

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before January 26, 1998, and reply comments on or before February 10, 1998.

**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: Barry A. Friedman, Thompson, Hine & Flory LLP, 1920 North Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036 (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. 97-235, adopted November 19, 1997, and released December 5, 1997. 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, 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

Radio broadcasting.

Federal Communications Commission.

**John A. Karousos,**

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

[FR Doc. 97-32701 Filed 12-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-F

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 97-236, RM-9186]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Point Arena, CA

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document requests comments on a petition for rule making filed on behalf of Point Broadcasting, one of two mutually exclusive applicants for Channel 272B1 at Point Arena, California, proposing the allotment of Channel 296B1 to Point Arena to resolve the mutual exclusivity while providing a second local FM service to that community. If the channel is allotted with cut-off protection, petitioner also seeks to amend its pending application for Channel 272B1 at Point Arena to reflect operation on Channel 296B1. Coordinates used for Channel 296B1 at Point Arena are 39-01-22 and 123-31-17.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before January 26, 1998, and reply comments on or before February 10, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner's counsel, as follows: Jerrold Miller, Esq., Miller & Miller, P.C., P.O. Box 33003, Washington, DC 20033.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 97-236, adopted November 19, 1997, and released December 5, 1997. 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, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-3800.

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. 97-32771 Filed 12-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### 48 CFR Part 204

[DFARS Case 97-D033]

#### Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Uniform Procurement Instrument Identification

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Advance notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** Comments are solicited from Government and industry personnel on the contemplated revision of Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) guidance pertaining to uniform procurement instrument identification numbers. DoD has a need to address modifications to its system for numbering contracts, modifications, and orders.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before February 17, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties should submit written comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Melissa Rider, DAR Council, IMD 3D139, PDUSD(A&T)DP/DAR, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-3062. Telefax number (703) 602-0350.

E-mail comments submitted over the Internet should be addressed to: [dfars@acq.osd.mil](mailto:dfars@acq.osd.mil).

Please cite DFARS Case 97-D033 in all correspondence related to this issue. E-mail comments should cite DFARS Case 97-D033 in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Melissa Rider, telephone (703) 602-0131.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Defense Acquisition Regulations (DAR)

Council has opened DFARS Case 97–D033 to revise DFARS Subpart 204.70, Uniform Procurement Instrument Identification Numbers, to address various issues associated with the use of Procurement Instrument Identification Numbers (PIINs) and Supplemental Procurement Instrument Identification Numbers (SPIINs).

a. Among the revisions under consideration is one to increase the length of SPIINs used to identify call or order numbers under contracts awarded by another activity from 4 characters to 13, or possibly 15, characters. This revision is similar to a revision included in an earlier proposed rule, DFARS Case 92–D044, that was published in the **Federal Register** on August 18, 1994 (59 FR 42566), and that was withdrawn on December 28, 1994 (59 FR 66884), in response to public comments addressing the significant cost impact it would have on existing automated systems. The notice withdrawing the proposed rule stated that “. . . both industry and Government should ensure that these proposed revisions can be accommodated in any future automated systems.” The DAR Council is interested in hearing from industry and Government activities with respect to their ability to accommodate such a change at this time. The Council asks that respondents specifically address whether assignment of a unique 13 (or possibly 15) character SPIIN for every order (i.e., every call or order would have a completely unique SPIIN, and, therefore, could be tracked by reference to its SPIIN only) would improve the potential benefits of the contemplated revision.

b. Other issues under consideration include:

1. To ensure compatibility with automated systems that use contract numbers, should there be a uniform contract numbering system, or an agreed upon maximum number of characters, for basic contract numbers assigned to all contracts subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulation or, at least, to any such contracts that may have calls or orders issued under them by other agencies?

2. Is there a need to use more than two digits to designate the fiscal year within PIINs, and possibly SPIINs, to avoid potential Year 2000 problems in automated systems?

**Michele P. Peterson,**

*Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.*

[FR Doc. 97–32757 Filed 12–15–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000–04–M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018–AE48

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Endangered Status for *Catesbaea melanocarpa*

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Service proposes to determine *Catesbaea melanocarpa* (no common name) to be an endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). *Catesbaea melanocarpa* is known from Puerto Rico, St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Barbuda, Antigua, and Guadeloupe. In Puerto Rico, it is currently known from only one location in Cabo Rojo, and in the U.S. Virgin Islands, it is known from one location near Christiansted, St. Croix. Both populations are located on privately owned land subject to intense pressure for development for residential, tourism and industrial purposes. This proposal, if made final, would implement the Federal protection and recovery provisions afforded by the Act for *C. melanocarpa*. The Service seeks data and comments from the public on this proposal.

**DATES:** Comments from all interested parties must be received by February 17, 1998. Public hearing requests must be received by January 30, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to the Field Supervisor, Boquerón Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 491, Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at this office.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Susan Silander, Botanist, at the Boquerón Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** section) (787/851–7297, facsimile 787/851–7440).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

*Catesbaea melanocarpa* (no common name) was first discovered in the mid-nineteenth century on the British island of Antigua by the German collector Hienrich Rudolph Wulschlaegel. It was found in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, in about 1881 by the Danish collector Baron H. F. A. von Eggers and in Guánica, Puerto Rico, by the German

collector Paul Sintenis in 1886. Although duplicate specimens are maintained at other herbariums, the original collections were in the herbarium at Berlin-Dahlem and were destroyed by the bombing during World War II.

The species has also been reported from Barbuda and Guadeloupe, islands of the Lesser Antilles (Howard 1989, Proctor 1991). While little is known about the plant's status on these islands, the Center for Plant Conservation (1992) describes it as rare on Antigua. It was not rediscovered in St. Croix until 1988 and to date, it has not been relocated in the Guánica, Puerto Rico, area. The St. Croix population, located near Christiansted, consists of about 24 individual plants (Breckon and Kolterman 1993). In 1995, a small population, consisting of one individual, was located in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico Planning Board 1995). One specimen, collected in 1974, located in the herbarium in San Juan apparently originated from the Susúa Commonwealth Forest. However, this specimen is sterile and in depauperate condition; therefore, its identification cannot be confirmed.

*Catesbaea melanocarpa*, of the family Rubiaceae, belongs to a genus which consists of ten or more species of spiny shrubs. Most are confined to the Antilles but some may extend into the Bahamas and the Florida Keys. In Puerto Rico, two species are known—*C. melanocarpa* and *C. parviflora*. These two species are differentiated by the size and color of the fruits, black and larger, 5 to 6 millimeters (mm) (.19 to .23 inches (in)) in diameter, in the former and white and smaller 2 to 4 mm (.07 to .15 in) in diameter, in the latter (Breckon and Kolterman 1993, Britton and Wilson 1925). Some authors note that *C. melanocarpa* may be a synonym or variant of *C. parviflora* (Howard 1989, Proctor 1991) and recommend further review. However, Breckon and Kolterman (1993) and the Center for Plant Conservation (1992) recommend its protection due to the extremely small number of individuals currently known, the intense pressure for development in these areas, and the potential for an appreciable loss of the species' genetic diversity.

*Catesbaea melanocarpa* is a branching shrub which may reach approximately 3 meters (9.8 feet) in height. Spines are borne at every internode and are from 1 to 2 centimeters (.39 to .78 in) long. Leaves are small, from 5 to 25 mm (.19 to 1.0 in) long and 2 to 15 mm (.07 to .58 in) wide, often fascicled (clustered), and the small stipules are deciduous. The