Fireweed Communications Corporation, licensee of station KYE-TV, NTSC Channel 5, Anchorage, Alaska, requesting the substitution of DTV Channel 6 for its assigned DTV Channel 22. DTV Channel 6 can be allotted to Anchorage, Alaska, in compliance with the principle community coverage requirements of Section 73.625(a) at reference coordinates 61°20′10″ N and 149°30′47″ W. As requested, we propose to allot DTV Channel 6 to Anchorage with a power of 45 (kW) and a height above average terrain (HAAT) of 250 meters.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before July 27, 2000, and reply comments on or before August 11, 2000.

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: Jeremy Lansman, President, Fireweed Communications Corporation, 3700 Woodland Drive, #800, Anchorage, Alaska, (petitioner).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418–1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 00–100, adopted June 2, 2000, and released June 5, 2000. 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.

Dave Dyer, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 826–0347.

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Dave Dyer, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 826–0347.
Summarize the content of the document:

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 000524152–0152–01; I.D. 030100C]

RIN 0648–AM34

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Requirement to Use Vessel Monitoring System Transmitter for Atka Mackerel in Aleutian Islands Subarea


ACTION: Proposed rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS publishes a proposed rule to require vessels participating in the directed fishery for Atka mackerel in the Aleutian Islands subarea (AI) of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area to carry and use a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) transmitter. This action is necessary to enhance monitoring of fishery activities within critical habitat areas. It is intended to further the conservation goals and objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP).

DATES: Comments must be received by June 26, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Sue Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668, Attn: Lori Gravel. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or Internet. Hand or courier delivered comments may be sent to the Federal Building, 709 West 9th Street, Room 453, Juneau, AK 99801. Copies of the Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (RIR/IRFA) prepared for this action may be obtained from the same address or by calling the Alaska Region, NMFS, at 907–586–7228. Send comments on collection-of information requirements to the above address and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington DC 20503 (Attn: NOAA Desk Officer).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alan Kinsolving, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background**

The number of Steller sea lions (Eumetopias jubatus) in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area has declined significantly during the past several decades and in 1997 NMFS listed the western stock of Steller sea lions as an endangered species. A requirement of the Endangered Species Act is that Federal actions affecting the critical habitat of a listed species must not jeopardize the continued existence of the populations of those species or adversely affect or modify their critical habitat. Atka mackerel is an important prey species for Steller sea lions and stocks adequate for the food needs of Steller sea lions must remain available in Steller sea lion critical habitat. Hence, the Atka mackerel fishery must be managed to provide for the food needs of Steller sea lions and avoid potential jeopardy to them.

On January 22, 1999, NMFS published a final rule that reduces the percentage of Atka mackerel taken from Steller sea lion critical habitat over a 4-year period in the Western and Central Districts of the AI (64 FR 3446). The final rule also prohibits all trawling for groundfish within areas designated as Steller sea lion critical habitat when NMFS determines that the harvest of Atka mackerel has reached the applicable limits specified in the...