

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This rule will not effect a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets applicable standards in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce burden.

Protection of Children

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and does not concern an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial and direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a “significant energy action” under that Order because it is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. It has not been designated by the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs as a significant energy action. Therefore, it

does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

Environment

We have considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(h), of Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. Special local regulations issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade are specifically excluded from further analysis and documentation under that section. A “Categorical Exclusion Determination” is available in the docket where indicated under

ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

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

PART 100—SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS

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

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

2. From 11:30 a.m. on September 20, 2002 to 3:30 p.m. on September 22, 2002, add temporary section, § 100.35–T05–059 to read as follows:

§ 100.35–T05–059 Atlantic Ocean, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Coast Guard Patrol Commander.* The Coast Guard Patrol Commander is a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard who has been designated by the Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City.

(2) *Official Patrol.* The Official Patrol is any vessel assigned or approved by Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City with a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard on board and displaying a Coast Guard ensign.

(b) *Regulated area.* All waters of the Atlantic Ocean, adjacent to Atlantic City, New Jersey, bounded by a line drawn between the following points: southeasterly from a point along the shoreline at latitude 39°21′50″ N, longitude 074°24′37″ W, thence to latitude 39°20′40″ N, longitude 74°23′50″ W, thence southwesterly to latitude 39°19′33″ N, longitude 074°26′52″ W, thence northwesterly to a point along the shoreline at latitude 39°20′43″ N, longitude 74°27′40″ W, thence northeasterly along the shoreline

to latitude 39°21′50″ N, longitude 074°24′37″ W. All coordinates reference Datum NAD 1983.

(c) *Special local regulations.* (1) Except for persons or vessels authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area.

(2) The operator of any vessel in these areas shall:

(i) Stop the vessel immediately when directed to do so by any official patrol.

(ii) Proceed as directed by any official patrol.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This section will be enforced from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on September 20, 21, and 22, 2002.

Dated: August 14, 2002.

A.E. Brooks,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 02–21470 Filed 8–21–02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD05–02–062]

RIN 2115–AE46

Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Sunset Lake, Wildwood Crest, NJ

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing temporary special local regulations during the “Sunset Lake Hydrofest”, a marine event to be held September 28 and 29, 2002, on the waters of Sunset Lake near Wildwood Crest, New Jersey. These special local regulations are necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event. This action is intended to temporarily restrict vessel traffic in portions of Sunset Lake during the event.

DATES: This rule is effective from 9:30 a.m. on September 28, 2002, to 6:30 p.m. on September 29, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket CGD05–02–062 and are available for inspection or copying at Commander (Aoax), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704–5004, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S. L. Phillips, Project Manager, Commander

(Aoax), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, at (757) 398-6204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

We did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM. The high-speed power boat races will take place on September 28 and 29, 2002. There is not sufficient time to allow for a notice and comment period, prior to the event. Because of the danger inherent in high-speed power boat races, special local regulations are necessary to provide for the safety of spectator craft and other vessels transiting the event area. For the safety concerns noted, it is in the public interest to have these regulations in effect during the event. In addition, advance notifications will be made via the Local Notice to Mariners, marine information broadcasts, and area newspapers.

Background and Purpose

On September 28 and 29, 2002, the Sunset Lake Hydrofest Association will sponsor the "Sunset Lake Hydrofest", on the waters of Sunset Lake near Wildwood Crest, New Jersey. The event will consist of approximately 80 inboard hydroplanes, Jersey Speed Skiffs and flat-bottom Ski boats racing in heats counter-clockwise around an oval racecourse. A fleet of 50 to 100 spectator vessels is anticipated. Due to the need for vessel control during the event, vessel traffic will be temporarily restricted to provide for the safety of participants, spectators and transiting vessels.

Discussion of Rule

The Coast Guard is establishing temporary special local regulations on specified waters of Sunset Lake. The temporary special local regulations will be enforced from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. (local time) on both September 28 and 29, 2002, and will restrict general navigation in the regulated area during the event. Except for participants and vessels authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area. These regulations are needed to control vessel traffic during the event to enhance the safety of participants, spectators and transiting vessels.

Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, and does not

require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it 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).

Although this rule prevents traffic from transiting a portion of Sunset Lake during the event, the effect of this rule will not be significant due to the limited duration of the regulation and the extensive advance notifications that will be made to the maritime community via the Local Notice to Mariners, marine information broadcasts, and area newspapers, so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), we have considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term "small entities" comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

This rule will affect the following entities, some of which may be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit or anchor in the effected portions of Sunset Lake during the event.

Although this rule prevents traffic from transiting or anchoring in a portion of Sunset Lake during the event, the effect of this rule will not be significant because of the limited duration that the regulated area will be in effect and the extensive advance notifications that will be made to the maritime community via the Local Notice to Mariners, marine information broadcasts, and area newspapers, so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this temporary rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or

options for compliance, please contact the address listed under **ADDRESSES**.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Collection of Information

This rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520).

Federalism

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on State or local governments and would either preempt State law or impose a substantial direct cost of compliance on them. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it does not have implications for federalism.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

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an economically significant rule and does not concern an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

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Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a "significant energy action" under that Order because it is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. It has not been designated by the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

Environment

We have considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that, under figure 2-1, paragraphs (34)(h) and (35)(a) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. Special local regulations issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade permit are specifically excluded from further analysis and documentation under those sections. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

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

PART 100—SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS

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

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

2. From 9:30 a.m. on September 28, 2002 to 6:30 p.m. on September 29, 2002, add temporary section, § 100.35–T05–062 to read as follows:

§ 100.35–T05–062 Sunset Lake, Wildwood Crest, New Jersey.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Coast Guard Patrol Commander* means a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard who has been designated by the Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City.

(2) *Official Patrol* means any vessel assigned or approved by Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City with a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer on board and displaying a Coast Guard ensign.

(3) *Participant* includes all vessels participating in the Sunset Lake Hydrofest under the auspices of the Marine Event Permit issued to the event sponsor and approved by Commander, Coast Guard Group Atlantic City.

(b) *Regulated area.* Includes all waters of Sunset Lake, from shoreline to shoreline, south of latitude 38°58'32" N. All coordinates reference Datum: NAD 1983.

(c) *Special local regulations.* (1) Except for event participants and persons or vessels authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area.

(2) The operator of any vessel in the regulated area shall:

(i) Stop the vessel immediately when directed to do so by any official patrol.

(ii) Proceed as directed by any official patrol.

(iii) Unless otherwise directed by the official patrol, operate at a minimum wake speed not to exceed six (6) knots.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This section will be enforced from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on both September 28 and 29, 2002.

Dated: August 14, 2002.

A.E. Brooks,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 02–21469 Filed 8–21–02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 4

RIN 2900–AI22

Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Intervertebral Disc Syndrome

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends that portion of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Schedule for Rating Disabilities that addresses intervertebral disc syndrome. The effect of this action is to clarify the criteria to ensure that veterans diagnosed with this condition meet uniform criteria and receive consistent evaluations.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This amendment is effective September 23, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Caroll McBride, M.D., Policy and Regulations Staff (211A), Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273–7230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: VA

published a proposal to amend the evaluation criteria for diagnostic code 5293, intervertebral disc syndrome (IVDS), in the **Federal Register** of February 24, 1997 (62 FR 8204).

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments on or before April 25, 1997. We received comments from the Vietnam Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and two concerned individuals.

We proposed to evaluate IVDS either on its chronic neurologic and orthopedic manifestations or on the total annual duration of incapacitating episodes, whichever would result in a higher evaluation. One commenter recommended that the final rule specify whether there could be separate evaluations of the chronic manifestations of each spinal segment with IVDS; whether there could be separate evaluations based on incapacitating episodes of each spinal segment; and whether one spinal segment could be evaluated based on incapacitating episodes and another on chronic manifestations.

In response to this comment, we have added a third note specifying that IVDS in separate spinal segments will be separately evaluated as long as the effect on each segment is clearly distinct. Inherent in the rule is the concept that each affected spinal segment will be evaluated under the method that results in the highest overall evaluation. This means that affected segments may be separately evaluated based on: (1) Incapacitating episodes, (2) chronic manifestations; or (3) one affected segment may be evaluated based on incapacitating episodes and another segment may be evaluated based on chronic manifestations.

One commenter stated that acute incapacitating symptoms are distinct from chronic symptoms involving