

January 26, 2006



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

DOT-SP 11503
(FIFTH REVISION)

EXPIRATION DATE: December 31, 2009

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR § 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: The American Waterways Operators member companies identified below that operate in the Puget Sound and Alaska:

Alaska Marine Lines
Alaska Railbelt Marine
Alaska Outport Transportation Company
Boyer Towing Inc
Crowley Marine Services, Inc.
Foss Maritime Company
Jore Marine Services, Inc.
Northland Services, Inc.
Samson Tug & Barge
Western Towboat

2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATION: This special permit authorizes the transportation in commerce of certain closed freight containers on unmanned deck barges without the need to segregate the freight containers in accordance with the provisions of § 176.83(f). This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) other than as specifically stated herein.
3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180.

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4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR § 176.83(f) in that the requirement to segregate a freight container from other freight containers when the freight container contains less than 454 kg (1,001 pounds) of hazardous materials covered by Table 2 of § 172.504 is waived.
5. BASIS: This special permit is based on the application of The American Waterways Operators Pacific Regional Office dated January 25, 2006, submitted in accordance with § 107.109 and additional information dated January 26, 2006.
6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR § 172.101):

Proper Shipping Name/ Hazardous Materials Description	Hazard Class/ Division	Identi- fication number	Packing Group
Hazardous materials classed in the following Divisions or Classes: 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 3, Combustible liquid, n.o.s., 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 6.1(PG I or II, other than PG I inhalation hazard), 6.1(PG I), 6.2, 8, 9, ORM-D	As Appropriate	As Appropriate	As Appropriate

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:
- a. PACKAGING - The outside of a freight container which is being transported by unmanned deck cargo barge under the terms of this special permit must be plainly and durably marked "DOT-SP 11503" adjacent to each placard which is required to be affixed to the container.
- b. Only freight containers that meet the definition of "closed freight container" in § 176.2 may be used under the terms of this special permit.

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8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

a. Freight containers permanently marked 'DOT-E 11503', prior to October 1, 2007 may continue to be used under this special permit until the special permit is no longer valid. Freight containers marked on or after October 1, 2007 must be marked 'DOT-SP 11503'.

b. Shipping papers displaying 'DOT-E 11503' may continue to be used until October 1, 2007, provided the special permit remains valid.

9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Cargo Vessel
(Unmanned deck cargo barge only).

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS:

a. A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each tug or towing vessel used to transport by barge the packages covered by this special permit.

b. The shipments authorized under this special permit may be transported only on unmanned deck cargo barges operated in and between waters of the Puget Sound in the State of Washington and the waters of Alaska.

11. COMPLIANCE: Failure by a person to comply with any of the following may result in suspension or revocation of this special permit and penalties prescribed by the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq:

- o All terms and conditions prescribed in this special permit and the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 171-180.
- o Persons operating under the terms of this special permit must comply with the security plan requirement in Subpart I of Part 172 of the HMR, when applicable.
- o Registration required by § 107.601 et seq., when applicable.

Each "Hazmat employee", as defined in § 171.8 who performs a function subject of this special permit must receive training on the requirements and conditions of this special permit in addition to the training required by §§ 172.700 through 172.704.

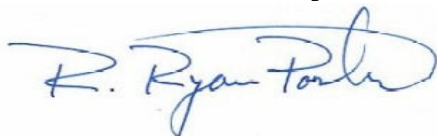
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No person may use or apply this special permit, including display of its number, when the special permit has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.

Under Title VII of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)- 'The Hazardous Materials Safety and Security Reauthorization Act of 2005' (Pub. L. 109-59), 119 Stat. 1144 (August 10, 2005), amended the Federal hazardous materials transportation law by changing the term 'exemption' to 'special permit' and authorizes a special permit to be granted up to two years for new special permits and up to four years for renewals.

12. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Shipments or operations conducted under this special permit are subject to the Hazardous Materials Incident Reporting requirements specified in 49 CFR §§ 171.15 - Immediate notice of certain hazardous materials incidents, and 171.16 - Detailed hazardous materials incident reports. In addition, the grantee(s) of this special permit must notify the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, in writing, of any incident involving a package, shipment or operation conducted under terms of this special permit.

Issued in Washington, D.C.:



for Robert A. McGuire
Associate Administrator for
Hazardous Materials Safety

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. Attention: PHH-31.

Copies of this special permit may be obtained by accessing the Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at http://hazmat.dot.gov/sp_app/special_permits/spec_perm_index.htm Photo reproductions and legible reductions of this special permit are permitted. Any alteration of this special permit is prohibited.

PO: sln