

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Part 73****[MM Docket No. 99-260, RM-9686]****Radio Broadcasting Services; Bristol, VT****AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Blue Sky Broadcasting, LLC, seeking the allotment of Channel 248A to Bristol, VT, as the community's first local aural service. Channel 248A can be allotted to Bristol in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with respect to domestic allotments without the imposition of a site restriction, at coordinates 44-08-18 NL; 73-05-00 WL. Canadian concurrence as a specially negotiated short-spaced allotment is required since Bristol is located within 320 kilometers (200 miles) of the U.S.-Canadian border and the allotment would be short-spaced to Station CHOM-FM, Channel 249C1, Montreal, Quebec.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before September 7, 1999, and reply comments on or before September 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: David D. Oxenford, Fisher Wayland Cooper Leader & Zaragoza, L.L.P., 2001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006 (Counsel to petitioner).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 99-260, adopted July 7, 1999, and released July 16, 1999. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,*Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 99-18832 Filed 7-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Part 73****[MM Docket No. 99-257, RM-9683]****Radio Broadcasting Services; Centerville, TX****AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This document requests comments on a petition filed by Wolverine Broadcasting proposing the allotment of Channel 274A at Centerville, Texas. The channel can be allotted to Centerville in compliance with the Commission's spacing requirements at coordinates 31-17-00 NL and 95-53-00 WL. There is a site restriction 9.4 kilometers (5.8 miles) east of the community.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before September 7, 1999, and reply comments on or before September 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC. 20554.

In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner's counsel, as follows: Law Offices of Henry E. Crawford, 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036-4192.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Notice of

Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 99-257, adopted July 7, 1999, and released July 16, 1999. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Services, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC. 20036, (202) 857-3800, facsimile (202) 857-3805.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contact.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,*Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 99-18833 Filed 7-22-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 660****[ID. 052799B]****Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Exempted Fishing Permit**

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Receipt of an application for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP).

SUMMARY: NMFS announces receipt of an application for an EFP that would permit the Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative and the Midwater Trawlers Cooperative to use trawl gear to conduct a pre-recruit survey for Pacific whiting.

Such information could improve the ability to determine whiting yields. An EFP is needed to authorize the use of a 1.5 cm mesh liner, smaller than legal 3-inch mesh allowed for midwater trawl gear, that applicants will use to catch pre-recruit whiting. An EFP is also needed to allow the vessels to operate at times and in areas which Federal regulations would otherwise prohibit.

DATES: The survey will begin in July 1999, and is expected to be completed in about 6 weeks.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the EFP are available from Becky Renko, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Renko 206-526-6110.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action is authorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and by the implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.745, which state that EFPs may be used to authorize fishing activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

An EFP application from Dr. Vidar Weststad, who represents the Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative (the

catcher/processor fleet representative in the whiting fishery) and the Midwater Trawlers Cooperative, and a supporting cover memorandum from NMFS, were received and considered by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) at an April 5-9, 1999, meeting in Sacramento, CA. The Council discussed the EFP application, solicited public comment on it, and recommended issuance of the EFP.

The applicant proposes to use two trawl vessels to conduct a pre-recruit survey to establish an annual recruitment index for assessing Pacific whiting year-class strength off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. Such a recruitment survey is consistent with research and data needs identified by the Council for 1998-2000. This EFP would further support a cooperative industry/NMFS program that started in 1998.

During this project, the applicant anticipates a catch of approximately 42 metric tons (mt) of whiting, less than 0.02 percent of the 1999 optimum yield, and an incidental catch of less than 7 mt (consisting of Pacific herring, sanddab, jack mackerel, spiny dogfish, yellowtail rockfish, widow rockfish, sablefish,

flatfish, and others). The applicant expects a low incidental take of chinook salmon (approximately 45 fish). Except for small quantities preserved for laboratory study, or to fill Federal, state, or university requests, the applicant will not retain any fish caught. The applicant expects that the whiting taken will be too small and too fragile to sell or donate to a foodbank. Hence, the applicant will discard the whiting at sea after biological samples of whiting are collected.

The survey will begin south of Monterey Bay at 36°40' north latitude and proceed north to 48°20' north latitude. Trawl stations will be set at 20 mile intervals and located between the 50 and 200 meter depth contours. The trawl gear used in this survey will be comparable to that used by NMFS survey vessels.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: July 19, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-18883 Filed 7-22-99; 8:45 am]

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