

hour on signal between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., April 1 to November 30, except that on Saturdays, Sundays and Federal holidays, from June 1 through September 30, the bridge shall open on signal on the hour between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

(b) If a pleasure vessel is approaching a drawbridge which is only required to open on the hour or on the hour and half hour, and cannot reach the drawbridge on the hour or on the half hour, the drawtender may delay the required opening up to 10 minutes past the hour or half hour.

Dated: October 1, 1997.

**Roger Rufe Jr.,**

*Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 97-27359 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 20

[CC Docket No. 94-102; DA 97-2151]

#### Compatibility of Wireless Services With Enhanced 911

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; further request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In the wireless Enhanced 911 (E911) rulemaking proceeding, the Commission seeks additional comment on a September 25, 1997, *ex parte* letter (Joint Letter) filed by two wireless industry groups and three public safety community groups. In the Joint Letter, the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA), the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA), the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO), the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and the National Association of State Nine-One-One Administrators (NASNA) propose modifications to terms used in this proceeding and rules for processing 911 calls and permitting Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) to choose which 911 calls they will receive. The letter also supports an extension of the compliance date for implementation of 911 service over digital wireless services for TTY users. Additional comment on these responses is sought to assist the Commission in determining whether to revise the Commission's Rules. The effect of revising the Commission's Rules would be to clarify the

implementation of basic 911 services to wireless customers, including people with hearing or speech disabilities.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed by October 17, 1997, and reply comments must be filed by October 27, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Won Kim, Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, (202) 418-1310.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Additional Comment Sought in Wireless Enhanced 911 Reconsideration Proceeding Regarding Rules and Schedules

1. In the wireless Enhanced 911 (E911) rulemaking proceeding, the Commission seeks additional comment on a September 25, 1997, *ex parte* letter (Joint Letter) filed by two wireless industry groups and three public safety community groups. In the Joint Letter, the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA), the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA), the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO), the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and the National Association of State Nine-One-One Administrators (NASNA) propose modifications to the 911 rules and support an extension of the compliance date for implementation of TTY compatibility requirements. The full text of the Joint Letter is available for inspection and duplication during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, NW., Room 239, Washington, DC 20554. Copies may also be obtained from International Transcription Service, Inc. (ITS), 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-3800.

2. Pursuant to § 1.415(d) of the Commission's Rules, 47 CFR 1.415(d), additional comment is hereby sought in the wireless E911 reconsideration proceeding<sup>1</sup> concerning issues raised in an *ex parte* presentation filed by several parties in the proceeding. In the *E911 Report and Order*, the Commission established rules requiring wireless

carriers to implement basic 911 and E911 services.

3. In a September 25, 1997, *ex parte* letter (Joint Letter), two wireless industry groups (the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA) and the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA)) and three public safety community groups (the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc., the National Emergency Number Association, and the National Association of State Nine-One-One Administrators) propose modifications to terms used in the *E911 Report and Order* and rules for processing 911 calls and permitting Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) to choose which 911 calls they will receive. The letter also supports an extension of the compliance date for implementation of 911 service over digital wireless services for TTY/TDD users from October 1, 1997, to April 1, 1999,<sup>2</sup> and requests that the Commission refrain from addressing certain additional issues until the industry has had the opportunity to fully consider such issues in meetings with the relevant parties.

4. We have also received other *ex parte* comments addressing issues raised in the Joint Letter. In a September 29, 1997, letter, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo provided the Commission with her initial assessment of the recommendations made in the Joint Letter and reiterated her view that "it is in the public's best interest that all wireless 911 calls should be passed through to the public safety authority." On September 30, 1997, the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 also filed an *ex parte* letter opposing the Joint Letter.<sup>3</sup>

5. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau took note of the pending petitions for reconsideration and *ex parte* filings and on September 30, 1997,

<sup>2</sup> See also PCIA, Request for Extension of Time to Implement E911/TTY Compatibility Requirement for Wireless Operators (Aug. 27, 1997); CTIA *Ex Parte* Filing (Sept. 23, 1997).

<sup>3</sup> Following the Joint Letter, CTIA filed another *ex parte* letter dated September 26, 1997, concerning carrier liability with respect to E911 calls. We have also received certain *ex parte* filings prior to the Joint Letter which relate to the issues raised in that letter. For example, with respect to the proposed 18-month extension of the TTY compliance date, the National Association of the Deaf and the Consumer Action Network oppose it as too long and propose additional obligations. Opposition to Request for Extension of Eighteen Months to Implement E911/TTY Compatibility Requirement for Wireless Operators (Sept. 11, 1997). Nextel Communications, on the other hand, supports the requested extension. Motion in Support of Request for Extension of time to Implement E911/TTY Compatibility Requirement for Wireless Operators (Sept. 9, 1997).

<sup>1</sup> See Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems, CC Docket No. 94-102, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 59 FR 54878 (November 2, 1994); Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems, CC Docket No. 94-102, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 61 FR 40348, 40374 (August 2, 1996) (*E911 Report and Order*), recon. pending.

adopted an *Order* staying the provisions and effective date of §§ 20.18(a)-(c) inclusive of the Commission's Rules, 47 CFR 20.18(a)-(c), which would require wireless carriers to forward certain 911 calls to PSAPs, including calls from TTY devices. The stay defers the effective date of those rules from October 1, 1997, to November 30, 1997, in order to permit the Commission to complete its review.

6. Pursuant to applicable procedures set forth in §§ 1.145(d) and 1.419 of the Commission's Rules, 47 CFR 1.415(d), 1.419, interested parties may file comments on the issues raised in the Joint Letter no later than October 17, 1997. Reply comments may be filed no later than October 27, 1997. All relevant and timely comments will be considered by the Commission before final action is taken in this proceeding. To file formally in this proceeding, participants must file an original and five copies of all comments. If participants want each Commissioner to receive a personal copy of their comments, an original and nine copies must be filed. All comments should be filed with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street, NW., Room 222, Washington, DC 20554, referencing CC Docket No. 94-102.

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 20

Communications common carriers.  
Federal Communications Commission.  
**Daniel B. Phythyon,**  
*Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.*  
[FR Doc. 97-27582 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 32

RIN 1018-AE18

#### 1997-98 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This proposed rule adds additional national wildlife refuges to the list of areas open for hunting and/or sport fishing, along with pertinent refuge-specific regulations for such activities; and amends certain regulations on other refuges that pertain to migratory game bird hunting, upland game hunting, big game hunting and sport fishing. The Fish and Wildlife

Service (Service) provides notice of reopening of the comment period for only the specific proposal to hunt bison on the National Elk Refuge in Wyoming.

**DATES:** The public comment period closes November 17, 1997 to ensure consideration by the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent directly to Assistant Director, Refuges and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C Street, NW, MS 670 ARLSQ, Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen R. Vehrs, at the above address; Telephone (703) 358-2397.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Service had received a second request from the Fund for Animals to extend the comment period on the proposal to permit bison hunting on the National Elk Refuge. The original comment period was open for 30 days and then extended to September 19, 1997 (62 FR 38959 published July 21, 1997 and 62 FR 47372, Sept. 9, 1997) to accommodate a public review of a pending interagency bison herd management plan. Due to the need by the Service for additional time to complete their portion of the herd management plan and review information and comments from interested parties on this proposed action, the comment period is reopened for an additional 30 days. The herd management plan was signed on September 30, 1997. In addition to this reopening of comments, several other documents, such as a compatibility determination and a National Elk Refuge Hunt Plan Amendment needed to be finalized before a bison hunt would take place. Both documents were signed on October 1, 1997. All parties are invited to submit comments on the proposed bison hunt. Copies of the Hunt Plan Amendment and the compatibility determination are available from the Refuge Manager, National Elk Refuge, Box C, Jackson, Wyoming 83001.

Refuge hunting programs are reviewed annually to determine whether additional refuges should be added or whether individual refuge regulations governing existing programs should be modified, deleted or have additions made to them. Changing environmental conditions, State and Federal regulations, and other factors affecting wildlife populations and habitat may warrant modifications ensuring continued compatibility of hunting with the purposes for which individual refuges, and the National Wildlife Refuge System (System) were established.

#### Statutory Authority

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (NWRSA) of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd), and the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962 (16 U.S.C. 460k) govern the administration and public use of national wildlife refuges. Specifically, section 4(d)(1)(A) of the NWRSA authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to permit the use of any area within the System for any purpose, including but not limited to, hunting, fishing and public recreation, accommodations and access, when he determines that uses are compatible with the major purpose(s) for which the area was established.

The Refuge Recreation Act (RRA) authorizes the Secretary to administer areas within the System for public recreation as an appropriate incidental or secondary use only to the extent that it is practicable and not inconsistent with the primary purpose(s) for which the areas were established. The NWRSA and the RRA also authorize the Secretary to issue regulations to carry out the purposes of the Acts and regulate uses.

#### Primary Author

Stephen R. Vehrs, Division of Refuges, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC 20240, is the primary author of this rulemaking document.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 32

Fishing, Hunting, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wildlife, Wildlife refuges.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Service amends Title 50, Chapter I, subchapter C of the *Code of Federal Regulations* as follows:

#### PART 32—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 32 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 301; 16 U.S.C. 460k, 664, 668dd, and 715i.

2. Amend § 32.70 *Wyoming* by revising paragraph C. of National Elk Refuge to read as follows:

#### § 32.70 Wyoming.

\* \* \* \* \*  
National Elk Refuge  
\* \* \* \* \*

C. Big Game Hunting. Hunters may hunt elk and bison on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions:

\* \* \* \* \*  
Dated: October 3, 1997.

**Ralph O. Morgenweck,**

*Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

[FR Doc. 97-27398 Filed 10-15-97; 8:45 am]

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