

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Part 73**

[DA 02-1040, MM Docket No. 01-167, RM-10180]

Digital Television Broadcast Service; Calais, ME**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation, licensee of noncommercial station WMED-TV, substitutes DTV channel *10 for DTV channel *15 at Calais, Maine. See 66 FR 40959, August 6, 2001. DTV channel *10 can be allotted to Calais, Maine, in compliance with the principal community coverage requirements of § 73.625(a) at reference coordinates 45-01-45 N. and 67-19-26 W. with a power of 3.5, HAAT of 133 meters and with a DTV service population of 30 thousand. Since the community of Calais is located within 400 kilometers of the U.S.-Canadian border, concurrence from the Canadian government has been obtained for this allotment.

With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective June 24, 2002.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 01-167, adopted May 3, 2002, and released May 9, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-A257, Washington, DC. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Digital television broadcasting, Television.

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.622 [Amended]

2. Section 73.622(b), the Table of Digital Television Allotments under Maine, is amended by removing DTV channel *15 and adding DTV channel *10 at Calais.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,
Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02-11976 Filed 5-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Part 73**

[DA 02-1041, MM Docket No. 02-27, RM-10367]

Digital Television Broadcast Service; Springfield, IL**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of West Central Illinois Educational Telecommunications Corporation, an applicant for a new television station to operate on channel *65 at Springfield, substitutes DTV channel *36 for channel *65 at Springfield. See 67 FR 9428, March 1, 2002. DTV channel *36 can be allotted to Springfield, Illinois, in compliance with the principal community coverage requirements of § 73.625(a) at reference coordinates 39-36-50 N. and 89-38-58 W. with a power of 100, HAAT of 156 meters and with a DTV service population of 448 thousand.

With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective June 24, 2002.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MM Docket No. 02-27, adopted May 3, 2002, and released May 9, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-A257, Washington, DC. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Digital television broadcasting, Television.

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.606 [Amended]

2. Section 73.606(b), the Table of Television Allotments under Illinois, is amended by removing TV channel *65+ at Springfield.

§ 73.622 [Amended]

3. Section 73.622(b), the Table of Digital Television Allotments under Illinois, is amended by adding DTV channel *36 at Springfield.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,
Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02-11973 Filed 5-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Parts 222 and 223**

[Docket No. 020426096-2119-02; I.D. 042402D]

RIN 0648-AP99

Sea Turtle Conservation; Restrictions Applicable to Shrimp Trawl Activities; Leatherback Conservation Zone

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

ACTION: Temporary area gear restriction.

SUMMARY: NMFS is extending (for a 2-week period) the previous closure of all inshore waters and offshore waters 10 nautical miles (nm) (18.5 km) seaward of the COLREGS demarcation line, bounded by 32° N. lat. (approximately Tybee Island, GA) and 34° N. lat. (approximately Wilmington Beach, NC) within the Leatherback Conservation Zone, to fishing by shrimp trawlers required to have a turtle excluder device (TED) installed in each net that is rigged for fishing, unless the TED has an escape opening large enough to exclude leatherback turtles, as specified in the regulations. This action is necessary to reduce mortality of endangered

leatherback sea turtles incidentally captured in shrimp trawls.

DATES: This action is effective from May 10, 2002 through 11:59 p.m. (local time) on May 24, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this action should be addressed to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Comments may also be sent via fax to 301-713-0376. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Bernhart (ph. 727-570-5312, fax 727-570-5517, e-mail

David.Bernhart@noaa.gov); or Barbara Schroeder (ph. 301-713-1401, fax 301-713-0376, e-mail Barbara.Schroeder@noaa.gov).

For assistance in modifying TED escape openings to exclude leatherback sea turtles, fishermen may contact gear specialists at the NMFS, Pascagoula, MS laboratory by phone 228-76-4591 or fax 228-769-8699.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Prohibitions on taking sea turtles are governed by regulations implementing the Endangered Species Act at 50 CFR parts 222 and 223. The incidental take of turtles during shrimp fishing in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of the southeastern United States and in the Gulf of Mexico is excepted from the taking prohibition pursuant to sea turtle conservation regulations at 50 CFR 223.206, which include a requirement that shrimp trawlers have a NMFS-approved TED installed in each net rigged for fishing. The use of TEDs significantly reduces mortality of loggerhead, green, Kemp's ridley, and hawksbill sea turtles. Because leatherback turtles are larger than the escape openings of most NMFS-approved TEDs, use of these TEDs is not an effective means of protecting leatherback turtles.

Through a final rule (60 FR 47713, September 14, 1995), NMFS established regulations to provide protection for leatherback turtles when they occur in locally high densities during their annual, spring northward migration along the Atlantic seaboard. Within the Leatherback Conservation Zone, NMFS may close an area for 2 weeks when leatherback sightings exceed 10 animals per 50 nm (92.6 km) during repeated aerial surveys pursuant to § 223.206(d)(2)(iv)(A) through (C).

A temporary rule requiring the closure of zones 32 and 33 to trawling became effective on April 26, 2002, in response to aerial surveys documenting large concentrations of leatherback

turtles in those zones. The expiration for that temporary restriction is May 10, 2002, at 11:59 PM. Recent flights, conducted on May 7, 2002, have shown the need to extend the rule by another 14 days in response to continuing large concentrations of leatherback turtles in zones 32 and 33. A total of 190 leatherback turtle sightings were made in the zones, with 94 sighted when flying the transect in a southerly direction, and 96 sighted when flying the replicate survey in a northerly direction. Some of the largest concentrations included 59 leatherback turtles sighted in approximately 70 miles between Cape Island and Edisto Island, and 18 sighted in approximately 17.75 (28.57 km) miles near the North Carolina border. The sighting frequencies in the follow-up survey exceeds the regulatory standard of greater than 10 animals within a 50-nm (92.6 km) length of survey trackline.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA (AA), is closing all inshore waters and offshore waters 10 nm (18.5 km) seaward of the COLREGS demarcation line, bounded by 32° N. lat. and 34° N. lat., within the Leatherback Conservation Zone to fishing by shrimp trawlers required to have a TED installed in each net that is rigged for fishing, unless the TED installed has an escape opening large enough to exclude leatherback turtles, meeting the specifications at 50 CFR 223.207(a)(7)(ii)(B)(1) or (2) and at § 223.207(c)(1)(iv)(B). These regulations specify modifications that can be made to either single-grid hard TEDs or Parker soft TEDs to allow leatherbacks to escape.

The regulations at 50 CFR 223.206(d)(2)(iv) also state that fishermen operating in the closed area with TEDs modified to exclude leatherback turtles must notify the NMFS Southeast Regional Administrator of their intention to fish in the closed area. This aspect of the regulations does not have a current Office of Management and Budget control number, issued pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act. Consequently, fishermen are not required to notify the Regional Administrator prior to fishing in the closed area, but they must still meet the gear requirements.

Classification

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The AA is taking this action in accordance with the requirements of 50 CFR 223.206(d)(2)(iv) to provide protection for endangered leatherback

sea turtles from incidental capture and drowning in shrimp trawls. Leatherback sea turtles are occurring in high concentrations in coastal waters in shrimp fishery statistical zones 32 and 33. This action allows shrimp fishing to continue in the affected area so long as fishermen make the required gear modifications.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the AA finds that there is good cause to waive prior notice and opportunity to comment on this action. As a sizeable concentration of leatherback turtles has been observed in an area fished by shrimp trawlers, it is extremely likely that interactions will occur. It would be impracticable to provide prior notice and opportunity for comment because providing notice and comment would prevent the agency from implementing the necessary action in a timely manner to protect the endangered leatherback.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the AA finds that there is good cause not to delay the effective date of this action for 30 days. Such delay would prevent the agency from implementing the necessary action in a timely manner to protect the endangered leatherback. Accordingly, the AA is making this temporary rule effective May 10, 2002 through May 24, 2002. This closure has been announced on the NOAA weather channel, in newspapers, and other media. Shrimp trawlers may also call (727)570-5312 for updated area closure information.

As prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required to be provided for this notification by 5 U.S.C. 553, or by any other law, the analytical requirements of 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, are inapplicable.

The AA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the final rule requiring TED use in shrimp trawls and the regulatory framework for the Leatherback Conservation Zone (60 FR 47713, September 14, 1995). Copies of the EA are available (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: May 10, 2002.

William T. Hogarth,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-12140 Filed 5-10-02; 3:10 pm]

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