technical standards (e.g., specifications of materials, performance, design, or operation; test methods; sampling procedures; and related management systems practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies.

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 0023.1 and Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have concluded this action is one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(g), of the Instruction, which applies to regulations establishing, disestablishing, or changing Regulated Navigation Areas, safety zones or security zones.

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 165

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

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:


2. Add temporary § 165.T11–472 to read as follows:

§ 165–T11–472 Safety Zone; 2012 Mavericks Invitational, Half Moon Bay, CA.

(a) Location. This safety zone is established for the waters of Half Moon Bay, California, in the vicinity of Pillar Point bounded by a line connecting the following coordinates in the order they appear written in this section: 37°29′23″ N, 122°30′04″ W; 37°29′15″ N, 122°30′10″ W; 37°29′17″ N, 122°30′30″ W; 37°29′36″ N, 122°30′16″ W; 37°29′23″ N, 122°30′04″ W; 37°29′36″ N, 122°29′21″ W; 37°29′13″ N, 122°29′25″ W; 37°29′15″ N, 122°29′58″ W; 37°29′23″ N, 122°30′04″ W (NAD 83).

(b) Definitions. Patrol Commander (PATCOM). As used in this section, “Patrol Commander” or “PATCOM” means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer, or a Federal, State, or local officer designated by the Captain of the Port San Francisco (COTP) to assist in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) Enforcement period. This rule is effective during the 2012 Maverick Invitational, which will take place on a day that presents favorable surf conditions between 7 a.m. Monday January 23, 2012 and 3 p.m. Saturday March 31, 2012. The Coast Guard will issue notice of the event to the public as soon as practicable, and no later than 24 hours prior to the event via Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

(d) Regulations. (1) Under the general regulations in 33 CFR part 165, Subpart C this title, the safety zone is closed to all unauthorized vessel traffic, except as may be permitted by the COTP or PATCOM.

(2) Vessel operators desiring to enter or operate within the safety zone must contact the COTP or PATCOM to obtain permission. Vessel operators given permission to enter or operate in the safety zone must comply with all directions given to them by the COTP or PATCOM. Persons or vessels may request permission to enter the safety zone on VHF–23A or through the 24-hour Command Center telephone at (415)–399–3547.

(4) The COTP, or PATCOM as the designated representative of the COTP, may control the movement of all vessels operating on the navigable waters of Half Moon Bay when the COTP has determined that such orders are justified in the interest of safety by reason of weather, visibility, sea conditions, temporary port congestion, and other temporary hazardous circumstances. When hailed or signaled by PATCOM, the hailed vessel must come to an immediate stop and comply with the lawful directions issued. Failure to comply with a lawful direction may result in additional operating restrictions, citation for failure to comply, or both.


C.L. Stowe,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port San Francisco.

[FR Doc. 2012–2868 Filed 2–17–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

36 CFR Part 7

RIN 1024–AD88

Special Regulations; Areas of the National Park System, Cape Cod National Seashore

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service is amending special regulations for Cape Cod National Seashore that authorize hunting to allow for a spring season hunt for Eastern Wild Turkey. The Final Rule implements the Record of Decision for the Cape Cod National Seashore Hunting Program Environmental Impact Statement of August 2007.

DATES: This rule is effective March 22, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Craig Thatcher, Acting Chief Ranger, 99 Marconi Site Road Wellfleet, MA 02667; 508–957–0735.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description of the Park Area

In 1961 Congress established Cape Cod National Seashore (Seashore). In establishing the Seashore, Congress directed that the unique flora and fauna, the physiographic conditions, and the historic sites and structures of the area be permanently preserved; authorized the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to provide for the public enjoyment and understanding of the unique natural, historic, and scientific features of the Seashore be facilitated by establishing trails, observation points, exhibits and services for the public, and provided that adaptable portions of the Seashore may be managed for camping, swimming, boating, sailing, hunting, fishing, and other activities of similar nature. Public Law 87–126, Sec. 7 (Aug. 7, 1961).

The Seashore comprises 43,608 acres of shoreline; salt marshes; clear, deep, freshwater kettle ponds; and uplands; as well as a great diversity of species supported by these habitats. Lighthouses, a life-saving station, dune shacks, modern and Cape Cod-style houses, cultural landscapes, and wild
cranberry bogs provide a glimpse into Cape Cod’s past and continuing life ways. The Seashore offers six swimming beaches, eleven self-guiding nature trails, and a variety of picnic areas and scenic overlooks.

Background

The 1961 legislation establishing the Seashore authorized the Secretary, acting through the National Park Service (NPS), to permit hunting. The Secretary may permit hunting and fishing, including shellfishing, on lands and waters under his jurisdiction within the seashore in such areas and under such regulations as he may prescribe during open seasons prescribed by applicable local, State and Federal law. The Secretary shall consult with officials of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and any political subdivision thereof who have jurisdiction of hunting and fishing, including shellfishing, prior to the issuance of any such regulations, and the Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative arrangements with such officials regarding such hunting and fishing, including shellfishing, as he may deem desirable. * * *


The final rule increases hunting opportunities by expanding the hunting season to include a spring turkey hunt. Hunting within the Seashore that is authorized by NPS regulations is conducted in accordance with Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (MDFW) regulations. Currently authorized hunting in the Seashore is limited to deer, upland game, and migratory waterfowl. Although the Eastern Wild Turkey is managed as a native upland game bird by the MDFW, the current special regulation for hunting within the Seashore prohibits all hunting from March 1 through August 31. This rule change is necessary because the Massachusetts spring turkey season generally takes place from late April to mid or late May when hunting is prohibited by the Seashore’s current special regulation. Fall turkey hunting could also be initiated if MDFW established such a season in the Cape Cod zone, but no rule change would be needed for a fall turkey hunt since the State does not conduct hunting before September 1.

For many years, the Seashore cooperated with the MDFW to release ring-necked pheasants within the Seashore to provide a pheasant hunt. In 2002, the Seashore was sued for failure to follow the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) with respect to the hunting program. In September 2003, the U.S. District Court ordered the Seashore to prepare a NEPA environmental assessment of the hunting program. The court also enjoined the pheasant hunt until the Seashore completed the NEPA assessment.

National Environmental Policy Act Process

As a result of the court order, the Seashore initiated and completed a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and Record of Decision (ROD), on the Seashore’s hunting program. The chosen alternative as documented by the ROD, was Alternative B—Develop a Modified Hunting Program.

Through Alternative B, the Seashore seeks to increase hunting opportunities for native upland game bird species by establishing a turkey season generally consistent with MDFW regulations and making ancillary improvements to upland game bird habitat. The alternative phases out pheasant stocking and hunting through adaptive management actions aimed at improving the availability of native upland game bird species. Hunting areas will be consolidated and clearly delineated and educational outreach concerning hunting will be expanded to hunting and non-hunting users. The NPS and MDFW will cooperatively monitor and manage game and other species. The FEIS and ROD may be reviewed at: http://www.nps.gov/caco/parkmgmt/planning.htm.

Summary of and Responses to Public Comments

The NPS published a proposed rule on March 22, 2011, and accepted public comments through April 21, 2011. Comments were accepted through the mail, hand delivery, and through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. A total of eleven comments were received during the comment period. Ten comments supported the establishment of a spring turkey season that was consistent with the MDFW program, but also recognized that the Seashore season and the State season were separately managed. Two individual comments supported the spring turkey season based on reducing motor vehicle and turkey conflicts on Route 6, a well travelled State highway that runs through the Seashore.

The comments received from the three organizations supported establishing a spring turkey season at the Seashore. These comments also suggested there should be:

• Consistency between the Seashore and MDFW regulations,
• A youth turkey hunt similar to the State youth hunt,
• Flexibility in the rule for the Seashore to adjust to any changes MDFW makes with the spring turkey season, and
• No extra geographic restraints in the Seashore spring turkey season that might create a high hunter density.

The MDFW made similar suggestions and also expressed concern about the possible need for a hunter to have a permit issued by the Seashore in addition to their State hunting license and turkey stamp.

Analysis and Response

The Seashore’s hunting FEIS evaluated a turkey hunting season that was consistent with the MDFW regulations. The Seashore’s hunting program has generally followed the MDFW program, with additional provisions or restrictions as necessary to meet park objectives and NPS policies. The Seashore regards MDFW as a key expert agency with State and region-wide perspective that is important for determining hunting seasons, bag limits, and other elements of a sound hunting program. Accordingly, management of hunting at the Seashore will be accomplished through close coordination between the Seashore and MDFW. The Seashore has adopted many of the MDFW regulations without additional restrictions, although the ultimate responsibility for developing and managing an appropriate hunting program for the Seashore rests with the NPS.

The existing special regulation utilizes 36 CFR 1.5, Closures and public use limits, to designate appropriate locations where hunting is allowed and to impose reasonable limits or restrictions necessary to address park specific issues such as resource
spring turkey season from two to four weeks, ending in late May. Due to possible user conflicts that may arise in late May, the Seashore Superintendent, using discretionary authority of the rule, will set the closing date of the season. The Seashore will strive to be consistent with the MDFW’s turkey season dates to avoid confusion. However, the Superintendent will have the discretion to adjust the Seashore’s opening and closing dates based on factors such as safety, use patterns, and the public interest.

To authorize and manage hunting activities compatible with their land management concerns, other federal and Commonwealth facilities within Massachusetts, such as the Massachusetts Military Reservation, have different rules and different dates than the dates/times established by the MDFW. The Superintendent’s discretion in this case would be similar to such established practice. The public will be notified of the spring turkey hunt opening and closing dates and other special conditions for the Seashore hunting program, all of which will also be published in the Superintendent’s Compendium.

Affording the Seashore Superintendent this discretion provides the flexibility suggested by the three organizations and the MDFW to allow for accommodation of future changes in the State’s program (provided the changes fall within the scope of discretion authorized by this regulation) without further rulemaking. For example, MDFW currently has a special youth turkey hunt, which is allowed on a specific day, as part of its spring turkey season. The Seashore may consider, and this rulemaking accommodates, the possibility of incorporating a youth turkey hunt into the Seashore’s program in the future.

Consideration of the youth turkey hunt component may be entertained after the Seashore has implemented and evaluated the regular spring turkey hunt.

The ROD directed that: “If turkey hunting within [the Seashore] will be a controlled hunt requiring a permit, limiting the number of hunters, and likely managed through a lottery system.” Accordingly, to control issues such as hunter density for safety, this rule provides that the Seashore will manage the turkey hunt through permits. A person seeking the turkey hunting permit must present a driver’s license, vehicle registration and Massachusetts State Hunting license with turkey stamp to ensure compliance with MDFW turkey hunt legal requirements and to verify the identity of the applicant. Seashore hunters should understand that some areas where hunting has previously been allowed might be closed to hunting during the spring turkey season for safety reasons.

Changes From the Proposed Rule
After review and analysis of the public comments, NPS has:

- Deleted the word “temporarily” in paragraph (f)(5)(ii), for the reasons discussed in the previous section
- Deleted the reference to activities and objectives “such as those described in the Cape Cod National Seashore Hunting Program/Final Environmental Impact Statement” in paragraph (f)(5)(ii), for the reasons discussed in the previous section; and
- Added the terms “limitations, restrictions * * * or other hunting related designations” to the public notification requirements for closures in paragraph (f)(6) to clarify that the requirement applies to all such actions.

Compliance With Other Laws and Executive Orders

Regulatory Planning and Review (Executive Order 12866)

This document is not a significant rule and the Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed this rule under Executive Order 12866.

(1) This rule will not have an effect of $100 million or more on the economy.

It will not adversely affect in a material way the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities.

(2) This rule will not create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency. This is an agency specific rule.

(3) This rule does not alter the budgetary effects of entitlements, grants, user-fees, or loan programs or the rights or obligations of their recipients.

(4) This rule does not raise novel legal or policy issues. The rule meets the requirements of the NPS general regulations at 36 CFR 2.2(b)(2).

Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)

The Department of the Interior certifies that this document will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities under the RFA (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)

This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804(2), the SBREFA. This rule:

- a. Does not have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more.
The rule will benefit small businesses in the local communities through the sale of goods and services to turkey hunters. b. Will not cause a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions. The rule will not impose restrictions on business in the local communities in the form of fees, record keeping or other requirements that would increase costs.

c. Does not have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of U.S.-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA)

This rule does not impose an unfunded mandate on State, local, or tribal governments or the private sector of more than $100 million per year. The rule does not have a significant or unique effect on State, local or tribal governments or the private sector. A statement containing the information required by the UMRA (2 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is not required.

Takings (Executive Order 12630)

Under the criteria in Executive Order 12630, this rule does not have significant takings implications. A takings implication assessment is not required.

Federalism (Executive Order 13132)

Under the criteria in Executive Order 13132, the rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism summary impact statement. A Federalism summary impact statement is not required.

Civil Justice Reform (Executive Order 12988)

This rule complies with the requirements of Executive Order 12988. Specifically this rule:

(a) Meets the requirements of section 3(a) requiring all regulations be reviewed to eliminate errors and ambiguity and be written to minimize litigation; and

(b) Meets the criteria of section 3(b)(2) requiring that all regulations be written in clear language and contain clear legal standards.

Consultation With Indian Tribes (Executive Order 13175)

Under the criteria in Executive Order 13175 we have evaluated this rule and determined that it has no potential effects on federally recognized Indian tribes.

Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

This rule does not contain any new collection of information that requires approval by OMB under the PRA of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). OMB has approved the information collection requirements associated with NPS special use permits and has assigned OMB control number 1024–0026 (expires 06/30/2013). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

This rule implements a portion of a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The Seashore formally initiated the NEPA process on June 21, 2004 by publishing in the Federal Register a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Seashore Hunting Program.

A series of public and agency scoping meetings followed to solicit input on hunting in the park from American Indian tribes, Federal and State agencies and local towns, the public, and interested groups. Using the information gathered during the scoping process, the Seashore prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for public review and comment. The comment period opened on April 21, 2006, with the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register, and closed 60 days later, on June 19, 2006.

Two public meetings were held during the 60-day review period to receive oral comment. The availability of the Draft EIS and the dates and times of the public meetings were also publicized through a second NOA published by the NPS in the Federal Register on May 10, 2006, and through press releases sent to local newspapers and radio stations. Over 200 comments were received on the Draft EIS. These comments were used to improve the Draft and produce the FEIS.

Completion of the FEIS was noticed in the Federal Register by the DOI and EPA on August 7 and August 10, 2007, respectively. The ROD was signed on September 18, 2007. The chosen alternative was Alternative B—Develop a Modified Hunting Program. The FEIS and ROD may be reviewed at: http://www.nps.gov/caco/parkmgmt/planning.htm.

Effects on the Energy Supply (Executive Order 13211)

This rule is not a significant energy action under the definition in Executive Order 13211. A statement of Energy Effects is not required.

Drafting Information

The primary authors of this regulation were Craig Thatcher, Acting Chief Ranger, Cape Cod National Seashore; Robin Lepore, Office of the Regional Solicitor, Department of the Interior; Russel J. Wilson, Chief Regulations and Special Park Uses, National Park Service; and, A.J. North, Regulations Coordinator, National Park Service.

List of Subjects in 36 CFR Part 7

National Parks, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the National Park Service amends 36 CFR part 7 as follows:

PART 7—SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

§ 7.67 Cape Cod National Seashore.

(f) Hunting. (1) Hunting is allowed at times and locations designated by the Superintendent as open to hunting.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, hunting is permitted in accordance with § 2.2 of this chapter.

(3) Only deer, upland game (including Eastern Wild Turkey), and migratory waterfowl may be hunted.

(4) Hunting is prohibited from March 1st through August 31st each year, except for the taking of Eastern Wild Turkey as designated by the Superintendent.

(5) The Superintendent may:

(i) Require permits and establish conditions for hunting; and

(ii) Limit, restrict, or terminate hunting access or activities after taking into consideration public health and safety, natural and cultural resource protection, and other management activities and objectives.

(6) The public will be notified of such limitations, restrictions, closures, or other hunting related designations through one or more methods listed in § 1.7(a) of this chapter.

(7) Violating a closure, designation, use or activity restriction or a term or
condition of a permit is prohibited. Violating a term or condition of a permit may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit by the Superintendent.


Rachel Jacobson,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

BILLING CODE 4310–WV–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

44 CFR Part 64

Suspension of Community Eligibility

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule identifies communities where the sale of flood insurance has been authorized under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that are scheduled for suspension on the effective dates listed within this rule because of noncompliance with the floodplain management requirements of the program. If the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) receives documentation that the community has adopted the required floodplain management measures prior to the effective suspension date given in this rule, the suspension will not occur and a notice of this will be provided by publication in the Federal Register on a subsequent date.

DATES: Effective Dates: The effective date of each community’s scheduled suspension is the third column (“Susp.”) listed in the third column of the following tables.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you want to determine whether a particular community was suspended on the suspension date or for further information, contact David Stearrett, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–2953.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NFIP enables property owners to purchase Federal flood insurance that is not otherwise generally available from private insurers. In return, communities agree to adopt and administer local floodplain management aimed at protecting lives and new construction from future flooding. Section 1315 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4022, prohibits the sale of NFIP flood insurance unless an appropriate public body adopts adequate floodplain management measures with effective enforcement measures. The communities listed in this document no longer meet that statutory requirement for compliance with program regulations, 44 CFR part 59. Accordingly, the communities will be suspended on the effective date in the third column. As of that date, flood insurance will no longer be available in the community. We recognize that some of these communities may adopt and submit the required documentation of legally enforceable floodplain management measures after this rule is published but prior to the actual suspension date. These communities will not be suspended and will continue their eligibility for the sale of insurance. A notice withdrawing the suspension of the communities will be published in the Federal Register.

In addition, FEMA publishes a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that identifies the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) in these communities. The date of the FIRM, if one has been published, is indicated in the fourth column of the table. No direct Federal financial assistance (except assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act not in connection with a flood) may be provided for construction or acquisition of buildings in identified SFHAs for communities not participating in the NFIP and identified for more than a year on FEMA’s initial FIRM for the community as having flood-prone areas (section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4106(a), as amended). This prohibition against certain types of Federal assistance becomes effective for the communities listed on the date shown in the last column. The Administrator finds that notice and public comment under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) are impracticable and unnecessary because communities listed in this final rule have been adequately notified.

Each community receives 6-month, 90-day, and 30-day notification letters addressed to the Chief Executive Officer stating that the community will be suspended unless the required floodplain management measures are met prior to the effective suspension date. Since these notifications were made, this final rule may take effect within less than 30 days.

National Environmental Policy Act. This rule is categorically excluded from the requirements of 44 CFR part 10. Environmental Considerations. No environmental impact assessment has been prepared.

Regulatory Flexibility Act. The Administrator has determined that this rule is exempt from the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act because the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4022, prohibits flood insurance coverage unless an appropriate public body adopts adequate floodplain management measures with effective enforcement measures. The communities listed no longer comply with the statutory requirements, and after the effective date, flood insurance will no longer be available in the communities unless remedial action takes place.

Regulatory Classification. This final rule is not a significant regulatory action under the criteria of section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, Regulatory Planning and Review, 58 FR 51735.

Executive Order 13132, Federalism. This rule involves no policies that have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule meets the applicable standards of Executive Order 12988.

Paperwork Reduction Act. This rule does not involve any collection of information for purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.

List of Subjects in 44 CFR Part 64

Flood insurance, Floodplains.

Accordingly, 44 CFR part 64 is amended as follows:

PART 64—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 64 continues to read as follows:


§ 64.6 [Amended]

2. The tables published under the authority of § 64.6 are amended as follows: