§ 151.1500 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to implement the provisions of the Non-indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.).

§ 151.1502 Applicability.

This subpart applies to all non-recreational vessels, U.S. and foreign, that are equipped with ballast tanks that, after operating on the waters beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone during any part of its voyage, enter the Snell Lock at Massena, New York, or navigate north of the George Washington Bridge on the Hudson River, regardless of other port calls in the United States or Canada during that voyage, except as expressly provided in 33 CFR 151.2015(a). All vessels subject to this subpart are also required to comply with the applicable requirements of 33 CFR 151.2050, 151.2060, and 151.2070.


§ 151.1504 Definitions.

The following terms are defined as used in this subpart.

Alternate management system (AMS) means a ballast water management system approved by a foreign administration pursuant to the standards set forth in the International Maritime Organization’s International BWM Convention, and meeting all applicable requirements of U.S. law, and which is used in lieu of ballast water exchange.

Ballast tank means any tank or hold on a vessel used for carrying ballast water, whether or not the tank or hold was designed for that purpose.

Ballast water means any water and suspended matter taken on board a vessel to control or maintain, trim, draught, stability, or stresses of the vessel, regardless of how it is carried.

Ballast water management system (BWMS) means any system which processes ballast water to kill, render harmless, or remove organisms. The BWMS includes all ballast water treatment equipment and all associated control and monitoring equipment.

Captain of the Port (COTP) means the Coast Guard officer designated as COTP of either the Buffalo, NY, Marine Inspection Zone and Captain of the Port Zone or the New York, NY, Captain of the Port Zone described in part 3 of this chapter or an official designated by the COTP.

Commandant means the Commandant of the Coast Guard or an authorized representative.

Constructed in respect to a vessel means a stage of construction when—

1. The keel of a vessel is laid;
2. Construction identifiable with the specific vessel begins;
3. Assembly of the vessel has commenced and comprises at least 50 tons or 1 percent of the estimated mass of all structural material, whichever is less; or
4. The vessel undergoes a major conversion.

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) means the area established by Presidential Proclamation Number 5030, dated March 10, 1983, (48 FR 10605, 3 CFR, 1983 Comp., p. 22), which extends from the base line of the territorial sea of the United States seaward 200 miles, and the equivalent zone of Canada.

Environmentally sound method means methods, efforts, actions, or programs, either to prevent introductions or to control infestations of aquatic nuisance species, that minimize adverse impacts to the structure and function of an ecosystem, minimize adverse effects on non-target organisms and ecosystems, and that emphasize integrated pest management techniques and non-chemical measures.

Great Lakes means Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake Huron (including Lake Saint Clair), Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and the connecting channels (Saint Mary's River, Saint Clair River, Detroit River, Niagara River, and Saint Lawrence River to the Canadian border), and includes all other bodies of water within the drainage basin of such lakes and connecting channels.

Port means a terminal or group of terminals or any place or facility that has been designated as a port by the COTP.

Sediments means any matter settled out of ballast water within a vessel.

Voyage means any transit by a vessel destined for the Great Lakes or the Hudson River, north of the George Washington Bridge, from a port or
place outside of the EEZ, including intermediate stops at a port or place within the EEZ.

Waters of the United States means waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States as defined in 33 CFR 2.38, including the navigable waters of the United States. For 33 CFR part 151, subparts C and D, the navigable waters include the territorial sea as extended to 12 nautical miles from the baseline, pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.

§ 151.1505 Severability.
If a court finds any portion of this subpart to have been promulgated without proper authority, the remainder of this subpart will remain in full effect.

§ 151.1506 Restriction of operation.
No vessel subject to the requirements of this subpart may be operated in the Great Lakes or the Hudson River, north of the George Washington Bridge, unless the master of the vessel has certified, in accordance with §151.1516, that the requirements of this subpart have been met.

§ 151.1508 Revocation of clearance.
A COTP may request the District Director of Customs to withhold or revoke the clearance required by 46 U.S.C. app. 91 for a vessel subject to this subpart, the owner or operator of which is not in compliance with the requirements of this subpart.

§ 151.1510 Ballast water management requirements.
(a) The master of each vessel subject to this subpart shall employ one of the following ballast water management practices:
(1) Carry out an exchange of ballast water on the waters beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), from an area more than 200 nautical miles from any shore, and in waters more than 2,000 meters (6,560 feet, 1,093 fathoms) deep, such that, at the conclusion of the exchange, any tank from which ballast water will be discharged contains water with a minimum salinity level of 30 parts per thousand, unless the vessel is required to employ an approved ballast water management system (BWMS) per the schedule in §151.1512(b) of this subpart. This exchange must occur prior to entry into the Snell Lock at Massena, NY, or navigating on the Hudson River, north of the George Washington Bridge. An alternative management system (AMS) that meets the requirements of 33 CFR 151.2026 may also be used, so long as it was installed on the vessel prior to the date that the vessel is required to comply with the ballast water discharge standard in accordance with §151.1512(b) of this subpart. If using an AMS, the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of the vessel subject to this subpart may employ the AMS for no longer than 5 years from the date they would otherwise be required to comply with the ballast water discharge standard in accordance with §151.1512(b) of this subpart.
(2) Retain the vessel’s ballast water on board the vessel. If this method of ballast water management is employed, the COTP may seal any tank or hold containing ballast water on board the vessel for the duration of the voyage within the waters of the Great Lakes or the Hudson River, north of the George Washington Bridge.
(3) Install and operate a BWMS that has been approved by the Coast Guard under 46 CFR part 162, in accordance with §151.1512(b) of this subpart. Following installation of a BWMS, the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of the vessel must maintain the BWMS in accordance with all manufacturer specifications.
(ii) Requirements for approval of BWMS are found in 46 CFR part 162.060.
(ii) Requests for approval of BWMS must be submitted to the Commanding Officer (Marine Safety Center), U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Center, 2100 2nd St. SW., Stop 7102, Washington, DC 20593–7102, or by email to msc@uscg.mil.
(4) Use only water from a U.S. public water system (PWS), as defined in 40 CFR 129.2.