* the emergency call channels (HF channel 9 and UHF channels 5 and 35)

In the 1970s and 80s there was effective use of CB emergency channels. There was much more enthusiast traffic and emergency monitoring societies ran a good service for CB users. Now enthusiast use is much lower and CB is mainly for work related communication. Very few current users are aware there ever was an emergency channel.

There are still societies who monitor the emergency channels. But in spite of their insistance that this is still a valuable service, calls are few and societies often move into marine band monitoring or other radio related public service. Rival societies are known for fueds in order to gain authority and enjoy dressing and acting as faux emergency services. Some may say this is the reason for their existance.

Excluding all but emergency traffic from HF 9, UHF 5 and 35 is no longer relevant. I suggest recatogorising these channels as “Assistance channels” where users can make any call for assistance, be it emergency related or not. All other users may monitor and assist. Not just emergency monitoring societies.

* the data transmission channels (UHF channels 22 and 23).

Data use on UHF 22 and 23 has failed to become common. In all my years of listening I have only heard one person using data, and that was not on 22 or 23.

I suggest allocating 22, 23, 61, 62 and 63 for general use. Perhaps suggesting that these channels should be the first choice for data where required.