

is amended by removing the language “(temporary)”.

PART 602—OMB CONTROL NUMBERS UNDER THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

Par. 21. The authority citation for part 602 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 7805.

Par. 22. In § 602.101, paragraph (c) is amended by adding an entry in numerical order to the table to read as follows:

§ 602.101 OMB Control numbers.

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(c) * * *

CFR part or section where identified and described	Current OMB control No.
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1.150-1	1545-1347
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Margaret Milner Richardson,
Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Approved: May 1, 1997.

Donald C. Lubick,

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Tax Policy).

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD09-97-008]

RIN-2115-AE47

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Grand River, MI

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The District Commander has authorized a temporary 90-day deviation from the current bridge operating regulations for the U.S. Route 31 highway bridge at mile 2.9 over the Grand River in Grand Haven, MI. The deviation will test a proposed operating schedule that would be in effect between March 16 and December 14 each year. The schedule would reduce the number of bridge openings for recreational vessels to relieve vehicular traffic congestion during these months.

DATES: The deviation will be in effect on May 15, 1997 and will end on August

15, 1997. Comments must be received on or before July 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed or delivered to: Commander (obr), Ninth Coast Guard District, 1240 East Ninth Street, Room 2019, Cleveland, OH 44199-2060 between 6:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Bloom, Chief, Bridge Branch at (216) 902-6084.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to submit comments on the operating schedule during the temporary deviation. Persons submitting comments should include their name, address, identify this notice (CGD09-97-008), and the reason(s) for each comment. The Coast Guard requests that all comments and attachments be submitted in an 8½" x 11" unbound format suitable for copying and electronic filing. If that is not practical, a second copy of any bound material is requested. Persons wanting acknowledgement of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped self-addressed post card or envelope. Persons may submit comment by writing to the Commander (obr), Ninth Coast Guard District, listed under **ADDRESSES.**

Background and Purpose

In July, 1996, the city of Grand Haven, MI, requested the Coast Guard approve a temporary deviation to the regulations which govern the U.S. Route 31 highway bridge at mile 2.9 over the Grand River in Grand Haven, MI. The city sought to reduce bridge openings to relieve vehicular traffic congestion and still provide for the needs of navigation, particularly during rush-hour times. A trial schedule was devised and the temporary deviation was published in September, 1996. Under this schedule, the bridge was required to open on signal for recreational vessels from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., once an hour from 3 minutes before to 3 minutes after the half-hour; except the bridge was not required to open for the passage of recreational traffic at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., or 5:30 p.m.

The Coast Guard received five letters with comments from the public in response. All comments were from recreational vessel operators, or their representatives, who opposed the revised schedule. The primary exception to the revised schedule involved the “blackout” periods during afternoon rush-hour when the bridge

was not required to open for vessel traffic. Specifically, the 5:30 p.m. blackout time on Wednesday interfered with the scheduled activities of vessel operators.

The City of Grand Haven City Council conducted meetings on November 18, 1996, January 6, 1997, January 27, 1997, and February 10, 1997 to collect input from concerned parties and discuss alternatives to the temporary schedule used in 1996. Additionally, the cities of Ferrysburg and Spring Lake conducted similar public meetings to discuss the issue. As a result of these joint meetings, the three municipalities submitted a request to the Coast Guard on February 11, 1997 for a permanent change to the regulations and a new operating schedule.

The combined efforts of the three municipalities served on Grand River has resulted in a proposed bridge operating schedule that satisfies the needs and desires of recreational vessel operators on Grand River, relieves vehicular traffic congestion, and provides for the anticipated increase of commercial vessel traffic in the area. The Coast Guard published this operating schedule in a notice of proposed rulemaking on April 18, 1997 (62 FR 19082).

The District Commander also authorized the bridge owner to temporarily deviate from the operating regulations in 33 CFR 117.633(c) from May 15, 1997 to August 15, 1997, to test the part of the proposed schedule that would be in effect from March through December each year. The deviation will allow the proposed bridge schedule to be tested for part of the boating season while seeking comments from the public on the proposed changes.

During the deviation period, the bridge will only be required to open for recreational vessel traffic once an hour, on the half-hour, 7 days a week, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., except the bridge need not open at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays, the bridge need not open at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. This schedule will apply to recreational vessel traffic only. The bridge will open on signal for commercial vessel traffic.

Dated: April 23, 1997.

G.F. Woolever,

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

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