

commander. On scene patrol personnel may include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard. Upon hearing five or more short blasts from a U.S. Coast Guard vessel, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary may also be present to inform vessel operators of this regulation and other applicable laws.

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect on June 21, 1996, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and biennially thereafter on even numbered years on the third Friday in June.

Dated: April 30, 1996.

J.L. Linnon,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander,
First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 96-11902 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD01-96-022]

RIN 2115-AE46

Special Local Regulation: Searsport Lobster Boat Races, Searsport, ME

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposed to establish a permanent special local regulation for the Searsport Lobster Boat Races. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on August 24, 1996, and each year thereafter on a date and times published in a Federal Register notice. This regulation is needed to protect the boating public from the hazards associated with high speed powerboat racing in confined waters.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 27, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed to Commander (b), First Coast Guard District, Captain John Foster Williams Federal Building, 408 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02110-3350, or may be hand delivered to Room 428 at the same address, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Benjamin M. Algeo, Chief, Boating Affairs Branch, First Coast Guard District, (617) 223-8311.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Each person submitting comments should include their name and address, identify this notice (CGD01-96-022), the specific section of the proposal to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Comments and attachments should be submitted on 8½" × 11" unbound paper in a format suitable for copying and electronic filing. If that is not practical, a second copy of any bound material is requested. Persons requesting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. All comments received during the comment period will be considered by the Coast Guard and may change this proposal.

The Coast Guard has no plans to hold a public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to Commander (b), First Coast Guard District at the address under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If the Coast Guard determines that oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, it will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

Discussion of Proposed Amendments

The Searsport Lobster Boat Races is a local, traditional event that has been held for many years in Searsport Harbor, ME. In the past, the Coast Guard has promulgated individual regulations for each year's race. Given the recurring nature of the event, the Coast Guard desires to establish a permanent regulation. The proposed regulation would establish a regulated area on Searsport harbor and would provide specific guidance to control vessel movement during the race.

The event includes 50 or more participants with 4 to 8 boats per class racing in heats around a ¾ mile marked course. The event typically attracts approximately 100 spectator craft. The Coast Guard will assign a patrol to the event, but due to the speed, large wakes, and proximity of the participating vessels, it is necessary to establish a special local regulation to control spectator and commercial vessel movement within this confined area. Spectator craft are authorized to watch the race from any area as long as they remain outside the designated regulated area.

The proposed section will be effective from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on August 24, 1996, and each year thereafter as published in a Federal Register notice. If the race is canceled due to weather, this section will be effective on the day following the effective date. In emergency situations, provisions may be made to establish safe escort by a Coast Guard or Coast Guard designated vessel for vessels requiring transit through the regulated area.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposal is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget under that order. It is not significant under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation, under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT, is unnecessary. This conclusion is based on the limited duration of the race, the extensive advisories that will be made to the affected maritime community, and the minimal restrictions which the regulation places on vessel traffic.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider the economic impact on small entities of a rule for which a general notice of proposed rulemaking is required. "Small entities" may include (1) small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields and (2) governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

For the reasons discussed in the Regulatory Evaluation, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this proposal will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If, however, you think that your business or organization qualifies as a small entity and that this rule will have a significant economic impact on your business or organization, please submit a comment (see **ADDRESSES**) explaining why you think it qualifies and in what way and to what degree this rule will economically affect it.

Collection of Information

This proposal contains no collection of information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposal under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard has considered the environmental impacts of this proposal and concluded that, under paragraph 2.B.2.e.34(h) of DOMDTINST 16475.1B, (as revised by 61 FR 13563, March 27, 1996) this proposal is a special local regulation issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade and is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

Proposed Regulation

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

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

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1233; 49 CFR 1.46 and 33 CFR 100.35.

2. A permanent section, 100.118, is added to read as follows:

§ 100.118 Searsport Lobster Boat Races, Searsport Harbor, ME.

(a) *Regulated Area.* The regulated area includes all waters of Searsport Harbor, ME, within the following points (NAD 83):

Latitude	Longitude
44°26'51" N	068°54'20" W
44°27'03" N	068°54'20" W
44°27'03" N	068°55'17" W
44°26'51" N	068°55'17" W

(b) *Special Local Regulations.*

(1) The Coast Guard patrol commander may delay, modify, or cancel the race as conditions or circumstances require.

(2) No person or vessel may enter, transit, or remain in the regulated area unless participating in the event or unless authorized by the Coast Guard patrol commander.

(3) Vessels encountering emergencies which require transit through the regulated area should contact the Coast

Guard patrol commander on VHF Channel 16. In the event of an emergency, the Coast Guard patrol commander may authorize a vessel to transit through the regulated area with a Coast Guard designated escort.

(4) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Coast Guard on-scene patrol commander. On-scene patrol personnel may include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard. Upon hearing five or more short blasts from a U.S. Coast Guard vessel, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary may also be present to inform vessel operators of this regulation and other application laws.

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on August 24, 1996, and each year thereafter on a date and times published in a Federal Register notice. If the event is canceled due to weather, this section is effective the following day.

Dated: May 1, 1996.

J.L. Linnon,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 96-11904 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD01-95-002]

RIN 2115-AE47

Drawbridge Operation Regulations New Rochelle Harbor, NY

AGENCY: Coast Guard DOT.

ACTION: Supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is proposing a change to the regulations governing the Glen Island Bridge, mile 0.8, across New Rochelle Harbor in New Rochelle, New York. The proposal would require two hours advance notice for openings between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 a.m. from May 1st through October 31st, and twenty-four hours advance notice between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. from November 1st through April 30th.

This change was requested by the Westchester County Department of Parks because of the few requests for bridge openings during these time periods. This action should relieve the bridge owner of the burden of having personnel constantly available to open the bridge and should provide for the reasonable needs of navigation.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed to Commander (obr), First Coast Guard District, Building 135A, Governors Island, New York, 10004-5073, or may be hand-delivered to the same address between 6:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. The telephone number is (212) 668-7170. The comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying by appointment at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Kassof, Bridge Program Manager, First Coast Guard District, (212) 668-7069.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written views, comments, data, or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their name and address, identify this rulemaking (CGD1 95-002), the specific section of this proposal to which each comment applies, and give reasons for each comment. The Coast Guard requests that all comments and attachments be submitted in an unbound format no larger than 8½" by 11", suitable for copying and electronic filing. If that is not practical, a second copy of any bound material is requested. Persons desiring acknowledgment that their comments have been received are to enclose a stamped, self-addressed post card or envelope.

The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period, and may change this proposal in light of comments received. The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to Commander (obr), First Coast Guard District at the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If the Coast Guard determines that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

Background and Purpose

The Glen Island Bridge has vertical clearances when in the closed position of 13 feet above mean high water (MHW) and 20 feet above mean low water (MLW). The bridge is presently required to open on signal. The proposed regulations would provide openings on signal with two hours advance notice between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 a.m. from May through October, and with twenty-four hours