

RE: RM11306

Regulation by bandwidth seems like a good idea on the surface, however, any regulation that would hinder or exclude existing modes brings hesitation to my mind. Is it really necessary to upset the existing gentlemen's agreements to enforce the present regulations? I don't see how. Current regulations allow CW, arguably one of the narrowest modes, throughout the entire spectrum. We as amateurs have agreed to only use them in certain areas by tradition and gentlemanly good will. I do not advocate the exclusive use or the dominant use of any one mode over the other. If the emergence of digital voice is becoming a future concern, then let it stand in the voice segments on its own. It will only gravitate to certain points as SSTV does or it will fall on its own. Interference issues are a bother. Indeed, more would be gained by convincing broadcast stations to voluntarily vacate the amateur spectrum. Chaos does not preexist. If it comes, amateurs will overcome it, without enforcement. I heard it said today that bandwidth regulation would be hard to implement because some SSB operators have signals wider than the average AM operator. I agree, I have heard them myself. CW is not the only mode, however, it is a time-honored one. Preserve all amateur modes. In this case the status quo should be maintained. It is not often that I disagree with the ARRL, but this time I do.

Thank you.