

Part 3

Conditions

11 Qualification

Before operating an amateur station, the operator must be qualified or supervised by a qualified person. A **Qualified person** is one who holds a recognised qualification or an ACMA recognition certificate.

12 Using call signs.

A **call sign** (see Schedule 4 of the [Radiocommunications \(Amateur Stations\) Class Licence 2023](#)), in relation to a station, means the sequence of letters and numbers specified in the licence that authorises operation of the station as the call sign for stations authorised by the licence. E.g. VK3ABC

1. An operator must transmit the person's call sign at the following times.

- Beginning of a transmission.
- End of a transmission.
- At least every ten (10) minutes during transmission.

2. If an unqualified operator is transmitting under supervision, the operator may transmit the supervisors call sign at the required times.

3. If an operator has a call sign from another country and wishes to operate in Australia, they must add the letters VK before their call sign.

4. Any Australian qualified operator may substitute the letters VK with AX on the following days.

- 26 January - Australia Day.
- 25 April – ANZAC Day
- 17 May – World Telecommunications Day

5. An issued contest call sign must not be used outside the contest.

6. An issued special event call sign must not be used outside the special event.

7. An issued call sign with the prefix VK0 must not be used outside the Australian Antarctic Territory.

- Australian Antarctic Territory
- Heard Island
- Macquarie Island

8. An issued call sign with the prefix VK9 must not be used outside the Australian External Territories.

- VK9C = Cocos-Keeling
- VK9L = Lord Howe Island
- VK9M = Mellish Reef
- VK9N = Norfolk Island
- VK9W = Willis Island
- VK9X = Christmas Island

10. If an operator is can use their call sign anywhere if they are operating in an emergency services operation or training.

13. Operation of station – purposes and transmissions

1. Station is only used for amateur purposes.

Amateur purpose means any of the following uses.

- Self-training in radiocommunications.
- Intercommunication.
- Technical investigation of radio communications.
- Transmitting news and information related to the operation of amateur stations, as a means of facilitating intercommunication.

2. An operator must not use an amateur station for the following.

- Financial gain or reward for the operator or a third party.
- As a repeater. (Separate apparatus license is required.)
- As a beacon. (Separate apparatus license is required.)
- Advertising.
- Operate outside the designated frequencies.
- Transmit a secret message for the purpose of obscuring the meaning of the signal.

3. An operator may transmit a secret message for the purpose of obscuring the meaning of the signal for the following reasons.

- An operator transmits to a satellite for the purpose of controlling the satellite.
- An operator transmits to an unattended station for the purpose of controlling the unattended station.
- Amateur to amateur for the purposes of emergency services operation.
- Amateur to amateur for the purposes of training in emergency services operation.

4. An operator must not cause a station to be operated without a person present unless the following are met.

- The station is operated using automatic mode.
- The station is operated using computer-controlled mode.
- The station is fitted with a timer that causes automatic shut down if a failure causes a transmission longer than ten (10) minutes.

14. Operation of a station – emergency services operations and training.

An operator, when operating with emergency services operations and training, must transmit the person's call sign at the following times.

- Beginning of a transmission.
- End of a transmission.
- At least every thirty (30) minutes during transmission.

15. Operation of a station – interference and spurious emissions.

1. An operator must not operate a station that causes interference to radiocommunications.
2. An operator must ensure that, emissions to the antenna, are contained in the allocated bandwidth and any signals outside the bandwidth are attenuated below the specified levels.

For frequencies lower than 30 MHz, the lesser of the two apply.

- $43 + 10 \text{ Log (pX) dB}$ (pX = Peak Envelope Power PEP)

Example: Station is transmitting 100 W PEP

$$43 + 10 \text{ Log (100/1)}$$

$$43 + 10 \times 2$$

$$43 + 12$$

55dB below the bandwidth signal

- 50 dB

In the above case, the 55dB would apply.

For frequencies greater than 30 MHz, the lesser of the two apply.

- $43 + 10 \text{ Log (P) dB}$ (P = Power)

Example: Station is transmitting 100 W

$$43 + 10 \text{ Log (100/1)}$$

$$43 + 10 \times 2$$

$$43 + 12$$

55dB below the bandwidth signal

- 70 dB

In the above case, the 70 dB would apply.

16. Operation of a station – electromagnetic energy requirements.

See the information related to this topic in Schedule 1 of the [Radiocommunications \(Amateur Stations\) Class Licence 2023](#).

17. Operation of a station – permitted frequencies, emission modes and power limits.

Schedule 2 relates to the [Radiocommunications \(Amateur Stations\) Class Licence 2023](#)

Foundation

- Operate in the frequencies specified in **Schedule 2 Table A** column 1.
- Not exceed the emission power specified in Schedule 2 Table A column 2.
- Apply limitations specified in Schedule 2 Table A column 3.

Standard

- Operate in the frequencies specified in **Schedule 2 Table B** column 1.
- Not exceed the emission power specified in Schedule 2 Table B column 2.
- Apply limitations specified in Schedule 2 Table B column 3.

Advanced

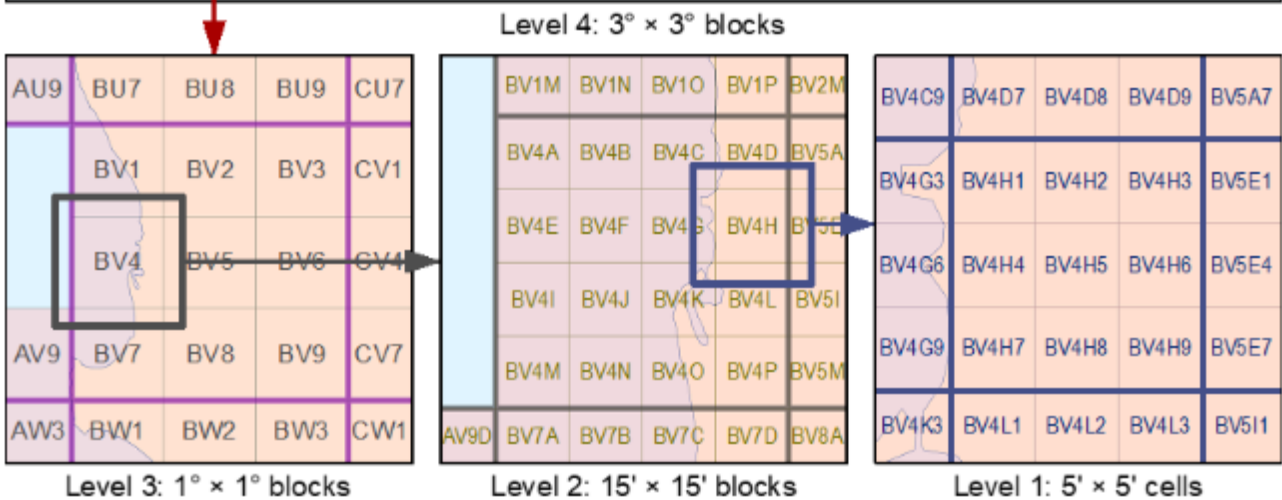
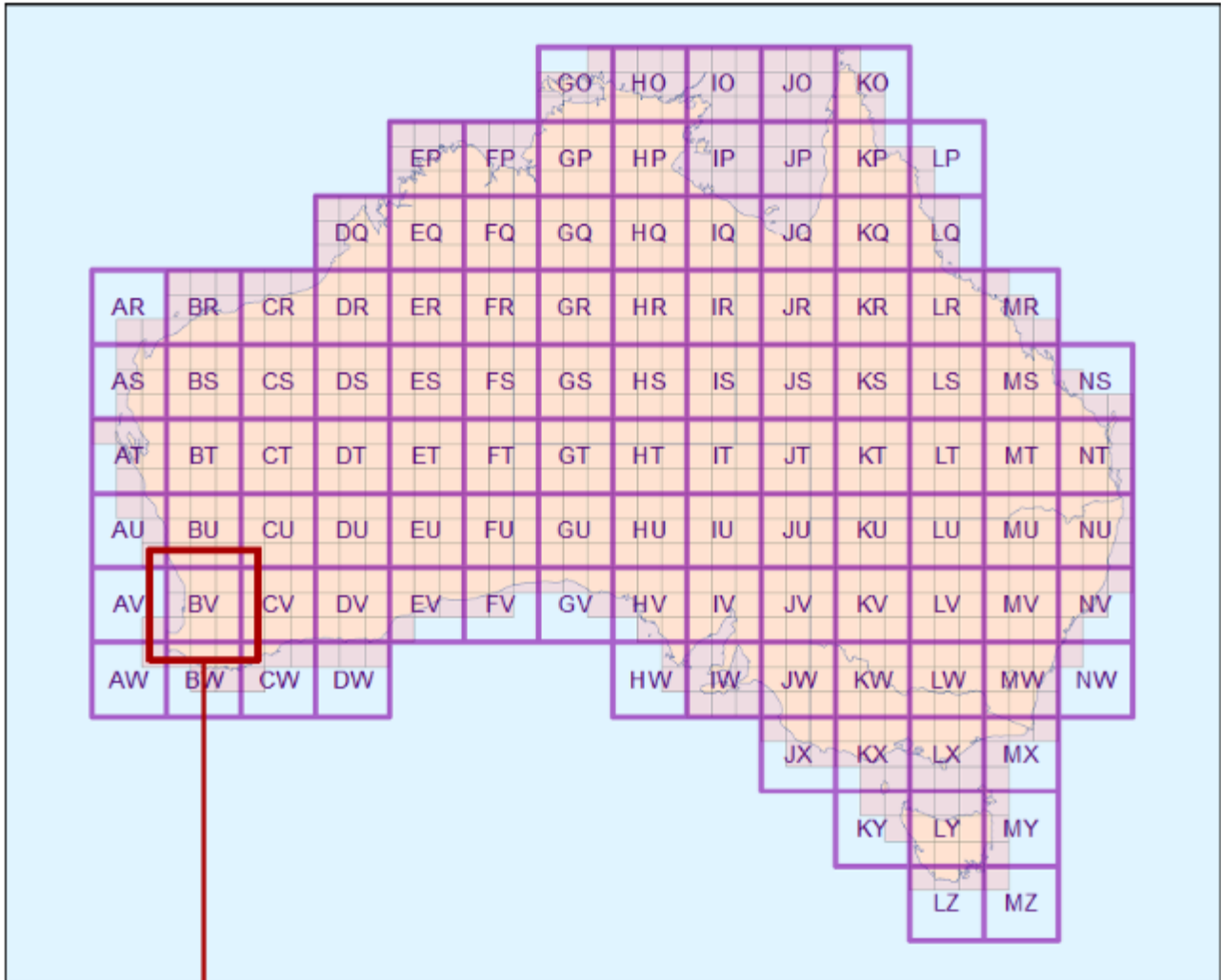
- Operate in the frequencies specified in **Schedule 2 Table C** column 1.
- Not exceed the emission power specified in Schedule 2 Table C column 2.
- Apply limitations specified in Schedule 2 Table C column 3.

18. Operation of a station – additional restrictions in certain frequency bands.

1. Must not operate on 3.4 to 3.6 GHz band in the areas specified in Schedule 3 of the [Radiocommunications \(Amateur Stations\) Class Licence 2023](#)

For inclusion, the following image was taken from the ACMA Australian spectrum map grid 2012. October 2023 update.

Figure 2: Illustration of the HCIS



2. An amateur must not operate at frequencies and in geographical areas where a spectrum licence was issued.

A spectrum licence allows the operator to use a range of radiocommunications devices in a specific:

- geographic area
- frequency band.

Spectrum licences are different to apparatus licences and class licences.

3. An amateur not operate in the area defined by the Australian Radio Quiet Zone Western Australia (RQZ). This is an area around Geraldton and Murchison in WA where the CSIRO have radio astronomy stations.

