

governments, in the aggregate of \$100 million (adjusted annually for inflation). If so, the Act requires that a reasonable number of regulatory alternatives be considered, and that from those alternatives, the least costly, most cost-effective, or least burdensome alternative that achieves the objective of the rule be selected. No state, local, or tribal government entities will be affected by this rule, so this rule will not result in annual or aggregate costs of \$100 million or more. Therefore, the Coast Guard is exempt from any further regulatory requirements under the Unfunded Mandates Act.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposed rule and concluded that under figure 2-1, paragraph 34(g), of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C, this proposed rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

Proposed Regulation

For the reasons discussed 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 through 1236; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 100.35.

2. Add § 100.121 to read as follows:

§ 100.121 Hudson Valley Triathlon, Hudson River, Kingston, New York.

(a) *Regulated Area.* All waters of the Hudson River within a 1000 yard radius of approximate position 41°56'06" N 073°57'57" W (NAD 1983). This area encompasses approximately 1,800 yards of Kingston Point Reach, from just south of Lighted Buoy 74 (LLNR 38285) north to Lighted Buoy 77 (LLNR 38300).

(b) *Regulations.* (1) Vessels, swimmers, and personal watercraft of any nature not participating in this event are prohibited from entering or moving within the regulated area unless authorized by the Patrol Commander.

(2) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Coast Guard Captain of the Port or the designated on scene patrol personnel. U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel

include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the Coast Guard. Upon being hailed by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel via siren, radio, flashing light, or other means, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed.

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect annually from 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. on the first Sunday after July 4th.

Dated: January 20, 1999.

R.M. Larrabee,

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

[FR Doc. 99-2275 Filed 1-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD01-98-163]

Special Local Regulations: Fleet's Albany Riverfest, Hudson River, New York

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposed to establish permanent special local regulations for the annual Fleet's Albany Riverfest. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event. This action is intended to restrict vessel traffic in the Hudson River, in the vicinity of Albany, New York.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 2, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to the Waterways Oversight Branch (CGD01-98-163), Coast Guard Activities New York, 212 Coast Guard Drive, Staten Island, New York 10305, or deliver them to room 205 at the same address between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The Waterways Oversight Branch of Coast Guard Activities New York maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments, and documents as indicated in this preamble, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room 205, Coast Guard Activities New York, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant J. Lopez, Waterways Oversight Branch, Coast Guard Activities New York (718) 354-4193.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this rulemaking (CGD01-98-163) and the specific section of this document 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 wanting acknowledgment 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 proposed rule in view of the comments.

The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the Waterways Oversight Branch at the address 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

The city of Albany sponsors this annual festival which includes a water ski show, speedboat demonstration, and other marine activities on the Hudson River. The sponsor expects no spectator craft for this event. The regulated area for this festival encompasses all waters of the Hudson River from the Dunn Memorial Bridge (river mile 145.4) to the Albany Rensselaer Swing Bridge (river mile 146.2). The proposed regulation is effective annually from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. on the third Saturday and Sunday of July. The proposed regulation prohibits all vessels, swimmers, and personal watercraft not participating in the event from transiting this portion of the Hudson River during the festival. It is needed to protect boaters from the hazards associated with a water ski show, speedboat demonstration, and other marine activities being held in the area. Marine traffic will be able to transit through the regulated area for 30 minutes during the event. Public notifications for the transit time will be made prior to the event via the Local Notice to Mariners and marine information broadcasts.

Discussion of Proposed Rule

The proposed special local regulation is for the annual Fleet's Albany Riverfest held on the Hudson River in the vicinity of Albany, New York. This event is held annually on the third Saturday and Sunday of July. This rule is being proposed to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event, to give the marine community the opportunity to comment on the regulated area, and to decrease the amount of annual paperwork required for this event.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposed rule 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 not been reviewed 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 proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. Although this regulation prevents traffic from transiting a portion of the Hudson River during the event, the effect of this regulation will not be significant for several reasons: the limited duration that the regulated area will be in effect, marine traffic will be able to transit through the regulated area for 30 minutes during the event, the Port Commissioner's office for the Port of Albany has stated there is infrequent commercial traffic north of the Dunn Memorial Bridge (river mile 145.4), commercial vessels can plan their transits up the river around the time the regulated area is in effect as they will have advance notice of the event, it is an annual event with local support, and advance notifications will be made to the local maritime community by the Local Notice to Mariners and marine information broadcasts.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard considers whether this proposed rule, if adopted, will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small entities" include 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.

For the reasons stated in the Regulatory Evaluation section above, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this proposed rule, if adopted, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If, however, you think that your business or organization qualifies as a small entity and that this proposed rule will have a significant economic impact on your business or organization, please submit a comment (see ADDRESSES) explaining why you think it qualifies and in what way and to what degree this proposed rule will economically affect it.

Collection of Information

This proposed rule does not provide for a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism

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

Unfunded Mandates

Under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4), the Coast Guard must consider whether this rule will result in an annual expenditure by state, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate of \$100 million (adjusted annually for inflation). If so, the Act requires that a reasonable number of regulatory alternatives be considered, and that from those alternatives, the least costly, most cost-effective, or least burdensome alternative that achieves the objective of the rule be selected. No state, local, or tribal government entities will be affected by this rule, so this rule will not result in annual or aggregate cost of \$100 million or more. Therefore, the Coast Guard is exempt from any further regulatory requirements under the Unfunded Mandates Act.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposed rule and concluded that under figure 2-1, paragraph 34(g), of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C, this proposed rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the

docket for inspection or copying where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

Proposed Regulation

For the reasons discussed 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 through 1236; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 100.35.

2. Add § 100.122 to read as follows:

§ 100.122 Fleet's Albany Riverfest, Hudson River, New York.

(a) *Regulated Area.* All waters of the Hudson River from the Dunn Memorial Bridge (river mile 145.4) to the Albany Rensselaer Swing Bridge (river mile 146.2).

(b) *Regulations.* (1) Vessels, swimmers, and personal watercraft of any nature not participating in this event are prohibited from entering or moving within the regulated area unless authorized by the Patrol Commander.

(2) Marine traffic will be able to transit through the regulated area for 30 minutes during the event. Public notifications for the transit time will be made prior to the event via the Local Notice to Mariners and marine information broadcasts.

(3) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Coast Guard Captain of the Port or the designated on scene patrol personnel. U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the Coast Guard. Upon being hailed by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel via siren, radio, flashing light, or other means, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed.

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect annually from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. on the third Saturday and Sunday of July.

Dated: January 20, 1999.

R.M. Larrabee,

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

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