

IN SEARCH OF SPORADIC E.. IT IS MAY, ISN'T IT?

May 2025 #7

NEW MEMBERS. This month we welcome into the WTFDA four new members. They are Stuart Carlson, Dexter, MI, Richard Robinson, Henderson, NC, William Guerro, Egg Harbor Township, NJ and, from across the pond, Chris Heard from Newquay, UK. A big welcome to all of you and we hope you find the club informative and interesting!

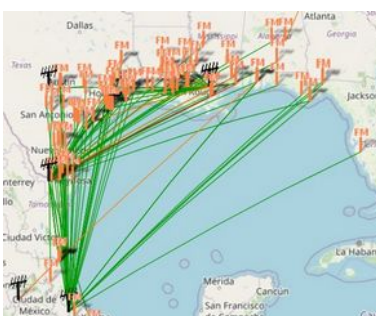


MONSTER TROPO. Chris Kadlec worked the whole opening and writes: *On the evening of April 19th, a large high pressure system over the Atlantic spurred a fantastically strong opening from Bermuda to the southeast coast of the US. Reception in Bermuda included stations between Orlando and Hampton Roads along the coast and stretching - on average - about 150 miles inland. Intense conditions lasted until Sunday night midnight before abruptly waning, but quickly forming a few hours later centered over Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville, and Savannah, where the opening remained on and off through the 24th. Almost every station in that area is 1,000 miles distant, most blasting with RDS.*

While we've since had additional large tropo openings from Bermuda, including a major opening - albeit weaker and less widespread - on the night of April 30th, none have yet compared to that of Easter weekend. I stretched my body and mind to the limit to be present to document this opening as part of my own coastal propagation project, and managed to compile a total of 238 stations logged over the Easter holiday, the most distant being WAVH Daphne/Mobile at 1,376 miles with numerous others topping 1,200 miles. At times, others were present and helpful in logging and tracking down stations in a real impressive team effort.

It's hard to fathom, but 79 stations were received in excess of 1,000 miles! And the more you listen, the harder it is to comprehend as so many stations are regulars in Bermuda. A 1,000+ mile catch just becomes "Oh, it's them again in full RDS just blasting away. Yawn."

I have a full logs organized by time, distance, and frequency, 25 hours of audio from the past week of tropo, weather graphs, and more for those who are interested. A full report will be available next month to complement this summary.



Tropo wasn't just spectacular between the US and Bermuda, but the period around April 17 was really great for Mexican Dxers, with paths into Texas and also across the Gulf to Florida.

That's all for this month. We should be knee deep in skip by the end of the month so make sure your rotators are rotating and your 'tenna isn't falling apart before the skip hits. Let's hope this season is better than the last two were.

FCC Delete, Delete, Delete

2025-04-22 D. Smith

The Federal Communications Commission has not been immune to President Trump's government shakeup. On March 12th, the FCC opened docket #25-133 – better known as “Delete, Delete, Delete”. This docket asked for comments on every rule & regulation people felt the Commission should eliminate. Comments were due by April 11th. As I check on the 22nd, I see 939 comments filed – although many of them do not address broadcasting. (many were filed by hams, and telecommunications firms are also affected and have filed.)

Below are what I feel are the most important proposals. I read every comment that appeared to be filed by a broadcast interest. I may have missed some – many were filed by individuals, and I have no way of knowing if that individual was a broadcaster, a ham, or a consumer advocate. The most interesting ones are *in italics*.

Note the proposal (by public broadcasting interests) to eliminate the legal ID regulation! (frankly, while the DXer in me hates the idea, the broadcaster in me says this should have gone away decades ago...)

By service:

Full-service FM:

- Delete IF protection regulation, requiring minimum distance between stations separated by 10.6 or 10.8MHz.
- Delete 3rd-adjacent protection regulation, requiring minimum distance between stations separated by 0.6MHz.
- Allow use of distributed transmission systems. (multiple transmitters on the same frequency) These are already permitted for TV.
- Allow FM stations to use vertical polarization.
- Create “TIS-2” service on 87.9 FM.

LPFM:

- Allow power increase to 250 watts.
- Allow LPFMs operating for at least five years to upgrade to full-service non-commercial licenses.
- Allow LPFMs to sell airtime.

FM translators:

- Allow non-commercial translators to be fed by means other than off-air pickup even if above 92MHz.
- Allow FM translators to use up to 1,000 watts ERP or 20% of the primary station's ERP.
- Allow FM translators to use more than 250 watts if the tower is lower than, say, 50m.
- Allow FM boosters & translators to originate programming. Stations must still relay their primary at least 40 hours a week. Allow such stations to request four-letter calls with -FX suffix – for example, W279CH to become WRFN-FX.
- Eliminate the requirement for FM translators to run legal IDs.

Shortwave:

- Eliminate the requirement that shortwave broadcast stations target only foreign audiences.
- Reduce the minimum powers for shortwave broadcast stations from 50kw to 5kw for analog operation; 1kw for digital; 100 watts for analog on the 11-meter band; and 20 watts for digital on 11 meters.

LPTV:

- **Allow LPTVs to increase power to 25, 30, 50, or 1000kw UHF and 6 or 45kW VHF. (multiple proposals with different figures. One proposal would allow “low-power” stations to use as much power as full-license stations.**
- Allow LPTV stations to use Distributed Transmission Systems – multiple transmitters on the same channel.
- Eliminate the secondary status of LPTVs; prevent them from being “bumped” by full-service stations.
- Allow LPTV stations to opt out of participation in EAS.
- Require cable systems to carry LPTV stations.
- Allow all LPTV stations on channel 6 to add an FM audio service, not just the ones in the grandfathered list.

Full-service TV:

- Hold another incentive auction to finance a mandatory transition to ATSC 3.0. Use proceeds to cover:
 - Costs to stations to convert
 - Costs of viewer education campaigns
 - Vouchers for ATSC 3.0 TVs & converter boxes
 - Signal remediation services for unserved areas.
- **Eliminate the must-carry regulations which require cable systems to carry the signals of any TV station reaching their subscribers.**
- Eliminate limits on the percentage of the country’s television households a company’s stations can reach.
- Eliminate limits on the number of stations a company may own in any one market.

Stations in general:

- **Allow non-commercial stations to sell airtime.**
- Eliminate rule canceling license if off over a year.
- Reopen closed FCC Field Offices to improve enforcement.
- Replace station-count ownership limits with covered land mass, population, and/or number of non-overlapping signals.
- **Eliminate the station identification rule.**
- Allow wireless microphones to operate in channel 37.
- Eliminate multiple-ownership regulations on AM stations, or on any station outside the top 100 markets.
- Create an expedited auction process when a license is canceled – to speed return of service from a new owner.
- Require the federal government to pay for stations’ EAS equipment.
- Allow non-licensees to reserve a callsign.



(Ed note: If a non-commercial stations sells airtime, doesn't that make it a commercial station? Could I make a proposal to eliminate incentive auctions? If an LPTV stations runs 50kw, is it still considered a low power station?)



FCC GRANTS AND ACTIONS

From fcc.today and the FCC

May 2025

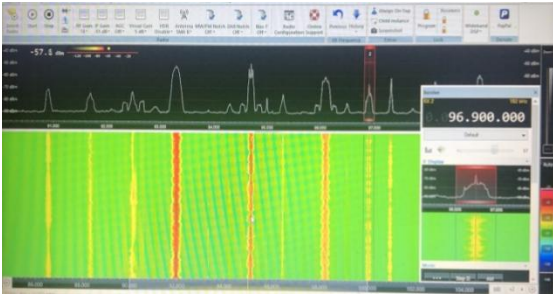
AL	WLBJ	93.5	Butler	ex WFHM-FM
AL	WQGO	88.7	Cuba	ex WQJL
AL	WLDQ	102.5	Dothan	ex WESP
AL	WTVY-FM	95.5	Dothan	100kw/210m from 100kw/323m at new site 31-18-02 95-35-04
AL	W234DI	94.7	Douglas	250w from 230watts
AL	WQJL	90.5	Elkmont	ex WQGO
AL	WQGO	90.5	Elkmont	17.5kw/104m from 5.5kw/77m at new site 34-52-12 87-10-00
AL	WDAB	100.5	Slocumb	ex WJRL-FM
AL	WYLS	104.9	York	ex WSLY, which move to 670khz in York.
AR	K241CE	96.1	Fayetteville	Silent 4/9 transmitter issues
AR	K260DT	99.9	Little Rock	250w from 99 watts
AZ	KLMN-LP	95.7	Mt. Lemmon	initial calls
AZ	K238CB	95.5	Prescott	COL to Prescott, 250w H&V (was v only) at present site
CA	KHRQ	94.9	Baker	Silent 2/24 possible interference with a cellular operator
CA	KRAM	90.5	Barrego Springs	Silent 4/10 site is being moved
CA	K236BQ	96.1	Carmichael	change primary to KKFD-HD3
CA	K205EJ	88.9	Chester	10watts from 5watts at the present site
CA	KSAI	103.9	Citrus Heights	ex KKFS
CA	K255CL	99.1	Clarksville	change primary to KKFD-HD3
CA	KNHA-LP	100.9	Coulterville	initial calls
CA	KNSJ	89.1	Descanso	Silent 3/8 due to antenna damage
CA	K288HN	101.9	Grover City	new site 35-06-26 120-31-01
CA	K266CQ	102.9	Las Cruces	new site 34-31-29 119-57-35
CA	K224EY	92.7	Los Angeles	change primary to KKLQ-HD3
CA	K232FZ	94.3	Monterey	license cancelled
CA	K232FZ	94.3	Monterey	Silent 3/6, antenna damage, site problems, financial issues
CA	KCUD	90.3	Newman	initial calls
CA	KUBU-LP	96.5	Sacramento	Silent 3/29 financial problems
CA	K276EF	103.1	San Bernadino	250w from 10 watts
CA	K241CH	96.1	San Diego	change primary to KYML 88.1
CA	KESI	90.7	San Miguel	initial calls
CA	KSRH	88.1	San Rafael	7v-V/-70m from, drops H, at new site 37-58-12 122-30-47
CA	KZAA-LP	96.5	Santa Barbara	Silent 3/3, no access to site

CA	K248BR	97.5	Santa Cruz	Silent 3/25, site problems, financial issues
CO	K243AM	96.5	Colorado Springs	change primary to KRNX 780
CO	NEW	107.1	Colorado Springs	100w/-189m, 38-54-07 104-49-54
CO	KHAN-LP	107.1	Colorado Springs	initial calls
CO	K225BS	92.9	Denver	change primary to KVCU 1190
CO	K220GA	91.9	Lamar	250w-V from 182w H&V at present site
FL	WBGF	93.5	Belle Glade	25kw/91m from 24k/103m
FL	W241DH	94.5	Bradenton	Silent 5/29/24 for construction and extended
FL	WRRW	88.5	Crawfordville	50kw/51m from 57m, new site 29-54-57 84-22-11
FL	W298CV	107.5	Fort Walton Beach	Silent 3/28 primary WFTW-AM is silent (Cumulus)
FL	W300CU	107.9	Jacksonville	change primary to WMUV 100.7
FL	WESP	106.3	Jupiter	ex WUUB
FL	WSGD-LP	95.7	Lehigh Acres	Silent 3/31, lost site
FL	W300DL	107.9	Melbourne	Silent 3/14, primary (WLZR) shut down by Cumulus
FL	W239CG	95.7	Tallahassee	change primary to WAYT-HD2
GA	W281CR	104.1	Dublin	Ex 102.1 (W271CT) at new site 32-31-26 82-56-51
GA	W285EP	104.9	Thomson	new site 33-29-08 82-12-07
GA	W207CT	89.3	Warner Robbins	Ex 88.5 (W203BY)
GA	W265AV	100.9	Woodstock	250w from 9w at new site 33-58-57 84-29-37
HI	K292HM	106.3	Honolulu	250w from 22w at new site 21-19-58 157-48-54
HI	KKAU-LP-FM2	96.5	Naalehu	new cp, 20watts, 19-04-33 155-45-03
HI	KKAU-LP-FM1	96.5	Naalehu	new cp, 20watts, 19-06-09 155-34-00
HI	K234DJ	103.3	Paia	99w from 20w at new site 20-42-22 156-15-39
IA	K267CY	101.3	Des Moines	Silent 3/28 KBGG-AM is silent (Cumulus)
IA	KGDR-LP	106.7	Dyersville	100w/3m from 100w/-8m at new site 42-28-07 91-05-59
IA	NEW	101.1	Fort Madison	Cp-mod, 100w/30m from 95w at new site 40-37-13 91-28-40
IA	KQLF	88.3	Ottumwa	11kw/43m from 10.5kw/44m at the present site
ID	K223BU	92.5	Idaho Falls	change primary to KUPI-HD2
ID	K224EL	92.7	Pocatello	Silent 6/30/24 licensee unsure about primary's viability
ID	K233CE	94.5	Pocatello	change primary to KQPI-HD2
ID	K262DN	100.1	Rigby	change primary to KQEO-HD2
IL	WIBI	91.1	Carlinville	50kw/145m at new site 39-20-55 89-48-17
IL	WCVS-FM	99.7	Hillsboro	ex WXAJ
IL	WJBC-FM	93.7	Pontiac	Silent 3/14, shut down by Cumulus
IL	WIKC	96.7	Virden	ex WCVS-FM
IN	WJJD-LP	101.3	Kokomo	Silent 4/9 with antenna problems
KS	K300BC	107.9	Garden City	change primary to KKCVC 102.5
KS	K208GH	89.5	Healy	license cancelled

KY	WUIC-LP	102.5	Wallins Creek	license cancelled due to full power WUIC 88.1 on the air
LA	K296HM	107.1	Gretna	Silent 8/23/24 KKNO is silent, extended
LA	K244GA	96.7	Lake Charles	Ex 96.5 W243CY
LA	K264AS	100.7	Mooringsport	change primary to KRMA 101.1
MA	W277CJ	103.3	Pittsfield	change primary to WBEC-HD2
MA	WJKM-LP	96.9	Springfield	HAAT 1m from 3m at new site 42-05-24 72-36-12
MD	W260BM	95.9	Annapolis	Silent 3/35 pending construction of new facilities
MD	KZMO	93.7	Fair Grove	ex KBFL-FM, COL from Buffalo
MI	WFDX	92.5	Atlanta	Silent 3/29 due to ice storm damage
MI	WPHO	89.7	Burtchville	230w/71m from 41kw/27m from present site
MI	WTCK	90.9	Charlevoix	Silent 3/30 due to ice storm damage
MI	W297CG	107.3	Flint	Silent 3/28 WWCK-AM is silent (Cumulus)
MI	W235CM	94.9	Grand Haven	Silent 8/15/24 primary WGHN is silent, STA is extended
MI	WRWW	92.3	Lowell	license cancelled
MI	W284DF	104.7	Petoskey	250w at new site 45-30-05 85-01-49
MI	W277DY	103.3	Petoskey	Co-located at site of W284DF
MI	WLAW-FM	97.5	Whitehall	Silent 3/14/25 pending mod or assignment
MI	W256DM	99.1	Whitehall	Silent 3/14/25, primary WLAW is silent
MN	K236DA	94.8	Bemidji	10watts from 2watts at new site 47-28-22 94-52-51
MN	WGRO-LP	104.5	Cottage Grove	37w/49m from 100w/7m, new site 44-48-55 02-51-42
MN	KAWD-LP	88.1	Detroit Lakes	license cancelled
MN	K214FP	90.7	Fergus Falls	250w-V from 200w-V at present site
MN	K254DS	98.7	Grand Rapids	Silent 3/20/25, primary KRFG possibly for sale
MN	K205GG	88.9	Grand Rapids	Ex 88.1 K201IX. New site 47-14-23 93-34-35
MN	K213FA	90.5	Grand Rapids	115w-V from 10w H&V, at present site
MN	KEGX-LP	101.9	Willmar	initial calls
MO	KQDZ	101.7	Elsberry	ex KWUL-FM
MO	K278CT	103.5	Jefferson City	Silent 3/14 primary (KLIK) shut down by Cumulus
MO	K293AX	106.5	Jefferson City	100w from 85w at present site
MO	KJMO	97.5	Linn	Silent 3/13/25 pending sale or format change
MS	WMXI	107.1	Ellisville	3.5kw/198m from 1.5kw/198m at present site
MT	K220JX	91.9	Missoula	99w-V from 3w-V at present site
NC	W252EL	98.3	Cary	Silent 4/11 for unknown reasons
NC	W228BE	93.5	Winston Salem	Silent 3/25 for unknown reasons
ND	KTGH	90.1	Bowdon	100kw/141m from 120w/26m at new site 47-12-43 100-15-39
NM	KDNM	89.7	Lordsburg	initial calls
NM	KFNM	91.5	Lordsburg	initial calls
NM	K256AR	99.1	Ruidoso	change primary to KRUI 1490, classic hits

NM	KSZK	89.5	Virden	initial calls
NV	K246AE	97.1	Lake Havasu City	new site, 34-33-03 114-11-34
NY	W240EO	95.9	Brentwood	COL from Patchogue, ex 95.7 at new site 40-48-26 73-10-46
NY	WDXT	93.9	Dansville	ex WDNV-FM
NY	DWLDM-LP	95.7	Sanitaria Springs	license cancelled
NY	WSSK	89.7	Saratoga Springs	license cancelled
OH	WVDE-LP	93.5	Cleveland	initial calls
OH	WFCL-LP	101.7	Cleveland	initial calls
OH	W265DL	100.9	Dover-New Philadelphia	new site 40-26-19 81-26-00
OH	WTOW-LP	98.7	Grand Rapids	100w/2m from 95w/31m at new site 41-24-42 83-52-09
OH	W207CD	89.3	Hamler	13w H&V, was vertical only
OH	WAGX	101.3	Manchester	Silent 5/20/24, station for sale
OH	WYOR	88.5	Republic	20kw-V, was H&V, drops Horizontal
OH	W277BV	103.3	Zanesville	change primary to WHRN 88,5
OK	KCLJ	91.3	Clinton	125w/6m from 2.5k/91m at new site 35-30-54 98-58-25
OR	KRSO	91.1	Huntington	initial calls
PA	W242CU	96.3	Erie	change primary to WXTA 97.9
PA	WSTY	89.3	Milledgeville	ex WNBA
PA	W222BV	92.3	Stroudsburg	72w from 60w at new site 40-51-34 75-18-03
PA	W241BB	96.1	Wilkes-Barre	34w H&V from 5w-V only at present site
PR	W238CR	95.5	Mayaguez	change primary to WIOB-HD3
PR	W280GC	103.9	Viequez	Silent 3/10, transmitter is rusted
RI	WQNP	88.5	Narragansett	Silent 4/15, lost their site
SD	K217GQ	91.3	Aberdeen	Ex 88.1 K201HB, 205w-V from 250w-V at new site 45-27-57 98-20-09
TN	WMVU-LP	99.7	Ooltewah	100w/-6m from 100w/30m at new site 35-01-06 85-01-47
TX	KUZN	105.9	Centerville	Silent 4/17 equipment damaged by power surge
TX	KEVQ-FM	100.7	Crosbyton	license cancelled
TX	KOLI	94.9	Electra	Silent 3/14/25 pending sale or format change
TX	KLYQ	99.7	Encinal	license cancelled
TX	NEW	99.9	Fort Worth	new cp, 100w/4m, 32-46-36 97-16-26 (788465)
TX	NEW	99.9	Fort Worth	new cp, 100w/30m, 32-47-07 97-18-29 (788359)
TX	K212FV	90.3	Goodrich	license cancelled
TX	K212FV	90.3	Goodrich	125w, 30-36-46 94-56-28
TX	K268CW	101.5	Houston	250w from 99watts at new site 29-35-35 95-24-44
TX	KEVM-FM	107.3	Junction	license cancelled
TX	K201EU	88.1	Katy	Silent 4/16 antenna line damage
TX	K220KA	91.9	Kerrville	115w-V from 62w at present site

TX	K213DT	90.5	Kerrville	115w-V from 62w at present site
TX	KWFO-FM	107.3	Knox City	license cancelled
TX	KFGG-LP	101.9	Marble Falls	100w/9m at new site 47-28-22 98-15-34
TX	K217GR	91.5	New Braunfels	250w-V from 230watts-V at present site
TX	K220JY	91.9	Odessa	Silent 3/27 with transmitter problems
TX	K277DX	103.3	Richmond	60w-H from 20w H&V at new site 29-37-24 95-33-08
TX	K243BO	96.5	Roma	Silent 4/15 tower equipment issues
TX	KEVK-FM	105.1	Sanderson	license cancelled
TX	KDSP-FM	99.9	Spur	license cancelled
TX	KTCP-LP	98.7	Temple	initial calls
TX	KYLB	96.7	Turkey	license cancelled
UT	K262BM	100.3	Cedar City	change primary to KBYU-FM 89.1
UT	KPUT	92.9	Mona	Silent 4/7, site is being moved
UT	KUHU	88.1	Monticello	Silent 3/18 power failed at transmitter site, site inaccessible (snow)
UT	K214EG	90.7	Monticello	Silent 3/18 KUHU is silent
UT	K213BE	90.5	Rural Emery County	Silent 3/18, power out at primary KUHU 88.1
UT	K272EG	102.3	Rural San Juan County	Silent 3/18 KUHU is silent
VA	W245BG	96.9	Cave Spring	change primary to WVTF-HD4
VA	W288ED	105.5	Charlottesville	change primary to KKTR 840
WA	KGCP	89.5	Aberdeen	ex KILU
WA	K213DU	90.5	Goldendale/The Dalle	silent, KUDI displaced
WA	KZTM	102.9	McKenna	80kw/672m from 95kw/615, at new site 47-18-46 123-22-20
WA	K208BY	89.5	Moses Lake	170w from 25w, new site 46-57-11 119-30-16
WA	K215FY	90.3	Mount Vernon	112w from 10w at new site 48-29-00 122-19-29
WA	KGTC-LP	93.1	Oroville	license cancelled
WA	K230CL 93.9	93.9	Prosser	Ex 95.3 (K237CY)
WA	K249FF	97.7	Spokane	adds 250w-H, was vert only, new site 47-35-35 117-17-56
WI	WAWA	91.1	Columbus	900w/8m from 20kw/24m at present site
WI	W276CO	103.1	Fond du Lac	Silent 3/24 for unknown reasons
WI	WPBO-LP	104.7	Platteville	7w/110m from 100w/30m at new site 42-45-51 90-24-20
WY	KUDA	89.9	Bonneville	700w/595m from 160w/595m at present site
WY	KCYO	88.1	Cheyenne	ex KIHl
WY	KRKY-FM	89.5	Fort Laramie	2.6kw/202m from 780w/202m at present site
WY	KEWY	89.7	Fort Washakie	650w/125m from 410w/117m at new site 43-05-15 108-46-19
WY	KSIP	90.7	Lucerne	license cancelled



Format Flips

and branding, too

John Zondlo – fmdxweb@cox.net

May 2025

Greetings! So many changes this month, you would think it was the beginning of the year. LOTS of changes in Canada this time around, as Bell Media has sold 45 stations to seven different groups. You'll see format changes related to this peppered throughout the column this month.

AL

Sweet Home Alabama may be a great song, but playing it non-stop for two days? That's how "Rock 100.5" WJRL Slocomb AL used the Lynyrd Skynyrd hit to relaunch as "100.5 The Bear." They've also changed to new call WDAB. Two days. That's almost unbearable.

AZ

Adult R&B KOAS Dolan Springs AZ has flipped to Bilingual AC, and moved on from their previous branding as "Jammin' 105.7" to "105.7 Maxima." The station rimshots Las Vegas.

The "Hank FM" brand has landed in Tucson. Lotus Communications' Classic Country format is now on "93.3 Hank FM" K227DX Tucson. KLPX 96.1 HD3 feeds it.

AR

Rock "98.3 The Keg" is no more. KKEG Bentonville AR is now Classic Hits, positioning itself as "NWA's Classic Hits." Programming comes from Westwood One's Classic Hits 24/7 satellite feed.

BCN

South of the border, Grupo Cadena has made changes to a couple of their stations. XHMORE 98.9 Tijuana and XEWW 106.7 Mexicali are now Spanish CHR and known as "Party Mix."

BC

Vista Radio today announced revamps at the 21 stations it acquired in British Columbia. Classic Hits "Go FM" replaces the AC "Move" format at CILK 101.5 Kelowna, CJMG 97.1 CJMG Penticton and CHRX 98.5 Fort St. John.

A Classic Hits format known as "Summit Radio" replaces Variety Hits on several stations, including CKRX 102.3 Fort Nelson, CKGR 106.3 Golden, CKTK Kitimat, CKKC 106.9 Nelson, CKCR 106.1 Revelstoke, CKXR 91.5 Salmon Arm, CHOR 98.5 Summerland, and CJAT 95.7 Trail.

In Prince Rupert, CHTK 99.1 flips from Variety Hits to Classic Hits as "99.1 Coast FM."

In Kelowna, CHSU 99.9 goes from "Virgin Radio 99.9" to "99.9 Sun FM," retaining it's CHR format.

CICF 105.7 Vernon is now known as "The Ranch," and it's still Country.

Terrace's CJFW 103.1 maintains its Country format under the name "103.1 The River."

“The Goat” replaces “Bounce 101.5” on CKNL Fort St. John. That’s due to a format change from Variety Hits to Rock.

CA

Another South Asian station is on in the Bay Area. It’s a Franken FM, KBKF-LD 87.7 San Jose. The format is Bollywood Music and it goes by “Suno 87.7.”

Fox Sports Radio has a couple new affiliates in California. KTMS 990 Santa Barbara and its translator, K250BS 97.9 Solimer Beach are now “Fox Sports 990 and 97.9,” and KVTM 1590 Ventura and translator K250BV 97.9 Ventura are now “Fox Sports 1590 and 97.9.” All of the stations involved dropped Conservative Talk for the new format. I’m not a big fan of FSR, even tho I work for an affiliate. Give me Sirius/XM’s NHL Network Radio any day.

KVYB 106.3 Oak View CA has moved on from CHR as “106.3 The Vibe” to Oldies “Groovy 106.3.” The Cumulus Media station is using Scott Shannon’s True Oldies Channel programming following the demise of Westwood One’s “Hits Now” network previously heard on the station. It’s still the Oxnard/Ventura market’s home for Dodgers baseball.

DC

A couple of Spanish language stations have rebranded to the name “Que Onnda.” They are Spanish CHR WDCN-LD 87.7 Washington DC and Spanish AC W279DH 103.7 Haverhill MA. The Nueva Network stations were previously known as “DC 87.7” and “Exitos 103.7.” The Exitos station is a translator for WCCM 1490 Haverhill.

IN

Star City Broadcasting’s Country WYCM 95.7 Attica IN has moved on to Soft Oldies. New branding for the station is “MeTV Music 95.7.” They’re focusing on the 60’s thru the early 80’s.

KS

The name’s the same, but the format is different. KZDY 96.3 Cawker City KS has flipped from AC to Classic Rock, while remaining “Z-96.3 The Lake.” The new format will use programming from Local Radio Networks.

KY

Seven Mountains Media is making changes at another of its recently acquired stations. This time it’s WKLY 100.7 Brownsville KY, which is now “BG 100.7. The station is Classic Hits, now positioning itself as “Big Hits.” And here’s something refreshing: they’ve dropped satellite programming for local origination.

MI

Hot AC “Hits 96.5” WTOU Portage MI has switched to Adult R&B, while W238AL Portage and its feeder station, WZOX 1660 Portage, adopts the Hot AC format. Not only are the formats swapping, so are the call letters. WZOX is widely heard by AM DXers on its expanded AM band frequency.

WGTO 910 Cassopolis MI has changed from Soft Oldies “97.1 MeTV-FM” to gold-based Hot AC as “97.1 The Ride.” Owner Langford Broadcast Group blames MeTV-FM for not renewing their contract with the station. They’re now using Miracle Media One’s “Today’s Mix FM” programming. This affects translators W244EO Dowagiac MI and W246DV 97.1 South Bend IN.

MN

Cumulus Media’s legendary Classic Rock station, “92 KQRS” 92.5 KQRS Golden Valley, has had a facelift. Not that the format was ugly or anything, they just wanted to skew younger with more Classic Alternative and a highlight on Minnesota artists.

Townsquare Media may not have the number of stations iHeart and Cumulus do, but they tend to dominate the markets they're in. One such market is Duluth, where they've shifted Classic Rock "Sasquatch 92.1" WWPE Hermantown to Active Rock. They're positioning themselves as "Real Rock for the Northland."

MT

KHKM 98.7 Hamilton has gone Classic Hip Hop, calling itself "98.7 The Beat."

NB

In Atlantic Canada, New Brunswick to be exact, new owner Maritime Broadcasting has flipped several stations from Variety Hits to Classic Hits under the branding "The Wave." They include CKBC 104.9 Bathurst and CIKX 93.5 Grand Falls. Also, CJCJ 104.1 Woodstock flips from Country to "The Wave" Classic Hits.

NM

For two days they played Christmas music as "Santa 102.1." Now KYRN Socorro NM has flipped to Classic Hits under new call KNMQ. The station was previously "Mine Country 102.1." Actually, Classic Hits fill the airwaves weekdays while Classic Rock bombards listeners on the weekend.

NY

W277DR 103.3 Rome NY is now simulcasting Spanish Tropical W252DO Herkimer NY. It's quite a change from their previous Conservative Talk format.

NC

In North Carolina, Signal Hill Media Partners have started simulcasting their two Classic Country stations. "96.1 The Bear" WZGM 1350 Black Mountain and translator W241DD Asheville NC are simulcasting "Bigfoot Country" WBRM 1250 and translator W280FP 103.9, both Marion NC.

Also in the Tarheel State, W289CG 105.7 Goldsboro, fed by WFMC 730, and W225CD 92.9 Kinston, fed by WWMC 1010, have switched to Spanish CHR "La Ley." Both AMs simulcast WYMY 101.1 Burlington.

ND

KHTZ 106.9 Minot ND has no heart. Seriously. The former "106.9 The Heart" is gone, replaced by new owner RadioDifferently's new Classic Hits format known as "K-Hits 106." The station had been silent for financial reasons since last July. Why the change? Why not, Minot.

NS

Maritime Broadcasting has flipped two recently acquired stations in Nova Scotia. "Bounce 100.9" CKTO Truro has gone from Variety Hits to Classic Hits as "The Wave." And "Pure Country 99.5" CKTY Truro remains country but has gone back to its old moniker, "Cat Country 99.5."

OH

Adult R&B "Star 94.7" W234CH Girard OH is now "ESPN Mahoning Valley," as is the station it rebroadcasts, WGFT 1330 Campbell OH. I remember when legendary AM DXer, the late Jerry Starr, worked there. WGFT was WHOT back then.

ON

Bell Media's divestiture of 45 stations to seven different companies also spreads to Ontario. My Broadcasting Corporation's CFLY 98.3 Kingston moves on from "Move 98.3" to its heritage name "98.3 Fly FM." Also in Kingston, "Pure Country 99" CKLC rebrands as "New Country 98.9."

In Brockville, CJPT 103.7 goes from Variety Hits to Classic Rock as "103.7 Giant FM," and AC CFJR 104.9 switches from "Move 104.9" to "104.9 My FM."

“Bounce Radio 92.3” CJOS Owen Sound ON has bounced to Soft Oldies as “Zoomer FM,” matching the format and branding of co-owned CFZM 740 Toronto. They’ll have local shows in the morning and afternoon during the week, and then duplicate 740’s programming the rest of the time.

PA

Oldies “Z104” WWIZ West Middlesex PA, part of the Youngstown OH market, has switched from the now defunct “Good Time Oldies” network to AC. It’s still using the “Z104” branding.

SD

In the Sioux Falls market, KQSF 95.7 Dell Rapids has switched from CHR to AC and KELO Sioux Falls has upped the tempo from AC to Hot AC.

TN



Great Plains Media’s Cookeville Communications Conservative Talk “1400 The Hub,” WHUB Cookeville TN, is now Christian AC as “107.7 Grace-FM.” Obviously, they are more enamored with their translator, W299BY 107.7 Cookeville. The change came on Good Friday, April 18.

TX

No, you don’t say! Hot AC “93.1 Yes FM” K226CH Lubbock TX is now “Young Country 93.1.” It’s still fed by the HD4 signal of KTTU 97.3 New Deal TX. It’s anchored by the Bobby Bones show in the morning.

Contemporary Worship “Lift Worship” KGLY 91.3 Tyler TX is now simulcasting on co-owned KELW 95.3 Gilmer TX. KELW had been Christian Preaching “The Well,” simulcasting 94.3 KZWL Bullard TX.

In the Abilene market, KTLT 98.1 Anson goes from Rock to AC. It’s now known as “Abilene’s Feel Good Station.” KTLT had been using Westwood One’s Rock 2.0 format.

UT

Country KUTQ 102.3 La Verkin UT has shifted to a more gold-based format as “Real Country 102.3.” Previously, they were “Coyote 102.3.”

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Sources: Indianaradio.net, Northpine, RadioInsight, Hisair.net, LPFM Database, IRCA’s DX Monitor, InsideRadio, and radio biz connections

