

the World Trade Organization. In addition, the Committee's meetings were widely publicized throughout the Idaho-Eastern Oregon onion industry and all interested persons were invited to attend and participate on all issues. A copy of the notice was also made available on the Internet by the U.S. Government Printing Office.

Five comments were received. Four of the comments are supportive of the Committee's recommendation. The Idaho-Eastern Oregon Onion Committee reaffirmed its unanimous recommendation in favor of increasing the minimum grade for white onions from U.S. No. 2 or U.S. Commercial to U.S. No. 1. The South Texas Onion Committee, administering Marketing Order No. 959, expressed its support of the recommended modification as well. The South Texas Onion Committee commented that by the time the South Texas industry enters the market in March of each year, the market is flooded with inferior quality white onions from both Mexico and Idaho-Eastern Oregon, and that the onion industries and consumers would benefit from the minimum grade increase. The minimum grade requirement for white onion varieties handled under the South Texas marketing order is a modified U.S. No. 1 grade. The proposed rule would increase the minimum grade requirement for Idaho-Eastern Oregon onions, with the two minimum grade requirements becoming more similar.

Also commenting in favor of the Committee's recommendation were a South Texas onion handler and an association representing Texas onion handlers as well as importers of Mexican onions. Both commentators are located in Mission, Texas. The handler commented that the recommended modification would allow the South Texas industry the necessary confidence to continue to produce onions for a market free from the negative consumer reaction associated with poor quality white onions. The association also added its support of the recommended minimum grade increase. The association stated that it has within its membership approximately 21 South Texas handlers of onions, most of whom also import onions from Mexico. The commenter added that the association has numerous members who only handle imported produce, including white onions. The commenter noted further that in the modern competitive produce market, consumers must be provided with the best quality products available.

A comment was also received from the European Commission, Brussels, Belgium, on behalf of the European

Community. That comment stated that the proposal aims at increasing the minimum diameter size requirement for imported onions from 2.54 to 2.79 centimeters for the period June 5 through March 9 of each year, and objected to such action. However, the Committee had recommended increasing the minimum grade for Idaho-Eastern Oregon white onions and white onions imported during the period June 5 through March 9 from U.S. No. 2 to U.S. No. 1. However, the recommendation did not include a modification to the minimum diameter size itself, which continues to be 1 inch or 2.54 centimeters.

In conjunction with the issuance of the advance notice and request for comment, the Texas Cooperative Inspection Program monitored white onions imported from Mexico during the period December 1, 1997, through March 9, 1998. This process was conducted at the request of the AMS to determine the quantity of imported white onions potentially impacted by the Committee's recommendation. An analysis of the information provided by the Inspection Program indicates that approximately 98 percent of the white onions imported from Mexico during the test period met U.S. No. 1 grade. The balance of the imported white onions during this period either met U.S. Commercial grade or failed to meet the minimum of U.S. No. 2 grade. There were no U.S. No. 2 grade white onions imported from Mexico during this period. During the test period, a total of 1,006,279 50-pound containers were offered for importation. A total of 948,069 50-pound containers graded U.S. No. 1, 11,427 50-pound containers graded U.S. Commercial, and 10,783 50-pound containers failed to meet the current minimum grade requirement of U.S. No. 2.

The Department has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this rule.

A 60-day comment period is provided to allow interested persons the opportunity to respond to this proposal. All written comments timely received will be considered before a final determination is made on this matter.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 958

Marketing agreements, Onions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 958 is proposed to be amended as follows:

#### PART 958—ONIONS GROWN IN CERTAIN DESIGNATED COUNTIES IN IDAHO, AND MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 958 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

2. Section 958.328 is amended by revising paragraph (a)(1) to read as follows:

#### § 958.328 Handling Regulations.

\* \* \* \* \*

(a)(1) *Grade and size requirements.* (i) White varieties shall be either:

(A) U.S. No. 1, 1 inch minimum to 2 inches maximum diameter; or

(B) U.S. No. 1, at least 1½ inches minimum diameter.

(ii) Neither of these two categories of onions may be commingled in the same bag or other container.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: June 26, 1998.

**Eric M. Forman,**

*Acting Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-17564 Filed 7-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 100

[CGD07-98-039]

RIN 2115-AE46

#### Special Local Regulations; City of Charleston, SC

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** Temporary special local regulations are being proposed for the Charleston Maritime Center's South Carolina Tug Boat Challenge. The event will last approximately 30 minutes and will take place, depending on shipping traffic, between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on August 8, 1998, in Charleston Harbor on Cooper River Charleston, SC. The exact time of the race will be announced via separate Broadcast Notice to Mariners. These regulations are necessary for the safety of life on the navigable waters during the event.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 3, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to U.S. Coast Guard Group Charleston, 196 Tradd Street, Charleston, SC 29401-1817, or may be delivered to the

Operations Department at the same address, between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Comments will become a part of the public docket and will be available for copying and inspection at the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** LTJG A.L. Cooper, Project Manager, Coast Guard Group Charleston at (803) 720-7748.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Request for Comments**

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this rulemaking [CGD07-98-039] and the specific section of this proposal to which each comment applies and give the reason for each comment.

The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period. It may change this proposal in view of the comments. The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the address under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include the reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If the Coast Guard determines that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, it will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

**Background and Purpose**

This proposed rule is needed to provide for the safety of life during the South Carolina Tug Boat Challenge. The tug race is expected to create large and powerful wakes. This proposed rule is intended to promote safe navigation on the Cooper River immediately before, during, and after the race by controlling the traffic entering, exiting, and traveling within the regulated area.

There will be 6 to 8 participants racing barges on a fixed course. The event will take place on the Cooper River at Charleston, SC, starting at the John P. Grace Memorial Bridge, also known as the Cooper River Bridge, and continue south through Hog Island Reach and end at the southern end of Customhouse Reach on August 8, 1998. The proposed regulation will be effective for approximately 30 minutes between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The actual time of the event will be chosen to ensure the least interference with vessel traffic in Charleston Harbor.

**Regulatory Evaluation**

This proposal is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of

executive order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget under that order. It is not significant under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposal to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10(e) of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. The regulated area encompasses less than 2 nautical miles on the Cooper River between the John P. Grace Bridge and the southern end of Customhouse Reach, and entry is prohibited for only approximately 30 minutes on the day of the event.

**Small Entities**

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider whether this proposed rule, if adopted, will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small entities" include small business, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their field, and governmental jurisdiction with populations of less than 50,000.

Therefore, the Coast Guard certifies under section 605(b) that this proposed rule, if adopted, will not have a significant effect upon a substantial number of small entities because this regulation will only be in effect in a limited area for a period of approximately 30 minutes on one day.

If, however, you think that your business or organization qualifies as a small entity and that this proposed rule will have a significant economic impact on your business or organization, please submit a comment explaining why you think it qualifies and in what way and what degree this proposed rule will economically affect it.

**Collection of Information**

This proposal contains no collection of information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

**Federalism**

This action has been analyzed in accordance with the principals and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and it has been determined that this rulemaking does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

**Environmental Assessment**

The Coast Guard has considered the environmental impact of this action and determined pursuant to Figure 2-1, paragraph #34(h) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C, that this proposed rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A Categorical Exclusion Determination has been prepared and is available in the docket for inspection or copying.

**List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100**

Marine Safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Waterways.

**Proposed Regulations**

In consideration of the foregoing, the Coast Guard proposes to amend part 100 of Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

**PART 100—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for Part 100 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 33 U.S.C. 1233; 49 CFR 1.46 and 33 CFR 100.35.

2. A temporary section 100.35 T-07-039 is added to read as follows:

**§ 100.35T-07-39 South Carolina Tug Boat Challenge, Charleston Harbor, Charleston, SC.**

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Regulated area.* A regulated area is established on that portion of the Cooper River at Charleston, SC between the John P. Grace Memorial Bridge, also known as the Cooper River Bridge, and the southern end of Customhouse Reach. The regulated area encompasses the width of the Cooper River between these two points.

(2) *Coast Guard Patrol Commander.* The Coast Guard Patrol Commander is a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard who has been designated by the Commander, Coast Guard Group Charleston, SC.

(b) *Special local regulations.* (1) Entry into the regulated area by other than event participants is prohibited, unless otherwise authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander. After termination of the South Carolina Tug Boat Challenge on August 8, 1998, all vessels may resume normal operations.

(2) On August 8, 1998, Coast Guard Group Charleston will issue a broadcast Notice to Mariners on VHF Channel 16/22A advising mariners of the exact time of the regulated area.

(3) A succession of not fewer than 5 short whistle or horn blasts from a patrol vessel will be the signal for any

and all vessels to take immediate steps to avoid collision. The display of an orange distress smoke signal from a patrol vessel will be the signal for any and all vessels to stop immediately.

(4) Spectators are required to maintain a safe distance from the racecourse at all times.

(c) *Dates.* This section is effective for approximately 30 minutes between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. EDT on August 8, 1998.

Dated: June 24, 1998.

**Norman T. Saunders,**

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander,  
Seventh Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 98-17646 Filed 7-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 98-97; RM-9287]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Hudson, WY

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Windy Valley Broadcasting proposing the allotment of Channel 286C at Hudson, Wyoming, as the community's first local aural transmission service. Channel 286C can be allotted to Hudson in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at city reference coordinates. The coordinates for Channel 286C at Hudson are North Latitude 42-54-24 and West Longitude 108-35-00.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before August 17, 1998, and reply comments on or before September 1, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, his counsel, or consultant, as follows: A. Wray Fitch, III, Esq., Gammon & Grange, P.C., 8280 Greensboro Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-3807 (Counsel for Petitioner).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon P. McDonald, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 98-97, adopted June 17, 1998, and released June 26, 1998. 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 Service, 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. 98-17555 Filed 7-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 98-99; RM-9283]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Shoshoni, WY

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Windy Valley Broadcasting proposing the allotment of Channel 290C at Shoshoni, Wyoming, as the community's first local aural transmission service. Channel 290C can be allotted to Shoshoni in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at city reference coordinates. The coordinates for Channel 290C at Shoshoni are North Latitude 43-14-06 and West Longitude 108-06-36.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before August 17, 1998, and reply comments on or before September 1, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, his counsel, or consultant, as follows: A. Wray Fitch, III, Esq., Gammon & Grange, P.C., 8280 Greensboro Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-3807 (Counsel for Petitioner).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharon P. McDonald, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 98-99, adopted June 17, 1998, and released June 26, 1998. 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 Service, 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. 98-17554 Filed 7-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-U

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 98-101, RM-9289]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Yuma, CO

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.