



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2017-0311]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Quantuck Canal, Westhampton Beach, NY

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the Beach Lane Bridge across the Quantuck Canal, mile 1.1 at Westhampton Beach, New York. This action is necessary to complete rehabilitation of the bascule leaves of the drawbridge. The deviation will allow the bridge to open only one bascule span at a time in order to provide passage for vessels requiring an opening.

DATES: This deviation is effective without actual notice from [***Insert date of Publication in the Federal Register***] through 11:59 p.m. on September 30, 2017. For the purposes of enforcement, actual notice will be used from April 17, 2017, until [***Insert date of publication in the Federal Register***].

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, USCG-2017-0311 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or e-mail James M. Moore, Bridge Management Specialist, First District Bridge Branch, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 212-514-4334, e-mail james.m.moore2@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Suffolk County Department of Public Works, the owner of the bridge, requested a temporary deviation in order to facilitate reconstruction of the bascule leaves.

The Beach Lane Bridge across the Quantuck Canal, mile 1.1 at Westhampton Beach, New York is a double-leaf bascule bridge offering mariners a vertical clearance of 13.9 feet at mean high water and 16.2 feet at mean low water in the closed position. Horizontal clearance is 50.3 feet, but utilization of a work barge placed underneath one of the bascule leaves will reduce horizontal clearance to 25 feet. The existing drawbridge operating regulations are listed at 33 CFR117.799(d).

This temporary deviation will allow the Beach Lane Bridge to open only one of the two bascule spans for bridge openings from 12:01 a.m. on April 17, 2017 to 11:59 p.m. on September 30, 2017. Dual lift span operations will be permitted,

provided 48 hours of advance notice is furnished to the owner of the bridge.

The majority of vessels requiring bridge openings are sailing vessels and yachts transiting the waterway. Discussion with the proprietor of the Modern Yachts Marina located in the vicinity of the bridge confirms typical recreational traffic will continue to be able to proceed through the navigation opening of the bridge during one-leaf operations. Small scale tug/barge combinations occasionally transit the Quantuck Canal, but such commercial craft are generally limited in size. Mariners concur that the requirement to provide the bridge owner 48 hours of advance notice for dual lift span operations will not impede overall operations.

Vessels that can pass under the bridge without an opening may do so at all times. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies and there is an alternate route for vessels unable to pass through the bridge when in the closed position.

The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessel operators can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by this temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR § 117.35(e), the drawbridge must

return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR § 117.35.

Dated: April 24, 2017

C. J. Bisignano

Supervisory Bridge Management Specialist

First Coast Guard District

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