

HF Band Expansion

There are a number of HF bands where some expansion would appear to be possible, some in the short term and others on a longer term basis.

80m. The band 3.8 to 3.9 is allocated to the FIXED, AERONAUTICAL MOBILE (OR) and LAND MOBILE services on a primary basis. There appears to be little use of these frequency bands by these services in the UK, and by observation, not much elsewhere in Western Europe. On the other hand, for amateur transcontinental working, especially to amateur stations in Region 2, an expansion of the upper limit of the 80m band would be useful. Expansion by a 100 kHz band from 3800 to 3900 kHz for the amateur service in the UK on a secondary, non protected, non interference basis under Article 4.4 of the Radio Regulations appears to be at least a theoretical possibility, and worth suggesting to Ofcom.

30m. The band 10150 to 11175 kHz is allocated to the FIXED service as a primary user and the mobile (except aeronautical mobile) service as a secondary user. To be useful, expansion here requires more than UK support, but it is suggested that an expansion here up to say 10500 on a secondary non interference non protected basis would be worthwhile. From a time point of view, it might be better if this could be an input to CEPT ECC WGFM from IARU R1. If it could be achieved in the CEPT area, it would provide a good lever at a future WRC. Note that expansion downwards would not be practicable as the band below 10100 kHz is allocated to AERONAUTICAL MOBILE (R).

17m. 18168 to 18780 is again allocated to the FIXED service with Mobile except aeronautical mobile as a secondary service. Some expansion might be possible here, although again it needs coordination within IARU. Such sharing could again be on a secondary non interference non protected basis.

12m. Expansion upwards is not possible of the time and frequency service. 24000 to 24890 is allocated to the FIXED and LAND MOBILE services. Again sharing on a secondary basis should be possible, say down as far as 24500. Again, it needs coordinating in IARU and consideration given to the practicalities of attempting to gain secondary status in CEPT before going further.

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