U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have made a preliminary determination 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 no-wake zone being enforced for no more than 6 hours along a prescribed route between the North Entry & Portage Lake Lift Bridge within the Keweenaw Waterway in Michigan. Normally such actions are categorically excluded from further review under paragraph 34(h) of Figure 2–1 of Commandant Instruction M16475.1D. A preliminary environmental analysis checklist and Categorical Exclusion Determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

G. Protest Activities
The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to contact 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

§ 100.170 Special Local Regulation; Breakers to Bridge Paddle Festival, Lake Superior, Keweenaw Waterway, MI.

(a) Location. All navigable waters of the Keweenaw Waterway beginning at the North Entry at position 47°14′03″ N., 088°37′53″ W.; and ending at the Portage Lake Lift Bridge at position 47°09′25″ N., 088°34′26″ W.

(b) Effective period. This annual event historically occurs within the first or second week of September. The Captain of the Port Duluth (COTP) will announce enforcement dates via Notice of Enforcement, Local Notice to Mariners, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, on-scene designated representatives, or other means of outreach.

(c) Regulations. Vessels transiting within the regulated area shall travel at a no-wake speed except as may be permitted by the COTP or a designated on-scene representative. Additionally, vessels shall yield right-of-way for event participants and event safety craft and shall follow directions given by event representatives during the event.

Dated: June 8, 2017.

E.E. Williams,
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Duluth.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this interim rule, call or email Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Howard Vacco, Waterways Management Division, Sector New Orleans, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone (504) 365–2281, email Howard.K.Vacco@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| DHS | Department of Homeland Security |
| LCDR | Lieutenant Commander |
| LNM | Local Notices to Mariners |
| LWRP | Low Water Reference Plane |
| MNSA | Maritime Navigation Safety Association |
| ANPRM | Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking |
| NPRM | Notice of Proposed Rulemaking |

II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard establishes anchorages under authority in 33 U.S.C. 471. As stated in title 33 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 109.05 (33 CFR 109.05), this authority has been delegated to U.S. Coast Guard District Commanders. On April 3, 2015, the Coast Guard published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) in the Federal Register (FR) (80 FR 18175) proposing to expand existing and establish new anchorages. An ANPRM is used to test a proposal or solicit ideas, involving interested persons in a potential regulatory action before issuing a formal rulemaking or a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). An agency is not required to publish an ANPRM but may choose to do so.

The Coast Guard is issuing this interim rule without the prior notice and opportunity to comment through the NPRM process, 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 through the NPRM process 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 NPRM with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. This rule will reduce vessel traffic congestion, and decrease the distance between anchorages during the most congested and demanding navigation period. This rule will also assist in maintaining safe navigation and movement of commerce during the high water and increased current...
conditions present now on the Lower Mississippi River. Delaying implementation of this rule would deny a safer working environment for all mariners utilizing the waterway. Soliciting and responding to comments on an NPRM would delay the margin of safety these new and additional anchorage areas have to offer both the mariners and the port until after the most congested and demanding time of the year—see additional details of hazards and risks in Purpose and Legal Basis section below. This interim rule follows an ANPRM requesting public participation and comments to better assess the need for additional anchorage areas. Comments to the ANPRM included support for additional anchorage areas in general, constructive suggestions, and a request to expand an additional anchorage. Zero comments opposed the new anchorage areas as proposed in the ANPRM. Additionally, the Coast Guard seeks to receive comment while this interim rule is in effect during the most congested and demanding time of the year.

For the same reasons, 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 to provide a full 30 days’ notice is impracticable. Immediate implementation is needed to provide a safer working environment for all mariners utilizing this waterway.

III. Purpose and Legal Basis

The Coast Guard received requests from the Crescent River Port Pilots’ Association and the New Orleans Baton Rouge River Pilots Association to amend an existing anchorage and establish two new anchorages. These requests were presented and discussed at a Maritime Navigation Safety Association (MNSA) meeting on August 12, 2014 and at a Port Safety Council Meeting on September 10, 2014. Attendees at those meetings did not comment on or object to the requests presented. The Coast Guard received a subsequent request, via a comment to the April 3, 2015 ANPRM, requesting expansion of an additional anchorage. The Coast Guard also observed that during grain season, typically occurring annually from December through May, the anchorages were at maximum capacity. This creates a hazardous condition as vessels experiencing a casualty had no safe anchorage to stop in and the closest safe anchorage for the vessel was further away than was prudent to transit with the casualty. Finally, due to high water conditions on the Lower Mississippi River, the Coast Guard received emergency requests from industry for additional anchorage area as these conditions are causing increased reliance on safe anchorage to manage transits during both high traffic season and high water. This rule will improve the overall safety of anchored vessels in the White Castle and Cedar Grove Anchorages and provide for two additional anchorage areas to address the increased waterway congestion and improve the overall safe and efficient flow of vessel traffic and commerce. The distance between the two upper anchorages in the Lower Mississippi River, White Castle Anchorage MM 190.4 and Baton Rouge General Anchorage MM 228.5 is so great that a vessel suffering a casualty between them would become a hazard to the waterway. Plaquemines Point Anchorage was created to help mitigate the risk by reducing the distance between safe anchorage for deep draft vessels in the reach between White Castle Anchorage and Baton Rouge General Anchorage. The addition of the Plaquemines Point Anchorage reduces the greatest distance between anchorages at this stretch from 38.1 miles to 24.1 miles.

The legal basis and authorities for this rule are found in 33 U.S.C. 471, 1221 through 1236, 2071; 33 CFR 1.05–1, Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1, which collectively authorize the Coast Guard to propose, establish, and define regulatory anchorages. Through this rulemaking, the Coast Guard is amending two existing anchorage grounds; Cedar Grove Anchorage, 33 CFR 110.195(a)(12) and White Castle Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(29), and is establishing two new permanent anchorage grounds; Point Michel Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(35), and Plaquemines Point Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(36).

The Coast Guard has consulted with the Chief of Engineers, Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District about the specific provisions of this interim rule and the Chief of Engineers has recommended to us that the specific provisions of this interim rule are supported by the Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District.

The Coast Guard considered transitioning the anchorage geographic boundaries from Low Water Reference Plane (LWRP) and River Mile Markers (MM) to latitude and longitude coordinates while developing the ANPRM and found it would not add to the mariners’ experience or clarity of the anchorage locations. Due to the ever-changing nature of the Lower Mississippi River, using LWRP as a reference for the anchorage boundaries will allow an anchorage to move with the river in the event that it shifts in vicinity of the anchorage. Using latitude and longitude could require the Coast Guard to amend the anchorage definition every time the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers adjusts the LWRP based on hydrographic survey data.

Therefore, through this interim rule with request for comments, the Coast Guard is establishing two new anchorages and increasing the size of two established anchorages. The two new anchorages are known as the Point Michel Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(35), and the Plaquemines Point Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(36). The two anchorages increased in size are the Cedar Grove Anchorage, § 110.195(a)(12), and the
White Castle Anchorage, \S 110.195(a)(29).

By increasing existing anchorages and establishing new anchorages, this interim rule increases the available anchorage areas in this section of the river necessary to accommodate vessel traffic; improves navigation safety, providing for the overall safe and efficient flow of vessel traffic and commerce; and aids and assists the economy through increased anchorage capacity, streamlining vessel throughput and increasing ship to port interactions. The additional anchorage area established by this interim rule and request for comments increases the safety of life and property on navigable waters, while ensuring that the needs and concerns of all stakeholders are addressed through the rulemaking comment process before making the new and increased anchorages permanent through a final rulemaking.

A. Point Michel Anchorage

The Coast Guard is establishing Point Michel Anchorage as an area, 1.4-miles long and 500-feet wide along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 40.8 to mile 42.2 Above Head of Passes. Its inner boundary is a line parallel to the nearest bank 325 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. Its outer boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 825 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP.

B. Cedar Grove Anchorage

Currently the Cedar Grove Anchorage, under \S 110.195(a)(12), is an area extending 1.2 miles in length along the right descending bank of the river from mile 69.9 to mile 71.1 Above Head of Passes. The current width of the anchorage is 500 feet, and the inner boundary is a line parallel to the nearest bank 200 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. The Coast Guard is amending the Cedar Grove Anchorage to increase the anchorage’s overall length by fourteen hundredths of a mile, shifting the lower limit down river from mile 190.4 to mile 190.3 and shifting the upper limit up river from mile 190.1 to mile 191.14.

D. Plaquemines Point Anchorage

The Coast Guard is establishing Plaquemines Point Anchorage as an area, 0.5 miles in length along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 203.9 to mile 204.4 Above Head of Passes. The anchorage is 500 feet wide and its inner boundary is a line parallel to the nearest bank 400 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. Its outer boundary is a line parallel to the nearest bank 900 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. We have placed illustrations of each of the four anchorages as amended or established by this rule in the docket, accessible as indicated under ADDRESSES.

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.

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. Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This rule has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order12866. Accordingly, the rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

The impacts on routine navigation are expected to be minimal because the anchorage areas are established outside of the navigation channel and will not unnecessarily restrict vessel traffic. When the anchorages are not occupied, vessels will be able to maneuver in and through the anchorage areas, and when occupied there is still room for two-way deep draft traffic to pass.

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.

This rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons. This rule is amending two existing anchorage grounds and establishing two new anchorage grounds on a portion of the Lower Mississippi River. The new anchorages are being established and managed like all existing anchorages on the Lower Mississippi River. These anchorages are in the Federal Channel, a safe distance from shore, off revetment, in safe water, do not conflict with any other permit and do not impede safe navigation.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this rule will have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (see ADDRESSES) explaining why you think it qualifies and how and to what degree this rule would economically affect it.

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 contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section. 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 will 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. If you believe this rule has implications for federalism or Indian tribes, please contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above.

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 Management Directive 023–01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.ID, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have made a determination 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 amending two existing anchorage grounds and establishing two new anchorage grounds on a portion of the Lower Mississippi River. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph 34(f) of Figure 2–1 of Commandant Instruction M16475.ID. An environmental analysis checklist supporting this determination and a Categorical Exclusion Determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES. We seek any comments or information that may lead to the discovery of a significant environmental impact from this rule.

VI. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We view public participation as essential to effective rulemaking, and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the outcome of this rulemaking. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov. If your material cannot be submitted using http://www.regulations.gov, contact the person in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document for alternate instructions. Documents mentioned in this interim rule, and all public comments, are in our online docket at http://www.regulations.gov and can be viewed by following that Web site’s instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted or a final rule is published.

We accept anonymous comments. All comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov and will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and the docket, you may review a Privacy Act notice regarding the Federal Docket Management System in the March 24, 2005, issue of the Federal Register (70 FR 15086).

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 110

Anchorage grounds.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 110 as follows:

PART 110—ANCHORAGE REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 110 continues to read as follows:


2. In § 110.195, revise paragraphs (a)(12) and (29) and add paragraphs (a)(35) and (36) to read as follows:

§ 110.195 Mississippi River below Baton Rouge, LA, including South and Southwest Passes.

(a) * * * *(12) Cedar Grove Anchorage. An area, 1.34 miles in length along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 69.56 to mile 70.9 Above Head of Passes. The width of the anchorage is 500 feet. The inner boundary of the anchorage, mile 69.56 to mile 70.9, is a line parallel to the nearest bank 200 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. The outer boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 700 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP.

* * * * *

(29) White Castle Anchorage. An area, 0.84 miles in length, along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 190.3 to mile 191.14 Above Head of Passes. The width of the anchorage is 300 feet. The inner boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 400 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. The outer boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 700 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP.

* * * * *

(35) Point Michel Anchorage. An area, 1.4 miles in length, along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 40.8 to mile 42.2 Above Head of Passes. The width of the anchorage is 500 feet. The inner boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 325 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. The outer boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 825 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP.

* * * * *

(36) Plaquemines Point Anchorage. An area, 0.5 miles in length, along the right descending bank of the river extending from mile 203.9 to mile 204.4 Above Head of Passes. The width of the anchorage is 500 feet. The inner boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 400 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP. The outer boundary of the anchorage is a line parallel to the nearest bank 900 feet from the water’s edge into the river as measured from the LWRP.

* * * * *
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard
33 CFR Part 165
[Docket No. USCG–2017–0378]
Safety Zone; Annual Firework Events on the Colorado River, Between Davis Dam (Bullhead City, Arizona) and Headgate Dam (Parker, Arizona) Within the San Diego Captain of the Port Zone
AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.
ACTION: Notice of enforcement of regulation.
SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will enforce the safety zone for the Avi Resort and Casino Labor Day Fireworks on the Colorado River in Laughlin, Nevada on Sunday, September 3, 2017. This safety zone is necessary to provide for the safety of the participants, spectators, official vessels of the event, and general users of the waterway. Our regulation for annual fireworks events on the Colorado River within the San Diego Captain of the Port Zone identifies the regulated area for this event. During the enforcement period, no spectators shall anchor, block, loiter in, or impede the transit of official patrol vessels in the regulated area without the approval of the Captain of the Port, or his designated representative.
DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 165.1124 will be enforced from 8:30 p.m. through 10 p.m. on September 3, 2017, for Item 4 in Table 1 of § 165.1124.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this publication, call or email Lieutenant Robert Cole, Waterways Management, U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Diego, CA; telephone 619–278–7656, email D11MarineEventsSD@uscg.mil.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard will enforce the regulations in 33 CFR 165.1124 for a safety zone on the Colorado River in Laughlin, Nevada for the Avi Resort and Casino Labor Day Fireworks in 33 CFR 165.1124, Table 1, Item 4 of that section from 8 p.m. through 10 p.m. on September 3, 2017. This enforcement action is being taken to provide for the safety of life on the navigable waters during the fireworks event. Our regulation for annual fireworks events on the Colorado River within the San Diego Captain of the Port Zone identifies the regulated area for this event. Under the provisions of 33 CFR 165.1124, a vessel may not enter the regulated area, unless it receives permission from the Captain of the Port, or his designated representative. Spectator vessels may safely transit outside the regulated area but may not anchor, block, loiter, or impede the transit of participants or official patrol vessels. The Coast Guard may be assisted by other Federal, State, or Local law enforcement agencies in enforcing this regulation.
This document is issued under authority of 33 CFR 165.1124 and 5 U.S.C. 552 (a). In addition to this document, the Coast Guard will provide the maritime community with advance notification of this enforcement period via the Local Notice to Mariners and local advertising by the event sponsor.
If the Captain of the Port or his designated representative determines that the regulated area need not be enforced for the full duration stated on this document, he or she may use a Broadcast Notice to Mariners or other communications coordinated with the event sponsor to grant general permission to enter the regulated area.
Dated: May 24, 2017.
J.R. Buzzella,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port San Diego.
FR Doc. 2017–12321 Filed 6–13–17; 8:45 am
BILLING CODE 9110–04–P
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard
33 CFR Part 165
[Docket Number USCG–2017–0357]
Safety Zone; Potomac River, Newburg, MD
AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.
ACTION: Temporary final rule.
SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for certain waters of the Potomac River. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on the navigable waters during a fireworks display in Charles County near Newburg, MD on June 17, 2017. This action will prohibit persons and vessels from entering the safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Maryland-National Capital Region or a designated representative.
DATES: This rule is effective from 8:30 p.m. on June 17, 2017, until 10 p.m. on June 24, 2017.
ADDRESSES: To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov, type USCG–2017–0357 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 about this rulemaking, call or email Mr. Ronald Houck, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 410–576–2674, email Ronald.L.Houck@uscg.mil.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Table of Abbreviations
CFR Code of Federal Regulations
COTP Captain of the Port
DHS Department of Homeland Security
FR Federal Register
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
§ Section
II. Background Information and Regulatory History
On April 11, 2017, Gilligan’s Pier of Newburg, MD, notified the Coast Guard that it will conduct a fireworks display starting at 9 p.m. on June 17, 2017. The fireworks display will be launched from a barge located on the Potomac River, in Charles County near Newburg, MD. In the event of inclement weather, the fireworks display will be rescheduled for June 24, 2017. On May 5, 2017 the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) titled “Safety Zone; Potomac River, Newburg, MD” (82 FR 21153). There we stated why we issued the NPRM, and invited comments on our proposed regulatory action related to this fireworks display. During the comment period that ended June 5, 2017, we received no comments.
We are issuing this rule, and under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making it 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 respond to the potential safety hazards associated with a fireworks display from a barge on navigable waters.
III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule
The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under authority in 33 U.S.C. 1231. The COTP has determined that potential