Packages - Bug #2824
[linux-libre]: 5.7.3+ makes external (USB) ath9k devices unusable
2020-07-02 01:49 AM - freemor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>fixed</th>
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<td>Priority:</td>
<td>bug</td>
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<td>Assignee:</td>
<td>Megver83</td>
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<td>Category:</td>
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**Description**
Upgrading to linux-libre-5.7.6-1-x86_64 causes ath9k_htc to fail to initialize which causes the wifi adapter to not show up even though all modules are loaded.

see forum entry: [https://labs.parabola.nu/boards/5/topics/489](https://labs.parabola.nu/boards/5/topics/489)

For initial discussion on this.

**History**

**#1 - 2020-07-02 02:07 AM - Megver83**
- Priority changed from broken to bug
- Subject changed from linux-libre-5.7.6-1-x86_64 breaks various (all?) ath9k wifi modules to linux-libre-5.7.6-1-x86_64 makes external (USB) ath9k devices unusable

It's fine to me, I use an ath9k device:

```
$ lsmod
02:00.0 Network controller: Qualcomm Atheros AR928X Wireless Network Adapter (PCI-Express) (rev 01) sub
 subsystem: Foxconn International, Inc. Device e007
 Kernel driver in use: ath9k
 Kernel modules: ath9k
```

However, it didn't work for my external USB dongle (TP-Link TL-WN722N)
Users will temporarily have to use linux-libre-lts

**#2 - 2020-07-02 02:12 AM - bill-auger**
ok i added a news post already, suggesting that everyone installs the linux-libre-lts - i have an ath9k USB thingy too - i will check it out

**#3 - 2020-07-02 02:19 AM - Megver83**
OK, so it looks like linux-libre-lts doesn't work too :S

**#4 - 2020-07-02 02:20 AM - bill-auger**
that's bad news then - i guess the news post advice needs to be changed

**#5 - 2020-07-02 08:03 AM - bill-auger**
there are bug reports for this in arch and also in linux - it does not seem to be moving very fast though - the fix probably will not get in until at least 5.7.8

[https://bugs.archlinux.org/task/67041](https://bugs.archlinux.org/task/67041)
[https://bugzilla.kernel.org/show_bug.cgi?id=208251](https://bugzilla.kernel.org/show_bug.cgi?id=208251)

the patches which broke it entered in 5.7.3 - the last working version 5.7.2 is still on winston - maybe we should just pull 5.7.6 and publish 5.7.2 again
the last working LTS version is 5.4.44; but we do not have that anymore
or to fix 5.7.6, the bad commit has been identified, and it has been confirmed by several people , that reverting its changes fixes the problem

6602f080cb28745259e2fab1a4cf55ebe5894f93 (ath9k: Fix general protection fault in ath9k_hif_usb_rx_cb)
i pulled linux-libre and linux-libre-headers 5.7.6 for all three arches, and re-released 5.7.2. i left the linux-libre-docs, linux-libre-chromebook, and other kernel packages as they were

i thought that was best because the lts kernel has the same problem

maybe users should just use it in the meantime, rather than forcibly downgrading linux-libre

the fix probably will not get in until at least 5.7.8

so let's wait, then :)

we did something similar when a linux version broke i686, we just waited for the next release

I tested a few USB wifi antennas (one, with Atheros chipset and another, with Realtek). In the upstream version of the kernel, this bug has been present (at least, i have a PLC to use in my desktop PC). In my netbook with Arch, the Realtek blob does not be affected with the upgrade of the kernel.

Arch fixed this bug with this patch

I'm building linux-libre 5.7.8 right now

Just uploaded and tested it, it's solved now