

NEWSLETTER

Edition 19 Summer/Autumn 2017

Colombia soon to get 5 MHz

AS the end result of efforts made by the Colombian national Amateur Radio society, the LCRA - *Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados* and local partners the Liga Radio Bogotá (LRB), following a petition to the

Colombian telecoms regulator, **ANE - Agencia Nacional del Espectro**, (*Colombian Spectrum Regulatory Authority*), the new WRC-15 Secondary 5 MHz allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz has been made available.

It will become effective when the Colombian Communications Ministry grants the aforementioned privileges by administrative act. Other new bands obtained at the same time were 2200 and 630m. (Tnx: LCRA, IARU R2)



...and Argentina



THE *Radio Club Argentino - RCA*, the country's national Amateur Radio society, has also been successful with their petition to the Argentine communication authorities in changes to the Argentine Amateur licence following their participation in the preparatory meetings for WRCs 07, 12 and 15. Amongst the provisions of the new licence is

the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary 60m allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz at 25W EIRP with the following bandplan: 5351.5 to 5354 - CW, Digimodes; 5354 to 5366 - AM, FM, ATV, CW, SSB, DIGIMODES, SSTV, FAX, PACKET; 5366 to 5366.5 - CW, DIGIMODES.

The government **BOLETÍN OFICIAL** contains the new

licence details and can be accessed via the RCA website at https://www.lu4aa.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Resolucion-3635E_17.pdf

The changes, which also include the addition of 630m and extensions to 160, 80 and 30m, will come into effect 90 days from its publication. (Tnx: RCA, Southgate)

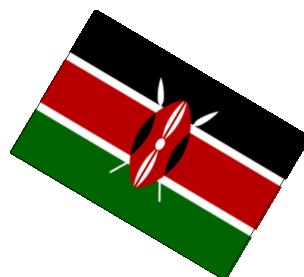
Kenya gets 5275 - 5450 kHz with 400W PEP !

FOLLOWING a request from the *Radio Society of Kenya (RSK)*, Kenya state radio regulator, **CAK (Communications Authority of Kenya)** advised the RSK that a new 60m

allocation has been granted between 5275 kHz and 5450 kHz on a Secondary basis. All modes are permitted with a maximum power output of 400W PEP.

(Tnx: 5Z4XB, 5Z4NU, CAK)

http://www.ca.go.ke/images/downloads/FrequencySpectrum/NationalFrequencyAllocation/The_National_Table_of_Frequency_Allocation_2017.pdf (p.52)



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MEXICO 's national Amateur Radio society - *FMRE* (*Federacion Mexicana de Radio Experimentadores*) informs us that the Mexican telecomms regulator, *IFT* -

Instituto Federal de Telecomunicaciones, has approved Amateur operation on the new WRC-15 60m Amateur Secondary allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz.

Maximum power permitted is 20W EIRP. See <http://cnaf.ift.org.mx/Consulta/Index> for the frequency allocation table. (Tnx: IFT, XE2O, FMRE)

Mexico arrives on 5 MHz

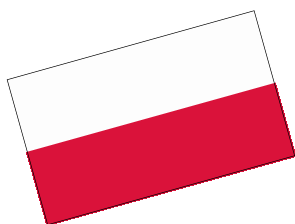
Status Quo for Cuba

THE Cuban telecomms authorities have decided to

continue with their 2014 Amateur Secondary allocation of

5418 to 5430 kHz under the same conditions as before.

See the [Wikipedia 60 Meter Band page](#) for full details



ON Thursday, May 11, 2017, the Polish Government published a gazette notice amending regulations in the [Polish National Frequency Allocation Table](#).

Polish Amateurs are now permitted access to the WRC-15 Amateur Secondary allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz under ITU Footnote 5.133B with 15W EIRP.

According to the gazette notice, these regulations come into force 14 days following its publication, so were effective from May 26, 2017. (Tnx: PZK, OK1RP)

Poland gains 60m Allocation

Jamaica joins 5 MHz

IN a recent update to their [National Frequency Allocation Table](#) (p.8) published by regulator the *Jamaican Spectrum Management Authority (SMA)*, the

WRC-15 60m Amateur Secondary Allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz has been granted under ITU Footnote 5.133B, which in the case of Jamaica means a maximum power of

25W EIRP. The *Jamaican Amateur Radio Association (JARA)* is advocating use of the new IARU Region 2 60m bandplan.

(Tnx: 6Y5DW, 6Y5HN, SMA)



WRC-15 60m Allocation for Cyprus



THE Cyprus telecom regulator, the *Department of Electronic Communications*, issued a gazette notice on Fri-

30 June 2017 updating the [national frequency table](#) (in Greek) to include the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary

60m allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz with a maximum power limit of 15W EIRP. (Tnx: Cyprus ARS, DEC)

....and Belize

THE new *Belize Amateur Radio Club (BARC)* website carries information that

the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary 60m allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz has

become available with a maximum power limit of 25W EIRP. (Tnx: BARC)



Philippines granted 5 MHz Allocation



THE Philippines Telecom Regulator, the *National Telecommunications Commission*,

has [permitted access to the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary 60m allocation](#) of 5351.5

to 5366.5 kHz, with a max. power limit of 15W EIRP. (Tnx: DU1GM, PARA, OK1RP)

Estonia joins 60m

60m became available on a regular basis to Estonian (ES) class A and B Amateurs on 1 September 2017. The band segment and maximum allowed power

according to the ITU rule 5.133B is 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz, max. 15W EIRP. There is also the possibility of using the frequency segment 5370 to 5450 kHz with a max.

power of 20dBW (100W) TX output but unfortunately so far only on special permission basis and only for local rescue.

(Tnx: ES1CW, ES9HQ, W8GEX)



Croatia, Spain and Germany implement WRC-15

FOLLOWING the successful result of our 60m proposal at WRC-15, Croatia, Spain and

Germany made available the allocation in interim. They have now fully implemented it.



Canada proposes Existing Channels plus WRC-15

Canada



RADIO Amateurs of Canada (RCA) reports that the Government of Canada has recently released a consultation document to implement the changes from World Radio Conference 2015 (WRC-15) including 60m. Note that these are in addition to continuing the domestic allocation of five channels congruent with the United States. The announcement was made in Gazette Notice SMSE-005-17 which can be found at <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf11254.html>.

The consultation document "Proposed Revisions to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations [2017 edition]" is available at: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf11306.html>. The consultation is the first step in the process for regulatory changes. After the 60-day period, responses are tabulated, made public and the regulator **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)** then determines how to proceed – with no fixed schedule it can be months or much longer. Even when these are added to the

Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations, until "RBR-4 – Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service" (Regulations for Amateur Radio) is updated to include them, they would not be available for Amateur use. It is hoped this may be helpful to use as an example to other International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 countries to convince them to both keep any existing 60m domestic allocation and add the ITU allocation as well.

(Tnx: VE3YV, RAC, ISED)

5 MHz Use & Interoperability during Hurricanes

THE 2017 US Hurricane season saw the use of 5 MHz in Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Amateur Radio volunteers from the St. Croix Amateur Radio Club supported the Hurricane Irma response at the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA), utilizing 60m band channel 2 (5346.5 kHz USB) to coordinate emergency communications. The net was continuously monitored and had scheduled situation reports (SITREPS) at 1200 and 2200 UTC.

The club's NP2VI was the net control station at the St. Croix Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with the tactical ident. "St. Croix EOC". Participants in the net calls included the Virgin Islands National Guard Joint Force Headquarters,

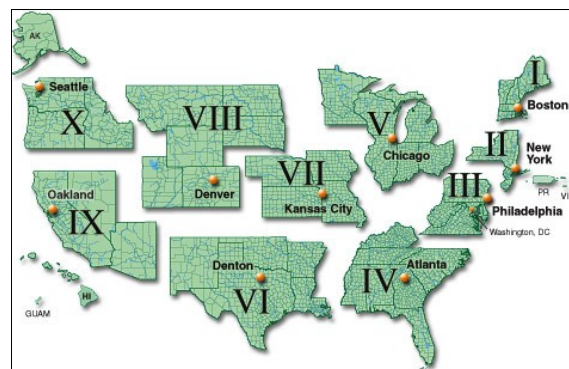
National Guard Task Forces, and VITEMA EOCs on St. Croix & St. Thomas.

Three Puerto Rico Army MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) members participated in the updates. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had personnel on two Navy vessels - the USS *Kearsarge* and *Iwo Jima* who worked directly with USVI Amateurs via 60m interoperability channels.

FEMA also activated 60m interoperability nets Sept. 19 for Hurricane Maria. These nets remained active until the storm had passed and the need no longer existed.

These FEMA stations were monitoring and/or conducting interoperable nets on the 5 MHz/60m band frequencies in support of Hurricane Maria: Callsigns were as follows:

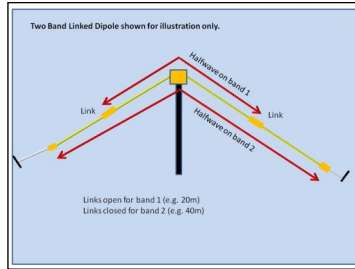
- | | |
|--|--------|
| Region 1 | KF1EMA |
| Region 2 | KF2EMA |
| <i>(includes Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands)</i> | |
| Region 3 | KF3EMA |
| Region 4 | KF4EMA |
| Maynard MERS | NF1EMA |
| Frederick MERS | NF3EMA |
| Thomasville MERS | NF4EMA |
| <i>(MERS = Mobile Emergency Response Support Vehicles)</i> | |
| Frequencies used were | |
| Ch. 1 - 5331.0 kHz (primary voice) & | |
| Ch. 2 - 5346.5 kHz (digital). | |
- (Tnx: ARRL)



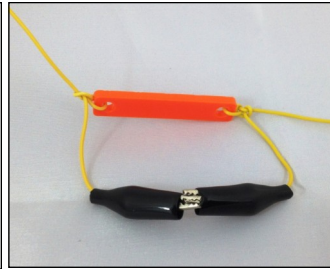
FEMA US Regions

New portable antenna covers 5 Mhz/60m band

SOTABEAMS new 'Midi-Hopper' three-band linked dipole antenna covers 60m, 40m and 20m. It's a full-size, full-performance antenna. Ready tuned, it includes a balun, feeder and guying for a 7m telescopic pole. It operates by linking in or out various sections of the dipole to change bands.



Linked - Dipole Principle



One of the Dipole Links



Beware of the FAT !

NO, it isn't a health warning! Since the implementation date of 2017 for the decisions of WRC-15, some Amateurs have been stating that their country has implemented the WRC-15 60m allocation, having seen their

country's national FAT or Frequency Allocation Table. **BEWARE -THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY THE CASE !**

The UK is a classic example. Despite the fact that the

new WRC-15 60m allocation is listed in the UK FAT, regulator *Oftcom* and the UK *Ministry of Defence (MoD)* maintain the current frequency structure.

It would appear that the

regulators are updating, adding all the WRC-15 decisions - but it does not always mean they have agreed to all of them. Make sure your national society officially agrees the release of the band with your regulator.

Readers' Feedback -

Peter, W1UU writes.....

"Hi Paul,

I am not sure if the following information fits your format, but I find your newsletter very interesting.

First, I have been specializing in the JT65/JT9 modes, and completed a 9-Band WAS. Of interest to the 60 Meter community, I have been able to finally work WAS using the JT65a mode, and therefore I have now made 10-band WAS from

160-10 meters.

In checking with W8GEX, he indicated that 19 WAS users were documented for CW/SSB modes. He felt I was the first to do so using JT-mode. I also noted that the DX country total was something in the order of 156 countries, and that is outstanding. I have recorded 67 countries and 23 zones so 60 meters can be used for more exploring.

I made all my 60-meter Qs with a Flex-5000a that was

upgraded to 60 meter operation about 2 years ago. I have since upgraded to a Flex-6500.

Use an autotuned 43' vertical with about 25 radials. I also use a Wellbrook mag loop antenna for receiving, and that is mostly used for 160 meters, but marginally improves reception on 60-meters.

Fortunately, my location on Cape Cod that sticks out into the Atlantic Ocean makes for interesting Qs on

60 meters. I pay attention to the grey line, and often I can work into Europe 1-2 hours before sunset here, and usually 1 hour after sunrise in Europe.

Actually, most of the difficulty is realizing many radios don't have a 60-meter capability, but with the advent of SDR technology more and more people are jumping into that technology. I hope that continues.

73, de Peter,

W1UU



Hi All,

Firstly, an apology for the late arrival of this edition is necessary due to non-Amateur Radio commitments.

The release of the WRC-15 60m/5 MHz allocation continues, albeit at a somewhat slower rate than the beginning of the year! What has been noticeable in the Newsletter in recent times is the absence of outside contributions. We always welcome contributions pertaining to 5 MHz, whether they be technical or factual - and particularly its use in emergencies.

Last but not least, can I wish everybody Seasons Greetings and All the Best on 5MHz for 2018.

Paul Gaskell, G4MWO,
Editor, The 5 MHz Newsletter

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