DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG-2021-0433]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety zone; Tennessee River mile 643 to 652, Knoxville, TN

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone on the Tennessee River south of mile 643 to 652 on August 7, 2021. This safety zone is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards created during the rowers associated with the event. Entry into the safety zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley (COTP).

DATES: This rule is effective from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on August 7, 2021.

ADDRESSES: To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to https://www.regulations.gov, type USCG-2021-0433 in the “SEARCH” box and click "SEARCH." Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this rule.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or email MST3 Joshua Rehl, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 615-736-5421, email Joshua.M.Rehl@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

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II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard was notified of the event without ample time to allow for a reasonable comment period because we must establish this safety zone by August 7, 2021.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Delaying the effective date of this rule would be impracticable because action is needed on August 7, 2021 to ensure the safety of the participants in the Three Rivers Regatta, rowing marine event.

III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034 (previously 33 U.S.C. 1231). The Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley (COTP) has determined that potential hazards associated with the Three Rivers Regatta, rowing marine event, will be a safety concern for anyone within the rowing area. This rule is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the special local regulated area for the duration of the rowing event.

IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a temporary safety zone on the Tennessee River from mile
markers 643 to 652 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on August 7, 2021. The duration of the zone is intended to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in these navigable waters while high speed boat races are taking place. No non-participant vessels or persons will be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative. Vessels and persons transiting the area must comply with all orders or directions given to them by the COTP or their designated representative. The COTP will provide notice of the regulated area through advanced notice via broadcast notice to mariners and by on-scene designated representatives.

V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this 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. This rule has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This regulatory action determination is based on the size, location, duration, and time-of-day of the safety zone. This safety zone restricts transit on the Tennessee River from mile 643 to 652. The area will have limited access for a period of 9 hours. Moreover, the Coast Guard would issue Broadcast Notices to Mariners, Local Notices to Mariners, and Marine Safety Information Bulletins, as appropriate, about this safety zone so that waterway users may plan accordingly for this short restriction on transit. This rule will allow vessels to request permission to enter the safety zone.

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 rule will 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 V.A above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

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 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.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency’s responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

C. Collection of Information

This rule will 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 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 rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does 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.

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 rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

F. Environment

We have analyzed this 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 determined 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 rule involves a
safety zone lasting 9 hours that will prohibit entry within MM 643 to 652, on the
Tennessee River, of vessels for the duration of the Three Rivers Regatta, rowing marine
event. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of
Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A 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.

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.

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 amends 33 CFR part
165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS
AREAS

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

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051; 33 CFR 1.05-1, 6.04-1, 6.04-6, 160.5;

2. Add § 165.T08-0433 to read as follows:

§ 165.T08-0433 Safety Zone; Knoxville, TN. Tennessee River.

(a) Regulated area. The regulations in this section apply to the following area:
All waters of the Tennessee River from mile marker 643 to mile marker 652.

(b) Regulations. (1) All non-participants are prohibited from entering, transiting
through, anchoring in, or remaining within the regulated area described in paragraph (a) of this section unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley or their designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP’s representative by Sector Ohio Valley command center at 502-779-5422. Those in the regulated area must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP or the designated representative.

(3) The COTP will provide notice of the regulated area through advanced notice via broadcast notice to mariners and by on-scene designated representatives.

(c) Enforcement period. This section will be enforced from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on August 7, 2021.

Dated: June 27, 2021

A. M. Beach,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,
Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley

[FR Doc. 2021-14051 Filed: 6/30/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 7/1/2021]