

Changes to Reception of HF Radio Weather Broadcasts

The Bureau of Meteorology advises users of its HF radio voice and radiofax broadcasts to consider changes in the reception of broadcasts following the transition to the new services which commence on 1 July 2002.

Due to the new transmitter sites for the new network (VMC Australia Weather East located at Charleville, Qld, and VMW Australia Weather West located at Wiluna, WA) reception characteristics will change when existing services cease. Reception of voice services will also change as a result of the introduction of an additional 16MHz channel at VMC, and a new set of frequencies for VMW.

The Bureau advises users to test which frequencies best suit their particular listening requirements for time of day, month and season. Advice concerning the propagation of the Bureau's frequencies will be available on-line from the Ionospheric Prediction Service (IPS) via the Bureau's marine web site.

www.bom.gov.au/marine

An example of IPS advice is shown overleaf.



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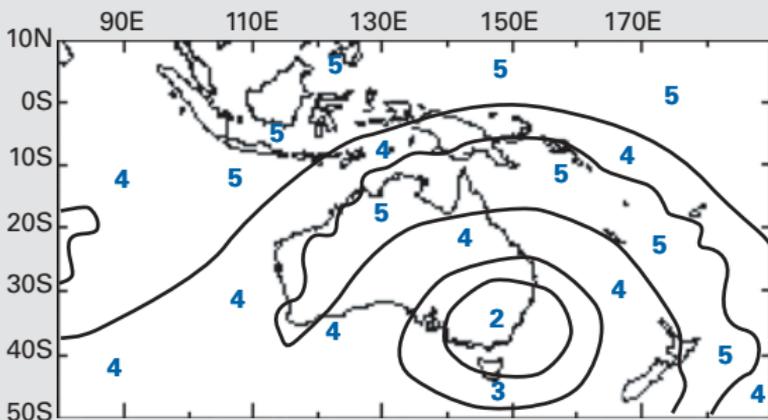
IPS Recommended Frequency Channels for VMC/VMW Broadcasts

This map illustrates IPS recommendations of frequency selection for broadcasts made by VMC and VMW. The numbers shown correspond to the frequencies indicated by the legend on the IPS charts and represent the individual frequencies being broadcast. Their placement on the map indicates which frequency should provide best reception for the date and time denoted.

In this sample, frequency 2 should provide best reception over the SW part of the Tasman Sea. Frequency 3 should provide the best reception through the eastern Bight, south of Tasmania and the central Tasman Sea. Frequency 4 should be the best received over the eastern Tasman Sea, the southern Coral sea, the western Bight and most of the coast and offshore areas of WA.

These maps, covering each hour of the day and updated weekly, will be available via the Bureau's marine web site.

www.bom.gov.au/marine



Times associated with this chart are in Universal Time Coordinate (UTC).

Australian Eastern Standard Time is UTC + 10 hours

Australian Central Standard Time is UTC + 9.5 hours

Australian Western Standard Time is UTC + 8 hours