

NC 12 on the Outer Banks. The FHWA, in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the project in January 1998. FHWA and NCDOT held public hearings and provided a comment period on the DEIS. Since the 1998 DEIS, there have been several changes in the project. These changes led to the decision to rescind the 1995 notice of intent and the 1998 DEIS (**Federal Register** Vol. 73, No. 107, page 31733) and to issue this notice of intent.

Before releasing this notice of intent, FHWA and NCTA began coordinating with Federal and state environmental regulatory and resource agencies and the public in the development of the purpose and need for the proposed action and a conceptual range of alternatives in the project study area. The draft purpose and need for the proposed action includes the following elements: (i) Improving traffic flow on the project area's thoroughfares (NC 12 and U.S. 158), (ii) reducing travel time for persons traveling between Currituck County mainland and Currituck County Outer Banks, and (iii) reducing hurricane clearance times for residents and visitors who use NC 168 and U.S. 158 during a coastal evacuation.

The EIS for the proposed action will consider alternatives that include improving existing roadways (NC 12 and U.S. 158), as well as alternatives that involve building a new Mid-Currituck Sound bridge in combination with improving existing roads. The analysis will also include a range of non-highway improvement alternatives, including no-build, ferry service, expanding transit service, transportation demand management/shifting rental unit start times, and transportation systems management (TSM) alternatives. In addition, NCTA is considering a range of alternatives for the proposed bridge crossing, including (1) Two, three, or four-lane bridges; (2) various interchange configurations for the bridge's connections to the existing roadway network; and (3) a range of potential corridors for the bridge. As part of the EIS, NCTA will also study the feasibility and impacts of developing the proposed project as a tolled facility.

FHWA and NCTA will continue to provide the agencies, local governments, and the public with opportunities for involvement through informational workshops, project newsletters, informational mailings, and other means. Information on the dates, times, and locations of future citizens informational workshops will be posted on the NCTA Web site and will be

advertised in the local news media, and newsletters will be mailed to those on the project mailing list. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list, contact Jennifer Harris at the address listed below or by submitting an e-mail to [midcurrituck@ncturnpike.org](mailto:midcurrituck@ncturnpike.org). Once completed, the Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure the full range of issues related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and questions concerning the proposed action should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above or directed to: Ms. Jennifer Harris, P.E., Staff Engineer, North Carolina Turnpike Authority, 5400 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 400, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, Telephone (919) 571-3000.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation of Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: June 10, 2008.

**George Hoops,**

*Major Projects Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Raleigh, North Carolina.*

[FR Doc. E8-13444 Filed 6-13-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Maritime Administration**

[Docket No. MARAD-2008 0052]

**Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws**

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel CHUT LOON.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383 and Pub. L. 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2008-0052 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the

effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 16, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2008-0052. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel CHUT LOON is: *Intended Use:* "charters."

*Geographic Region:* "San Sebastian River, ICW from Oyster Creek Marina in St. Augustine, Florida."

**Privacy Act**

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register**

published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78).

Dated: June 5, 2008.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Leonard Sutter,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. E8-13460 Filed 6-13-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2008 0050]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel KIND OF BLUE.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383 and Pub. L. 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2008-0050 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 16, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2008-0050. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.,

Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel KIND OF BLUE is:

*Intended Use:* "Six passenger charters and sailing instruction with USCG Master."

*Geographic Region:* "San Diego Coastal Waters."

#### Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78).

Dated: June 9, 2008.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Leonard Sutter,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. E8-13464 Filed 6-13-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2008 0051]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel CAROLINA SOUL SONG.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383 and Pub. L. 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is

authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2008-0051 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 16, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2008-0051. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel CAROLINA SOUL SONG is:

*Intended Use:* "Eco tours for very small groups 6 persons or less and special needs persons."