



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG-2026-1004]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone; Lake Michigan, Chicago, IL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for navigable waters within a small area of Monroe Harbor in Lake Michigan in Chicago, IL. This action is necessary to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards created by the Chicago Triathlon swim event. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Sector Lake Michigan or their designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 6 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. on August 23, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To view available documents go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for USCG-2026-1004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, call or email Lieutenant Kyle Goetz, Marine Safety Unit Chicago, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 630-986-2155, email D09-SMB-MSUChicago-WWM@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	<i>Federal Register</i>
NPRM	Notice of proposed rulemaking

II. Background and Authority

The Coast Guard received notification that the Chicago Triathlon will be taking place within a small area of Monroe Harbor on Lake Michigan in Chicago, IL. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Lake Michigan has determined that a safety zone is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters of Lake Michigan while this event is taking place. Therefore, the COTP Lake Michigan is issuing this rule under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034, which is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the safety zone.

Because of these potential hazards, the Coast Guard is issuing this rule without prior notice and comment. 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. The Coast Guard only recently received final details for the Chicago Triathlon swim event on July 23, 2026. It is impracticable to publish an NPRM because we must establish this safety zone by August 23, 2026.

For the same reason, 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 safety zone from 6 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. on August 23, 2026. The area will be bounded by the following points in Monroe Harbor in Lake Michigan in Chicago, IL, beginning at 41°52.787'N, 087°36.988'W, then east to 41°52.786'N, 087°36.962'W, then southeast to 41°52.594'N, 087°36.815'W, then south to 41°52.515'N, 087°36.816'W, then south to 41°52.135'N, 087°36.896'W, then west to 41°52.134'N, 087°36.974'W returning to the point of origin. No vessels or person will be

permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP Lake Michigan or a 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 safety zone. 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.

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 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05-1, 6.04-1, 6.04-6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.4.

2. Add § 165.T09-1004 to read as follows:

§ 165.T09-1004 Safety Zones; Lake Michigan, Chicago, IL.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a safety zone: All waters in Lake Michigan within a rectangle-shaped course in Monroe Harbor in Chicago, IL, bounded by the following points: beginning 41°52.787'N, 087°36.988'W, then east to 41°52.786'N, 087°36.962'W, then southeast to 41°52.594'N, 087°36.815'W, then south to 41°52.515'N, 087°36.816'W, then south to 41°52.135'N, 087°36.896'W, then west to 41°52.134'N, 087°36.974'W returning to the point of origin.

(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 (COTP) Lake Michigan in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) In accordance with the general regulations in § 165.23, entry into, transiting, or anchoring within this safety zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port (COTP) Lake Michigan or a designated representative.

(2) This safety zone is closed to all vessel traffic, except as may be permitted by the COTP Lake Michigan or a designated representative.

(d) *Enforcement Period.* The safety zone will be enforced from 6 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on August 23, 2026.

R. N. Macon,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard,

Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan.

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