## Annex E (informative)

## U.S. VHF marine radio channels and frequencies

Table E.1 describes the USVHF marine radio channels and frequencies and Table E.2 describes the NOAA weather radio frequencies.

Table E.1 – U.S. VHF marine channels and frequencies

Channel number	Ship Transmit	Ship Receive	Use	
	MHz	MHz		
1001	156,050	156,050	Port Operations and Commercial, VTS. Available only in New Orleans / Lower Mississippi area. <sup>a</sup>	
1005	156,250	156,250	Port Operations or VTS in the Houston, New Orleans and Seattle areas. a	
06	156,300	156,300	Intership Safety.	
1007	156,350	156,350	Commercial. VDSMS.	
08	156,400	156,400	Commercial (Intership only). VDSMS.	
09	156,450	156,450	Boater Calling. Commercial and Non-Commercial. VDSMS.	
10	156,500	156,500	Commercial. VDSMS	
11	156,550	156,550	Commercial. VTS in selected areas. VDSMS	
12	156,600	156,600	Port Operations. VTS in selected areas.	
13	156,650	156,650	Intership Navigation Safety (Bridge-to-bridge). Ships >20m length maintain a listening watch on this channel in US waters. b	
14	156,700	156,700	Port Operations. VTS in selected areas.	
15		156,750	Environmental (Receive only).	
16	156,800	156,800	International Distress, Safety and Calling. Ships required to carry radio, USCG, and most coast stations maintain a listening watch on this channel.	
17	156,850	156,850	State Control.	
1018	156,900	156,900	Commercial. VDSMS.	
1019	156,950	156,950	Commercial. VDSMS	
20	157,000	161,600	Port Operations (duplex)	
1020	157,000	157,000	Port Operations (intership only)	
1021	157,050	157,050	U.S. Coast Guard only	
1022	157,100	157,100	Coast Guard Liaison and Maritime Safety Information Broadcasts. Broadcasts announced on channel 16. <sup>a</sup>	
1023	157,150	157,150	U.S. Coast Guard only.	
24	157,200	161,800	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
25	157,250	161,850	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
26	157,300	161,900	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
27	157,350	161,950	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
28	157,400	162,000	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
1063	156,175	156,175	Port Operations and Commercial, VTS. Available only in New Orleans / Lower Mississippi area.	

Channel number	Ship Transmit	Ship Receive	Use	
	MHz	MHz		
1065	156,275	156,275	Port Operations, VTS <sup>a</sup>	
1066	156,325	156,325	Port Operations	
67	156,375	156,375	Commercial. Used for Bridge-to-bridge communications in lower Mississippi River. Intership only. <sup>b</sup>	
68	156,425	156,425	Non-Commercial. VDSMS	
69	156,475	156,475	Non-Commercial. VDSMS	
70	156,525	156,525	Digital Selective Calling (voice communications not allowed)	
71	156,575	156,575	Non-Commercial. VDSMS.	
72	156,625	156,625	Non-Commercial (Intership only)	
73	156,675	156,675	Port Operations. VDSMS.	
74	156,725	156,725	Port Operations	
77	156,875	156,875	Port Operations (Intership only)	
1078	156,925	156,925	Non-Commercial. VDSMS.	
1079	156,975	156,975	Commercial. Non-Commercial in Great Lakes only. VDSMS.	
1080	157,025	157,025	Commercial. Non-Commercial in Great Lakes only. VDSMS.	
1081	157,075	157,075	U.S. Government only - Environmental protection operations.	
1082	157,125	157,125	U.S. Government only	
1083	157,175	157,175	U.S. Coast Guard only	
84	157,225	161,825	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS <sup>C</sup>	
85	157,275	161,875	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS. <sup>C</sup>	
86	157,325	161,925	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS <sup>C</sup>	
87	157,375	157,37 <mark>5</mark>	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator). VDSMS <sup>C</sup>	
88	157,425	157,425	Commercial, Intership only. VDSMS	

All VHF-equipped vessels operating in U.S. waters, including foreign vessels, are required to be able to operate on these channels. See US 33 CFR 26.03(d), and for certain VTS areas, US 33 CFR 161.12.

Note that the letter "A" is also used to indicate simplex use of the ship station transmit side of an international duplex channel, i.e. four-digit channel numbers beginning with "10" (e.g. channel 22A is the same as channel 1022"). Some VHF transceivers are equipped with an "International - U.S." switch for that purpose.

Boaters should normally use channels listed as Non-Commercial. Channel 16 is used for calling other stations or for distress alerting. Channel 13 should be used to contact a ship when there is danger of collision. All ships of length 20 m or greater are required to guard VHF channel 13, in addition to VHF channel 16, when operating within U.S. territorial waters

NOTE 1 Table E.1 is intended to be used only as a guide, and not as an authoritative source. The authoritative sources for VHF maritime frequencies in the US is 47 Code of Federal Regulations Part 80 Subpart H, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Manual of Regulations for Federal Radiofrequency Spectrum Management.

Transmitter power is required to be automatically reduced to 1w on channels 13 and 67, with override capability, on radios sold or marketed in the U.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> Channels 24, 84, 25, 85, 26 and 86 cannot be used on or after 1 January 2030. See Note w) of Annex D.

Table E.2 - NOAA Weather Radio Frequencies

Weather channel	Frequency
	MHz
WX1	162,550
WX2	162,400
WX3	162,475
WX4	162,425
WX5	162,450
WX6	162,500
WX7	162,525

The U.S. NOAA Weather Radio network continuously broadcasts local and nearshore coastal marine forecasts and warnings on frequencies shown in Table E.1. The range for NWR reception is typically about 40 miles from the transmitter. A number of factors influence the reception range. It is possible the reception may extend further than 40 miles offshore. A digital encoding system known as Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) allows receivers to receive alert messages for user-specified areas. Its use in VHF marine radios in the U.S. is encouraged. See NWSI 10-1710[22] and NWSI 10-1712[23].

NOTE 2 National Weather Service Directives are available at https://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/.

