

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. 99-2771 Filed 2-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 99-18, RM-9414]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Washburn, WI

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document requests comments on a petition filed by The State of Wisconsin Educational Communications Board proposing the allotment of Channel 284A to Washburn, Wisconsin, and reservation of the channel for noncommercial educational use. The channel can be allotted to Washburn without a site restriction at coordinates 46-40-12 NL and 90-53-36 WL. Canadian concurrence will be requested for the allotment of Channel \*284A at Washburn.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before March 22, 1999, and reply comments on or before April 6, 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: Todd D. Gray, Margaret L. Miller, Christine J. Newcomb, Dow Lohnes & Albertson, pllc, 1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036.

**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. 99-18, adopted January 13, 1999, and released January 29, 1999. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the Commission's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., 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, N.W., 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. 99-2772 Filed 2-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 226

[Docket No. 990128036-9036-01; I.D. 033198A]

RIN 0648-AG49

#### Designated Critical Habitat: Proposed Critical Habitat for Nine Evolutionarily Significant Units of Steelhead in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS proposes to designate critical habitat for nine evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) of steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) previously listed and currently proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Proposed critical habitat occurs in the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. The areas described in this proposed rule represent the current freshwater and estuarine range inhabited by the ESU. Freshwater critical habitat includes all

waterways and substrates below longstanding, naturally impassable barriers (i.e., natural waterfalls in existence for at least several hundred years) and several dams that block access to former anadromous habitats. The economic and other impacts resulting from this critical habitat designation are expected to be minimal.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by May 6, 1999. Requests for public hearings must be received by March 22, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this proposed rule or requests for reference materials should be sent to Branch Chief, Protected Resources Division, NMFS, Northwest Region, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737; telefax (503) 230-5435.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Garth Griffin, (503) 231-2005, Craig Wingert, (562) 980-4021, or Chris Mobley, 301-713-1401.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On May 20, 1993, NMFS announced its intent to conduct a status review to identify all coastal steelhead ESU(s) within California, Oregon, and Washington and to determine whether any identified ESU(s) warranted listing under the ESA. Subsequently, on February 16, 1994, NMFS received a petition from the Oregon Natural Resources Council and from 15 co-petitioners to list all steelhead (or specific ESUs, races, or stocks) within the states of California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. In response to this petition, NMFS announced the expansion of its status review to include inland steelhead populations occurring in eastern Washington and Oregon and the State of Idaho (59 FR 27527, May 27, 1994).

On August 9, 1996, NMFS published a proposed rule to list 10 ESUs of west coast steelhead as threatened or endangered under the ESA; NMFS solicited comments on the proposal (61 FR 41541, August 9, 1996). In this document, NMFS concluded that the Middle Columbia River ESU warranted classification as a candidate species since NMFS was concerned about the status of steelhead in this area, but lacked sufficient information to merit a proposed listing, and that the Upper Willamette River steelhead ESU did not warrant listing, based on available scientific information.

On August 18, 1997, NMFS published a final rule listing five ESUs as threatened and endangered under the ESA (62 FR 43937). In a separate document published on the same day,