DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

Docket Number USCG-2021-0598

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulation; Cumberland River, Ashland City, TN

AGENCY:  Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION:  Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY:  The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary special local regulation for navigable waters on the Cumberland River. The special local regulation is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards created by the Riverbluff Triathlon marine event. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley.

DATES:  This rule is effective on August 29, 2021 from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m..

ADDRESSES:  To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to https://www.regulations.gov, type USCG-2021-0598 in the search box and click "Search." Next, in the Document Type column, select “Supporting & Related Material.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:  If you have questions on this rule, call or email Petty Officer Third Class Benjamin Gardner, Marine Safety Detachment Nashville, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 615-736-5421, email Benjamin.t.gardner@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations
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. We must establish this regulation by August 29, 2021 and lack sufficient time to provide a reasonable comment period and then consider those comments before issuing this rule. 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 contrary to public interest because immediate action is needed to ensure the safety of the participants and vessels during the Riverbluff Triathlon. It is impracticable to publish an NPRM because we must establish this special local regulation by August 29, 2021.

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 Riverbluff Triathlon on August 29, 2021, will be a safety concern from MM 157.0 to MM 159.0 of the Cumberland River for 4 hours. This rule is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in
the navigable waters within the special local regulation while the event is taking place.

IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a special local regulation from MM 157.0 to MM 159.0 on the Cumberland River. The safety zone will be in effect on August 29, 2021 from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. The duration of the zone is intended to protect participants, and the marine environment in these navigable waters while the Riverbluff Triathlon is taking place. No vessel or person will be permitted to enter the regulated area without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative.

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 the time-of-day of the special local regulation. Vessel traffic will be able to safely transit around the this special local regulation which would impact a small designated area of the Cumberland River before or after the time of the event. Moreover the Coast Guard will issue a Broadcast the Mariners via VHF-FM marine channel 16 about the zone, and the rule would allow vessels to seek permission to enter the zone.

B. Impact on Small Entities

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 regulated 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 special local regulation lasting only 4 hours that will prohibit entry within a 2 mile segment of the
Cumberland River. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph [L61] and [L63a] of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. 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 100

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

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 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.T08-0598 to read as follows:

§ 100.T08-0275 Cumberland River MM 157 to MM 159, Ashland City, TN.

(a) Regulated area. The regulations in this section apply to the following area:

all waters of the Cumberland River from MM 157.0 to 159.0.

(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 phone at 1-800-253-7465. Those in the regulated area must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP or the COTP’s designated representative.

(3) The COTP will provide notice of the regulated area through advanced notice via broadcast notice to mariners.

(d) Enforcement period. This section will be enforced on August 29, 2021, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Dated: August 5, 2021.

A.M.BEACH,

Captian, U.S. Coast Guard,

Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley

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