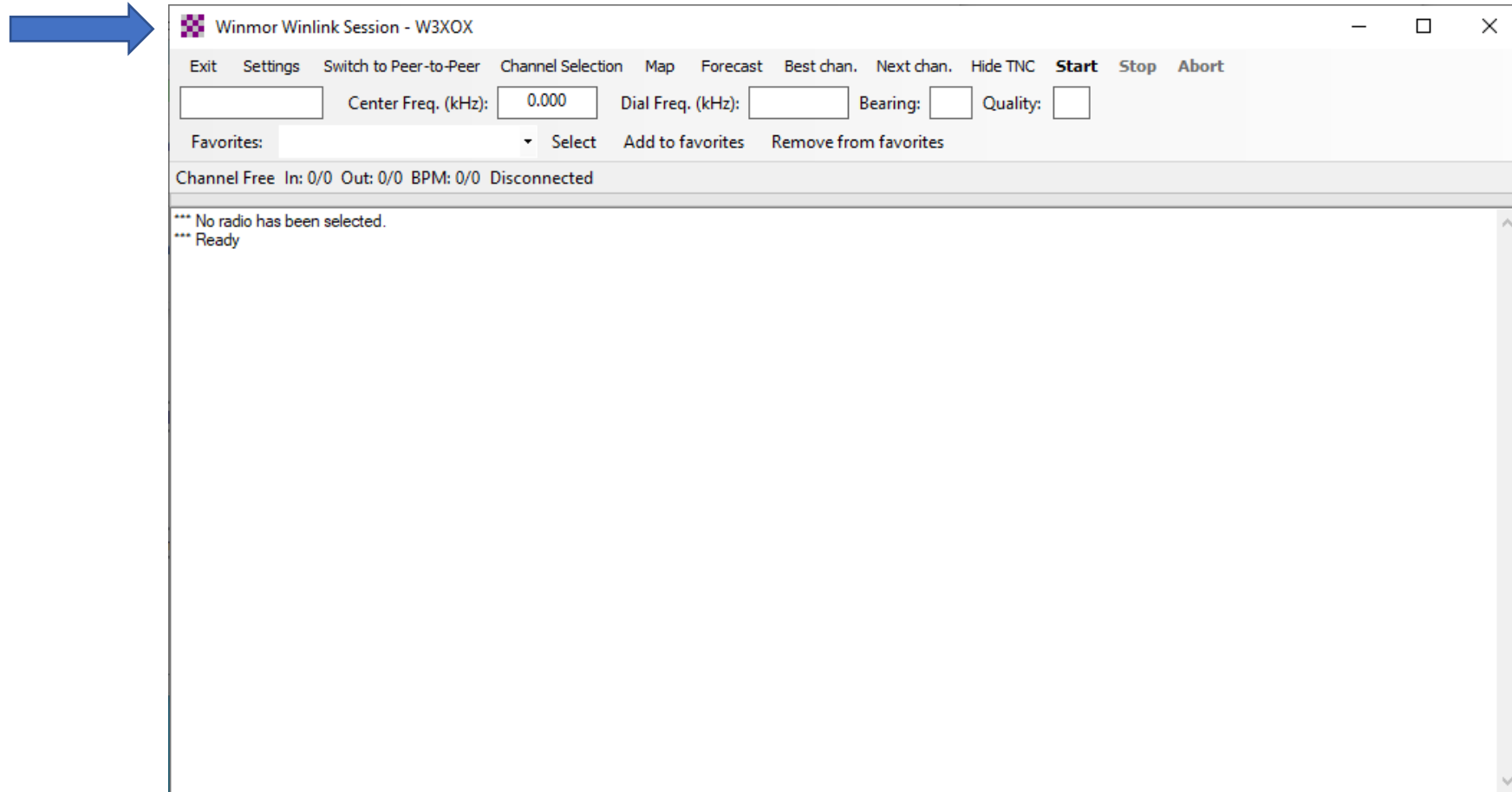
We will now left click on “Advanced Sound Options” to select it.



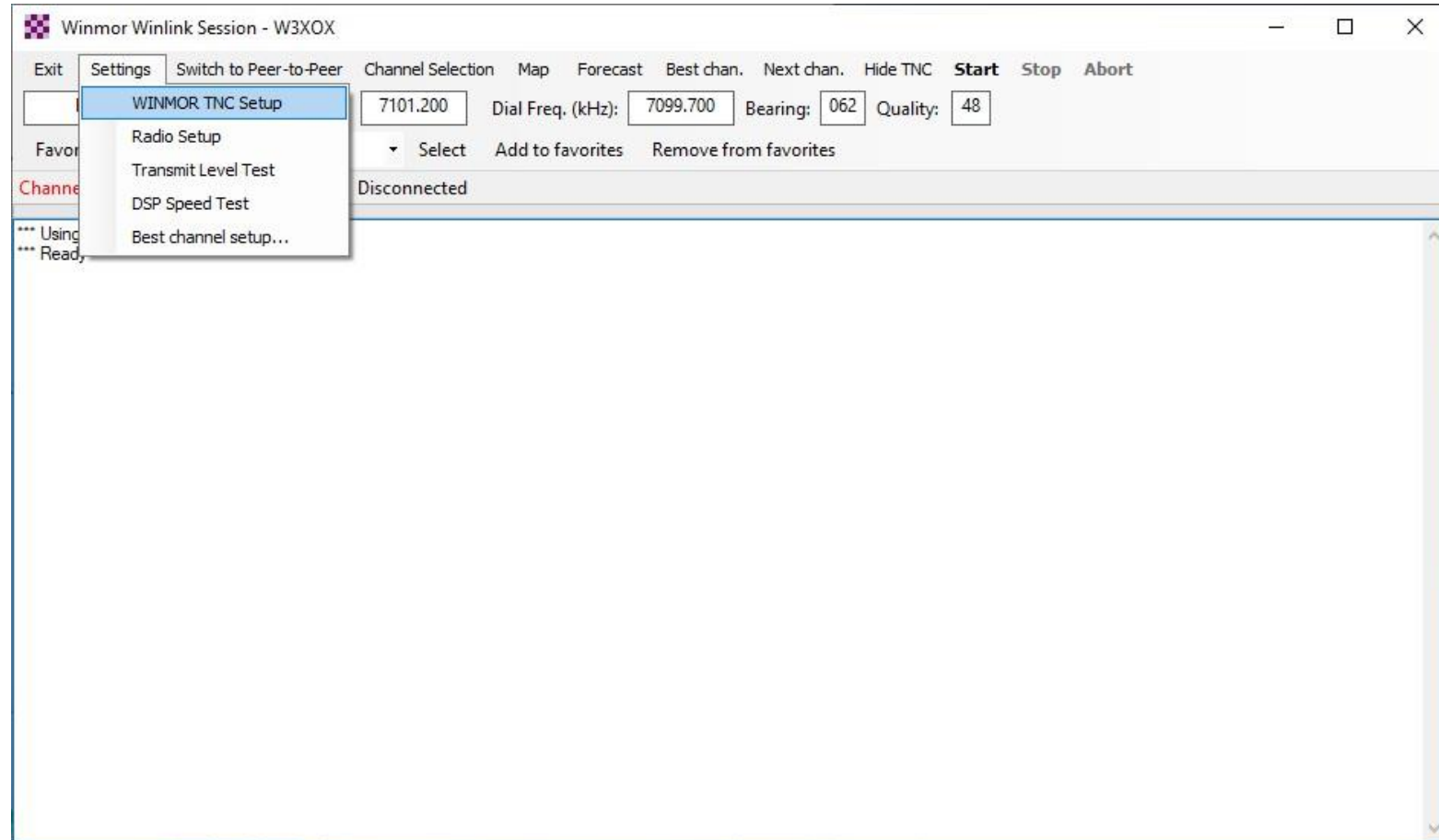
You may have to left click the drop down boxes for “Winmor Sound Card TNC” and change it from “Default” to “USB AUDIO CODEC”.



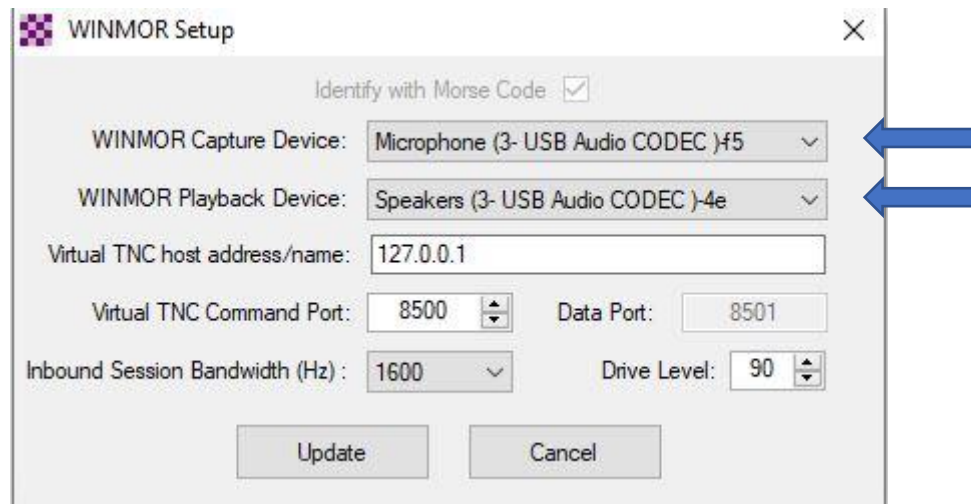
We will now return to the “Winmor Winlink Session” window.



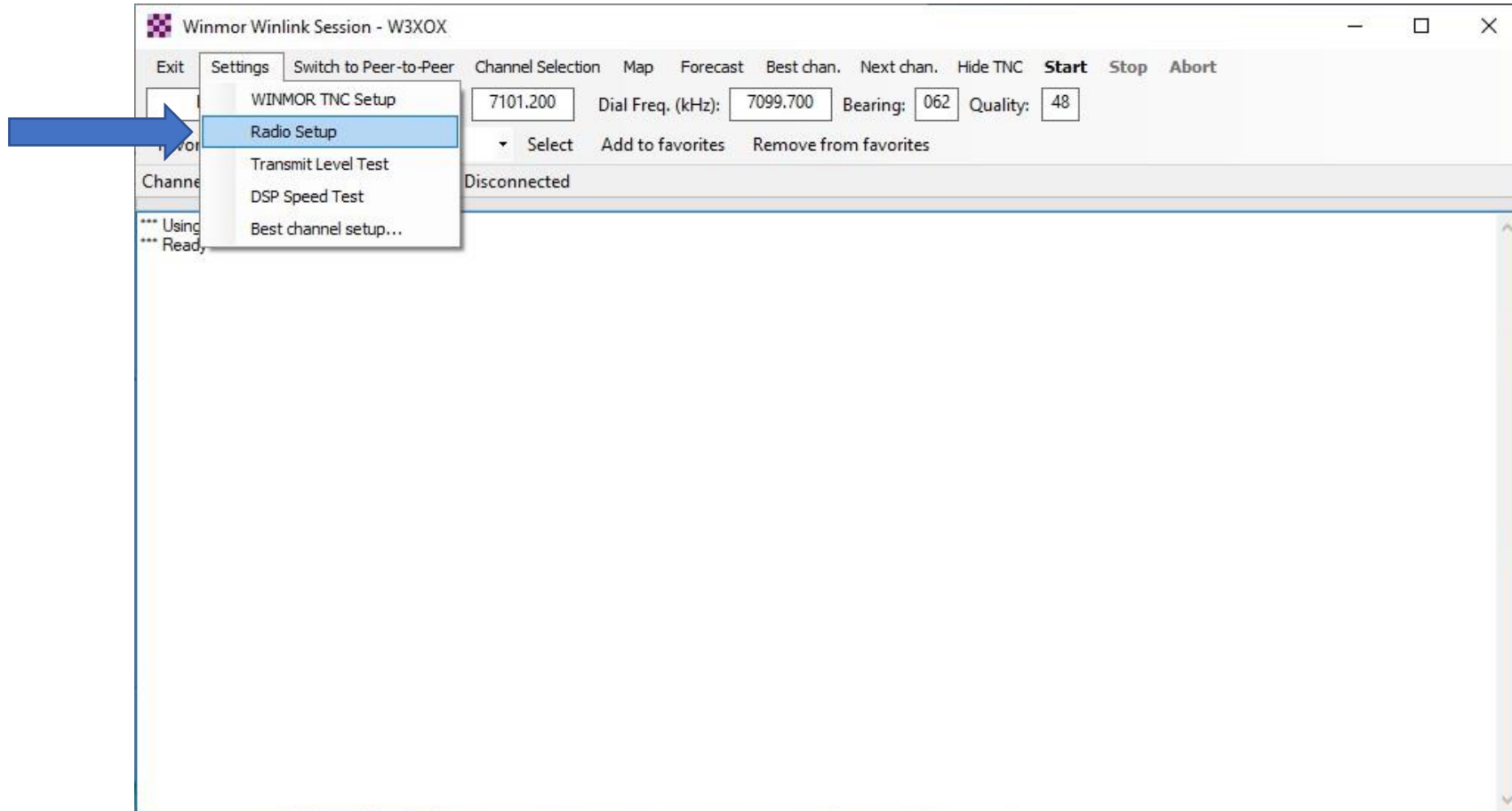
Select “Settings” and then Winmor TNC Setup”.



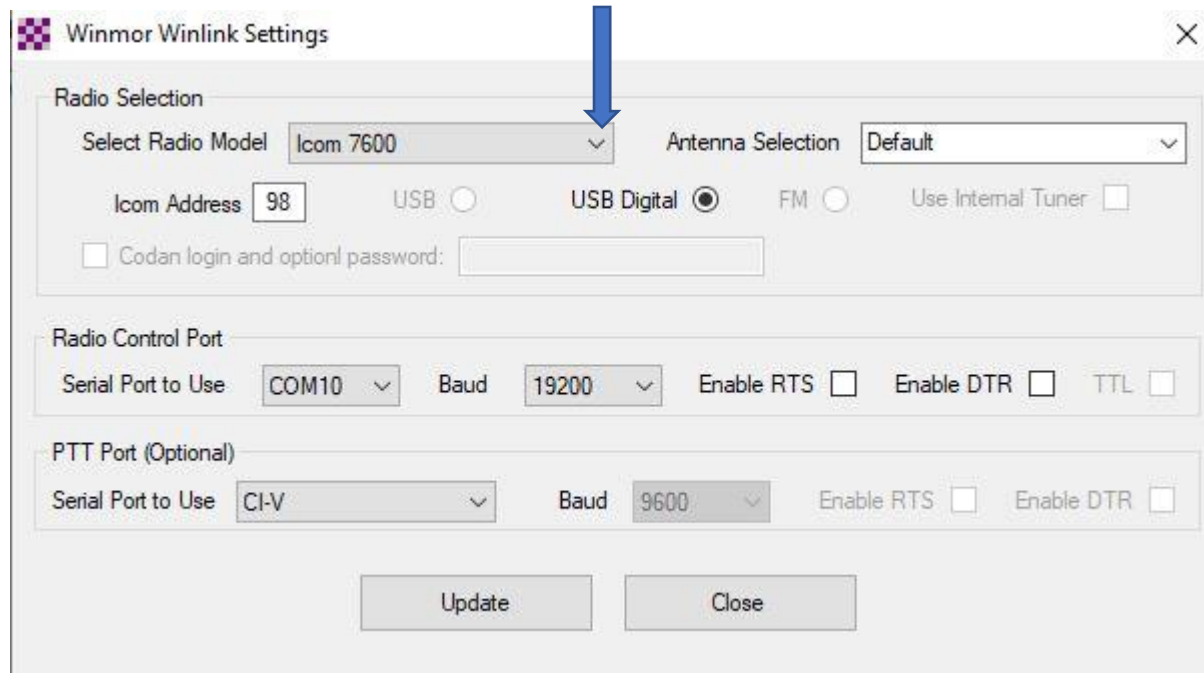
From the drop down of the “Winmor Capture Device” and the Winmor Playback Device” we will select “USB Audio Codec” Then Click Update.



Now click on settings and select “Radio Setup”



Now for the tricky part. Select your radio from the drop down list. You may need to consult your manual for address, Baud rate speed, RTS, DTR. If you get stuck here send me an email to W3XOX@hotmail.com and we will set up a date/time for me to assist you through this step

A screenshot of the 'Winmor Winlink Settings' dialog box. The 'Radio Selection' section is highlighted with a blue arrow pointing to the 'Select Radio Model' dropdown menu, which currently shows 'Icom 7600'. Other options in this section include 'Antenna Selection' (Default), 'Icom Address' (98), and radio mode buttons (USB, USB Digital, FM). The 'Radio Control Port' section shows 'Serial Port to Use' as COM10 and 'Baud' as 19200. The 'PTT Port (Optional)' section shows 'Serial Port to Use' as CI-V and 'Baud' as 9600. At the bottom are 'Update' and 'Close' buttons.

Winmor Winlink Settings

Radio Selection

Select Radio Model: Icom 7600

Antenna Selection: Default

Icom Address: 98

USB: ☐ USB Digital: ☒ FM: ☐ Use Internal Tuner: ☐

☐ Codan login and optional password:

Radio Control Port

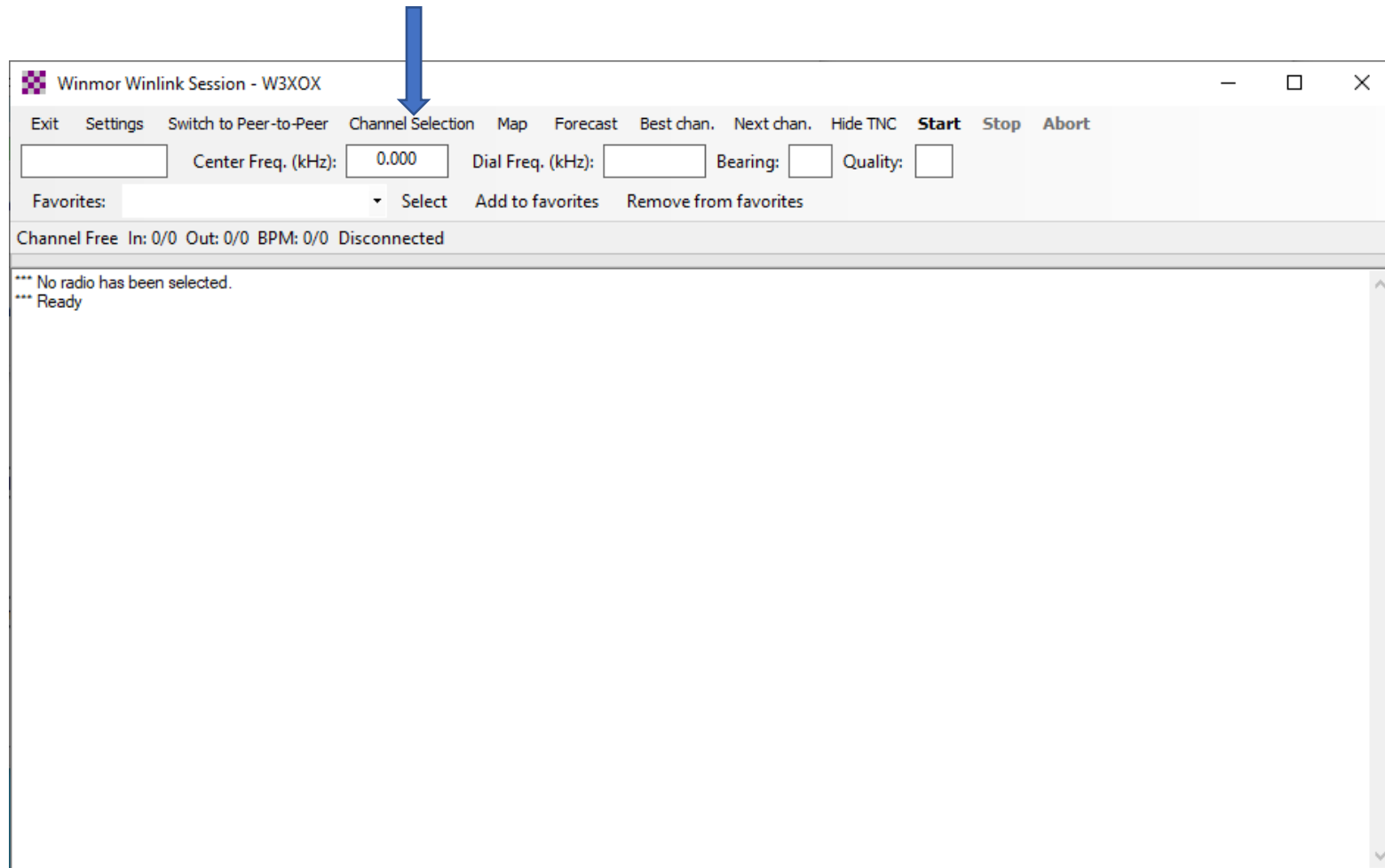
Serial Port to Use: COM10 Baud: 19200 Enable RTS: ☐ Enable DTR: ☐ TTL: ☐

PTT Port (Optional)

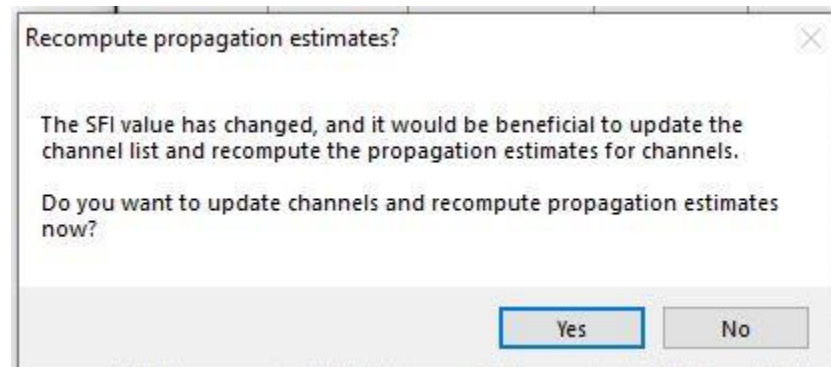
Serial Port to Use: CI-V Baud: 9600 Enable RTS: ☐ Enable DTR: ☐

Update Close

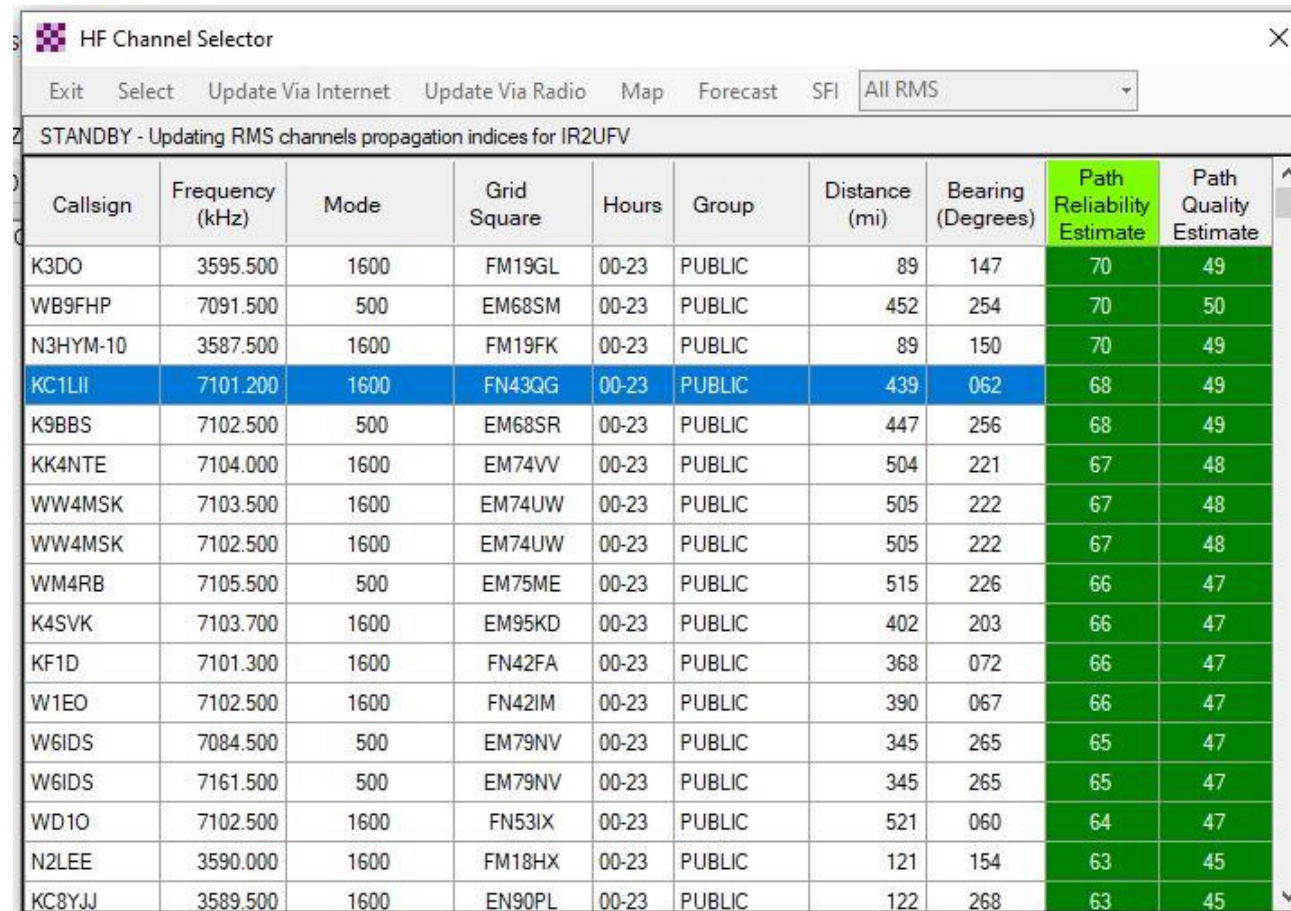
We will now update the channel selection by clicking on “Channel Selection”



Once selected it may auto update the first time. Select “Yes”

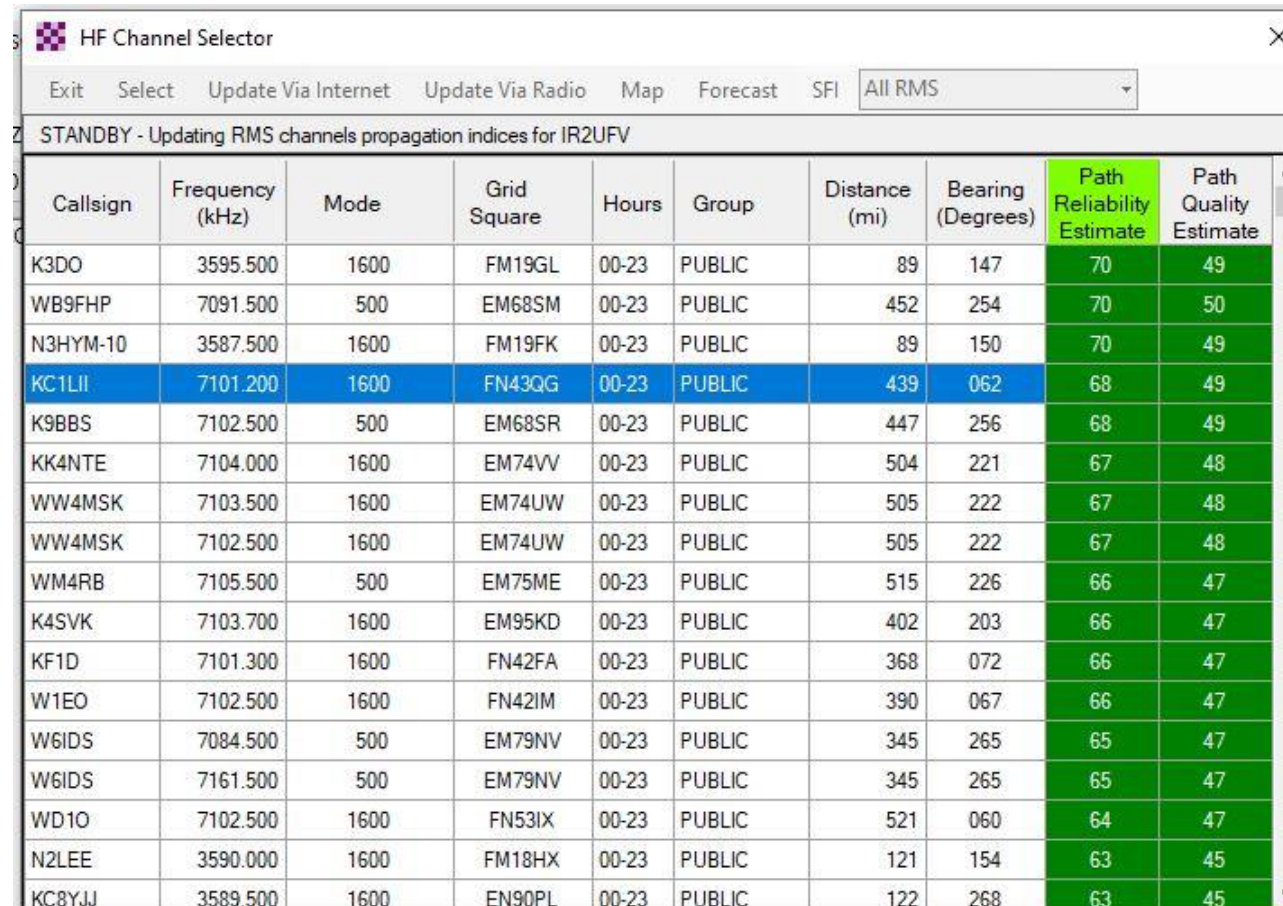


Once selected it may auto update. If it does not auto update select “Update via Internet” in the case of no internet you can “Update via Radio”



Callsign	Frequency (kHz)	Mode	Grid Square	Hours	Group	Distance (mi)	Bearing (Degrees)	Path Reliability Estimate	Path Quality Estimate
K3DO	3595.500	1600	FM19GL	00-23	PUBLIC	89	147	70	49
WB9FHP	7091.500	500	EM68SM	00-23	PUBLIC	452	254	70	50
N3HYM-10	3587.500	1600	FM19FK	00-23	PUBLIC	89	150	70	49
KC1LII	7101.200	1600	FN43QG	00-23	PUBLIC	439	062	68	49
K9BBS	7102.500	500	EM68SR	00-23	PUBLIC	447	256	68	49
KK4NTE	7104.000	1600	EM74VV	00-23	PUBLIC	504	221	67	48
WW4MSK	7103.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WW4MSK	7102.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WM4RB	7105.500	500	EM75ME	00-23	PUBLIC	515	226	66	47
K4SVK	7103.700	1600	EM95KD	00-23	PUBLIC	402	203	66	47
KF1D	7101.300	1600	FN42FA	00-23	PUBLIC	368	072	66	47
W1EO	7102.500	1600	FN42IM	00-23	PUBLIC	390	067	66	47
W6IDS	7084.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
W6IDS	7161.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
WD1O	7102.500	1600	FN53IX	00-23	PUBLIC	521	060	64	47
N2LEE	3590.000	1600	FM18HX	00-23	PUBLIC	121	154	63	45
KC8YJJ	3589.500	1600	EN90PL	00-23	PUBLIC	122	268	63	45

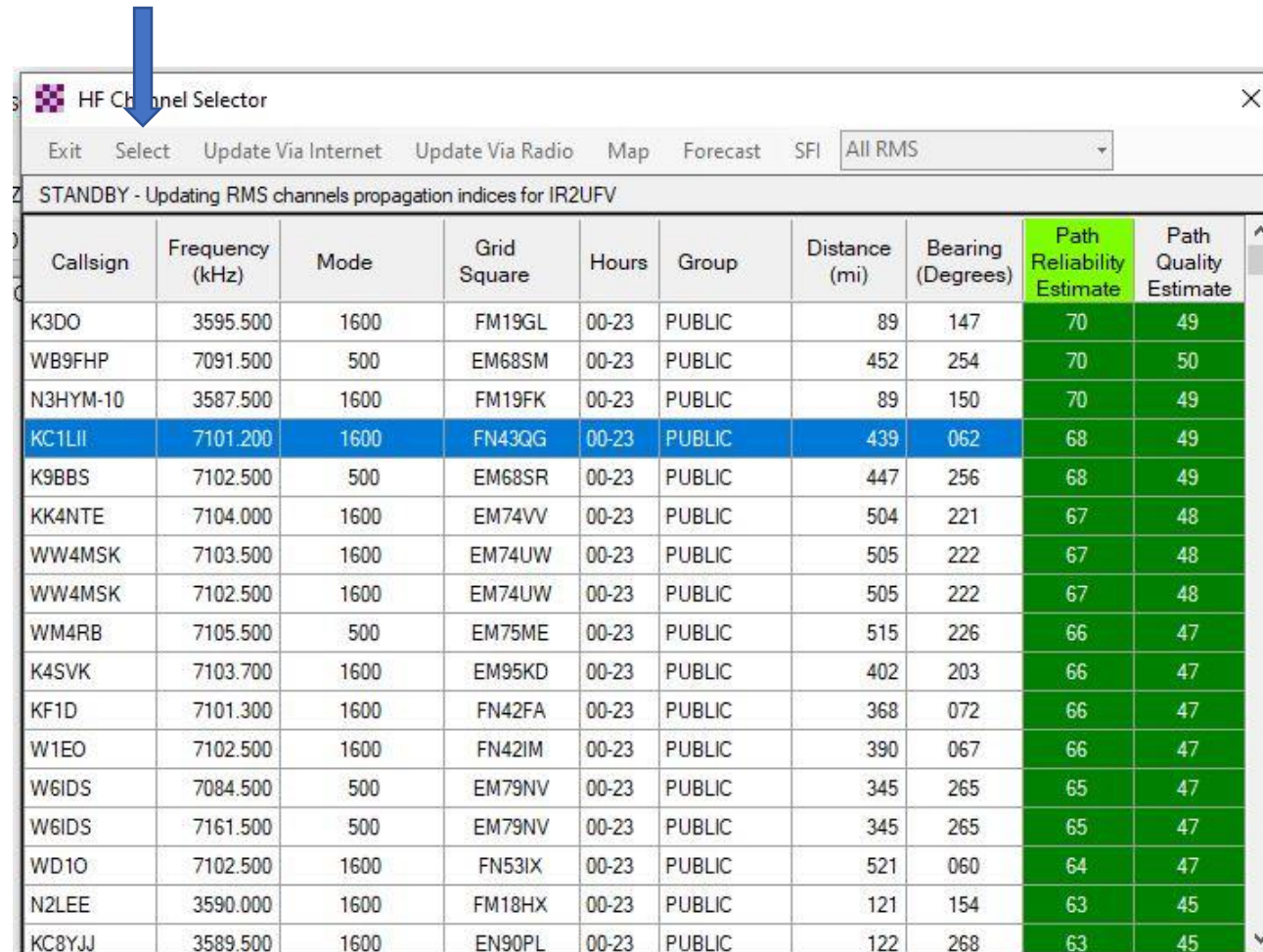
This table is arranged highest to lowest Reliability for connection according to the most recent “Solar Flux Index” or SFI. You may need to scroll to the top of the list.



The image shows a screenshot of a software window titled "HF Channel Selector". The window has a menu bar with options: Exit, Select, Update Via Internet, Update Via Radio, Map, Forecast, SFI, and a dropdown menu currently set to "All RMS". Below the menu bar, a status bar reads "STANDBY - Updating RMS channels propagation indices for IR2UFV". The main area contains a table with 10 columns: Callsign, Frequency (kHz), Mode, Grid Square, Hours, Group, Distance (mi), Bearing (Degrees), Path Reliability Estimate, and Path Quality Estimate. The table lists 20 radio channels, sorted by Path Reliability Estimate in descending order. The row for KC1LII is highlighted in blue, indicating it is the selected channel.

Callsign	Frequency (kHz)	Mode	Grid Square	Hours	Group	Distance (mi)	Bearing (Degrees)	Path Reliability Estimate	Path Quality Estimate
K3DO	3595.500	1600	FM19GL	00-23	PUBLIC	89	147	70	49
WB9FHP	7091.500	500	EM68SM	00-23	PUBLIC	452	254	70	50
N3HYM-10	3587.500	1600	FM19FK	00-23	PUBLIC	89	150	70	49
KC1LII	7101.200	1600	FN43QG	00-23	PUBLIC	439	062	68	49
K9BBS	7102.500	500	EM68SR	00-23	PUBLIC	447	256	68	49
KK4NTE	7104.000	1600	EM74VV	00-23	PUBLIC	504	221	67	48
WW4MSK	7103.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WW4MSK	7102.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WM4RB	7105.500	500	EM75ME	00-23	PUBLIC	515	226	66	47
K4SVK	7103.700	1600	EM95KD	00-23	PUBLIC	402	203	66	47
KF1D	7101.300	1600	FN42FA	00-23	PUBLIC	368	072	66	47
W1EO	7102.500	1600	FN42IM	00-23	PUBLIC	390	067	66	47
W6IDS	7084.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
W6IDS	7161.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
WD1O	7102.500	1600	FN53IX	00-23	PUBLIC	521	060	64	47
N2LEE	3590.000	1600	FM18HX	00-23	PUBLIC	121	154	63	45
KC8YJJ	3589.500	1600	EN90PL	00-23	PUBLIC	122	268	63	45

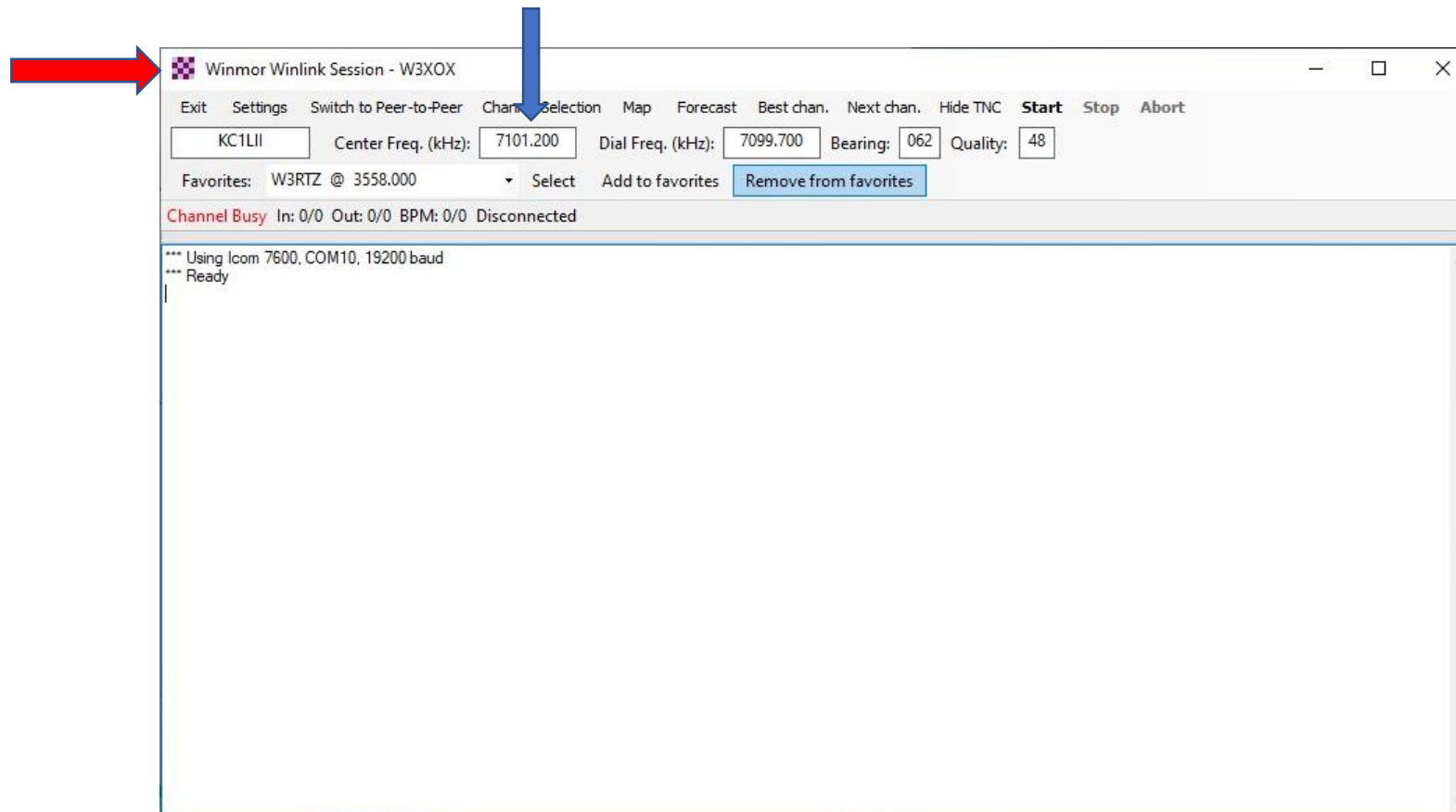
You may select a channel in one of two ways.
Double clicking on the desired channel or by left clicking on the channel and then on “Select”.



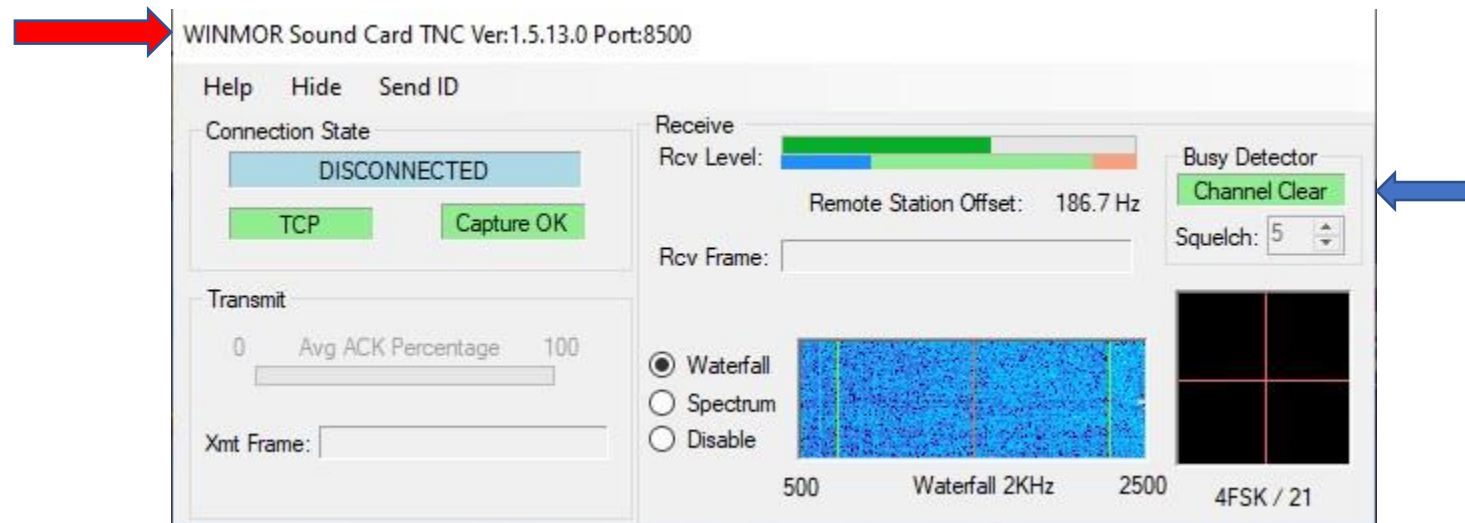
The image shows a screenshot of the 'HF Channel Selector' application window. A blue arrow points to the 'Select' button in the top menu bar. The window title is 'HF Channel Selector'. Below the menu bar, there is a status bar that says 'STANDBY - Updating RMS channels propagation indices for IR2UFV'. The main area contains a table with 10 columns: Callsign, Frequency (kHz), Mode, Grid Square, Hours, Group, Distance (mi), Bearing (Degrees), Path Reliability Estimate, and Path Quality Estimate. The table lists various HF channels, with the row for KC1LII highlighted in blue.

Callsign	Frequency (kHz)	Mode	Grid Square	Hours	Group	Distance (mi)	Bearing (Degrees)	Path Reliability Estimate	Path Quality Estimate
K3DO	3595.500	1600	FM19GL	00-23	PUBLIC	89	147	70	49
WB9FHP	7091.500	500	EM68SM	00-23	PUBLIC	452	254	70	50
N3HYM-10	3587.500	1600	FM19FK	00-23	PUBLIC	89	150	70	49
KC1LII	7101.200	1600	FN43QG	00-23	PUBLIC	439	062	68	49
K9BBS	7102.500	500	EM68SR	00-23	PUBLIC	447	256	68	49
KK4NTE	7104.000	1600	EM74VV	00-23	PUBLIC	504	221	67	48
WW4MSK	7103.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WW4MSK	7102.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WM4RB	7105.500	500	EM75ME	00-23	PUBLIC	515	226	66	47
K4SVK	7103.700	1600	EM95KD	00-23	PUBLIC	402	203	66	47
KF1D	7101.300	1600	FN42FA	00-23	PUBLIC	368	072	66	47
W1EO	7102.500	1600	FN42IM	00-23	PUBLIC	390	067	66	47
W6IDS	7084.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
W6IDS	7161.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
WD1O	7102.500	1600	FN53IX	00-23	PUBLIC	521	060	64	47
N2LEE	3590.000	1600	FM18HX	00-23	PUBLIC	121	154	63	45
KC8YJJ	3589.500	1600	EN90PL	00-23	PUBLIC	122	268	63	45

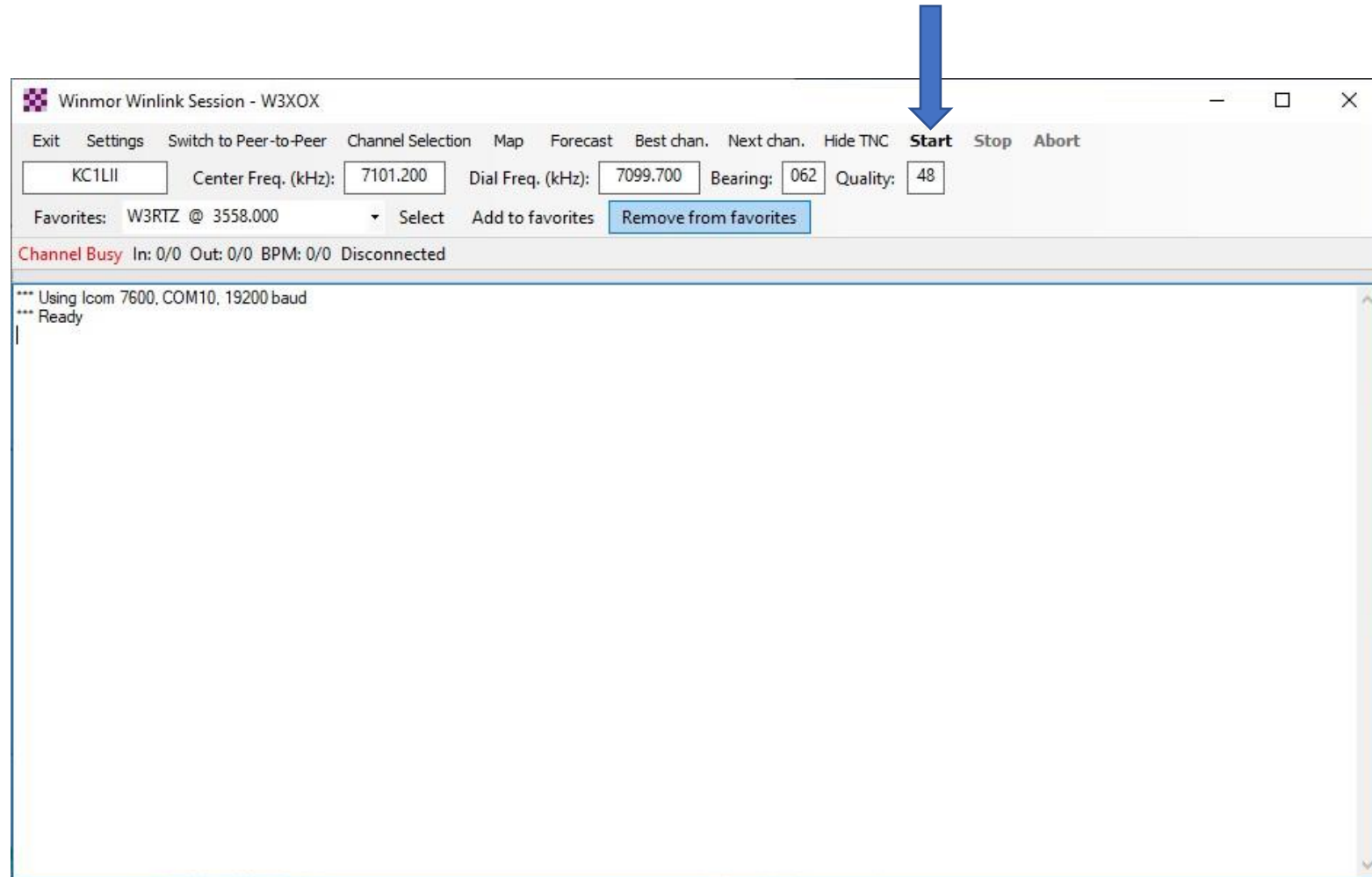
Once the channel has been selected it will appear in the “**Winmor Winlink Session**” box. Note that the selected frequency is the “**Center Frequency**” and not the “Dial Frequency”



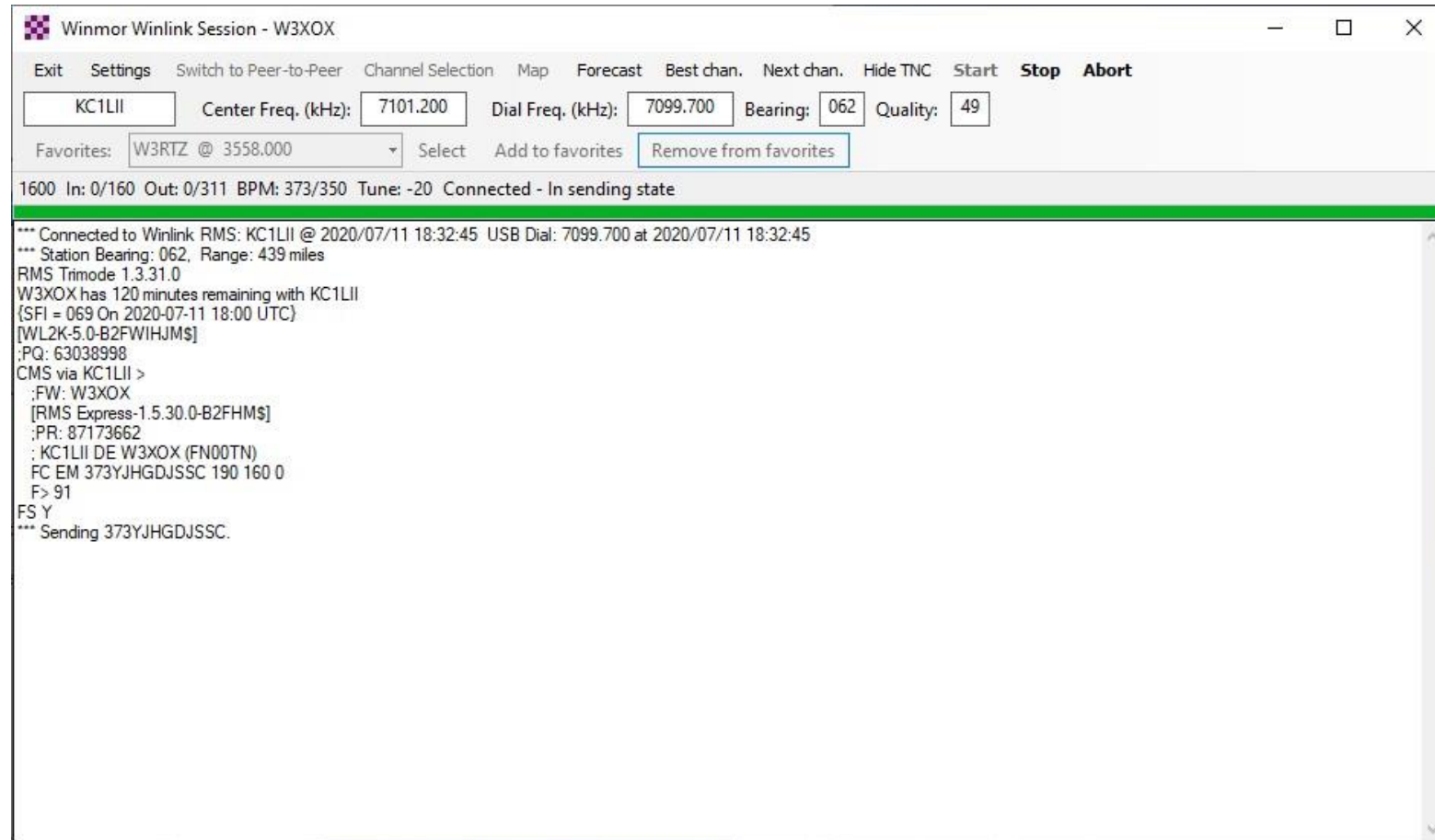
We now need to focus on the “**Winmor Sound Card**” Window to determine if the selected frequency is busy, indicated by the “**Busy Detector**”. If you can not see this window you may have to use “Alt+Tab” to move to it.



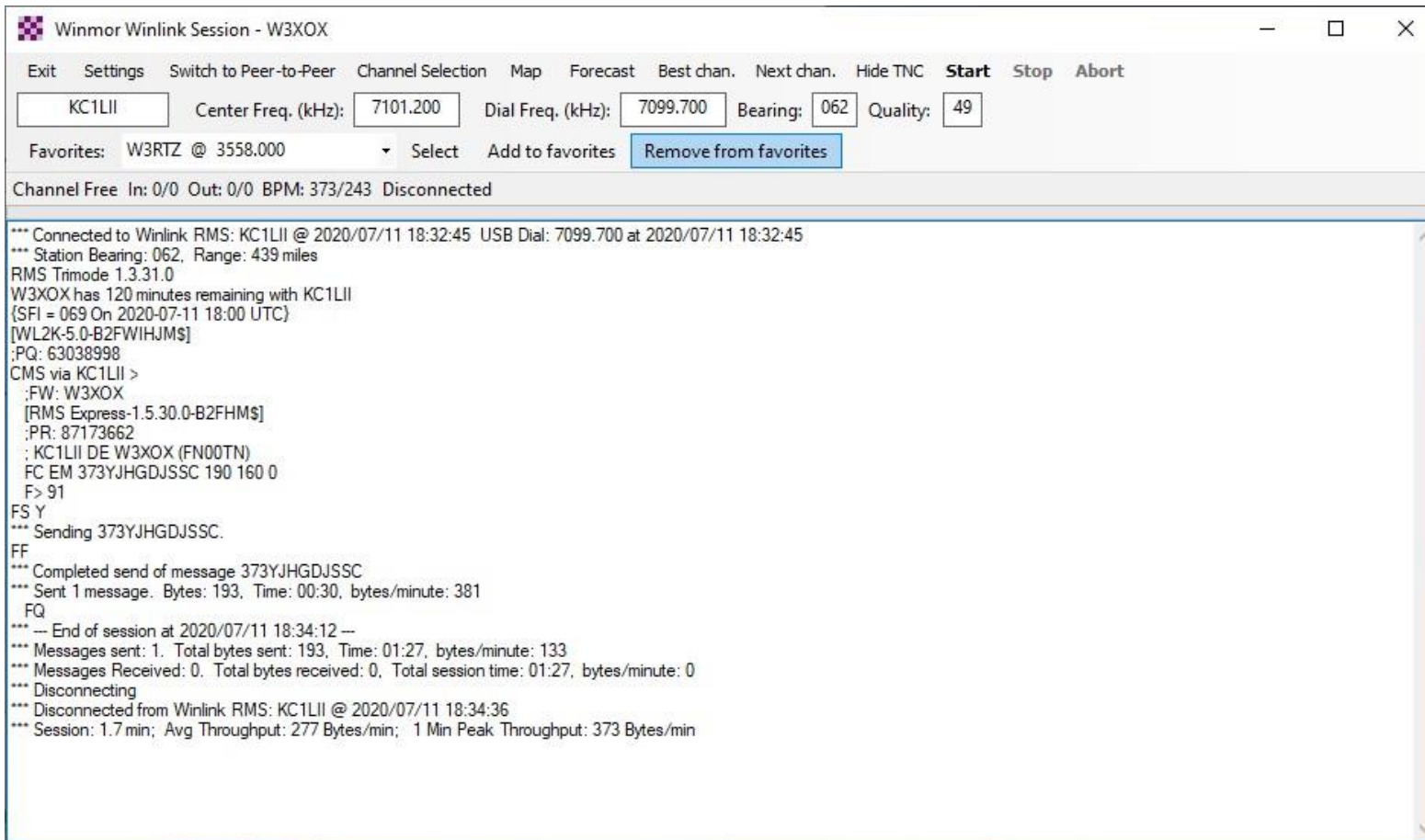
If the “Busy Detector” indicates “Channel Clear” we can left click on “Start”



Your radio will now go into and out of transmit as the connection to the server is made and the message passed.



When the “Session Window” shows “Completed Send Of Message” and then “Disconnected” you have successfully sent your first Winlink message.



The screenshot shows the Winmor Winlink Session - W3XOX window. The interface includes a menu bar with options like Exit, Settings, Switch to Peer-to-Peer, Channel Selection, Map, Forecast, Best chan., Next chan., Hide TNC, Start, Stop, and Abort. Below the menu bar, there are input fields for KC1LII, Center Freq. (kHz): 7101.200, Dial Freq. (kHz): 7099.700, Bearing: 062, and Quality: 49. There are also buttons for Favorites, Select, Add to favorites, and Remove from favorites. The status bar at the top indicates Channel Free In: 0/0 Out: 0/0 BPM: 373/243 Disconnected. The main text area shows the session log, which includes the following text:

```
*** Connected to Winlink RMS: KC1LII @ 2020/07/11 18:32:45 USB Dial: 7099.700 at 2020/07/11 18:32:45
*** Station Bearing: 062, Range: 439 miles
RMS Trimode 1.3.31.0
W3XOX has 120 minutes remaining with KC1LII
{SFI = 069 On 2020-07-11 18:00 UTC}
[WL2K-5.0-B2FWIHJM$]
:PQ: 63038998
CMS via KC1LII >
:FW: W3XOX
[RMS Express-1.5.30.0-B2FHM$]
:PR: 87173662
: KC1LII DE W3XOX (FN00TN)
FC EM 373YJHGDJSSC 190 160 0
F> 91
FS Y
*** Sending 373YJHGDJSSC.
FF
*** Completed send of message 373YJHGDJSSC
*** Sent 1 message. Bytes: 193, Time: 00:30, bytes/minute: 381
FQ
*** --- End of session at 2020/07/11 18:34:12 ---
*** Messages sent: 1. Total bytes sent: 193, Time: 01:27, bytes/minute: 133
*** Messages Received: 0. Total bytes received: 0, Total session time: 01:27, bytes/minute: 0
*** Disconnecting
*** Disconnected from Winlink RMS: KC1LII @ 2020/07/11 18:34:36
*** Session: 1.7 min; Avg Throughput: 277 Bytes/min; 1 Min Peak Throughput: 373 Bytes/min
```

Two blue arrows point to the lines "Completed send of message 373YJHGDJSSC" and "Disconnected from Winlink RMS: KC1LII @ 2020/07/11 18:34:36" in the log.

If you are having trouble connecting to a selected server, select a different server and try to connect again.

HF Channel Selector									
Exit Select Update Via Internet Update Via Radio Map Forecast SFI All RMS									
STANDBY - Updating RMS channels propagation indices for IR2UFV									
Callsign	Frequency (kHz)	Mode	Grid Square	Hours	Group	Distance (mi)	Bearing (Degrees)	Path Reliability Estimate	Path Quality Estimate
K3DO	3595.500	1600	FM19GL	00-23	PUBLIC	89	147	70	49
WB9FHP	7091.500	500	EM68SM	00-23	PUBLIC	452	254	70	50
N3HYM-10	3587.500	1600	FM19FK	00-23	PUBLIC	89	150	70	49
KC1LII	7101.200	1600	FN43QG	00-23	PUBLIC	439	062	68	49
K9BBS	7102.500	500	EM68SR	00-23	PUBLIC	447	256	68	49
KK4NTE	7104.000	1600	EM74VV	00-23	PUBLIC	504	221	67	48
WW4MSK	7103.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WW4MSK	7102.500	1600	EM74UW	00-23	PUBLIC	505	222	67	48
WM4RB	7105.500	500	EM75ME	00-23	PUBLIC	515	226	66	47
K4SVK	7103.700	1600	EM95KD	00-23	PUBLIC	402	203	66	47
KF1D	7101.300	1600	FN42FA	00-23	PUBLIC	368	072	66	47
W1EO	7102.500	1600	FN42IM	00-23	PUBLIC	390	067	66	47
W6IDS	7084.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
W6IDS	7161.500	500	EM79NV	00-23	PUBLIC	345	265	65	47
WD1O	7102.500	1600	FN53IX	00-23	PUBLIC	521	060	64	47
N2LEE	3590.000	1600	FM18HX	00-23	PUBLIC	121	154	63	45
KC8YJJ	3589.500	1600	EN90PL	00-23	PUBLIC	122	268	63	45

Thank you for viewing my Winlink Quick Start Setup Guide. I hope it was helpful to you. Please feel free to email me with questions, comments or ways to improve it:
W3XOX@hotmail.com