

**PART 12—CERTIFICATION OF SEAMEN**

5. The authority citation for part 12 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 31 U.S.C. 9701; 46 U.S.C. 2101, 2103, 2110, 7301, 7302, 7503, 7505, 7701; 49 CFR 1.46.

**§ 12.01–3 [Amended]**

6. Revise § 12.01–3 to read as follows:

**§ 12.01–3 Incorporation by reference.**

(a) Certain material is incorporated by reference into this part with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. To enforce any edition other than that specified in paragraph (b) of this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of change in the **Federal Register** and must ensure that the material is available to the public. All approved material is available for inspection at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street NW., suite 700, Washington, DC, and at the U. S. Coast Guard, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards, room 1210, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC, and is available from the sources indicated in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The material approved for incorporation by reference in this part, and the sections affected, are as follows:

*International Maritime Organization (IMO)*

4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR, England. STCW—International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended in 1995 and 1997 (STCW Convention, or STCW)—and Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code (STCW Code): 12.01–1; 12.01–6; 12.02–7; 12.02–11; 12.05–3; 12.05–7; 12.05–11; 12.10–3; 12.10–5; 12.10–7; 12.10–9; 12.10–11; 12.15–3; 12.15–7; 12.25–45; 12.30–5; 12.35–5.

**§ 12.01–6 [Amended]**

7. In § 12.01–6, to the definition of "STCW," immediately following the words "as amended in 1995", add the words "and 1997".

8. Add new subpart 12.35, consisting of §§ 12.35–1 through 12.35–5, to read as follows:

**Subpart 12.35—Crewmembers of Ships, Other Than Ro-Ro's, Carrying More Than 12 Passengers on International Voyages**

Sec.

12.35–1 Purpose of rules.

12.35–3 Definition.

12.35–5 General requirements.

**§ 12.35–1 Purpose of rules.**

The rules in this subpart establish requirements for certification of seamen serving on passenger ships as defined in § 12.35–3.

**§ 12.35–3 Definition.**

*Passenger ship* in this subpart means a ship, other than a Ro-Ro, which carries more than 12 passengers on an international voyage.

**§ 12.35–5 General requirements.**

To serve on a passenger ship and perform duties that involve safety or care for passengers, a person holding a merchant mariner's document must—

(a) Meet the appropriate requirements of STCW Regulation V/3 and of section A–V/3 of the STCW Code; and

(b) Hold documentary evidence to show that he or she does meet them.

**PART 15—MANNING REQUIREMENTS**

9. The authority citation for part 15 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 46 U.S.C. 2101, 2103, 3306, 3703, 8101, 8102, 8104, 8105, 8301, 8304, 8502, 8503, 8701, 8702, 8901, 8902, 8903, 8904, 8905(b), 9102; 49 CFR 1.45 and 1.46.

10. Redesignate paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) of § 15.1103 as paragraphs (f), (g), and (h), respectively; add a new paragraph (e) to read as follows; and revise newly redesignated paragraphs (g) and (h) to read as follows:

**§ 15.1103 Employment and service within restrictions of license, document, and STCW endorsement.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) If you are a crewmember on board a vessel (that is not a Ro-Ro) carrying more than 12 passengers on international voyages, you must hold documentary evidence to show you meet the requirements of § 10.1105 (if licensed) or

**§ 12.35–5 (if unlicensed) of this chapter.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(g) On board a seagoing vessel required to comply with provisions of the GMDSS in Chapter IV of SOLAS, no person may employ or engage any person to serve, and no person may serve, as the person designated to maintain GMDSS equipment at sea, when the service of a person so designated is used to meet the maintenance requirements of SOLAS Regulation IV/15, which allows for capability of at-sea electronic maintenance to ensure that radio equipment is available for radio communication, unless the person so serving holds documentary evidence

that he or she is competent to maintain GMDSS equipment at sea.

(h) After January 31, 2002, on board a seagoing vessel fitted with an Automatic Radar Plotting Aid (ARPA), no person may employ or engage any person to serve, and no person may serve, as the master, chief mate, or officer of the navigational watch, unless the person so serving has been trained in the use of ARPA in accordance with § 10.205 or § 10.209 of this chapter, whichever is appropriate.

Dated: June 8, 2000.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

*Acting Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 00–15056 Filed 6–14–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 622**

[I.D. 053100A]

**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearings; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public hearings to receive comments on a draft Generic Amendment Addressing the Establishment of Tortugas Marine Reserves (draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment).

**DATES:** Written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on June 30, 2000. The public hearings will be held on June 21 and 22, 2000. See

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of the public hearings.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to, and copies of the draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment are available from, the Council. The Council's address is: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301, North, Suite 1000, Tampa, Florida 33619. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of the public hearings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, Senior Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 228–2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council will convene public hearings to take comments on a draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment, which proposes to establish the Tortugas South marine reserve that will encompass the Riley's Hump mutton snapper spawning aggregation site established by the Council in 1994. The total area of the proposed Tortugas South marine reserve is 60 square nautical miles (nm). The draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment also proposes to create the Tortugas North marine reserve cooperatively with the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS), the State of Florida, and the National Park Service, which will encompass an area of 120 square nm. The portion proposed to be established by the Council is 13 nm. The Council proposes that marine reserves be established for a period of at least 10 years, during which the ecological benefits of the reserve will be evaluated. The Council also proposes that fishing, for all species managed

under the Council's fishery management plans and for Atlantic highly migratory species, and anchoring by fishing vessels be prohibited within the marine reserves.

The draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment would amend all of the Council's fishery management plans and contains a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (DSEIS), a draft initial regulatory flexibility analysis, and a draft regulatory impact review. The DSEIS has not yet been filed with the Environmental Protection Agency for announcement for public comment. The Council will hear public testimony on the draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment before taking final action on the Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment at its July 12, 2000, meeting in Key Largo, Florida. Also, there will be a Highly Migratory Species (HMS) NMFS staff member present at both hearings to specifically hear public testimony of affected HMS fishermen.

Public hearings on the draft Generic Tortugas Marine Reserves Amendment will begin at 3:30 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. at all of the following locations:

1. Wednesday, June 21, 2000—Sombbrero Country Club, 4000 Sombbrero Boulevard, Marathon, Florida 33050; and

2. Thursday, June 22, 2000—Holiday Inn Beachside, 3841 North Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West, Florida 33040.

#### **Special Accommodations**

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by June 7, 2000.

Dated: June 9, 2000.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-15179 Filed 6-14-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**