

Report to the Board of the HF Band Planning Committee

January 2022

The Bandplanning Committee includes:

Director Jairam, N2RJ
Director Williams, WA8EFK
Kermit Carlson, W9XA
Director Ritz, W7VO
Vice Director Sterns, AA7A
1st Vice President Raisbeck, K1TWF, chair

The major activity of this Committee was accomplished a year ago with the release of the band plan proposal. We now wait for action on the part of the FCC. This could take a while. The Committee as a whole has not met since then, but we remain ready to step up activity if needed. And indeed, there are a few items that have arisen in the interim that may call for Committee attention in the coming months.

The first is a concern expressed by some in the digital community concerning unattended digital systems in HF. Our proposal currently before the FCC expands the space for higher bandwidth unattended stations, but it also pushes lower bandwidth ones into the same segment. We may want to revisit this at some point, though consensus is that it would be best to not “rock the boat” with changes until after the current proposals are acted upon by the FCC.

The second is the direction from President Roderick that we should expand our charter to include higher frequencies. This is germane to the changes currently in process for the 3 GHz band.

Finally, in September Ned, AA7A, went through the IARU 2021 Bandplan Review and provided detailed comments concerning the relationship between these and the ARRL Bandplan Report.

So, expect another meeting of the Bandplan Committee within the next few months.

73,

Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

1st Vice President

Chair, HF Bandplanning Committee