



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[Docket Number USCG-2026-0502]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulation; Marine Events Within the USCG East District

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary special local regulation for certain waters of Prospect Bay near Kent Island Narrows, Maryland. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on these navigable waters near Kent Island, MD, during a power boat racing event on June 6, 2026. In the event of inclement weather, the event will take place on June 7, 2026. This regulation prohibits persons and vessels from entering the regulated area unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector Maryland-National Capital Region or their designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 12:30 p.m. On June 6, 2026, through 3 p.m. on June 7, 2026. It will only be subject to enforcement, however, between 12:30 pm and 3 pm on one of those two days. Weather permitting, it will be subject to enforcement, on June 6, 2026. In the event of inclement weather, it will be subject to enforcement on June 7, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, contact LCDR Kate Newkirk, Sector Maryland-NCR, Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard: telephone 410-576-2596, or email MDNCRWaterways@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
COTP	Captain of the Port, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	<i>Federal Register</i>
NPRM	Notice of proposed rulemaking
§	Section
SLR	Special Local Regulation
U.S.C.	United States Code

II. Background and Authority

On April 09, 2026, the Coast Guard received a request under 33 CFR 100.15 from the Smith Island Crab Skiff Association for a Marine Event Permit to host Historic Smith Island crab skiff races. The event will be held from 1 p.m. through 2:30 p.m. on June 6, 2026, in and around Kent Island, MD. The power boat race will consist of three heats with approximately 7 22-foot-long boats in each race, competing on a designated, marked course.

The Captain of the Port, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region is issuing this Special Local Regulation (SLR) under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70041. The COTP has determined that potential hazards associated with the power boat race, such as the risk of collisions, would be a safety concern for anyone intending to participate in this event and for vessels that operate within the specified waters of Prospect Bay. The purpose of this rule is to protect event participants, non-participants, and transiting vessels before, during, and after the scheduled event.

As is authorized by 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 to publish an NPRM, consider and respond to comments, and publish a final rule within the time since we received the Marine Event Permit application on April 9, if we are to establish this SLR by June 6, 2026, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment.

For the same reasons, the Coast Guard finds that under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*.

III. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a temporary SLR which will be subject to enforcement from 12:30 p.m. through 3 p.m. on June 6, 2026. Alternatively, and in the event of inclement weather, the SLR will only be subject to enforcement from 12:30 p.m. through 3 p.m. on June 7. The SLR will cover certain waters of Prospect Bay near Kent Island Narrows, Maryland. The coordinates of these waters are provided in the rule text, at the end of this document. No vessel or person other than those that are registered with the event host as participants will be permitted to enter the regulated area without obtaining permission from the COTP or their designated representative.

IV. 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.

A. Impact on Small Entities

The regulatory flexibility analysis provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601-612, do not apply to rules that are not subject to notice and comment. Because the Coast Guard has, for good cause, waived the notice and comment requirement that would otherwise apply to this rulemaking, the Regulatory Flexibility Act's flexibility analysis provisions do not apply here.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-121), if this rule will affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Small businesses may send

comments to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards by calling 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.

B. 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).

C. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in that Order.

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.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

As required by The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538), the Coast Guard certifies that this rule will not result in an annual expenditure of \$100,000,000 or more (adjusted for inflation) by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector.

E. 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 et seq.), 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 is a special local regulation. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L61 of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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 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.T599-0502 to read as follows:

§ 100.T599-0502 Special Local Regulation; Prospect Bay, Kent Island Narrows, MD.

(a) *Location.* This special local regulation applies to the following regulated area:

(1) *Regulated area.* All waters of Prospect Bay, from surface to bottom, encompassed by a line connecting the following points beginning at 38° 57' 55.1580" N 76° 15' 8.1180" W, thence to 38° 58' 0.2700" N 76° 14' 57.2100" W, thence to 38° 57' 42.9420" N 76° 14' 44.7480" W, thence to 38° 57' 38.1480" N 76° 14' 57.2100" W and back to the beginning point. The race area and buffer zone are within the regulated area.

(2) *Race area.* This area is bounded by a line commencing at position 38° 57' 54.6840" N 76° 15' 5.7300" W, thence to 38° 57' 58.2780" N 76° 14' 57.9720" W, thence to 38° 57' 43.7100" N 76° 14' 48.8100" W, thence to 38° 57' 40.6320" N 76° 14' 57.1440" W, and back to the beginning point.

(3) *Buffer zone.* The buffer zone surrounds the entire race area and is bounded by a line commencing at position 38° 57' 55.1580" N 76° 15' 8.1180" W, thence to 38° 58' 0.2700" N 76° 14' 57.2100" W, thence to 38° 57' 42.9420" N 76° 14' 44.7480" W, thence to 38° 57' 38.1480" N 76° 14' 57.2100" W and back to the beginning point.

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section, *designated representative* means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Sector Maryland-National Capital Region (COTP) in the enforcement of the regulated area. *Participant* means all persons and vessels registered with the event sponsor as a participant in the race.

(c) *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 COTP or their designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP's representative on VHF-FM channel 16 or by telephone at (410) 576-2525. 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.

(d) *Enforcement periods.* This section will be enforced from 12:30 p.m. through 3 p.m. on June 6, 2026. Alternatively, and in the event of inclement weather, enforcement will occur from 12:30 p.m. through 3 p.m. on June 07, 2026.

Dated: May 8, 2026.

Patrick C. Burkett,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,
Captain of the Port Maryland-National Capital Region.