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| SUBJECT | VHF Managers' Handbook - changes | | |
| Society | RSGB | Country: | UK |
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Introduction

Sixteen years ago at an interim meeting of the VHF/UHF/Microwaves Committee (Vienna, March 1992) the following recommendation was adopted:

"Societies should publish the use of 144.140 - 144.160MHz as an alternative for EME operation. The results of this test should be monitored with the aim of incorporating this segment as EME alternative into the Usage part of the band plan if successful".

Similarly, many years ago two sub-bands, 144.120-144.150MHz and 144.150-144.160MHz, were designated for FAI (Field Aligned Irregularities) c.w./JT65 and SSB usage and for EME usage.

Background

These allocations and recommendations for EME and FAI have **not** been successful.

Based on a 5-years analysis it can be shown that EME operators worldwide are currently using 144.100-144.150MHz for MGM (JT65) operation and 144.040 – 144.060MHz for CW operation.

Similarly the usage of specific sub-bands for a propagation mode, FAI, has been a complete failure. Based on a 3-year analysis it can be shown that operators making FAI contacts on both CW and SSB have generally used the area of the band between 144.285 – 144.315MHz.

These allocations and recommendations came from an era well before instant communication when it was useful to know where very weak signal activity on EME & FAI was being practiced. But nowadays most weak signal operators will have access to specialist Internet Messaging, VHF Chat Rooms and DX Clusters where co-ordination may be achieved.

Recommendations

To **delete** from the VHF Managers Handbook in the USAGE column of the 145MHz Band Plan
144.120 - 144.150MHz FAI & EME MGM (JT65)
144.150 - 144.160MHz FAI & EME activity SSB

To **delete** from the Footnotes of the 144-146MHz Band Plan, in Section 2, "Usage",
the reference to 144.140 – 144.160MHz as a proposed alternative band for EME operation.

To **add** in the Footnotes of the 144-146MHz Band Plan, in Section 2, "Usage",
EME activity using MGM (JT65) is commonly practiced between 144.100-144.150MHz,
EME activity using CW is commonly practiced between 144.040-144.060MHz,
FAI activity using CW and SSB is commonly practiced between 144.285-144.315MHz.