DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Parts 100, 110 and 165

[CGD 05-99–097]

RIN 2115-AA97, AA98, AE46

OPSAIL 2000, Port of Baltimore, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing temporary regulations in the Port of Baltimore, Maryland for OPSAIL 2000 activities. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters before, during, and after OPSAIL 2000 events. This action will restrict vessel traffic in portions of the Inner Harbor, the Northwest Harbor, the Patapsco River, and the Chesapeake Bay.

DATES: This rule is effective from 6 a.m. on June 23, 2000 to 11:30 p.m. on June 29, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and materials received from the public as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of the docket CGD05–99–097 and are available for inspection or copying at Commander, (Aoxx), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704–5004 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S. L. Phillips, Project Manager, Operations Division, Auxiliary Section, at (757) 398–6204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On March 28, 2000 we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled OPSAIL 2000, Port of Baltimore, MD, in the Federal Register (65 FR 16355). We received no letters commenting on the proposed rule. No public hearing was requested and none was held.

Background and Purpose

Sail Baltimore is sponsoring OPSAIL 2000 activities in the Port of Baltimore, Maryland. Planned events include the arrival of 27 Tall Ships and other vessels on June 23, 2000 and a Parade of Sail and scheduled departure of those vessels on June 29, 2000.

The Coast Guard anticipates a large spectator fleet for these events. Operators should expect significant vessel congestion along the arrival and parade routes.

The purpose of these regulations is to promote maritime safety and protect participants and the boating public in the Port of Baltimore and the waters of the Chesapeake Bay immediately prior to, during, and after the scheduled events. The regulations will provide for clear parade routes for the participating vessels, establish no wake zones along the parade routes, provide a safety buffer around the participating vessels while they are in transit, and in certain anchorages, modify existing anchorage regulations for the benefit of participants and spectators. The regulations will impact the movement of all vessels operating in the specified areas of the Port of Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay.

It may be necessary for the Coast Guard to establish additional safety or security zones in addition to these regulations to safeguard dignitaries and certain vessels participating in the event. If the Coast Guard deems it necessary to establish such zones at a later date, the details of those zones will be announced separately via the Federal Register. Local Notice to Mariners, Safety Voice Broadcasts, and any other means available.

All vessel operators and passengers are reminded that vessels carrying passengers for hire or that have been chartered and are carrying passengers may have to comply with certain additional rules and regulations beyond the safety equipment requirements for all pleasure craft. When a vessel is not being used exclusively for pleasure, but rather is engaged in carrying passengers for hire or has been chartered and is carrying the requisite number of passengers, the vessel operator must possess an appropriate license and the vessel may be subject to inspection. The definition of the term “passenger for hire” is found in 46 U.S.C. 2101(21a). In general, it means any passenger who has contributed any consideration (monetary or otherwise) either directly or indirectly for carriage onboard the vessel. The definition of the term “passenger” is found in 46 U.S.C. 2101(21). It varies depending on the type of vessel, but generally means individuals carried aboard vessels except for certain specified individuals engaged in the operation of the vessel or the business of the owner/charterer. The law provides for substantial penalties for any violation of applicable license and inspection requirements. If you have any questions concerning the application of the above law to your particular case, you should contact the Coast Guard at the address listed in ADDRESSES for additional information.

Vessel operators are reminded they must have sufficient facilities on board their vessels to retain all garbage and untreated sewage. Discharge of either into any waters of the United States is strictly forbidden. Violators may be assessed civil penalties up to $25,000 or face criminal prosecution.

We recommend that vessel operators visiting the Port of Baltimore for this event obtain up to date editions of National Ocean Service Charts 12278 and 12281 to avoid anchoring within a charted cable or pipeline area.

With the arrival of OPSAIL 2000 and spectator vessels in the Port of Baltimore for this event, it will be necessary to curtail normal port operations to some extent. Interference will be kept to the minimum considered necessary to ensure the safety of life on the navigable waters immediately before, during, and after the scheduled events.

Discussion of Rule

The OPSAIL 2000 vessels are scheduled to arrive on June 23, 2000 and will follow a parade route approximately 3 nautical miles that includes specified waters of the Inner Harbor and Northwest Harbor. The
OPSAIL 2000 vessels are scheduled to depart on June 29, 2000 and will follow a parade route of approximately 7 nautical miles that includes specified waters of the Inner Harbor, Northwest Harbor, and Patapsco River. Moreover, the magnitude of the event itself will severely hamper or prevent transit of the waterway, even absent these regulations designed to ensure it is conducted in a safe and orderly fashion.

Small Entities
Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we considered whether this 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 rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule will affect the following entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to operate or anchor in portions of the Inner Harbor, the Northwest Harbor, and the Patapsco River in the Port of Baltimore, Maryland. The regulations will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: the restrictions are limited in duration, affect only limited areas, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected areas. Moreover, the magnitude of the event itself will severely hamper or prevent transit of the waterway, even absent these regulations designed to ensure it is conducted in a safe and orderly fashion.

Regulatory Evaluation
This 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. 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 Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979).

We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. The primary impact of these regulations will be on vessels wishing to transit the affected waterways during the Tall Ships Arrival on June 23, 2000 and the Parade on Sail on June 29, 2000. Although these regulations prevent traffic from transiting a portion of the Inner Harbor, Northwest Harbor, and Patapsco River during these events, that restriction is limited in duration, affects only a limited area, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected area. Moreover, the magnitude of the event itself will severely hamper or prevent transit of the waterway, even absent these regulations designed to ensure it is conducted in a safe and orderly fashion.

Assistance for Small Entities
Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we offered to assist small entities in understanding this rule so that they could better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking. We received no requests for assistance in understanding the rule.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of the 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 contact the employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247).

Collection of Information
This rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.).

Federalism
We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132 and have determined that this rule does not have implications for federalism under that Order.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act
The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) governs the issuance of Federal regulations that require unfunded mandates. An unfunded mandate is a regulation that requires a State, local, or tribal government or the private sector to incur direct costs without the Federal Government’s having first provided the funds to pay those costs. This rule will not impose an unfunded mandate.

Taking of Private Property
This rule will 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 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 rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and does not concern an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Environment
We considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(g) and (h), of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C; this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A “Categorical Exclusion Determination” is available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES. By controlling vessel traffic during these events, this rule is intended to minimize environmental impacts of increased vessel traffic during the transits of event vessels.
List of Subjects
33 CFR Part 100
Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Waterways.
33 CFR Part 110
Anchorage grounds.
33 CFR Part 165
Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

Regulation
For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR Parts 100, 110, and 165 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 temporary § 100.35T–05–097 to read as follows:
§ 100.35T–05–097 Special Local Regulations; OPSAIL 2000, Port of Baltimore, MD.
(a) Definitions (1) Captain of the Port means the Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore or any Coast Guard commissioned, warrant, or petty officer who has been authorized by the Captain of the Port to act on his behalf.
(2) Official Patrol Vessel includes all Coast Guard, public, state, county or local law enforcement vessels assigned and/or approved by Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore.
(3) OPSAIL 2000 Vessel includes all vessels participating in Operation Sail 2000 under the auspices of the Marine Event Permit submitted for the Port of Baltimore and approved by Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.
(4) Parade of Sail is the outbound procession of OPSAIL 2000 vessels as they navigate designated routes in the Port of Baltimore on June 29, 2000.
(5) Tall Ships Arrival is the inbound procession of OPSAIL 2000 vessels as they navigate designated routes in the Port of Baltimore on June 23, 2000.
(b) Regulated Areas. (1) Tall Ships Arrival Area: All waters of the Patapsco River and tributaries, north of the Maryland-Virginia border and south of latitude 39°45'00".
(2) Parade of Sail Area: The waters of the Patapsco River, Northwest Harbor and Inner Harbor enclosed by:

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<tr>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39°15'40.5&quot; N</td>
<td>076°34'47.5&quot; W, to</td>
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<tr>
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<td>076°34'43.7&quot; W, and</td>
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<td>39°14'37.5&quot; N</td>
<td>076°33'37.7&quot; W, to</td>
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<tr>
<td>39°12'06.3&quot; N</td>
<td>076°29'43.2&quot; W, to</td>
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<tr>
<td>39°13'22.3&quot; N</td>
<td>076°31'15.7&quot; W, to</td>
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<td>39°15'40.2&quot; N</td>
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All coordinates use Datum: NAD 83.
(c) Special Local Regulations. (1) Any person or vessel within the regulated area must operate in strict conformance with any directions given by the Captain of the Port and leave the regulated area immediately if the Captain of the Port so orders.
(2) Unless otherwise directed by the Captain of the Port, all vessels within the regulated area shall be operated at the minimum speed required to maintain steerage and shall avoid creating a wake.
(3) No vessel within the regulated area may anchor except in conformance with 33 CFR 110.158.
(4) The Coast Guard and Official Patrol vessels enforcing this section can be contacted on VHF Marine Band Radio, channels 13 and 16. The Captain of the Port can be contacted at telephone number (410) 576–2521 or 2693.
(5) The Captain of the Port will notify the public of any changes in the status of the regulated area by a Marine Safety Radio Broadcast on VHF–FM marine band radio, channel 22 (157.1 MHZ).
(d) Effective dates. (1) Tall Ships Arrival Area. This section is effective from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on June 23, 2000.
(2) Parade of Sail Area. Paragraph (b)(2) of this section is effective from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on June 29, 2000.

PART 110—[AMENDED]
3. The authority citation for Part 110 continues to read as follows:
Authority: 33 U.S.C. 471, 1221 through 1236, 2030, 2035, 2071; 49 CFR 1.46 and 33 CFR 1.05–1(g).
4. From 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on June 29, 2000, § 110.158 is amended by adding paragraph (c) to read as follows:
§ 110.158 Baltimore Harbor, MD.
* * * * *
(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, the following temporary regulations apply from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on June 29, 2000 for OPSAIL 2000.

PART 165—[AMENDED]
5. The authority citation for Part 165 continues to read as follows:
Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1225 and 1231; 50 U.S.C. 191; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g), 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; 49 CFR 1.46.
6. Add temporary § 165.T05–097 to read as follows:
§ 165.T05–097 Safety Zone; OPSAIL 2000, Port of Baltimore, MD.
(a) Definitions: (1) Captain of the Port means the Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore or any Coast Guard commissioned, warrant, or petty officer who has been authorized by the Captain of the Port to act on his behalf.
(2) OPSAIL 2000 Vessels includes all vessels participating in Operation Sail 2000 under the auspices of the Marine Event Permit submitted for the Port of Baltimore and approved by Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.
(b) Location. The following areas are moving safety zones: All waters within 150 yards ahead of or 50 yards astern or to aile of any OPSAIL 2000 vessel which is 175 feet or greater in length, while operating on the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries, north of the Maryland-Virginia border and south of latitude 39°25'00".
(c) Regulations. (1) All persons are required to comply with the general regulations governing safety zones in § 165.23 of this part.
(2) No person or vessel may enter or navigate within the regulated areas unless authorized to do so by the Captain of the Port. Any person or vessel authorized to enter the regulated areas must operate in strict conformance with any directions given by the Captain of the Port and leave the regulated area.
immediately if the Captain of the Port so orders.

(3) The Coast Guard vessels enforcing this section can be contacted on VHF Marine Band Radio, channels 13 and 16. The Captain of the Port can be contacted at telephone number (410) 576–2521 or 2693.

(4) The Captain of the Port will notify the public of any changes in the status of this zone by a Marine Safety Radio Broadcast on VHF–FM marine band radio, channel 22 (157.1 MHz).

(d) Effective dates: This section is effective from 6 a.m. on June 23, 2000 to 11:30 p.m. on June 29, 2000.

Dated: May 12, 2000.

Thomas E. Bernard,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 00–12877 Filed 5–22–00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–15–U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[CGD 05–00–004]

RIN 2115–AA97

Safety Zone; Transit of S/V Amerigo Vespucci, Chesapeake Bay, Baltimore, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary moving safety zone around the 330-foot sailing vessel, Amerigo Vespucci, through those waters. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the vessel’s transit. This action will restrict vessel traffic in portions of the Chesapeake Bay and the Port of Baltimore.

DATES: This rule is effective from 6 a.m. on June 21, 2000 until 6 p.m. on June 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket CGD5–00–004 and are available for inspection or copying at Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Activities, 2401 Hawkins Point Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21226–1791, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief Warrant Officer Ron Houck, Port Safety and Security Section, at (410) 576–2674.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On April 26, 2000 we published a notice of rulemaking (NPRM) entitled Safety Zone: Transit of S/V Amerigo Vespucci, Chesapeake Bay, Baltimore, MD, in the Federal Register (65 FR 24439). We received no letters commenting on the rule. No public hearing was requested and none was held.

Background and Purpose

The sailing vessel Amerigo Vespucci is planning to transit the waters of the Chesapeake Bay enroute to the Port of Baltimore, Maryland on June 21, 2000 and enroute from the Port of Baltimore, Maryland on June 24, 2000. The transits of this 330-foot sailing vessel are expected to attract a large fleet of spectator vessels. The purpose of these regulations is to promote maritime safety and protect the sailing vessel and the boating public during these transits by establishing a safety buffer around the sailing vessel.

Discussion of Rule

The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary moving safety zone around the 330-foot sailing vessel, Amerigo Vespucci. The safety zone will be enforced during her transit of Chesapeake Bay enroute to the Port of Baltimore, Maryland on June 21, 2000 and enroute from the Port of Baltimore on June 24, 2000. The safety zone will include all waters within 150 yards ahead of or 50 yards abeam or astern of the vessel while she is transiting the area. No vessels will be allowed to enter or navigate within this area unless authorized by the Captain of the Port.

Regulatory Evaluation

This 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. 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 Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979).

We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. These regulations are limited in duration, affect only a limited area, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected area.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we considered whether this 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 rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule will affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: The owners or operators of vessels intending to operate or anchor in portions of the Chesapeake Bay and the Port of Baltimore, Maryland. The regulations will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: The restrictions are limited in duration, affect only limited areas, and will be well publicized to allow mariners to make alternative plans for transiting the affected areas.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we offered to assist small entities in understanding this rule so that they could better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking. We received no requests for assistance in understanding the rule.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of the 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 businesses. 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 rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

Federalism

We have analyzed this rule under E.O. 13132 and have determined that this