

The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include the reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If it determines that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

#### Background and Purpose

33 CFR 100.501 established special local regulations for marine events held in the Norfolk Harbor, Elizabeth River, between Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia. The effect of these regulations is the control of vessel traffic during marine events to enhance the safety of participants, spectators, and transiting vessels. The regulations are implemented at various times, for various events throughout the year by publishing notice in the Federal Register and the Fifth Coast Guard District Local Notice to Mariners. This proposal would update the regulations to reflect specific events for which the regulations will be in effect.

#### Discussion of Proposed Rule

The Coast Guard proposes to amend the special local regulations previously established for this event area by incorporating a table which identifies the specific events during which the regulated area will be in effect. Since this action will not increase the period of time that the channel is restricted and the Coast Guard patrol commander may stop any event to assist transit of vessels through the regulated area, normal marine traffic should not be severely disrupted.

#### Regulatory Evaluation

This proposal is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget 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). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposal to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. This proposal merely provides additional information to an existing regulation and does not impose any new restrictions on vessel traffic.

#### Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider whether this proposal, if adopted, will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small Entities" include independently owned and operated small businesses that are not dominant in their field and that otherwise qualify as "small business concerns" under section 3 of the Small Business Act (14 U.S.C. 632). Because it expects the impact of this proposal to be minimal, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b), that this proposal, if adopted, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

#### Collection of Information

This proposal contains no collection of information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

#### Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposal under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

#### Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposal and concluded that, under section 2.b.2.e(34)(h) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1b (as amended, 61 FR 13564; 27 March 1996), this proposal is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation.

#### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR Part 100 as follows:

#### **PART 100—[AMENDED]**

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

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

2. Section 100.501 is amended by revising paragraph (c) and adding Table 1 to read as follows:

**§ 100.501 Norfolk Harbor, Elizabeth River, Norfolk, Virginia and Portsmouth, Virginia.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) *Effective periods.* This section is effective annually for the duration of each marine event listed in Table 1, or as otherwise specified in the Coast

Guard Local Notice to Mariners and a Federal Register notice. The Coast Guard Patrol Commander will announce by Broadcast Notice to Mariners the specific time periods during which the regulations will be enforced.

Table 1 of § 100.501

#### *Harborfest*

Sponsor: Norfolk Harborfest, Inc.  
Date: First Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in June

#### *Great American Picnic*

Sponsor: Festevents, Inc.  
Date: July 4

#### *Cock Island Race*

Sponsor: Ports Events, Inc.  
Date: Third Saturday in July

#### *Rendezvous at Zero Mile Marker*

Sponsor: Ports Events, Inc.  
Date: Third Saturday in August

#### *U.S. Navy Fleet Week Celebration*

Sponsor: U.S. Navy  
Date: Second Friday in October

#### *Holidays in the City*

Sponsor: Festevents, Inc.  
Date: Fourth Saturday in November

#### *New Years Eve Fireworks Display*

Sponsor: Festevents, Inc.  
Date: December 31.

Dated: February 5, 1997.

Kent H. Williams,

*Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 97-4359 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

#### **33 CFR Part 100**

**[CGD 05-97-004]**

**RIN 2115-AE46**

#### **Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Southern Branch, Elizabeth River, Portsmouth, Virginia**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard proposes to amend permanent special local regulations for the Crawford Bay Crew Classic, a marine event held annually in the Southern Branch, Elizabeth River, Portsmouth, Virginia, by changing the dates on which the regulations are in effect. This action is intended to update the regulation in order to enhance the safety of life and property during the event.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before March 24, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to Commander (Aosr), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street,

Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, or hand delivered to Room 516 at the same address between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (757) 398-6204. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

S. L. Phillips, Project Manager, Search and Rescue Branch, at (757) 398-6204.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Request for Comments**

This Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written views, data, or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this rulemaking (CGD 05-97-004) and the specific section of this proposal to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit two copies of all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons waiting acknowledgement of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes. The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period. It may change this proposal in view of the comments.

The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include the reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If it determines that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

**Background and Purpose**

Ports Events, Inc., the sponsor of the Crawford Bay Crew Classic, has requested to change the dates of this annual event from the third Friday and Saturday in March to the fourth Friday and Saturday in April to conduct the event in warmer weather conditions. To enhance the safety of participants, spectators, and transiting vessels, special local regulations are necessary to control vessel traffic during the event. This proposal would update the regulations to reflect the new dates of the event.

**Discussion of Proposed Rule**

The Coast Guard proposes to amend the effective period of special local regulations previously established for

this event from the third Friday and Saturday in March to the fourth Friday and Saturday in April to reflect the new event dates. Since this action will not increase the period of time that the channel is restricted and the Coast Guard patrol commander will be allowing vessels to transit whenever a race heat is not being run, commercial traffic should not be severely disrupted.

**Regulatory Evaluation**

This proposal is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget 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). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposal to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. This proposal merely changes the effective date of an existing regulation and does not impose any new restriction on vessel traffic.

**Small Entities**

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider whether this proposal, if adopted, will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small Entities" include independently owned and operated small businesses that are not dominant in their field and that otherwise qualify as "small business concerns" under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632). Because it expects the impact of this proposal to be minimal, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b), that this proposal, if adopted, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

**Collection of Information**

This proposal contains no collection of Information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**Federalism**

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposal under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

**Environment**

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposal and concluded that, under section 2.b.2.e(34)(h) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1b (as amended, 61 FR 13564; 27 March 1996), this proposal is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation.

**List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100**

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

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR Part 100 as follows:

**PART 100—[AMENDED]**

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

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

2. Section 100.523 is amended by revising paragraph (c) to read as follows:

**§ 100.523 Southern Branch, Elizabeth River, Portsmouth, Virginia.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) *Effective periods.* This section is effective on the fourth Friday of April and on the fourth Saturday of April, unless otherwise specified in the Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners and a Federal Register notice.

Dated: February 5, 1997.

Kent H. Williams,  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander,  
Fifth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 97-4357 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

**33 CFR Part 181**

**[CGD 92-065]**

**RIN 2115-AE37**

**Hull Identification Numbers for Recreational Boats**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is proposing to amend its regulations concerning the identification numbers affixed to the hulls of recreational boats, including boats carrying six or fewer passengers for hire. These amendments are necessary to align the present numbering system with the newly-adopted international system. This would facilitate the sale of U.S. products abroad. In addition, the Coast Guard is proposing several minor amendments to its regulations on hull identification numbers.