

Broadcasting Company requesting the allotment of channel 51 to Bend, Oregon, as the community's second local commercial television service. Channel 51 can be allotted to Bend consistent with section 73.623(d) of the Commission's Rules with a zero offset at coordinates (44-03-30 N. and 121-18-30 W.). Pursuant to the provisions outlined in the Commission's Public Notice, released November 22, 1999, DA 99-2605, we will not accept competing expressions of interest in the use of television channel 51 at Bend.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before May 31, 2001, and reply comments on or before June 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., 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: Gene A. Bechtel, Bechtel & Cole, Suite 250, 1901 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 (Counsel for 3-J Broadcasting Company).

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. 01-82, adopted April 6, 2001, and released April 9, 2001. 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, S.W., 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

Television broadcasting.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR part 73 as follows:

PART 73—TELEVISION BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334, and 336.

§ 73.606 [Amended]

2. Section 73.606(b), the Table of Television Allotments under Oregon is amended by adding TV Channel 51 at Bend.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,
Chief, Video Services Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 01-9678 Filed 4-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 01-862, MM Docket No. 01-84, RM-10067]

Television Broadcast Service; Bay City, MI

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Vista Communications, Inc. and Pelican Broadcasting Company, Inc., mutually exclusive applicants for a construction permit for a new TV station on channel 61 at Bay City, Michigan, requesting the substitution of channel 46 for channel 61+ at Bay City. TV channel 46 can be allotted to Bay City, Michigan, in compliance with section 73.623(c) of the Commission's Rules with a minus offset at coordinates (43-26-07 N. and 84-26-12 W.). However, since the community of Bay City is located within 400 kilometers of the U.S.-Canadian border, concurrence by the Canadian government must be obtained for this proposal. Pursuant to the provisions outlined in the Commission's Public Notice, released November 22, 1999, DA 99-2605, we will not accept competing expressions of interest in the use of television channel 46- at Bay City.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before May 31, 2001, and reply comments on or before June 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., 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: Vincent A.

Pepper, Pepper & Corazzini, LLP, 1776 K Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006 (Counsel for Vista Communications); and , Bruce A. Eisen, Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, LLP, Suite 1100, 901 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005 (Counsel for Pelican Broadcasting Company, Inc.).

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. 01-84, adopted April 6, 2001, and released April 9, 2001. 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, S.W., 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

Television broadcasting.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR part 73 as follows:

PART 73—TELEVISION BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334, and 336.

§ 73.606 [Amended]

2. Section 73.606(b), the Table of Television Allotments under Michigan is amended by removing TV Channel 61+ and adding TV Channel 46- at Bay City.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Services Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 01-9679 Filed 4-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 300

[I.D. 121800E]

Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Public Hearing

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

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: On March 30, 2001, NMFS published a proposed rule under the authority of the Tuna Conventions Act of 1949 (Act). NMFS indicated in the proposed rule that a public hearing would be held to obtain public comment on the proposed rule. This notice announces the place, date, and time of the hearing. In addition to holding the hearing, NMFS is accepting written comments on the proposed rule.

DATES: The public hearing will be held on April 27, 2001, at 9 a.m. Written comments will be accepted through April 30, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 601 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101; telephone: 619-239-2400; fax: 619-239-1520. Written comments should be sent to Svein Fougner, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, or faxed to 562-980-4047. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Svein Fougner, (562) 980-4040.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 30, 2001, NMFS published a proposed rule (66 FR 17387) to implement two recommendations that were agreed to by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and approved by the Department of State in accordance with the Act. The first recommendation would establish measures implementing a 1-year pilot program to reduce bycatch in the tuna purse seine fisheries conducted by vessels from members of the IATTC. The second would require commercial fishermen who fish in the Convention Area (set forth at 50 CFR part 300, subpart C) to report certain

information about their vessels for a regional vessel register being developed by the IATTC. Under the Act, a public hearing must be held before implementing IATTC recommendations.

Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Svein Fougner (see **ADDRESSES**), 562-980-4040 (voice) or 562-980-4047 (facsimile), at least 5 days prior to the hearing date.

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

Dated: April 13, 2001.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 01-9732 Filed 4-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22 -S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[I.D. 040501C]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Red Snapper

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for emergency rulemaking and request for comments.

SUMMARY: NOAA announces receipt of a petition for emergency rulemaking or fishery management plan action under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and the Administrative Procedure Act. The Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) has petitioned the U.S. Department of Commerce to promulgate an emergency rule to reduce the 2001 total allowable catch (TAC) in the directed commercial and recreational fisheries for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico from 9.12 million lb (4.14 million kg) to not more than 3 million lb (1.36 million kg). Also, the TSA petition requests that the emergency action shorten the recreational fishing season as part of the TAC reduction effort.

DATES: Comments will be accepted through May 21, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the petition are available, and written comments on the need for such a regulation, its

objectives, alternative approaches, and any other comments may be addressed to Phil Steele, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702; telephone 727-570-5305. Comments may also be sent via fax to 727-570-5583. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phil Steele, telephone 727-570-5305, fax 727-570-5583, e-mail Phil.steele@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The petition filed by TSA maintains that overfishing has been occurring in the Gulf of Mexico red snapper fishery and will occur again in 2001, thereby necessitating emergency rulemaking to reduce the 2001 TAC for the directed fisheries. Included in the requested emergency action for TAC reduction is a request to shorten the recreational fishing season (currently April 21–October 31, 2001).

The TSA petition states that the following are causes of previous and continuing overfishing: (1) TSA asserts that the current definition of “optimum yield” (OY) in the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico does not conform to the more rigorous definition of OY required by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, which amended the Magnuson-Stevens Act; (2) TSA asserts that NMFS’ scientific studies indicate that bycatch reduction devices required in shrimp trawls in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico west of Cape San Blas, Florida, have reduced juvenile red snapper mortality by 40 percent or less instead of the 50 to 60 percent reduction necessary as a basis for the present 9.12-million-lb (4.14-million kg) TAC. Further, TSA asserts that NMFS and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) have greatly exaggerated the importance (positive impact) of bycatch reduction for rebuilding the red snapper stock; (3) TSA asserts that recent scientific information presented to the Council’s Scientific Advisory Committee indicates that the overfished condition of the red snapper fishery is a result of excessive fishing pressure by the directed fisheries, in particular the recreational sector of the fishery, and not because of bycatch mortality associated with shrimp harvest; (4) TSA states that the recreational sector of the directed fishery continues to exceed its annual quota under the present season opening and closing dates; (5) TSA states that NMFS is significantly underestimating fishing effort in the recreational sector, which allows that sector to harvest red