

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 would not create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that might disproportionately affect children.

Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a “significant energy action” under that order because it is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. The Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has not designated it as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

Technical Standards

The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) (15 U.S.C. 272 note) directs agencies to use voluntary consensus standards in their regulatory activities unless the agency provides Congress, through the Office of Management and Budget, with an explanation of why using these standards would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (e.g., specifications of materials, performance, design, or operation; test methods; sampling

procedures; and related management systems practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies.

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023–01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.ID, which guides the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have concluded that this action is one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (32)(e), of the Instruction.

Under figure 2–1, paragraph (32)(e), of the Instruction, an environmental analysis checklist and a categorical exclusion determination are not required for this rule because this rule affects the promulgation of operating regulations or procedures for drawbridges.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 117 as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

- 1. The authority citation for part 117 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 499; 33 CFR 1.05–1; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

- 2. Revise paragraph (a) of § 117.543 to read as follows:

§ 117.543 Bear Creek.

(a) The draw of the Peninsula Parkway Bridge, mile 2.1, between Dundalk and Sparrows Point, shall open on signal; except that, from April 16 through November 15 from 12 midnight to 8 a.m. except Saturdays and Sundays, and Federal and State holidays, at least one half hour notice is required.

* * * * *

October 5, 2011.

William D. Lee,

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

[FR Doc. 2011–27128 Filed 10–19–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG–2011–0962]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Islais Creek, San Francisco, CA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the Third Street Drawbridge across Islais Creek, mile 0.4, at San Francisco, CA. The deviation is necessary to allow the City of San Francisco to make emergency electrical repairs on the bridge. This deviation allows the bridge to be secured in the closed-to-navigation position during the deviation period.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 8 a.m. on October 3, 2011 to 6 p.m. on November 18, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of the docket USCG–2011–0962 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG–2011–0962 in the “Keyword” box and then clicking “Search”. They are also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M–30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or e-mail David H. Sulouff, Chief, Bridge Section, Eleventh Coast Guard District; telephone 510–437–3516, e-mail David.H.Sulouff@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The City of San Francisco requested a temporary change to the operation of the Third Street Drawbridge, mile 0.4, over Islais Creek, at San Francisco, CA. The drawbridge navigation span provides a vertical clearance of 4 feet above Mean High Water in the closed-to-navigation position. As required by 33 CFR 117.163(b), the draw shall open on signal if at least 72 hours advance notice is given to the San Francisco

Department of Public Works. Navigation on the waterway is commercial and recreational.

The Third Street Drawbridge will be secured in the closed-to-navigation position from 8 a.m. on October 3, 2011 to 6 p.m. on November 18, 2011, to allow the City of San Francisco to complete emergency electrical repairs. This temporary deviation has been coordinated with the waterway users. No objections to the proposed temporary deviation were received.

Vessels that can transit the bridge, while in the closed-to-navigation position, may continue to do so at any time.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: October 7, 2011.

D.H. Suluoff,

Bridge Section Chief, Eleventh Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 2011-27129 Filed 10-19-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

36 CFR Part 230

RIN 0596-AC84

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule implements the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (CFP), authorized by Section 8003 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. The CFP legislation is an amendment to the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978. The CFP is a competitive grant program whereby local governments, Indian tribes, and qualified nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for grants to establish community forests through fee-simple acquisition of private forest land. The program's two purposes are to provide public benefits to communities including economic benefits through sustainable forest management, environmental benefits including clean air, water, and wildlife habitat; benefits from forest-based educational programs; benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship; and recreational benefits secured with public access; and to

acquire private forest lands that are threatened by conversion to nonforest uses. Existing provisions in Forest Service regulations pertaining to the Stewardship Incentive Program will be removed as deauthorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and this final rule will be substituted in lieu thereof.

DATES: This final rule is effective November 21, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathryn Conant, U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Cooperative Forestry, (202) 401-4072. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Need for Final Rule

Congress authorized the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (CFP) to address the needs of communities to protect and maintain their forest resources. In the CFP authorization, Congress found that tens of thousands of acres of private forest land are under pressure from development; public access to privately owned forest land for recreational opportunities has declined; people derive health benefits from having access to forests for recreation and exercise; forests protect public water supplies and may provide financial benefits from forest products; forest parcels owned by local governments and nonprofit organizations provide important educational opportunities for private forest landowners; and there is an urgent need to leverage financial resources to purchase important parcels of privately owned forest land as the parcels are offered for sale.

The CFP is a competitive grant program whereby local governments, Indian tribes, and qualified nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for grants to establish community forests through fee-simple land acquisitions. "Fee-simple" means absolute interest in real property, versus a partial interest such as a conservation easement. By creating community forests through land acquisition, communities and Indian tribes can sustainably manage forests for these and many other benefits, including wildlife habitat, stewardship demonstration sites for forest landowners, and environmental education.

While the statutory title for the CFP includes the term "open space," the authorizing language does not discuss

the term. The only land cover Congress references is "forests." As a result, in this final rule, the term "open space" is not used, and it is assumed that the only type of "open space" on which Congress wanted the CFP to focus is "forests."

The Forest Service believes that these regulations for the CFP will facilitate administration of the program and provide uniform criteria for program participation. The program will focus its funding towards forests that provide community benefits as defined in this rule and are identified as a national, regional, or local priority for protection. See Ranking Criteria and Proposal selection in § 230.5 of this final rule.

Benefits provided by forests acquired under the CFP may address a variety of outcomes such as protecting a municipal water supply, providing public access for outdoor recreation, or providing economic benefits from sustainable forest management, including harvesting forest products and using woody biomass for renewable energy production. Beyond local measures of success, the contribution of community forests to larger protected areas of forest helps support resource-based economies and adds needed resiliency to natural systems as they respond to climate change. Therefore, in addition to public engagement to articulate local needs and capacity, successful community forests in the CFP should be part of a larger conservation effort that protects a variety of land types and working lands, which provide ecosystem services. In this way, the program delivers local benefits that can also have a larger impact.

Relationship to Other Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act Programs

The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (CFAA) enables the Forest Service to work with States, private landowners, and communities to address the full range of forest resources from urban street trees to large rural timber lands. The CFP recognizes that successful protection of community forests depends on engaged citizens. Their participation is equal in importance to the forests being protected. The CFP complements and builds upon other CFAA programs that focus on stewardship and education by providing the opportunity for communities to go a step further and directly acquire and manage forests. The CFP provides grant assistance directly to Indian tribes, local governments, or qualified nonprofit organizations; it is able to assist those entities that have demonstrated a sustained commitment to community forestry. Through public engagement, these entities are able to