



MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

These bulletins are purely informational for the maritime community within this Captain of the Port zone. They advise you of emerging information & situations that may impact our Marine Transportation System. As important, they help to manage expectations & facilitate cooperation regarding actions that we may be taking and/or that you may need to employ in the interest of safety/security. Increased vigilance in our maritime world hinges significantly upon proactive engagement & information sharing with the private sector, which has the primary responsibility for security & safety at their waterfront facilities & vessels.

BULLETIN NO: 007-03

Date: March 21, 2003

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REGULATED NAVIGATION AREA, SAFETY AND SECURITY ZONES, LONG ISLAND SOUND CAPTAIN OF THE PORT AND MARINE INSPECTION ZONE

1. The Coast Guard is proposing to implement a permanent regulated navigation area (RNA) and two safety and security zones within the Long Island Sound (LIS) Captain of the Port (COTP) and Marine Inspection Zone that would expand the safeguards implemented through temporary regulations that have been effective since December 2001 (Volume 67 Federal Register page 517). This action is necessary to ensure public safety and prevent sabotage or other subversive acts against maritime interests within this COTP and Marine Inspection Zone. The proposed regulations would regulate the circumstances under which certain vessels may enter, transit or operate within the LIS COTP and Marine Inspection Zone and would exclude all vessels from operating within the prescribed safety and security zones without first obtaining authorization from the COTP.
2. The two safety and security zones are proposed as follows:
 - a. Millstone Nuclear Power Plant:
 - (a) All waters north and north east of a line running from Bay Point (41-18.57 N, 072-10.41 W) to Millstone Point (41-18.25 N, 072-09.96 W); and
 - (b) All waters west of a line starting at 41-18.700 N, 072-09.650 W, running south to the eastern most point of Fox Island (41-18.400 N, 072-09.660 W).
 - b. All waters within 100 yards of any anchored Coast Guard vessel.
3. The proposed RNA encompasses all waters within the Long Island Sound Captain of the Port (COTP) zone seaward to 12 miles from the territorial sea baseline. Seven regulations are proposed under the RNA. They are:
 - a. An 8-knot speed restriction in the Thames River above from channel buoys 7 & 8 north through the upper limit of the Naval Submarine Base New London Restricted Area, as that area is specified in 33 CFR § 334.75(a) for vessels of 300 gross tons (GT) or more.
 - b. Vessels of 300 GT or more must issue securite calls on marine band or VHF radio channel 16 upon approach to the following locations:
 - (1) Inbound approach to Cerberus Shoal; and
 - (2) Outbound approach to Race Rock Light (USCG Light List No. 19815).
 - c. All inbound vessels, except those in innocent passage, operating within the RNA must be inspected to the satisfaction of COTP LIS and must obtain authorization from the COTP before entering waters within three nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline. Vessels awaiting inspection or COTP authorization to enter waters within three nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline would be required to anchor in the manner directed by the COTP. This inspection requirement would not apply to:
 - (i) vessels operating exclusively within the LIS COTP and Marine Inspection Zone;
 - (ii) vessels on a single voyage which depart from and return to the same port or place within the RNA;
 - (iii) primary towing vessels engaged in towing tank barges carrying petroleum oil in bulk as cargo; and
 - (iv) recreational vessels.
 - d. Vessels over 1,600 GT operating in the RNA within 3 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline must receive authorization from the COTP prior to transiting or any intentional vessel movements.
 - e. Vessels of 300 GT or more are prohibited from entering all waters within a 1200-yard radius of any ferry vessel transiting in any portion of the RNA without first obtaining the express prior authorization of the ferry vessel licensed operator, licensed master, or the designated COTP on-scene patrol.

BULLETIN NO: 007-03 (cont'd)

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- f. No vessel may enter within a 100-yard radius of any vessel in commercial service transiting, moored, or berthed in any portion of the RNA without the express prior authorization of the vessel's licensed operator, master, or the designated COTP on-scene representative.
 - g. Any vessel operating beneath a bridge must make a direct, immediate and expeditious passage beneath the bridge while remaining within the navigable channel. No vessel may stop, moor, anchor or loiter beneath a bridge at any time or may approach within a 25-yard radius of any bridge foundation, support, stanchion, pier or abutment except as required for the direct, immediate and expeditious transit beneath a bridge.
4. Except as otherwise noted above, these proposed regs apply to all vessels within the RNA, except for U.S. flagged Public vessels.
 5. These proposed regulations will not affect:
 - the 96-hour notice of arrival requirements currently located at Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), section 160.T208, or those advanced notice of arrival requirements effective April 1, 2003 at 33 CFR Part 160, subpart C;
 - the Naval Vessel Protection Zone regulations (33 CFR Part 165, Subpart G);
 - the Naval Submarine Base Restricted Area on the Thames River (33 CFR §334.75);
 - the permanent security zones on the Thames River (33 CFR § 165.140);
 - or any other existing regulations.
 6. The proposed regulation was published in the Federal Register on March 20, 2003 (68 FR 13643). Copies of this regulation are available at the GP/MSO Long Island Sound website, <http://www.uscg.mil/d1/units/grumsolis/>, through the Federal Register website, http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/index.html, or may be requested by contacting LT Andrea Logman, Waterways Management Officer, CG GP/MSO Long Island Sound, 120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven, CT 06512, or at (203) 468-4429.
 7. We encourage you to comment on all or any part of this regulation. Please submit comments in writing by May 19, 2003. Comments may be sent to the address listed in paragraph 4 above. Any questions may be directed to Lieutenant Andrea Logman at (203) 468-4429, or alogman@grumsolis.uscg.mil.

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