United States Coast Guard
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Marine Safety Information Bulletin 02-2003
January 15, 2003

CLARIFICATION FOR REQUIRED ICE TRANSIT NOTIFICATIONS

Recent operations on the rivers and lakes have identified a possible area of confusion in the transit notification procedures. Paragraph one of the below Broadcast Notice to Mariners indicates that Group Detroit requires notification and that a transit plan be filed with the cognizant Captain of the Port (COTP). In order to enhance communications, Group Detroit has placed three ICE Officers at the Regional Operations Center in Sarnia (ROC) to provide timely and coordinated service to our waterways users. It is now requested that a transit plan be faxed to all three commands. For your convenience, the other contact numbers that you may need are:

U.S.C.G. MSO Detroit:	Fax: 313-568-9581
U.S.C.G. Group Detroit Operations:	Fax: 313-568-9517
C.C.G. Regional Operations Center:	Fax: 519-383-3972
U.S.C.G. MSO Cleveland:	Fax: 216-937-3290
U.S.C.G. MSO Toledo:	Fax: 419-259-6374

UBJ: ISSUE NOTICE TO MARINERS
SAFETY BROADCAST PLUS SKED BCST UNTIL CANCELLED BY THE CAPTAIN OF THE PORT
NOTICE TO MARINERS
D001-03
LAKE ERIE, DETROIT RIVER, LAKE ST CLAIR, ST CLAIR RIVER, LOWER LAKE HURON, AND SAGINAW BAY
1. DUE TO THE EXISTING SEVERE ICE CONDITION IN THE GROUP DETROIT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE THREAT IT POSES TO MARINERS AND THE PORT, SPECIAL MEASURES ARE NECESSARY. ALL TUGS AND BARGES INTENDING TO TRANSIT THROUGH THE GROUP DETROIT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (INCLUDING THE U.S. WATERS IN LAKE ERIE, THE DETROIT - ST CLAIR RIVER CORRIDOR, LOWER LAKE HURON, AND SAGINAW BAY) MUST GIVE ADVANCE NOTICE SIX HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED DOCK DEPARTURE OR ENTRANCE INTO THE GROUP DETROIT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

2. THESE SAME VESSELS MUST ALSO FILE A TRANSIT PLAN WITH THE COGNIZANT U.S. COAST GUARD CAPTAIN OF THE PORT. THIS TRANSIT PLAN SHALL INCLUDE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE TUG AND BARGE, THE MASTER'S EXPERIENCE, AND VOYAGE PLANS. A FORM FOR SUBMITTING THIS PLAN MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE COGNIZANT CAPTAIN OF THE PORT OR THE GROUP DETROIT OPERATIONS CENTER. PLANS SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW SHOULD DEMONSTRATE A HIGH LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE THAT A SAFE TRANSIT THROUGH EACH COTP ZONE IS LIKELY TO OCCUR WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE VESSEL AND CREW CAPABILITIES. A CAPTAIN OF THE PORT DECISION WILL BE MADE BASED ON THE SUBMISSION OF THE FAXED TUG AND BARGE TRANSIT PLAN.
3. THE REQUIREMENTS STILL REMAIN FOR VESSELS TO INFORM SARNIA TRAFFIC IN ADVANCE OF THEIR PROPOSED TRANSIT AND TO ARRANGE FOR ICE BREAKING SUPPORT.
4. THIS SYSTEM WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE PRESENT ICE CONDITION ABATES.
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If you have any questions regarding this clarification, please contact LTJG Brandon Sullivan of my staff at 313-568-9580.

Sincerely,

P. G. GERRITY
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Detroit