

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Captain of the Port
United States Coast Guard
Sector Long Island Sound

120 Woodward Av.
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16600/06-053

Dear Plum Gut Waterway User:

Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound is conducting a study of the aids to navigation system in the Plum Gut waterway. This study will help the Coast Guard ensure that the aids to navigation system in the area supports safe navigation and the efficient flow of commerce.

Attached is a Waterways User Questionnaire and a chartlet depicting the study area. Your participation in this questionnaire is critical to an effective study of this waterway. Questionnaires may be submitted through January 31, 2006. If you have any questions regarding the rulemaking process or the proposed regulation, please contact LTJG Douglas Miller at 203-468-4596, or at djmiller@sectorlis.uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

PETER J. BOYNTON
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Long Island Sound

Enclosure: (1) Plum Gut Waterway Analysis and Management Study Questionnaire.
(2) Chartlet of Plum Gut, with study area marked.

Copy: Commanding Officer, Sector Field Office Moriches

**COAST GUARD SECTOR LONG ISLAND SOUND
PLUM GUT WATERWAY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT STUDY
(WAMS) QUESTIONNAIRE**

Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound is conducting an in-depth study of the system of aids to navigation in Plum Gut and its approaches as part of the Coast Guard's ongoing Waterways Analysis and Management Program. Plum Gut is located between Orient Point, Long Island and Plum Island, and connects Long Island Sound to Gardiners Bay. This study aims to ensure that the aids to navigation system in Plum Gut and its approaches supports safe navigation and the efficient flow of commerce. The area of study encompasses the navigable waterways in the vicinity of Plum Island bounded by a rectangle 12.5 nautical square miles in area (5 nautical miles by 2.5 nautical miles), as delineated below and as depicted on enclosure (2).

Northwest corner: Latitude 41°- 11.56' N, Longitude 72°- 14.38' W
Northeast corner: Latitude 41°- 11.56' N, Longitude 72°- 07.76' W
Southeast corner: Latitude 41°- 09.08' N, Longitude 72°- 07.76' W
Southwest corner: Latitude 41°- 09.08' N, Longitude 72°- 14.38' W

The observations and needs of waterway users are a critical aspect of this study. Your response to this survey will help us to ensure that Plum Gut is a safe and efficient waterway for all users. Anyone who has input concerning problems and/or desired changes to this system is particularly encouraged to contribute to this study by completing and returning this questionnaire.

Please return this questionnaire by January 31, 2006 to:

Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
ATTN: Waterways Management Division
120 Woodward Ave.
New Haven, CT 06512.

Thank you in advance for participating.

A. USER INFORMATION

1. Name: _____ Date: _____

Maritime organization: _____ Phone number: _____

2. Type of user (list all that apply):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed | <input type="checkbox"/> Unlicensed | <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger |

3. Your total maritime experience (years): _____

4. Experience in this waterway (years): _____

B. VESSEL INFORMATION

5. Type of vessel(s) (indicate all that apply):

- Motor Sail Passenger Ferry
 Fishing Tug/Barge Deep Draft
 Other: _____

6. Dimensions of the vessel(s) you use:

Vessel #	1	2	3
Length			
Beam			
Draft			
Gross Tons			
Net Tons			
Type of Cargo			
Number of Passengers (certificated for)			

7. When do you transit this waterway?

- Seasonally (Dates: _____ to _____) Year Round
 Day Night Restricted Visibility

8. What methods & tools do you use for navigation?

- Aids to Navigation Lighted Aids Charts SC Charts/Chartlets
 Gyro Compass Passenger Magnetic Compass Radar
 Radio Beacons Loran Local Knowledge Searchlights
 Radio Direction Finder SATNAV GPS Fathometer

C. TRANSIT INFORMATION:

9. How often do you transit this waterway?

10. Please describe your normal routes and transit speeds in this waterway. Please draw track lines on the chartlet (Enclosure 2) provided with this questionnaire.

11. What percentage of those trips take place at night or in reduced visibility?

12. Please describe the amount and the nature of the vessel traffic you usually encounter when transiting the waterway:

13. Are currents/tides ever a problem? If so, where and how?

D. AIDS TO NAVIGATION

14. Which aids do you think are the most useful, and why?

15. Which aids (if any) do you think are the least useful, and why?

16. Are any aids so important that if they were missing, you wouldn't be able to safely navigate the waterway?

17. What do you think is the most difficult or dangerous part of the waterway?

