DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard


Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Newtown Creek, New York City, NY

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, First Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge across Newtown Creek, mile 1.3, at New York City, New York. The deviation is necessary to facilitate bridge painting operations. Under this temporary deviation, the bridge may remain in the closed position for various times up to six days at a time during a four month period.

DATES: This deviation is effective from May 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG–2013–0229] is available at http://www.regulations.gov. Type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140, on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 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 temporary deviation, call or email Ms. Judy Leung-Yee, Project Officer, First Coast Guard District, judy.k.leung-ye@uscg.mil, or (212) 668–7165. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Smith Point Bridge, mile 6.1, across Narrow Bay, between Smith Point and Fire Island, New York, has a vertical clearance in the closed position of 16 feet at mean high water and 18 feet at mean low water. The drawbridge operation regulations are listed at 33 CFR 117.799.

The waterway users are recreational vessels of various sizes.

The owner of the bridge, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, requested a temporary deviation from the regulations to allow the bridge to remain closed for two hours to facilitate public safety during a public event, the Smith Point Triathlon.

Under this temporary deviation the Smith Point Bridge, mile 6.1, across Narrow Bay between Smith Point and Fire Island, will remain in the closed position between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. on August 4, 2013.

Vessels that can pass under the bridge in the closed position may do so at any time. There are no alternate routes; however, the bridge can open in an emergency. Vessel operators will be notified of the bridge closure through a Safety Marine Information Broadcast (SMIB) issued by the Coast Guard.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the bridge 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: April 10, 2013.

Gary Kassof,
Bridge Program Manager, First Coast Guard District.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard


Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Saugatuck River, Westport, CT

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, First Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the Route 136 Bridge across the Saugatuck River, mile 1.3, at Westport, Connecticut. The deviation is necessary to facilitate emergency repairs. Under this temporary deviation, the bridge owner requires a 24 hour advance notice for bridge openings through June 1, 2013.

DATES: This deviation is effective from May 4, 2013 through June 1, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG–2013–0244] is available at http://www.regulations.gov. Type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140, on the ground floor of the Department of...
Transportation West Building, 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 temporary deviation, call or email Ms. Judy Leung-Yee, Project Officer, First Coast Guard District, judy.k.leung-yeu@uscg.mil, or (212) 668–7165. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Route 136 Bridge has a vertical clearance of 6 feet at mean high water in the closed position. The existing drawbridge operating regulations are found at 33 CFR 117.221(c).

The bridge owner, Connecticut Department of Transportation, requested a 24 hour advance notice requirement for bridge openings to facilitate emergency repairs to the mechanical and electrical components at the bridge.

We previously authorized the above request from March 5, 2013 through May 3, 2013; however, an additional 29 days will be necessary in order to finish storm related repairs from Hurricane Sandy last October. The bridge can operate manually in the event of an emergency situation.

Under this temporary deviation at least a 24 hour advance notice shall be required for bridge openings at the Route 136 Bridge, mile 1.3, across the Saugatuck River at Westport, Connecticut, from May 4, 2013 through June 1, 2013.

The Saugatuck River is predominantly a recreational waterway. During the time period that this temporary deviation will be in effect the impact on navigation will be minimal.

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


Gary Kassof,
Bridge Program Manager, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 2013–09555 Filed 4–22–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG–2013–0197]

RIN 1625–AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; North Carolina Cut, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), Wrightsville Beach, NC

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the operating schedule that governs the operation of the S.R. 74 Bridge, at AIWW mile 283.1, over the North Carolina Cut, at Wrightsville Beach, NC. This rule restricts the operation of the draw span to facilitate the additional unforeseen structural repair of the bridge. This change allows the bridge to open on a two hour advance notification at night so the necessary repairs may be made while still providing reasonable needs of navigation.

DATES: This rule is effective from April 23, 2013 until 7 a.m. on March 1, 2014, and has been enforced with actual notice since 7 p.m. on April 16, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Documents mentioned in this preamble are part of docket USCG–2013–0197. To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov, type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this rulemaking. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 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 temporary rule, call or email Mr. Jim Rousseau, Bridge Management Specialist, Coast Guard, telephone (757) 398–6422, email James.L.Rousseau2@uscg.mil. If you have questions on reviewing the docket, call Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Acronyms

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A. Regulatory History and Information

The Coast Guard published a temporary deviation (77 FR 64411) on October 22, 2012, which allowed the bridge to operate under a restricted schedule until March 15, 2013, so structural repairs could be made to the bridge. The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary final rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard did not learn of the severity of the bridge damage and necessity of the repairs until after the previous deviation period ended. The repairs that are the subject of this regulation need to be undertaken as soon as possible to ensure safe use of the bridge.

On March 22, 2013, the Coast Guard received a letter from the bridge owner identifying additional structural problems with the bridge that would require work to continue under an altered bridge operating schedule. After coordination with the bridge owner and contractor, the Coast Guard established a maintenance schedule. The necessary repairs are more extensive and will require a longer alteration period from the bridge schedule. As of the effective date, emergency work will be ongoing at the bridge in accordance with the schedule set forth in this document. Forgoing notice and comment will minimize disruption to the work already underway, provide for the reasonable needs of navigation, and allow for an efficient course of repairs in order to eventually return this bridge to its regular operating schedule, and thus, any delay is impracticable.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), for the same reasons as discussed above, the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

B. Basis and Purpose

The North Carolina Department of Transportation, which owns and operates this bascule lift bridge, has