

inspection or copying in room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the above address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also access this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Copies of the complete ICRs are available through this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov> and also from Commandant (G-SII-2), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, room 6106 (Attn: Barbara Davis), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. The telephone number is 202-267-2326.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Davis, Office of Information Management, 202-267-2326, for questions on this document; Dorothy Walker, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, 202-366-9330, for questions on the docket.

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to submit written comments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this document [USCG-2000-7222] and the specific ICR to which each comment applies, and give the reason(s) for each comment. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes.

Information Collection Requests

1. *Title:* Regattas and Marine Parades.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0017.

Summary: 46 U.S.C. 1233 authorizes the Coast Guard to issue rules to promote the safety of life on navigable waters during regattas or marine parades. 33 CFR 100.17 and 100.18 promulgate the rules for providing notice of, and additional information for permitting, regattas and marine parades (marine events) to the Coast Guard.

Need: The Coast Guard needs to determine whether a marine event may present a substantial threat to the safety of human life on navigable waters and determine which measures are necessary to ensure the safety of life during the events. Sponsors must notify the Coast Guard of the event and provide additional information, as required. This is an efficient means for the Coast Guard to learn of the events and to address environmental impacts.

Respondents: Sponsors of marine events.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden: The estimated burden is 1,540 hours annually.

2. *Title:* Boat Owner's Report, Possible Safety Defect.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0611.

Summary: Owners of recreational boats or engines who believe their product contains a defect or fails to comply with safety standards can call the Coast Guard Infoline, which will send them a copy of the "Boat Owner's Report", or they can file the report online at the website for the Office of Boating Safety.

Need: 46 U.S.C. 4310(f) gives the Coast Guard the authority to require manufacturers of recreational boats and associated equipment to notify owners and to replace or repair products that are defective or fail to comply with safety standards.

Respondents: Owners of recreational boats.

Frequency: One time.

Burden: The estimated burden is 80 hours annually.

3. *Title:* Labeling Requirements in 33 CFR Parts 181 and 183.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0573.

Summary: The collection of information requires manufacturers or importers of recreational boats to apply for serial numbers from the Coast Guard and to display various labels on these boats.

Need: Under 33 CFR, Parts 181 and 183, manufacturers or importers of recreational boats must obtain, from the Coast Guard, a manufacturer's identification code for each boat and must display various labels on these boats that provide safety information to the boating public.

Respondents: Manufacturers and importers of recreational boats.

Frequency: One time.

Burden: The estimated burden is 382,798 hours annually.

4. *Title:* International Safety Management Code Audit Reports.

OMB Control Number: 2115-0630.

Summary: The Coast Guard uses this information collection to determine the compliance status of U.S. vessels, subject to SOLAS 74, engaged in international trade. Organizations recognized by the Coast Guard conduct ongoing audits of vessels' and companies' safety-management systems.

Need: 46 U.S.C. 3203 authorizes the Coast Guard to prescribe rules regarding safety-management systems. 33 CFR Part 96 contains the rules for the safe operation of vessels and of safety-management systems.

Respondents: Owners and operators of vessels, and organizations authorized to issue ISM Code certificates for the United States.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden: The estimated burden is 3,650 hours annually.

Dated: March 29, 2000.

Daniel F. Sheehan,

Director of Information and Technology.

[FR Doc. 00-9250 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-2000-7206]

Voluntary Guidelines on Recreational Activities To Control the Spread of Zebra Mussels and Other Aquatic Nuisance Species

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice; Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard seeks comments on voluntary guidelines for persons engaged in water-related recreational activities (e.g., boating and fishing). The Coast Guard must issue voluntary guidelines based on the recommendations prepared by the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force to help control the spread of the zebra mussel and other aquatic nuisance species. We request your comments on these voluntary guidelines.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before June 12, 2000.

ADDRESSES: To make sure your comments and related material are not entered in the docket more than once, please submit them by only one of the following means:

(1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility, (USCG-2000-7206), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(2) By delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202-493-2251.

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments and material received from the public will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington,

DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice or associated guidelines, call Lieutenant Karen Weaver, Project Manager, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards (G-MSO), Coast Guard, telephone, 202-267-2079. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

How May I Comment on the Voluntary Guidelines?

You may submit comments and related material on the voluntary guidelines to the Docket Management Facility as indicated previously in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. If you submit written comments please include—

- Your name and address;
- The docket number for this notice (USCG-2000-7206);
- The specific section of this notice to which each comment applies; and
- The reason for each comment.

You may mail, deliver, fax, or electronically submit your comments and attachments to the Docket Management Facility, using an address or fax number listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. Please do not submit the same comment or attachment more than once. If you mail or deliver your comments, they must be on 8½-by-11-inch paper, and the quality of the copy should be clear enough for copying and scanning. If you mail your comments and would like to know if the Docket Management Facility received them, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. The Coast Guard will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

Why Is the Coast Guard Issuing Voluntary Guidelines?

To comply with the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (NISA), we are issuing voluntary guidelines for recreational activities to control the spread of zebra mussels and other Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS). We are providing this opportunity for public comment on the voluntary guidelines. After considering the comments we will issue a final version of the voluntary guidelines. These guidelines will be explained in pamphlets, videos, and other types of outreach media.

The voluntary guidelines in this notice are based on the ones drafted and recommended by the Recreational Activities Committee of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (the Committee). The guidelines developed by the Committee are available in the docket and may be accessed on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

What are Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS)?

ANS are organisms introduced into non-native habitats and are often freed from the natural predators, parasites, pathogens, and competitors that have kept them in check. Once established, these organisms can displace native species; they can impede municipal, industrial, and private water-intake systems; and they can degrade aquatic ecosystems.

The introduction of most ANS is the work of humans. In some cases this is intentional, but in many it is accidental. In addition to overland transport of boats, which has long been identified as a key dispersal pathway, there are many others. The other human activities that can disperse ANS include angling, scuba diving, and waterfowl hunting.

Establishing these voluntary guidelines will help to promote good habits that will control the spread of ANS. Surveys have shown that participants in recreational activities will take necessary precautions if they know what to do. Conversely, they will not take precautions unless they know what to do.

What Is the Purpose of the Voluntary Guidelines?

The voluntary guidelines will give the public clear, concise information on how to avoid the transport of ANS. These voluntary guidelines provide specific procedures that individuals engaged in the corresponding recreational activity can follow so they will not accidentally transport ANS.

What Activities Do the Voluntary Guidelines Address and What Are the Recommended Procedures?

These voluntary guidelines address the following water-related recreational activities: Scuba diving; waterfowl hunting; harvesting of bait by recreational anglers; angling; boating; operating seaplanes; and operating personal watercraft. These voluntary guidelines are intended to assist natural-resource managers and others involved in educating individuals who participate in these recreational activities about the problems associated with the spread of ANS in the United States.

Voluntary Guidelines for Recreational Activities To Control the Spread of Zebra Mussels and Other Aquatic Nuisance Species

Generic Guidelines

Some guidelines are appropriate for any recreational activity associated with water. The generic preventive guidelines listed below apply to most recreational activities occurring in marine and inland waters. In addition to these guidelines, States and provinces may include specific laws and guidelines for their areas.

Always do the following:

- Always inspect equipment (in the broadest sense, *e.g.*, boats, planes, trailers, decoy anchors, SCUBA gear, and lures) for visible plants and animals before transporting.
- Always remove visible plants and animals from equipment (expel plants, animals, and water from internal parts).
- Always drain water from equipment before transporting.
- Always clean equipment that has been in infested waters before placing it in other waters (see the "Pathway-specific guidelines" section for specific methods).

• Always report questionable species to your resource agency for identification. Information is available from many sources about identification of ANS; however, specimens are needed to confirm sightings. Many jurisdictions have different rules regarding possession and transport. Always ask your local natural resources management agency for instructions.

Never do the following:

- Never transport plants, animals, mud, or water from lakes, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters.
- Never release animals or plants (*e.g.*, aquarium species, bait, pets, hunting dogs, or water garden plants) into the wild unless you release them into the same waterbody or location where the species came from.

Pathway-Specific Guidelines

These guidelines cover recreational activities that are potential pathways for transferring ANS. Individuals engaged in these activities should follow these guidelines to help prevent the spread of ANS. You should note that States and provinces may add to these voluntary guidelines their own related laws and guidelines, if any, regarding transport or possession of ANS.

(a) Scuba Diving

You can unintentionally transport ANS, such as the zebra mussel, spiny water flea, and Eurasian water milfoil, from one body of water to another on

your scuba-diving gear. You should take precautions to reduce the risk of spreading these unwanted species, especially when diving in different waters on the same or consecutive days.

Many scuba divers believe that zebra mussels have benefited the sport by improving visibility in the waters they inhabit. They soon learn, however, that geological formations and shipwrecks that once attracted them are encrusted with layers of zebra mussels, which obscure these objects. The harm to the environment, the fisheries, and industrial, municipal, and private water intakes, therefore, far outweigh any benefit.

Any objects removed from the water have the potential of introducing ANS to new waters. By adhering to the guidelines that follow, you can help prevent the spread of ANS when you scuba dive, and you can help protect the environment from the harmful impacts of these species.

Guidelines

- Inspect your equipment.
- Remove any plants, mud, or animals that are visible before leaving all waters.
- Drain water from buoyancy compensator (bc), regulator, tank boot, and any other equipment that may hold water before leaving all waters.
- ANS can survive for a period of time on wet scuba gear or in water. Therefore, do at least one of the following:

(1) Dry your suit and all equipment completely before diving in different waters, and rinse the inside of your bc with hot or salted water as described in items (2) and (3), which immediately follow.

(2) Submerge and wash your suit and equipment, and rinse the inside of your bc with hot water (at least 40° C or 104° F).

(3) Submerge and wash your suit and equipment in a tub or tote containing salted water (½ cup of salt dissolved in one gallon of water); rinse the inside of your bc with the salted solution; and rinse your equipment with clean water.

(b) Waterfowl Hunting

Nonindigenous ANS such as the zebra mussel, purple loosestrife, and Eurasian water milfoil can damage habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife. Waterfowl hunters should be aware that it is possible to inadvertently spread ANS from one lake or wetland via boats, motors, trailers, and decoys. Waterfowlers should assume that any fragments of aquatic plants could be potentially harmful and should not be transported from one wetland, lake,

river, or coastal area to another. In addition, zebra mussels and their microscopic larvae can attach to aquatic plants. If fragments of these plants are transported, they can inadvertently transport zebra mussels to other waters. By following the guidelines on recreational activities, you can help prevent the spread of ANS via waterfowl hunting.

Guidelines

Before the hunting season—

- Switch to elliptical, bulb-shaped, or strap anchors on decoys, which avoid collecting submerged and floating aquatic plants; or
- If boats are moored in waters infested with zebra mussels, use the following tips to remove or kill zebra mussels or other aquatic animals and plants that might be in or on your boat:

(1) Remove any visible zebra mussels from the boat and wash and rinse the boat with hot water; or

(2) Spray the boat with high-pressure water; or

(3) Dry all parts of the boat for at least 5 days before placing it into another waterbody.

After hunting—

- Inspect waders or hip boots; remove aquatic plants; and, where possible, rinse mud from them before leaving the waters;
- Remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud that are attached to decoy lines or anchors; and
- Drain the water from boats before transporting to other waters.

Between hunting trips—

- Inspect equipment for any aquatic plants, animals, and mud not removed after hunting; remove and dispose of them on land away from the waters; and
- Follow the guidelines for boaters in paragraph (e).

Between hunting trips—

- Inspect equipment for any aquatic plants, animals, and mud not removed after hunting; remove and dispose of them on land away from the waters; and
- Follow the guidelines for boaters in paragraph (e).

(c) Recreational Anglers' Harvest of Live Bait (Non-Commercial Harvest)

The guidelines that follow apply to the non-commercial harvesting of live bait by recreational anglers. Also, the RAC is developing guidelines for commercial bait.

Nonindigenous species can lodge in nets and other equipment used to harvest baitfish and can be unintentionally transported into noninfested waters. Some species can survive up to 2 weeks out of water and remain viable when dislodged into another waterbody. Non-target ANS species like ruffe and round goby, as well as fragments of aquatic nuisance plants, such as hydrilla or Eurasian water milfoil, can be harvested along with target baitfish species. If such species are transferred to noninfested

waters, they can have harmful effects on native fish populations. To help prevent the transfer of these species, you should conduct the procedures that follow during or after the harvest of live bait for personal use.

Guidelines

- Inspect harvested live bait for non-target species, and remove them where harvested.
- Always dispose of unwanted live bait on land (away from contact with waters) before leaving the waters. Never release live bait into a waterbody or move aquatic plants or animals from one waterbody into a different waterbody.

Remove all aquatic plants from boats, trailers, nets, or other equipment while on shore before leaving the waterbody access.

- Before reusing nets, roll out, hand clean, and dry them.
- Drain water from boats and equipment (bilge pump, tubs, live wells, etc.) before leaving any waterbody access.

Never use water from infested waters to transport live bait to other waters. In many States and provinces, live bait harvested from designated infested waters is illegal. Check with your local State natural resource agency before you collect live bait.

- In areas where harvest of bait from infested waters is legal, avoid using the same equipment in infested and noninfested waters. Some aquatic nuisance species once removed from infested waters can survive up to two weeks in a moist environment. By drying surfaces where they can be lodged or attached, you can substantially reduce the risk of transporting them in boats and equipment.

Rinse all equipment, including boats and trailers, with tap water and dry them for as long as possible, but for at least 5 days before re-use, especially in other waters. Before re-use, you should roll out nets, hand clean them, and dry them for a minimum of 10 days, or freeze them for 2 days.

- The following applies to disinfection, specific to zebra mussels, of equipment that is difficult to treat with drying and washing methods (use these methods away from the waterbody):

(1) As an added equipment treatment, a dip of 100 percent vinegar for 20 minutes can kill small zebra mussels and may be effective against other ANS.

(2) Treatment with other chemicals such as a 1-percent solution of table salt for 24 hours can be as effective as a dip of vinegar.

The recipes provided in the following table are for a 1-percent solution of table salt (sodium chloride) treatment in water.¹

Gallons of Water	Cups of salt*
5	2/3
10	1 1/4
25	3
50	6 1/4
100	12 2/3

*Based on 312 g per cup.

(d) Angling

The introduction of ANS can cause significant changes in freshwater and marine ecosystems. Populations of prey and game fish can be significantly harmed by the presence of species such as the sea lamprey, Asian swamp eel, Chinese carp, and zebra mussel. Some aquatic nuisance plants (e.g., hydrilla, Eurasian water milfoil, and water hyacinth) may limit the viable fishing area of inland waters. You can help prevent the transfer of ANS by following the guidelines in this section whenever you engage in angling.

Guidelines

- Dispose of unwanted live bait on land before leaving the waterbody. Never release live bait into a waterbody or move aquatic plants or animals from one waterbody to another.
- Wash and dry your boat, tackle, downriggers, float tube, waders, and other equipment to remove or kill harmful species that were not visible at the boat launch.
- Inspect all fish caught using seines, dipnets, or other types of netting; remove and properly discard all non-target species.

(e) Boating

ANS, such as the zebra mussel, spiny water flea, and Eurasian water milfoil, can be unintentionally transported through water-related recreation activities because some ANS can survive many days out of water. If you are a water recreationalist (e.g., boater, angler, water-skier, canoeist, or kayaker), there are some important actions you can take to prevent the transport of ANS from one waterbody to another.

Guidelines

- Before leaving all waters, inspect your boat (sailboats check centerboard and bilgeboard wells, and keel boats check the rudder-post area), trailer (check axles, runners, lights, and rollers), and other boating equipment (check anchors, water-skis, or other tow lines), and remove any plants, animals, or mud that are visible (see diagram 1).
- Drain water from the motor, livewell, bilge, and transom wells while on land and before leaving all waters.
- Wash and dry your boat, tackle, downriggers, trailer, and other boating equipment to kill harmful species that were not visible at the boat launch. You can do this on your way home or once you arrive home.
- Before you transport to other waters, do one of the following:
 - (1) Rinse your boat and boating equipment with hot (greater than 40 °C or 104 °F) tap water.
 - (2) Spray your boat and trailer with high-pressure water.
 - (3) Dry your boat and equipment for at least 5 days.

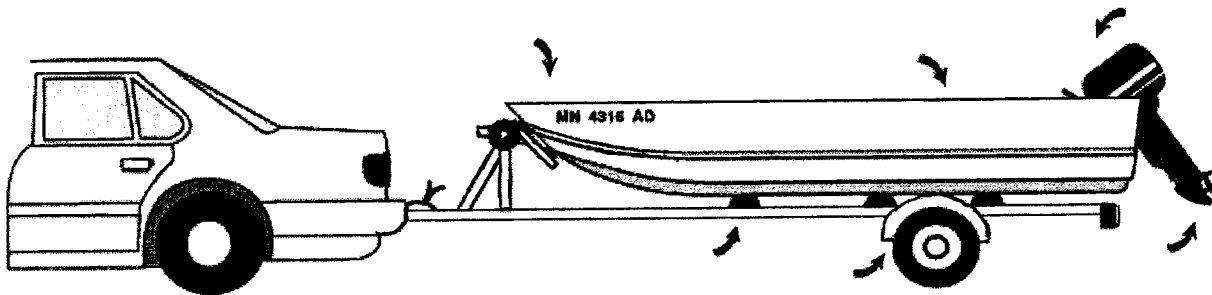


Diagram (1)

For your information, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in conjunction with Canadian officials and other partners, are implementing the 100th Meridian Initiative, which focuses on preventing the westward spread of zebra mussels and other ANS by boat inspections and by dissemination of posters, brochures, and other information about ANS. There are many other State and Federal initiatives focusing on controlling the spread of ANS. Consult your local Fish and Wildlife Service facility or other appropriate State or Federal natural resource management agency for additional information.

(f) Seaplanes

Many ANS, such as the zebra mussel and Eurasian water milfoil, can be unintentionally transported from one waterbody to another on the floats of seaplanes. Therefore, it is important to clean the aircraft to remove ANS before traveling, rather than after landing at new locations. In addition, it is important for you to incorporate the procedures listed here into the operation of your seaplane. However, plane safety is the first priority when considering and following these guidelines.

Guidelines:

Before entering the aircraft—

- Inspect and remove aquatic plants from the floats, wires or cables, and water rudders;
 - Pump floats, which may contain infested water; and
 - If moored in waters infested by zebra mussels for extended periods, check the transom, chine, bottom, wheel wells, and step area of floats (see diagram 2). If zebra mussels are present on the floats, you can use (any) one of the following methods to remove or kill them:
 - (1) Wash the floats with hot water.
 - (2) Spray the floats with high-pressure water.
 - (3) Dry all parts of the floats for at least 5 days.
- Before takeoff—

¹ Adapted from "Fisheries Scientist's Pocket Reference" booklet by Iowa Chapter of the

American Fisheries Society, 1991, by Doug Jensen, University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program.

- Avoid taxiing through heavy surface growths of aquatic plants before takeoff;

- Raise and lower water rudders several times to clear off plants. This will also minimize cable stretch and improve the effectiveness of the rudders for steering.

After takeoff—

- Raise and lower water rudders several times to free fragments of aquatic plants while over the waters you are leaving or while over land; and

- If aquatic plants remain visible on floats or water rudders, return to the lake and remove the plants.

Storage or mooring—

- Remove aircraft from the water, as is often done at seaplane bases, and allow all parts of the floats to dry. A few days of hot, summer temperatures will kill adult zebra mussels (longer drying times of up to 10 days are required to kill adult mussels during cool, humid weather); and

- Aircraft moored for extended periods in zebra-mussel-infested waters may have zebra mussels attached to the

floats and should be cleaned regularly. In remote locations, where zebra mussels are present, but where there are no provisions for drying, spraying, or treating the floats with hot water, the best option available for preventing the spread of the mussels is to hand-clean the submerged portions of floats with a scrub brush and to physically remove adult mussels. (Aircraft moored for extended periods in zebra-mussel-infested waters may have zebra mussels attached to the floats and should be cleaned regularly.)

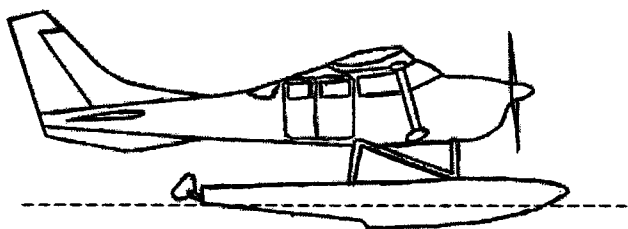


Diagram (2)

(g) Personal Watercraft

Personal watercraft that have jet-drive systems require some extra precautions to avoid ANS. A pump pulls water in through an opening under the craft, and the impeller (an internal propeller) forces water out, moving the craft forward. ANS can easily get lodged in the jet-drive system and get transported if the watercraft is taken from one waterbody to another. A small piece of Eurasian water milfoil, or other ANS, caught in the impellers can infest a new lake or river. Zebra mussels can survive in excess water in the jet drive and spread to other waters. By applying the following guidelines, you can help prevent the transfer of ANS via your personal watercraft.

Guidelines:

In the water—

- Avoid running the engine through aquatic plants near the boat access; and
- Push or winch the watercraft up on the trailer without running the engine.

On the trailer—

- After you pull the watercraft from the water, start the engine for 5 to 10 seconds to blow out any excess water and vegetation. (The dark, damp, enclosed area of the impeller provides an ideal environment for aquatic nuisance plants to survive.); and
- After the engine stops, pull plants out of the steering nozzle. Inspect your trailer and any other sporting equipment

for fragments of aquatic plants, and remove them before you leave the access area.

After trailering and before re-use—

- Wash and dry your watercraft and equipment to kill or remove harmful species that you did not see at the boat launch. You can do this on your way home or once you arrive home. Choose one of the following methods of disinfection before transporting to another waterbody:

- (1) Rinse your watercraft and other equipment with hot (greater than 40 °C or 104 °F) tap water.

- (2) Spray your watercraft and trailer with high-pressure water.

- (3) Dry your watercraft and equipment for at least 5 days.

Dated: April 7, 2000.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director of Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 00-9248 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-2000-7201]

Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee (CFIVAC); Vacancies

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee (CFIVAC). CFIVAC advises the Coast Guard on safety in the commercial fishing industry.

DATES: Application forms should reach us on or before June 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You may request an application form by writing to Commandant (G-MOC-3), U.S. Coast Guard, Room 1116, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, by calling 202-267-2978; or by faxing 202-267-0506. Send your application in written form to the above street address. This notice is available on the internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant Jennifer Williams, Assistant Executive Director of CFIVAC, or Ensign Chris O'Neal, telephone (202) 267-2008, fax (202) 267-0506.