

II. Basis for Final Rules
III. Final Rules

I. Background

On April 5, 2024, the Commission issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comments on the Commission's review of the system for regulating rates and classes for Market Dominant products (ratemaking system).¹ In Order No. 8891, the Commission determined that the system for regulating rates and classes for Market Dominant products was not achieving the objectives appearing in 39 U.S.C. 3622(b), taking into account the factors in 39 U.S.C. 3622(c) and has determined to undertake a phased approach to considering modifications necessary to achieve the statutory objectives.²

On June 9, 2025, the Commission announced its consideration of and sought public comment on two proposed revisions to the ratemaking system for Phase 2(a) of this proceeding.³ After considering comments, the Commission finalizes both revisions with minor alterations.

II. Basis for Final Rules

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 503 and 3622, the Commission adopts the rules proposed in Order No. 8893 with minor alterations as discussed below. Both revisions are necessary to address areas that frustrate the ability of the ratemaking system to achieve the statutory objectives found in 39 U.S.C. 3622. Balancing the statutory objectives and considering the statutory factors has required the Commission to consider the necessary tradeoffs in designing the system. The Commission adopts both revisions in Phase 2(a) because they are comparatively simpler needed changes to the system and important first steps aimed at achieving relevant statutory objectives in conjunction with each other.

III. Final Rules

First, the Commission will restrict the Postal Service from adjusting rates of general applicability for Market Dominant products more than once per

fiscal year, unless such rate adjustment filings only include rate decreases or are *de minimis* rate increases. The Commission adjusts the implementation period to March 1, 2026 through September 30, 2030. The Commission considers the Postal Service's claims regarding any potential negative impacts to the achievement of Objectives 4, 5, and 8 to be overstated and outweighed by the beneficial effects to the achievement of Objectives 1, 2, and 6, and considers Factors 3, 7, 12, and 14. *See generally* 39 U.S.C. 3622(b) and (c). Therefore, on balance, the Commission finds adopting the rule change to be beneficial and a necessary modification to the ratemaking system's design.

Second, the Commission corrects a regulatory gap to ensure that workshare discounts remain as close to avoided costs as possible. The Commission adjusts the existing rule governing application for waiver to allow the Postal Service to seek waiver of the new workshare discount rule under limited circumstances. As amended, the final rule balances the statutory objectives by advancing the goals of Objectives 1, 2, and 5, while continuing to allow pricing flexibility under Objective 4. The benefits of adopting this rule change outweigh the minimal limitations on the Postal Service's pricing flexibility—especially considering the expansion of the waiver process. Consideration of Factors 5, 7, 12, and 14 also supports adopting this rule change. *See generally* 39 U.S.C. 3622(b) and (c).

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 3030

Administrative practice and procedure, Fees, Postal Service.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Commission amends 39 CFR part 3030 as follows:

PART 3030—REGULATION OF RATES FOR MARKET DOMINANT PRODUCTS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 3030 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 39 U.S.C. 503; 3622.

■ 2. Add § 3030.103 to read as follows:

§ 3030.103 Implementation of rate adjustments.

(a) Except as described in paragraph (b) of this section, effective March 1, 2026, through September 30, 2030, the Postal Service may not adjust rates of general applicability for Market Dominant products using the rate authorities provided under subparts C through H of this part more than one time each fiscal year.

(b) Rate adjustment filings that only include rate decreases calculated pursuant to § 3030.244 or are de

minimis rate increases compliant with § 3030.129 are not subject to paragraph (a) of this section.

■ 3. In § 3030.282, add paragraph (d) to read as follows:

§ 3030.282 Increased pricing efficiency.

* * * * *

(d) No proposal to adjust a rate associated with a workshare discount may increase the absolute value of the difference between the workshare discount and the cost avoided by the Postal Service for not providing the applicable service, unless it is set in accordance with a Commission order issued pursuant to § 3030.286.

■ 4. In § 3030.286, revise paragraphs (a) and (b) to read as follows:

§ 3030.286 Application for waiver.

(a) In every instance in which the Postal Service determines to adjust a rate associated with a workshare discount in a manner that does not comply with the limitations imposed by §§ 3030.282(d) and 3030.283 through 3030.284, the Postal Service shall file an application for waiver. The Postal Service must file any application for waiver at least 60 days prior to filing the proposal to adjust a rate associated with the applicable workshare discount. In its application for waiver, the Postal Service shall indicate the approximate filing date for its next rate adjustment filing.

(b) The application for waiver shall be supported by a preponderance of the evidence and demonstrate that a waiver from the limitations imposed by §§ 3030.282(d) and 3030.283 through 3030.284 should be granted. Preponderance of the evidence means proof by information that, compared with that opposing it, leads to the conclusion that the fact at issue is more probably true than not.

* * * * *

By the Commission, Commissioner Ann C. Fisher dissenting.

Mallory S. Richards,
Attorney-Advisor.

[FR Doc. 2026–00871 Filed 1–15–26; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 26–11; FR ID 325284]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Various Locations

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

¹ Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Statutory Review of the System for Regulating Rates and Class for Market Dominant Products, April 5, 2025 (Order No. 7032).

² Order Presenting Findings on the Statutory Review of the System for Regulating Rates and Classes for Market Dominant Products (Phase 1 Completion), June 9, 2025 (Order No. 8891); Procedural Order on Phased Rulemaking, June 9, 2025 (Order No. 8892).

³ *See generally* Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Statutory Review of the System for Regulating Rates and Classes for Market Dominant Products (Phase 2A Initiation), June 9, 2025 (Order No. 8893); *see also* Order No. 8892 at 4.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends the Table of FM Allotments, of the Federal Communications Commission's (Commission) rules, by removing certain vacant FM allotment channels that were auctioned through our FM competitive bidding process and are no longer considered vacant FM allotments. The FM allotments are currently authorized licensed stations. FM assignments for authorized stations and reserved facilities will be reflected solely in Media Bureau's Licensing Management System (LMS). These FM allotment channels have previously undergone notice and comment rule making. This action constitutes an editorial change in the Table of FM Allotments. Therefore, we find for good cause that further notice and comment are unnecessary.

DATES: Effective January 16, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rolanda F. Smith, Media Bureau, (202) 418-2054, Rolanda-Faye.Smith@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's *Order*, adopted January 5, 2026, and released January 6, 2026. The full text of this Commission decision is available online at <https://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>. The full text of this document can also be downloaded in Word or Portable Document Format (PDF) at <https://www.fcc.gov/edocs>. This document does not contain information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. The Commission will not send a copy of the *Order* in a report to be sent to Congress and the Government Accountability Office pursuant to the Congressional Review Act, *see* 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A), because the *Order* is a ministerial action.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio, Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

Nazifa Sawez,

Assistant Chief, Audio Division, Media Bureau.

Final Rules

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

PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

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

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 155, 301, 303, 307, 309, 310, 334, 336, 339.

§ 73.202 [Amended]

- 2. In § 73.202(b), amend table 1 (Table of FM Allotments) by:
 - a. Removing the entry for “Maplesville” under Alabama;
 - b. Removing the entries for “Overgaard” and “Sells” under Arizona;
 - c. Removing the entry for “Lake Isabella” under Michigan;
 - d. Removing the entry for “Bruce” under Mississippi;
 - e. Removing the entry for “Caliente” under Nevada;
 - f. Removing the entry for “Coupeville” under Washington; and
 - g. Removing the entry for “Medicine Bow” under Wyoming.

[FR Doc. 2026-00846 Filed 1-15-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 635**

[Docket No. 220919-0193; RTID 0648-XF428]

**Atlantic Highly Migratory Species;
Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries;
Closure of the General Category
January Through March Fishery for 2026**

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS closes the General category fishery for Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) for the remainder of the January through March time period. The General category may only retain, possess, or land large medium and giant (*i.e.*, measuring 73 inches (185 centimeters (cm)) curved fork length (CFL) or greater) BFT when the fishery is open. This action applies to Atlantic Tunas General category (commercial) permitted vessels and Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) Charter/Headboat permitted vessels with a commercial sale endorsement when fishing commercially for BFT. During the closure, fishermen aboard General category permitted vessels and HMS Charter/Headboat permitted vessels may tag and release BFT of all sizes, subject to the requirements of catch-and-release and tag-and-release programs. On June 1, 2026, the fishery will reopen automatically.

DATES: Effective 11:30 p.m., local time, January 14, 2026, through March 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Aiman Raza, aiman.raza@noaa.gov, or Larry Redd, Jr. larry.redd@noaa.gov, by email, or by phone at 301-427-8503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Atlantic BFT fisheries are managed under the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (HMS FMP) and its amendments, pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and consistent with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA; 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). ATCA is the implementing statute for binding recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The HMS FMP and its amendments are implemented by regulations at 50 CFR part 635. Section 635.27(a) divides the U.S. BFT quota, established by ICCAT and as implemented by the United States among the various domestic fishing categories, per the allocations established in the HMS FMP and its amendments. NMFS is required under the Magnuson-Stevens Act at 16 U.S.C. 1854(g)(1)(D) to provide U.S. fishing vessels with a reasonable opportunity to harvest quotas under relevant international fishery agreements such as the ICCAT Convention, which is implemented domestically pursuant to ATCA.

Under § 635.28(a)(1), NMFS files a closure action with the Office of the Federal Register for publication when a BFT quota (or subquota) is reached or is projected to be reached. Retaining, possessing, or landing BFT under that quota category is prohibited on or after the effective date and time of a closure action for that category until the opening of the relevant subsequent quota period or until such date as specified.

As described in § 635.27(a), the current baseline U.S. BFT quota is 1,316.14 metric tons (mt) (not including the 25 mt ICCAT allocated to the United States to account for bycatch of BFT in pelagic longline fisheries in the Northeast Distant Gear Restricted Area per § 635.27(a)(3)). The General category baseline quota is 710.7 mt. The General category baseline quota is suballocated to different time periods. Relevant to this action, the baseline subquota for the January through March time period is 37.7 mt. On January 8, 2026, NMFS adjusted the January through March subquota to be 63.7 mt (91 FR 1094, January 12, 2026).

Separate from this action, NMFS is working on a rulemaking that would implement the 2025 ICCAT recommendation (Recommendation 25–