

Special HQ Infoline # 69

BREAKING NEWS

5 MHz Licenses - 60 m Amateur allocation

It has been reported on various forums, news sites and other media on Thursday 8 April 2021 NZART was informed of the following:

The internationally allocated 60 metre amateur band 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz has been cleared of formerly licensed users in New Zealand. This can be confirmed by a public search of the New Zealand register of radio frequencies. There is now a clear path for New Zealand amateur radio operators to gain access to all of the internationally allocated amateur band 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz.

Background: I independently liaised with New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to implement a plan I formulated in January to clear a 60 metre band for amateur radio. NZDF liked my plan and it has relevance to other NZDF radio projects. As I'm an Approved Radio Engineer I can modify radio licences and NZDF authorised me to make specified changes to their licences, which cleared bandwidth for amateur radio. These changes were registered by RSM around midday on 8 April. That completed my contribution to development of a 60 metre amateur band in New Zealand.

73, Bob ZL2CA

NZART would like to sincerely thank Bob Vernal ZL2CA for his outstanding work in successfully negotiating with existing users to move their 5 MHz licenses away from the internationally agreed 60 m Amateur allocation. Bob was able to draw on his extensive experience with the IFRB (now the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau).

NZART will be meeting with RSM this coming week to discuss the next steps in getting a permanent allocation for New Zealand Amateurs.

As you will appreciate this may take time, but we will keep you abreast of developments as they occur.

Don Wallace ZL2TLL
NZART Administration Liaison Officer (ALO)
11 April 2021