

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, MM Docket No. 96-94, adopted April 8, 1996, and released April 25, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., 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, 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

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

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 96-11129 Filed 5-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-F

**47 CFR Part 73**

[MM Docket No. 96-93, RM-8788]

**Radio Broadcasting Services; Oxford, MS**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition by Angel Broadcasting proposing the allotment of Channel 286A to Oxford, Mississippi, as the community's fourth local FM service. Channel 286A can be allotted to Oxford in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 11.2 kilometers (6.9 miles) north in order to avoid short-spacing conflicts with the licensed site of

Station WBKJ(FM), Channel 286C1, Kosciusko, Mississippi, and with a pending application at Water Valley, Mississippi, for Station WYCG(FM), Channel 288A. The coordinates for Channel 286A at Oxford are 34-28-06 and 89-30-33.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before June 17, 1996, and reply comments on or before July 2, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Dan J. Alpert, 2120 N. 21st Road, Suite 400, Arlington, Virginia 22201 (Counsel for petitioner).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pam Blumenthal, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, MM Docket No. 96-93, adopted April 10, 1996, and released April 25, 1996. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW., Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

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

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Parts 651, 650, and 649**

[I.D. 042596C]

**New England Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings**

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

**ACTION:** Public hearings; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold four public hearings on measures to reduce gear conflicts in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the exclusive economic zone. The Council proposes to amend the Northeast Multispecies, Atlantic Sea Scallop, and American Lobster Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) to include a framework adjustment procedure that would allow gear conflict disputes to be resolved through regulatory action. The Council also is soliciting written comments to accommodate people unable to attend a hearing or wishing to provide additional comments.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before May 30, 1996. The hearings are scheduled as follows:

1. May 21, 1996, 7:30 p.m., Warwick, RI.
2. May 22, 1996, 7 p.m., Riverhead, NY.
3. May 23, 1996, 7:30 p.m., Buzzards Bay, MA.
4. May 28, 1996, 7:30 p.m., Portsmouth, NH.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the proposal and written comments should be sent to Douglas C. Marshall, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906. When sending written comments, clearly mark the outside of the envelope "Gear Conflict Amendment Comments." The hearings will be held at the following locations:

1. Warwick—Holiday Inn at the Crossings, 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI
2. Riverhead—Ramada Inn, Long Island Expressway and Route 25, Riverhead, NY
3. Buzzards Bay—Massachusetts Maritime Academy, 101 Academy Drive, Buzzards Bay, MA
4. Portsmouth—Urban Forestry Center, 45 Elwyn Road, Portsmouth, NH

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Douglas G. Marshall, Executive Director,  
New England Fishery Management  
Council, (617) 231-0422.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council proposes to amend the FMPs to include a framework procedure that would provide a process for resolving gear conflicts involving several fisheries under the management authority of the Council. If necessary, the Council will modify objectives of the FMPs to make future gear conflict regulations consistent with the FMPs.

The measures listed below and any others now included in the FMPs, along with a public process for development of those measures, would constitute the framework adjustment procedure. The preferred alternative includes the following generic management measures to each FMP: (1) Mandatory monitoring of a radio channel by fishing vessels, (2) fixed gear location reporting and plotting requirements, (3) standards of operation when gear conflicts occur, (4)

fixed gear marking and setting practices, (5) gear restrictions for specific areas (including time and area closures), (6) vessel monitoring systems, (7) restrictions on the number of fishing vessels or amount of gear, and (8) special permit conditions.

The intent of the framework procedure is to allow local groups of competing types of fishermen to request management assistance and, through the Council, recommend changes to the boundaries or rules for fishing in specific gear management areas. This procedure would enable the Council to respond quickly to gear conflicts by making simultaneous regulatory adjustments to one or more of the existing plans.

In a "no action" alternative, the Council would continue its efforts to facilitate voluntary compromises and agreements on fishing rules. Recent efforts, however, have been unsuccessful.

Additionally, the Council proposes to recommend that this type of framework procedure be considered by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and other agencies, so that gear conflict can be resolved via regulations, regardless of the management authority for an affected fishery.

These hearings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Douglas G. Marshall (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the hearing dates.

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

Dated: April 30, 1996.

Richard W. Surdi,  
*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries  
Conservation and Management, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-11134 Filed 5-3-96; 8:45 am]

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