Columbia River Datum 0.0 while the lift spans are in the closed-to-navigation position. The normal operating schedule for the I–5 Bridges is codified at 33 CFR 117.869. The subject bridges need not open to marine vessels during the deviation period from 9 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on July 4, 2017. The bridge shall operate in accordance with 33 CFR 117.869 at all other times. Waterway usage on this portion of the Columbia River includes vessels ranging from large commercial ships, tug and tow vessels to recreational pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass under the bridges in the closed-to-navigation positions may do so at any time. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies, and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridges must return to their regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: May 24, 2017

Steven M. Fischer
Bridge Administrator, Thirteenth Coast Guard District

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) owns the Fremont Bridge, and has requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule. The subject bridge crosses the Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA, at mile 2.6. The deviation is necessary to accommodate heavy pedestrian and cycling traffic across the bridge during the Northwest Tandem Rally cycling event. To facilitate this event, the double bascule draw of the bridge need not open for vessel traffic from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, July 2, 2017. The Fremont Bridge provides a vertical clearance of 14 feet (31 feet of vertical clearance for the center 36 horizontal feet) in the close-to-navigation position. The clearance is referenced to the mean water elevation of Lake Washington. The normal operating schedule for the Fremont Bridge is at 33 CFR 117.1051. Waterway usage on the Lake Washington Ship Canal ranges from commercial tug and barge to small pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed-to-navigation position may do so at any time. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies, and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.


Steven M. Fischer
Bridge Administrator, Thirteenth Coast Guard District