



## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

### 33 CFR Part 100

[Docket Number USCG-2020-0703]

RIN 1625-AA08

### Special Local Regulation; Gasparilla Marine Parade; Hillsborough Bay; Tampa, FL

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

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**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is proposing to establish a temporary special local regulation for the 2021 Gasparilla Marine Parade on the waters of Hillsborough Bay in the vicinity of Tampa, Florida. This event is expected to attract over 600 spectator craft along the parade route, with approximately 18 vessels participating in the official flotilla. This regulation is necessary to ensure the safety of public, the official flotilla, and spectator vessels before, during, and after the parade. We invite your comments on this proposed rulemaking.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2020-0703 using the Federal eRulemaking 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 proposed rulemaking, call or email Marine Science Technician First Class Michael D.

Shackleford, Sector St. Petersburg Prevention Department, Coast Guard; telephone (813) 228-2191, e-mail Michael.D.Shackleford@uscg.mil.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Table of Abbreviations**

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	<b>Federal Register</b>
NPRM	Notice of proposed rulemaking
§	Section
U.S.C.	United States Code

### **II. Background, Purpose, and Legal Basis**

On November 23, 2020, Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla notified the Coast Guard that it will be rescheduling the Gasparilla Invasion and Parade from its normal day in January, to April 17, 2021, from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m. The event will occur on certain waters of Hillsborough bay, Tampa, Florida. The Captain of the Port St. Petersburg (COTP) has determined that potential hazards associated with the large gathering of vessels during the parade would be a safety concern for anyone within the event area.

The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure the safety of public, the official flotilla, and spectator vessels on these navigable waters of the United States before, during, and after the scheduled event. The Coast Guard is proposing this rulemaking under authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034 (previously 33 U.S.C. 1231).

### **III. Discussion of Proposed Rule**

The COTP is proposing to establish a special local regulation from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on April 17, 2021. The special local regulation would cover certain waters of Hillsborough Bay in Tampa, Florida and set forth specific requirements for vessels operating within the regulated area during the period of enforcement. Persons and vessels not meeting the requirements of this regulation may request authorization to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated area by contacting the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg by telephone at (727) 824-7506, or a designated

representative via VHF radio on channel 16. If authorization to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated area is granted by the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg or a designated representative, all persons and vessels receiving such authorization must comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg or a designated representative. The Coast Guard will provide notice of the special local regulations by Local Notice to Mariners, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, and/or on-scene designated representatives.

#### **IV. Regulatory Analyses**

We developed this proposed rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

##### *A. Regulatory Planning and Review*

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. Executive Order 13771 directs agencies to control regulatory costs through a budgeting process. This NPRM has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, the NPRM has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and pursuant to OMB guidance it is exempt from the requirements of Executive Order 13771.

This regulatory action determination is based on: (1) the special local regulation will be enforced for only nine hours; (2) although certain persons and vessels are prohibited to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated area without authorization from the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg or a designated representative, they may operate in the surrounding area during the enforcement period; (3) the Coast Guard will provide advance notification of the special local regulations to the local

maritime community by Local Notice to Mariners and/or Broadcast Notice to Mariners; and (4) persons and vessels not meeting the requirements of this regulation may request authorization to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated area by contacting the Captain of the Port or a designated representative.

*B. Impact on Small Entities*

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. 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.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section IV.A above, this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

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.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed rule. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please call or email the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section. The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this proposed rule or any policy or action of the

Coast Guard.

*C. Collection of Information*

This proposed rule would not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

*D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments*

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132 (Federalism), if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this proposed rule under that Order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132.

Also, 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. If you believe this proposed rule has implications for federalism or Indian tribes, please call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

*E. 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 (adjusted for inflation) 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.

*F. Environment*

We have analyzed this proposed rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023-01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have made a preliminary determination that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This proposed rule involves a special local regulation issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade. Normally such actions are categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L(60a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A preliminary Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket. For instructions on locating the docket, see the ADDRESSES section of this preamble. We seek any comments or information that may lead to the discovery of a significant environmental impact from this proposed rule.

#### *G. Protest Activities*

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places, or vessels.

#### **V. Public Participation and Request for Comments**

We view public participation as essential to effective rulemaking, and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the outcome of this rulemaking. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal

at <https://www.regulations.gov>. If your material cannot be submitted using <https://www.regulations.gov>, call or email the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

We accept anonymous comments. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov> and 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 NPRM as being available in the docket, and all public comments, will be in our online docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> and can be viewed by following that website's instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted or a final rule is published.

#### **List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100**

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

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard is proposing to amend 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

#### **PART 100--SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS.**

1. The authority citation for part 100 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 46 U.S.C. 70041; 33 CFR 1.05-1.

2. Add § 100.T07-0703 to read as follows:

§ 100.T07-0703 Special Local Regulation; Gasparilla Marine Parade; Hillsborough Bay; Tampa, FL.

(a) Regulated Areas: (1) Waters of Hillsborough Bay and its tributaries north of 27°51'18"N and south of the John F. Kennedy Bridge: Hillsborough Cut "D" Channel, Seddon Channel, Sparkman Channel and the Hillsborough River

south of the John F. Kennedy Bridge, Tampa, Florida. All coordinates referenced use datum: NAD 83.

- (2) All navigable waters within a 100 yards around the vessel JOSE GASPAR while docked at the Tampa Yacht Club and Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Florida.
  - (3) When within the marked channels of the parade route, vessels participating in the Gasparilla Marine Parade may not exceed the minimum speed necessary to maintain steerage.
- (b) Special Local Regulations. (1) All vessels within the regulated area in paragraph (a) of this section must stay 50 feet away from and give way to all officially entered vessels in parade formation in the Gasparilla Marine Parade.
- (2) Jet skis and vessels without mechanical propulsion are prohibited from the parade route.
  - (3) Vessels less than 10 feet in length are prohibited from the parade route unless capable of safely participating.
  - (4) Vessels found to be unsafe to participate at the discretion of a present law enforcement officer are prohibited from the parade route.
  - (5) Northbound vessels in excess of 65 feet in length without mooring arrangement made prior to the date of the event are prohibited from entering Seddon Channel, unless the vessel is officially entered in the Gasparilla Marine Parade.
  - (6) Vessels not officially entered in the Gasparilla Marine Parade may not enter the parade staging area box within the following coordinates: 27°53'53" N, 082°27'47" W; 27°53'22" N, 082°27'10" W; 27°52'36" N, 082°27'55" W; 27°53'02" N, 082°28'31" W.

(7) Designated representatives may control vessel traffic throughout the enforcement area as determined by the prevailing conditions.

(8) Persons and vessels may request authorization to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated areas by contacting the COTP St. Petersburg by telephone at (727) 824-7506, or a designated representative via VHF radio on channel 16. If authorization is granted, all persons and vessels receiving such authorization must comply with the instructions of the COTP St. Petersburg or a designated representative.

(d) Enforcement Period. This rule will be enforced from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 17, 2021.

Dated: January 13, 2021.

Matthew A. Thompson,  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,  
Captain of the Port St. Petersburg.

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