

### Schedule for the Decision-Making Process

Following the comment period announced in this Notice of Availability, and after consideration of all comments received, Coast Guard would prepare a Final PEIS for the acquisition and operation of a planned 30 WCCs. In meeting CEQ regulations requiring EISs to be completed within 2 years the Coast Guard anticipates the Final PEIS would be available in 2022. Availability of the Final PEIS would be published in the **Federal Register** and would be available for a 30-day waiting period. Because new information may become available after the completion of the Draft or Final PEIS, supplemental NEPA documentation may be prepared in support of new information or changes in the Proposed Action considered under the PEIS.

### Public Scoping Process

The Coast Guard is seeking comments on the potential environmental impacts that may result from the Proposed Action or preliminary Alternatives. The Coast Guard is also seeking input on relevant information, studies, or analyses of any kind concerning impacts potentially affecting the quality of the human environment as a result of the Proposed Action. NEPA requires federal agencies to consider environmental impacts that may result from a Proposed Action, to inform the public of potential impacts and alternatives, and to facilitate public involvement in the assessment process. The PEIS includes, among other topics, discussions of the purpose and need for the Proposed Action, a description of alternatives, a description of the affected environment, and an evaluation of the environmental impact of the Proposed Action and alternatives.

The Coast Guard intends to follow the CEQ regulations implementing the NEPA (40 CFR 1500–1508) by scoping through public comments. Scoping, which is integral to the process for implementing NEPA, provides a process to ensure that (1) issues are identified early and properly studied; (2) issues of little significance do not consume substantial time and effort; (3) the draft PEIS is thorough and balanced; and (4) delays caused by an inadequate PEIS are avoided.

Public scoping is a process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in this PEIS and for identifying the issues related to the Proposed Action that may have a significant effect on the environment. The scoping process began with publication of the Notice of Intent to

prepare the PEIS, published April 19, 2021 (86 FR 20376). The Coast Guard received two comments during the 45-day public scoping period that began April 27, 2021 and ended June 11, 2021. In this Notice of Availability, the Coast Guard is providing the public with the opportunity to comment on the Draft PEIS. After Coast Guard considers those comments, the Final PEIS will be prepared and its availability similarly announced to solicit public review and comment. Comments received during the Draft PEIS review period will be available in the public docket and made available in the Final PEIS.

Pursuant to the CEQ regulations, Coast Guard invites public participation in the NEPA process. This notice requests public comments, establishes a public comment period, and provides information on how to participate.

The 45-day public comment period begins September 24, 2021 and ends November 8, 2021. Comments and related material submitted to the online docket via <https://www.regulations.gov> must be received by the Coast Guard on or before November 11, 2021, and mailed submission, must be postmarked on or before that same date.

The Coast Guard encourages comments submitted through the Federal Decision-Making portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>, using the search function for Waterways Commerce Cutter or by docket number. If your material cannot be submitted using <https://www.regulations.gov>, contact U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, ATTN: LCDR S. Krolman (CG-9327), 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Stop 7800, Washington, DC 20593-7800 or Coast Guard at [HQS-SMB-CG-WaterwaysCommerceCutter@uscg.mil](mailto:HQS-SMB-CG-WaterwaysCommerceCutter@uscg.mil). A phone message may be left at 202-475-3104.

In submissions, please include the docket number for this Notice of Availability and provide reasoning for comments. We will consider all substantive and relevant comments received during the comment period. We review all comments received, but we will only post comments that address the topic of the notice. We may choose not to post off-topic, inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive.

We accept anonymous comments. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this Proposed Action. Comments we post to <https://www.regulations.gov> will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this

document, see DHS's eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

Documents mentioned in this Notice of Availability as being available in the docket, and posted public comments, will be in the online docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> and can be viewed by following that website's instructions.

Dated: September 17, 2021.

**Aileen Sedmak**,

*Waterways Commerce Cutter Program Manager.*

[FR Doc. 2021-20749 Filed 9-23-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-04-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[Docket Number USCG-202-0172]

### Port Access Route Study: Seacoast of New Jersey Including Offshore Approaches to the Delaware Bay, Delaware

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of draft report; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** On May 5, 2020, the Coast Guard published a notice of study and request for comments (85 FR 26695), announcing a Port Access Route Study (PARS) for the Seacoast of New Jersey Including Offshore Approaches to the Delaware Bay, Delaware. This notice announces the availability of a draft report for public review and comment. We seek your comments on the content, proposed routing measures, and development of the report. The recommendations of the study may lead to future rulemakings or appropriate international agreements.

**DATES:** Your comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before October 25, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2020-0172 using the Federal Decision Making Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions about this notice or study, call or email Mr. Jerry Barnes, Fifth Coast Guard District (dpw), U.S. Coast Guard; telephone (757) 398-6230, email [Jerry.R.Barnes@uscg.mil](mailto:Jerry.R.Barnes@uscg.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Table of Abbreviations

AIS—Automated Information System  
 DHS—Department of Homeland Security  
 FR—Federal Register  
 NEPA—National Environmental Policy Act  
 PARS—Port Access Route Study  
 ACPARS—Atlantic Coast Ports Access Route Study  
 U.S.C.—United States Code  
 WEA—Wind Energy Area

## II. Background and Purpose

The Ports and Waterways Safety Act (46 U.S.C. 70003(c)) requires the Coast Guard to conduct a PARS, *i.e.*, a study of potential traffic density and the need for safe access routes for vessels. Through the study process, the Coast Guard coordinates with Federal, State, local, tribal and foreign state agencies (as appropriate) to consider the views of maritime community representatives, environmental groups, and other interested stakeholders. The primary purpose of this coordination is, to the extent practicable, to reconcile the need for safe access routes with other reasonable waterway uses such as construction and operation of renewable energy facilities and other uses of the Atlantic Ocean in the study area.

In 2019, the Coast Guard announced a supplemental study of routes used by all vessels to access ports on the Atlantic Coast of the United States (84 FR 9541, March 15, 2019). This notice announced PARS for specific port approaches and international transit areas along the Atlantic Coast. The purpose of the supplemental studies is to align the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study (ACPARS) (81 FR 13307, March 14, 2016) with port approaches. The ACPARS analyzed the Atlantic Coast waters seaward of existing port approaches within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone and was finalized in 2017 (82 FR 16510, April 5, 2017).

The purpose of this notice is to announce the availability of the draft PARS examining the seacoast of New Jersey and the offshore approaches to the Delaware Bay, Delaware. We encourage you to participate in the study process by submitting comments in response to this notice. This PARS used AIS data and information from stakeholders to identify and verify customary navigation routes as well as potential conflicts involving alternative activities, such as wind energy generation and offshore mineral exploitation and exploration off the seacoast of New Jersey and in the offshore approaches to the Delaware Bay, Delaware.

The study area extends approximately 175 nautical miles seaward of the

seacoast of New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland between Sandy Hook, New Jersey, and Ocean City, Maryland. An illustration showing the study area is available in the docket where indicated under **ADDRESSES**. Additionally, the study area is available for viewing on the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal at <http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/visualize/>. See the “Maritime” portion of the Data Layers section.

On May 5, 2020, the Coast Guard published a Notice of Study; request for comments entitled “Port Access Route Study: Seacoast of New Jersey Including Offshore Approaches to the Delaware Bay, Delaware” in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 26695). The initial comment period closed on July 5, 2020. The Coast Guard conducted two virtual public meetings on October 29 and November 4, 2020. Recordings of the public meetings are available from the docket. The comment period re-opened through November 10, 2020. The Coast Guard also conducted outreach with port partners during this time.

## IV. Information Requested

PARS are the means by which program managers determine the need to establish traffic routing measures or shipping safety fairways to reduce the risk of collision, allision and grounding, and their impact on the environment, increase the efficiency and predictability of vessel traffic, and preserve the paramount right of navigation while continuing to allow for other reasonable waterway uses. The study analyzes current routing measures around the approaches to Delaware Bay and proposes an adequate way to manage forecasted maritime traffic growth. The study also reviewed coastal port access from the seacoast of New Jersey and the co-dependent use of the waters in support of future development.

The Coast Guard received 34 comments in response to our **Federal Register** notice and other outreach efforts. All comments and supporting documents are available in a public docket and can be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov>. To do so, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG–2020–0172 in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. These comments were submitted by commercial maritime operators, including fishing vessel operators, state, and port partners. Topics covered by these comments included support and requests for additional routing measures around WEAs, requests for collaboration

with state organizations, and requests for NEPA compliance and Environmental Impact Studies to be completed. A synopsis of the comments and copies of the Coast Guard’s Public outreach can be found in the report.

As a result of the data analysis within this study and considering the comments received the Coast Guard proposes six modified or additional measures for consideration by the public. We seek your input on these proposals and welcome comment on any impact to vessel transit time, fishing activity, and/or navigation safety. All comments received will be reviewed and considered before a final version of the PARS is announced in the **Federal Register**. This notice is published under the authority of 46 U.S.C. 70004 and 5 U.S.C. 552(a).

## V. Public Participation and Request for Comments

*Submitting comments.* We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal Decision Making Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. To do so, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG–202–0172 in the search box and click “Search.” Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. If you cannot submit your material by using <https://www.regulations.gov>, call or email the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice for alternate instructions.

*Viewing material in docket.* To view documents mentioned in this proposed rule as being available in the docket, find the docket as described in the previous paragraph, and then select “Supporting & Related Material” in the Document Type column. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the <https://www.regulations.gov> Frequently Asked Questions web page. We review all comments received, but we will only post comments that address the topic of the proposed rule. We may choose not to post off-topic, inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive.

*Personal information.* We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to <https://www.regulations.gov> will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions to the docket in response to this document, see DHS’s eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

Dated: September 13, 2021.

**Laura M. Dickey,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-20797 Filed 9-23-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-4511-DR; Docket ID FEMA-2021-0001]

#### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Amendment No. 7 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (FEMA-4511-DR), dated April 1, 2020, and related determinations.

**DATES:** This amendment was issued August 5, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2833.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster declaration dated April 1, 2020 for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is hereby amended to include the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

All areas within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance

(Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

**Deanne Criswell,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2021-20686 Filed 9-23-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-4490-DR; Docket ID FEMA-2021-0001]

#### Missouri; Amendment No. 5 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Missouri (FEMA-4490-DR), dated March 26, 2020, and related determinations.

**DATES:** This amendment was issued August 5, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2833.  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster declaration dated March 26, 2020 for the State of Missouri is hereby amended to include the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

All areas within the State of Missouri are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

**Deanne Criswell,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2021-20665 Filed 9-23-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-4482-DR; Docket ID FEMA-2021-0001]

#### California; Amendment No. 5 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of California (FEMA-4482-DR), dated March 22, 2020, and related determinations.

**DATES:** This amendment was issued August 5, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dean Webster, Office of Response and Recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2833.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster declaration dated March 22, 2020 for the State of California is hereby amended to include the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

All areas within the State of California are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance Grant; 97.048, Disaster Housing Assistance to Individuals and Households In Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas; 97.049, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance—Disaster Housing Operations for Individuals and Households; 97.050, Presidentially Declared Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households—Other Needs; 97.036, Disaster Grants—Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters); 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant.

**Deanne Criswell,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2021-20667 Filed 9-23-21; 8:45 am]

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