environment. This rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(b), of the Instruction. This rule involves establishing a temporary special local regulation.

An environmental analysis checklist and a categorical exclusion determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

PART 100—REGATTAS AND MARINE PARADES

1. The authority citation for part 100 continues to read as follows:


2. Add § 100.T11–388 to read as follows:

§ 100.T11–388 Special Local Regulation; Mavericks Surf Competition, Half Moon Bay, CA.

(a) Regulated area. (1) This temporary special local regulation is established for the waters located within a 1,000 yard radius of Pillar Point during the Mavericks Surf Competition.

(2) The spectator viewing area is located inside the following coordinates: 37°29.265′ N 122°30.165′ W, 37°29.248′ N 122°29.978′ W, and 37°29.406′ N 122°30.081′ W (NAD 83).

(b) Enforcement Period. (1) On the date of the event, as determined by weather conditions, the special local regulation will be enforced from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(c) Special local regulations. (1) Entry into, transiting, or anchoring within the regulated area as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port San Francisco (COTP) or a designated representative.

The regulated area is closed to vessel traffic, except as may be permitted by the COTP or a designated representative.

(2) Persons or vessels that have been authorized to enter the area must comply with all directions given to them by the COTP or a designated representative.

(3) Spectators wishing to view the competition on the water may only do so from the spectator viewing area defined in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(4) Persons or vessels may request permission to enter the regulated area on VHF–16 or through the 24-hour Command Center telephone at (415)–399–3547.

(5) “Designated representative” means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel, and a Federal, State, or local officer designated by or assisting the COTP in the enforcement of the special local regulation.

(d) Effective period. This section is effective during the Mavericks Surf Competition which is a one day competition scheduled to take place when organizers of the competition deem surf conditions to be appropriate on a day between January 26, 2011 and February 28, 2011.

Dated: January 25, 2011.

J.W. Jewess,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Captain of the Port San Francisco.

[FR Doc. 2011–3357 Filed 2–14–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG–2011–0067]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, New Orleans Harbor, Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the SR 39 (Judge Seeber/Claiborne Avenue) vertical lift bridge across the Inner Harbor Navigational Canal, mile 0.9, (Gulf Intracoastal Waterway mile 6.7 EHL). The bridge provides 40 feet of vertical clearance when closed above mean high water, and 156 feet above MHW in the open-to-navigation position. Currently, under 33 CFR 117.458(a), the draw of the bridge shall open on signal; except that, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Monday through Friday, the draw need not be open for the passage of vessels. The draw shall open at any time for a vessel in distress.

This deviation allows the bridge to remain closed to navigation from 6:30 a.m. until 5:45 p.m. from April 2, 2011 through May 21, 2011. However, during these times, the bridge will open for the passage of vessels at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily. From 5:45 p.m. until 6:30 a.m., the bridge will remain in the open-to-navigation position or will open on signal. Exact times and dates for the closures will be published in the Local Notice to Mariners and broadcast via the Coast Guard Broadcast Notice to Mariners system.

Navigation on the waterway consists mainly of tugs with tows and ships. The Coast Guard has coordinated the closure with waterway users, industry, and other Coast Guard units. These dates and this schedule were chosen to minimize the significant effects on vessel traffic; however, vessels that can pass under the bridge in the closed-to-navigation position can do so at any time. The bridge will not be able to open for emergencies.
The bridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.


David M. Frank,
Bridge Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2011–3356 Filed 2–14–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket No. USCG–2010–0794]

RIN 1625–AA11

Regulated Navigation Area; Hudson River South of the Troy Locks, NY

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a Regulated Navigation Area (RNA) on the navigable waters of the Hudson River in New York, south of the Troy Locks. This action is necessary to promote navigational safety, provide for the safety of life and property, and facilitate the reasonable demands of commerce. This action will impose restrictions on vessels operating within the waters of the Hudson River south of the Troy Locks when ice is a threat to navigation.

DATES: This rule is effective in the CFR on February 15, 2011. This rule is effective with actual notice for purposes of enforcement on January 20, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket USC–2010–0794 and are available online by going to http://www.regulations.gov, inserting USC–2010–0794 in the “Keyword” box, and then clicking “Search.” This material is also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M–30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or e-mail Chief Warrant Officer Kary Moss, Coast Guard Sector New York Waterways Management Division; telephone 718–354–4117, e-mail Kary.L.Moss@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On December 10, 2010, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled “Regulated Navigation Area; Hudson River South of the Troy Locks, NY” in the Federal Register (75 FR 76943). We received no comments on the proposed rule. A public meeting was not requested and none was held.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. The 30-day delay would be contrary to the public interest. As of January 20, 2011, ice formations in the Hudson River require the commencement of Coast Guard icebreaking operations. Without immediate implementation of this rule, the Coast Guard will not be able to prevent underpowered tugs from transiting through identified, unsafe ice conditions. This could lead to these tugs with barges becoming beset in the ice and further delaying the delivery of home heating oil to communities along the Hudson River and within the region, as well as posing a safety threat to the environment and a potential hazard to navigation.

Basis and Purpose

The legal basis for this rule is 33 U.S.C. 1221–1236; 46 U.S.C. Chapter 701, 3306, 3703; 50 U.S.C. 191, 195; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g), 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; and Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1, which collectively authorize the Coast Guard to define RNAs.

Historically ice has been an impediment to navigation during certain times of the year on the navigable waters of the Hudson River south of the Troy Locks. West Point, Crum Elbow, Esopus Meadows, Stuyvesant Anchorage, Hudson Anchorage, Silver Point, and Hyde Park are all natural choke points on the Hudson River where ice buildup has the potential to severely restrict vessel traffic.

There are several situations faced by vessels during severe winter conditions that can place the vessels, passengers, and crew in great danger including being beset in the ice and ice accretion, where ice forms on the superstructure and decks of transiting vessels thereby affecting the vessel’s stability. Ice may also cause significant damage to propellers, rudders, and hull plating.

The formation of ice on the Hudson River is subject to many variables and is not consistent from year to year. During a moderate or severe winter, the frozen waterways may impede a vessel’s ability to maneuver. Once ice build-up begins it can affect the transit of vessels on the navigable waterways. In addition a vessel’s watertight integrity may also be compromised by ice abrasion and ice pressure on the vessel’s hull.

Ice floes on the navigable waterways may also cause visual aids to navigation to become submerged, destroyed, or moved off station. Ice conditions on the navigable waterways may create hazardous conditions in which the operations of certain vessels become unsafe.

Previous ice seasons have shown that vessels with less than 3000 horsepower, while engaged in towing operations, have significant difficulty transiting the Hudson River in locations where ice thickness is on average eight inches or greater. This difficulty in transiting the Hudson River during ice buildup poses a safety threat to the environment and a potential hazard to navigation.

It sometimes becomes necessary to impose operating restrictions to ensure the safe navigation of vessels. During the 2009–2010 ice navigation season the Coast Guard promulgated a Temporary Final Rule that established an RNA for that period. That rule established restrictions similar to those that the Coast Guard establishes in this rule. This rule allows the Coast Guard to restrict and manage vessel movement when hazardous ice conditions exist within a specified area of the Hudson River.

Background

The Regulated Navigation Area is intended to restrict vessels with less than 3000 horsepower (HP) engaged in towing operations from operating on the Hudson River south of the Troy Locks when ice thickness is on average eight inches or greater, unless authorized by the Captain of the Port (COTP) New York or a designated representative. The COTP New York will notify mariners of the location and thickness of the ice as well as any restrictions via marine broadcast, Local Notices to Mariners, and VTS New York. For the purpose of this rule, the definition of horsepower in 46 CFR 10.107 applies.

When the ice thickness reaches an average of eight inches or greater on the Hudson River along reported routes, vessels of less than 3,000 HP engaged in towing operations will not be authorized to transit unless in conjunction with scheduled Coast Guard icebreaking operations in the