

(a) A meeting of producers and handlers shall be held by the Committee not later than May 1 of each year to designate nominees for members and alternates to the Committee; or the Committee may conduct nominations by mail in a manner recommended by the Committee and approved by the Secretary; and, in arranging for such meetings, the Committee may, if it deems desirable, utilize the services and facilities of other existing organizations;

* * * * *

Proposal No. 6

In § 946.22, designate the current text as paragraph (a) and adding a new paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 946.22 Establishment and membership.

* * * * *

(b) The Secretary, upon recommendation of the committee, may reestablish districts, may reapportion members among districts, may change the number of members and alternates, and may change the composition by changing the ratio of members, including their alternates. In recommending any such changes, the following shall be considered:

- (1) Shifts in acreage within districts and within the production area during recent years;
- (2) The importance of new production in its relation to existing districts;
- (3) The equitable relationship between membership and districts;
- (4) Economies to result for growers in promoting efficient administration due to redistricting or reapportionment of members within districts and;
- (5) Other relevant factors.

Proposal No. 7

In § 946.23, designate the current text as paragraph (a) and add a new paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 946.23 Alternate members.

* * * * *

(b) In the event both a member and his or her alternate are unable to attend a committee meeting, the committee members present may designate another alternate of the same classification (handler or producer) to serve in such member's place and stead.

USDA proposes the following:

Proposal No. 8

Amend § 946.27 by revising paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 946.27 Term of office.

(a) The term of office of each member and alternate member of the committee shall be for three years beginning July 1 and continuing until their successors

are selected and have qualified: *Provided, however,* That the terms of office of the initial committee under the amended order shall be determined by the Secretary so that the terms of office of one-third of the initial members and alternates shall be for 1 year, one-third for two years, and one-third for 3 years. Committee members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. Members who have served for two consecutive terms must leave the committee for at least one year before becoming eligible to serve again.

* * * * *

Proposal No. 9

In § 946.63, redesignate paragraph (d) as paragraph (e) and add a new paragraph (d) to read as follows:

§ 946.63 Termination.

* * * * *

(d) The Secretary shall conduct a referendum six years after the effective date of this paragraph and every sixth year thereafter to ascertain whether continuance of this part is favored by growers.

* * * * *

Proposal No. 10

Make such changes as may be necessary to the order to conform with any amendment thereto that may result from the hearing.

Dated: October 6, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25671 Filed 10-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD05-03-132]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Spa Creek, Annapolis, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to establish temporary special local regulations during the "International Tug-of-War", a marine event to be held over the waters of Spa Creek between Eastport and Annapolis, Maryland. These special local regulations are necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event.

This action is intended to restrict vessel traffic in portions of Spa Creek during the event.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before November 10, 2003.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments and related material to Commander (oax), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, hand-deliver them to Room 119 at the same address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, or fax them to (757) 398-6203. The Auxiliary and Recreational Boating Safety Branch, Fifth Coast Guard District, maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S.L. Phillips, Project Manager, Auxiliary and Recreational Boating Safety Branch, at (757) 398-6204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (CGD05-03-132), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and related material in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying. If you would like to know they reached us, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of them.

In order to provide notice and an opportunity to comment before issuing an effective rule, we are providing a shorter than normal comment period. A 20-day comment period is sufficient to allow those who might be affected by this rulemaking to submit their comments because the regulations have a narrow, local application, and there will be local notifications in addition to the **Federal Register** publication such as press releases, marine information broadcasts, and the Local Notice to Mariners. We also expect to make the final rule effective less than 30 days

after its publication in the **Federal Register**.

Public Meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for a meeting by writing to the address listed under **ADDRESSES** explaining why one would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background and Purpose

On November 8, 2003, the City of Annapolis will sponsor the "International Tug-of-War" across the waters of Spa Creek between Eastport and Annapolis, Maryland. The event will consist of a tug-of-war between teams on the Eastport side of Spa Creek pulling against teams on the Annapolis side of Spa Creek. The opposing teams will pull a floating rope approximately 1800 feet in length, spanning Spa Creek. A fleet of spectator vessels is anticipated. Due to the need for vessel control while the rope is spanned across Spa Creek, vessel traffic would be temporarily restricted to provide for the safety of spectators, participants and transiting vessels.

Discussion of Proposed Rule

The Coast Guard proposes to establish temporary special local regulations on specified waters of Spa Creek. The regulated area would include a 400' buffer on either side of the rope that would span Spa Creek from shoreline to shoreline. The temporary special local regulations would be enforced from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on November 8, 2003, and would 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. The Coast Guard Patrol Commander may stop the event to allow vessels to transit the regulated area.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposed 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 Homeland Security (DHS).

We expect the economic impact of this proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under the regulatory policies and procedures of DHS is unnecessary. Although this proposed regulation would prevent traffic from transiting a portion of Spa Creek during the event, the effect of this proposed regulation would not be significant due to the limited duration that the regulated area would be in effect and the extensive advance notifications that would 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. Additionally, the proposed regulated area has been narrowly tailored to impose the least impact on general navigation yet provide the level of safety deemed necessary. Vessel traffic would be able to transit the regulated area when the Coast Guard Patrol Commander deems it is safe to do so.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we have considered whether this proposed 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 proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This proposed rule would affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit or anchor in a portion of Spa Creek during the event.

This proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons. This proposed rule would be in effect for only a 4-hour period. Vessel traffic would be able to transit the regulated area when the Coast Guard Patrol Commander deems it is safe to do so. Before the enforcement period, we would issue maritime advisories so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this proposed rule would have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (*see* **ADDRESSES**) explaining why you think it

qualifies and how and to what degree this proposed rule would economically affect it.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed 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 proposed rule would call 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 proposed 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 proposed rule would not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This proposed rule would 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 proposed 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 proposed rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This proposed rule is not an economically significant rule and would not create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that might disproportionately affect children.

Indian Tribal Governments

This proposed rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it would not have a substantial 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 proposed 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. The Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has not designated it as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

Environment

We prepared an "Environmental Assessment" in accordance with Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, and determined that this proposed rule would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The "Environmental Assessment" and "Finding of No Significant Impact" 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 proposes to amend 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; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

2. Add a temporary § 100.35T-05-132 to read as follows: § 100.35T-05-132, *Spa Creek, Annapolis, MD*.

(a) *Regulated area.* The regulated area is established for the waters of Spa Creek from shoreline to shoreline, extending 400' from either side of a rope spanning Spa Creek from a position at latitude 38°58'37" N, longitude 076°29'04" W on the Annapolis shoreline to a position at 38°58'26" N, longitude 076°28'54" W on the Eastport shoreline. All coordinates reference Datum NAD 1983.

(b) Definitions:

Coast Guard Patrol Commander means a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard who has been designated by the Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore.

Official Patrol means any vessel assigned or approved by Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore with a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer on board and displaying a Coast Guard ensign.

Participant means all vessels participating in the "International Tug of War" under the auspices of the Marine Event Permit issued to the event sponsor and approved by Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore.

(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) *Effective dates:* This section is in effect from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on November 8, 2003.

Dated: September 17, 2003.

Sally Brice-O'Hara,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 03-25680 Filed 10-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD07-03-141]

RIN 1625-AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Biscayne Bay, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Miami River, Miami-Dade County, FL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to temporarily change the regulations governing the operation of the East and West Spans of the Venetian Causeway bridges across the Miami Beach Channel on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, and the Brickell Avenue and Miami Avenue bridges across the Miami River, Miami-Dade County. This proposed rule would allow these bridges to remain in the closed position during the running of the Miami Tropical Marathon on February 1, 2004.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before November 10, 2003.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments and related material to Commander (obr), Seventh Coast Guard District, 909 SE. 1st Ave, Room 432, Miami, FL 33131, which maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in the preamble as being available in the docket, are part of [CGD07-03-141] and are available for inspection or copying at Commander (obr), Seventh Coast Guard District, 909 SE. 1st Avenue, Room 432, Miami, FL 33131 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Barry Dragon, Seventh Coast Guard District, Bridge Branch, 909 SE. 1st Ave Miami, FL 33131, telephone number 305-415-6743.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you