

4085 would be introduced solely to enable holders of a valid U.S. passport to request that extra visa pages be added to the passport.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 51

Administrative practice and procedure, Drug traffic control, Passports and visas.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, 22 CFR chapter I would be amended as follows:

PART 51—PASSPORTS

1. The authority citation for part 51 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 22 U.S.C. 211a, 213, 2651a, 2671(d)(3), 2714 and 3926; 31 U.S.C. 9701; E.O. 11295, 3 CFR, 1966–1970 Comp., p 570; sec. 236, Public Law 106–113, 113 Stat. 1501A–430; 18 U.S.C. 1621(a)(2).

2. Section 51.1 is amended to add a new paragraph (j) to read as follows:

§ 51.1 Definitions.

* * * * *

(j) *Electronic passport* means a passport containing an electronically readable device, an electronic chip encoded with the bearer's personal information printed on the data page, a digitized version of the bearer's photograph, a unique chip number, and a digital signature to protect the integrity of the stored information. Additional biometric information that may be required in the future will be the subject of a separate Federal rulemaking process.

3. In § 51.4, paragraph (f) is revised and a new paragraph (h)(3) is added to read as follows:

§ 51.4 Validity of passports.

* * * * *

(f) *Limitation of validity.* The validity period of a passport may be limited by the Secretary to less than the normal validity period. The bearer of a limited passport may apply for a new passport, using the proper application, and submitting the limited passport, applicable fees, photos and additional documentation, if required, to support the issuance of a new passport.

* * * * *

(h) * * *

(3) The Department has sent a written notice to the bearer at the bearer's last known address that the passport has been invalidated because the Department has not received the applicable fees.

4. Section 51.6 is revised to read as follows:

§ 51.6 Damaged, mutilated or altered passport.

Any passport which has been materially changed in physical appearance or composition, or contains a damaged, defective or otherwise nonfunctioning electronic chip, or which includes unauthorized changes, obliterations, entries or photographs, or has observable wear and tear that renders it unfit for further use as a travel document may be invalidated.

5. The first sentence of § 51.20 is revised to read as follows:

§ 51.20 General.

An application for a passport, a replacement passport, extra visa pages, or other passport related service shall be completed upon such forms as may be prescribed by the Department. * * *

6. Section 51.32 is revised to read as follows:

§ 51.32 Passport amendments.

Except for the convenience of the U.S. Government, no passport book will be amended.

7. Section 51.64 is revised to read as follows:

§ 51.64 Replacement passports.

A passport issuing office may issue a replacement passport for the following reasons without payment of applicable fees:

(a) To correct an error or rectify a mistake of the Department.

(b) When the bearer has changed his or her name or other personal identifier listed on the data page of the passport, and applies for a replacement passport within one year of the date of the passport's original issuance.

(c) When the bearer of an emergency full fee passport issued for a limited validity period applies for a full validity passport within one year of the date of the passport's original issuance.

(d) When a passport is retained by law enforcement or the judiciary for evidentiary purposes and the bearer is still eligible to have a passport.

(e) When a passport is issued to replace a passport with a failed electronic chip for the balance of the original validity period.

8. Section 51.66, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 51.66 Expedited passport processing.

(a) Within the United States, an applicant for a passport service (including issuance, replacement or the addition of visa pages) may request expedited processing by a Passport Agency. All requests by applicants for in-person services at a Passport Agency shall be considered requests for

expedited processing, unless the Department has determined that the applicant is required to apply at a Passport Agency.

* * * * *

9. The title of part 51, subpart E is revised to read as follows:

* * * * *

Subpart E—Limitations on Issuance or Use of Passports

* * * * *

Dated: February 10, 2005.

Maura Harty,

*Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs,
Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 05–3080 Filed 2–17–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[CGD01–05–011]

RIN 1625–AA00, AA87

Safety and Security Zones; TOPOFF 3, New London, CT

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to establish safety and security zones around waterfront areas in New London, Connecticut during the Congressionally-mandated third Top Officials exercise scheduled for April 2005. These zones are necessary to provide for the safety and security of participants in the exercise, the surrounding shore and maritime communities from potential sabotage or subversive acts aimed at this large scale, high profile exercise. These temporary safety and security zones prohibit persons or vessels from entering unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Long Island Sound or designated representative.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before March 11, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments and related material to Waterways Management Division, Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound, 120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven, CT 06512. Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as

being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound, New Haven, CT, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant A. Logman, Chief, Waterways Management Division, Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound at (203) 468-4429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (CGD01-05-011), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and related material in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of the comments received. The period for submitting comments is 21 days from publication of this NPRM. The Coast Guard finds good cause for a reduced comment period. A shortened comment period will provide the public with the ability to comment on this regulation, will provide the Coast Guard time to consider the comments and incorporate them into a final rule, if appropriate, and will provide adequate time for the final rule to be published for notification to the public in advance of its effective date. To ensure that the public is given ample opportunity to provide input to this proposed rulemaking in spite of the reduced comment period, Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound will make this NPRM widely available to the maritime community and general public through notification in the Local Notice to Mariners, marine safety information bulletins and through local waterways users groups.

If, as we anticipate we make this temporary final rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**, we will explain in that publication, as required by 5 U.S.C. (d)(3), our good cause for doing so.

Public Meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting, but you may submit a request for a meeting by writing to Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office Long Island Sound at the address under **ADDRESSES** explaining why one would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background and Purpose

The third Top Officials (TOPOFF 3) exercise, will take place from April 4 through April 10, 2005. TOPOFF 3 is the third of the Congressionally-mandated weapons of mass destruction (WMD) national exercise series. TOPOFF 3 will use a series of exercise activities of increasing complexity, and will simulate a terrorist WMD campaign with simulated attacks occurring in the States of Connecticut and New Jersey. Additional TOPOFF activities will be conducted within the United Kingdom as part of a partnership to strengthen security in both nations. The specific scenarios for the exercise are still being developed. In New London, Connecticut, these activities will take place mainly in the vicinity of Fort Trumbull State Park. Additional activities associated with this exercise will take place in the vicinity of Ocean Beach in New London.

There will be approximately 800 participants in TOPOFF 3, from various federal, state and local agencies. Numerous high-level public officials will participate, including United States Congressmen and Senators. Participants will be transported to Fort Trumbull via land and water transportation. Due to the high visibility and high profile of the participants, safety and security zones are warranted to safeguard participants and the surrounding community from sabotage or other subversive acts, accidents or other hazards of a similar nature.

Discussion of Proposed Rule

This rule would create safety and security zones surrounding Fort Trumbull State Park and Ocean Beach in New London, Connecticut. The safety and security zones proposed herein would be effective from April 2, 2005 through April 10, 2005. This effective period covers the scheduled exercise dates from April 4 through April 10, 2005, and provides for an additional period leading up to the exercise to provide for monitoring and searching of the area being utilized for the exercise.

The safety and security zones surrounding Fort Trumbull State Park

will encompass the waters of the Thames River approximately 100-yards from Fort Trumbull State Park and the Parks piers. The Fort Trumbull Safety and Security Zone includes all waters of the Thames River bounded as follows: beginning at the end of the New England Seafood pier at approximate position 41°20'49.7" N, 072°05'41.6" W, thence running in an easterly direction to position 41°20'50.9" N, 072°05'36.5" W, thence in a southeasterly direction to position 41°20'43.1" N, 072°05'19.7" W, then south to position 41°20'34.9" N, 072°05'19.6" W, thence southwesterly to a point on the western shore of the Thames River at position, 41°20'26.6" N, 072°05'38.9" W, thence northerly along the western shore of the Thames River to a position on the shore of the Thames River at position 41°20'29.3" N, 072°05'39.7" W, thence along the shore of the Thames River to the point of beginning.

The safety and security zones surrounding Ocean Beach will encompass the waters of Long Island Sound approximately 100-yards off of Ocean Beach. The Ocean Beach Safety and Security Zone includes all waters of Long Island Sound bounded by lines as follows: beginning at a position on the shore of New London, Connecticut at position 41°18'31.4" N, 072°05'39.6" W, thence running southeasterly to position 41°18'29.3" N, 072°05'36.9" W, thence running southwesterly to position 41°18'11.8" N, 072°06'2.8" W, thence running northwesterly to position 41°18'14.5" N, 072°06'6.1" W, thence running northeasterly along the shore to the point of beginning.

Entry into these zones is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Long Island Sound. Any violation of the safety and security zones described herein is punishable by, among others, civil and criminal penalties, in rem liability against the offending vessel, and license sanctions.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposed rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, 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 Homeland Security (DHS). We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under the regulatory policies and procedures of DHS is unnecessary. This regulation

may have some impact on the public, but the potential impact would be minimized for the following reasons: vessels may transit in all areas of the Thames River and Long Island Sound other than those areas covered by the safety and security zones proposed herein. Vessels wishing to transit to Fort Trumbull Marina may request permission to transit through the Fort Trumbull and Ocean Beach Safety and Security Zones from the Captain of the Port, Long Island Sound or their on-scene representatives. Commercial fishing vessels wishing to operate in the zones may request permission to enter the zones in advance of their effective dates from the COTP, Long Island Sound. Additionally, there will be extensive advanced notifications made to the maritime community via the Local Notice to Mariners, marine information broadcasts and local area maritime committees. The safety and security zones have been narrowly tailored to impose the least impact on maritime interests yet provide the level of safety and protection deemed necessary for this high visibility event.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), the Coast Guard considered whether this proposed 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 proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule may affect the following entities, some of which may be small entities: commercial vessels wishing to transit, fish or anchor in the portions of the Thames River or Long Island Sound covered by the proposed rule. For the reasons outlined in the Regulatory Evaluation section above, this rule would not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this rule would have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (see **ADDRESSES**) explaining why you think it qualifies and how and to what degree this rule would economically affect it.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please contact LT A. Logman at the address listed in **ADDRESSES** above.

Collection of Information

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

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposed rule under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and has 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) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year. Though this proposed rule would not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This proposed rule would 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 proposed 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

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposed rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This proposed 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 proposed rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it would 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.

To help the Coast Guard establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with Indian and Alaskan Native tribes, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 36361, July 11, 2001) requesting comments on how to best carry out the Order. We invite your comments on how this proposed rule might impact tribal governments, even if that impact may not constitute a “tribal implication” under the Order.

Energy Effects

We have analyzed this proposed 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. It has not been designated by the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs 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 proposed rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did

not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

Environment

The Coast Guard has considered the environmental impact of this proposed rule and concluded that, under figure 2-1, paragraph (34)(g) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, this proposed rule would be categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1226, 1231; 46 U.S.C. Chapter 701; 50 U.S.C. 191, 195; 33 CFR 1.05-1(g), 6.04-1, 6.04-6, and 160.5; Pub. L. 107-295, 116 Stat. 2064; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

2. From 12:01 a.m. on April 2, 2005 to 11:59 p.m. on April 10, 2005 add temporary § 165.T01-011 to read as follows:

§ 165.T01-011 Security and Safety Zone: TOPOFF 3, New London, CT

(a) *Locations.* (1) *Fort Trumbull Safety and Security Zone.* The following area is a safety and security zone: All waters of the Thames River in an area bounded as follows: beginning at the end of the New England Seafood pier at approximate position 41°20'49.7" N, 072°05'41.6" W, thence running in an easterly direction to position 40°20'50.9" N, 072°05'36.5" W, thence in a southeasterly direction to position 41°20'43.1" N, 072°05'19.7" W, then south to position 41°20'34.9" N, 072°05'19.6" W, thence southwesterly to a point on the western shore of the Thames river at position, 41°20'26.6" N, 072°05'38.9" W, thence northerly along the western shore of the Thames River to a position on the shore of the Thames River at position 41°20'29.3" N, 072°05'39.7" W, thence along the shore of the Thames River to the point of beginning.

(2) *Ocean Beach Safety and Security Zone.* The following area is a safety and security zone: All waters of Long Island Sound off of New London, Connecticut

in an area bounded as follows: beginning at a position on the shore of New London Connecticut at position 41°18'31.4" N, 072°05'39.6" W, thence running southeasterly to position 41°18'29.3" N, 072°05'36.9" W, thence running position southwesterly to position 41°18'11.8" N, 072°06'2.8" W, thence running northwesterly to position 41°18'14.5" N, 072°06'6.1" W, thence running northeasterly along the shore to the point of beginning.

(b) *Effective date.* This rule is effective from 12:01 a.m. on April 2, 2005 until 11:59 p.m. on April 10, 2005.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) In accordance with the general regulations in 165.23 and 165.33 of this part, entry into or movement within these zones is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port (COTP), Long Island Sound.

(2) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the COTP, or the designated on-scene U.S. Coast Guard representative. On-scene Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the Coast Guard on board Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, and local, state, and Federal law enforcement vessels.

Dated: February 11, 2005.

Peter J. Boynton,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Long Island Sound.

[FR Doc. 05-3120 Filed 2-17-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 167

[USCG-2005-20380]

Port Access Routes Study of Potential Vessel Routing Measures To Reduce Vessel Strikes of North Atlantic Right Whales

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of study; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is conducting a Port Access Route Study (PARS) to analyze potential vessel routing measures and consider adjusting existing vessel routing measures in order to reduce vessel strikes of the highly endangered North American right whale. Potential vessel routing measures are being considered to protect the right whale from ship strikes in their two major aggregation areas, while minimizing adverse impacts on

vessel operations. This study will focus on the northern region: first on Cape Code Bay, and then, if it can be accomplished within the timeframe required by applicable legislation, the area off Race Point at the northern end of Cape Code (Race Point) and the Great South Channel, and the southern region: Along the seacoast in the approaches to the Ports of Jacksonville and Fernandina Beach, Florida, and Brunswick, Georgia. The recommendations of the study may lead to future rulemaking actions or appropriate international agreements.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before April 19, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Coast Guard docket number USCG-2005-20380 to the Docket Management Facility at the U.S. Department of Transportation. To avoid duplication, please use only one of the following methods:

(1) Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>.

(2) Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(3) Fax: 202-493-2251.

(4) Delivery: Room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(5) Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice of study, call George Detweiler, Office of Vessel Traffic Management, Coast Guard, telephone 202-267-0574, or send e-mail to Gdetweiler@comdt.uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee K. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-0271.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this study by submitting comments and related materials. All comments received will be posted, without change, to <http://dms.dot.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to use the Docket Management Facility. Please see DOT's "Privacy Act" paragraph below.

Submitting Comments: If you submit a comment, please include your name and address, identify the docket number