

United States of America

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda Item 1.4: to consider possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz in accordance with Resolution **649 (WRC-12)**

Background information

Resolution **649 (WRC-12)** invites WRC-15 “to consider, based on the results of the ITU-R studies referred to in invites ITU-R below, the possibility of making an allocation of an appropriate amount of spectrum, not necessarily contiguous, to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz.”

The amateur service continues to grow, with more than three million licensed operators worldwide, and more than 717,000 of them in the United States. Radio amateurs utilize allocations to the amateur service to engage in scientific investigation and experimentation, provide communication in the wake of natural disasters, provide non-commercial public service communications, and conduct other activities to advance technical education, develop radio operating technique, and enhance international goodwill.

The radio amateur’s ability to accomplish these goals depends on access to frequency bands throughout the radio spectrum. In order to maintain effective and reliable communications capability throughout the sunspot cycle, allocations at regular intervals are desirable, in order to permit operation as close to the maximum usable frequency as possible. The interval between the 3.5 and 7 MHz bands varies from 1.84 to 1 in ITU Region 1 to 1.75 to 1 in ITU Region 2, which is considerably larger than the intervals between other allocations to amateur service in the HF range.

Incumbent services in the 5 250-5 450 kHz range include the fixed, mobile, and radiolocation services. Prior work in ITU-R has shown that amateur service operation is incompatible with HF radiolocation for oceanographic applications, so the 5 250-5 275 kHz range is not suitable to satisfy this agenda item. The amateur service has a longstanding secondary allocation at 10 100-10 150 kHz, with no reported unsolvable interference to primary service operations. Some administrations, including the United States, have permitted amateur service licensees privileges within the 5 275-5 450 kHz range under Radio Regulations No. 4.4. Again, no cases of unresolvable interference are known under this arrangement.

A secondary allocation across the remaining frequency range would reduce the interval between HF frequency bands in the amateur service to a desirable level and maximize the flexibility of amateur service stations to effectively communicate within the secondary allocation and fulfil their obligations to avoid harmful interference to primary services.

Proposal:

MOD USA/1.4/1

5 003-7 450 kHz

Allocation to services		
Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
5 250-5 275 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile Radiolocation 5.132A 5.133A	5 250-5 275 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile RADIOLOCATION 5.132A	5 250-5 275 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile Radiolocation 5.132A
5 275-5 450	FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile <u>Amateur</u>	

Reasons: A secondary allocation from 5 275-5 450 kHz avoids the unsuitable segment allocated to the radiolocation service, reduces the interval between HF amateur allocations below 10 MHz to permit reliable operation throughout the sunspot cycle, and maximizes the flexibility of amateur service stations to effectively communicate within the secondary allocation and fulfil their obligations to avoid harmful interference to primary services.