

a temporary deviation from the drawbridge operation regulations to facilitate the completion of painting operations at the bridge. The bridge must remain in the closed position to perform this work.

The Coast Guard previously issued a 30 day temporary deviation effective from April 1, 2003, through April 30, 2003, to facilitate painting operations at this bridge. Inclement weather conditions during the effective period of the first temporary deviation have resulted in a second request from the bridge owner for an additional 15 days to complete painting operations at the bridge.

The Coast Guard coordinated this second closure with the mariners who normally use this waterway to help facilitate this necessary bridge maintenance and to minimize any disruption to the marine transportation system.

Under this temporary deviation the Wantagh State Parkway Bridge will remain in the closed position from 6 a.m. on May 1, 2003, through 4 p.m. on May 15, 2003.

This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35, and will be performed with all due speed in order to return the bridge to normal operation as soon as possible.

Dated: April 29, 2003.

John L. Grenier,

*Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting
Commander, First Coast Guard District.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD08-03-020]

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Lower Grand River (Alternate Route), Grosse Tete, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the Grosse Tete Swing Span Highway Bridge across Lower Grand River (Alternate Route), mile 47.0, at Grosse Tete, Iberville Parish, LA. This deviation allows the bridge to remain closed to navigation from May 20, 2003, through May 22, 2003. The deviation is necessary to

conduct scheduled maintenance to the drawbridge.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 6:30 a.m. on May 20, 2003, through 8:30 p.m. on May 22, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Materials referred to in this document are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Hale Boggs Federal Building, room 1313, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3396 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (504) 589-2965. The Bridge Administration Branch of the Eighth Coast Guard District maintains the public docket for this temporary deviation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kay Wade, Bridge Administration Branch, telephone (504) 589-2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development has requested a temporary deviation in order to remove and replace the swing cylinders of the swing span bridge across Lower Grand River (Alternate Route) at mile 47.0 at Grosse Tete, Iberville Parish, Louisiana. This maintenance is essential for the continued safe operation of the bridge. This temporary deviation will allow the bridge to remain in the closed-to-navigation position from 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2003, through 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2003.

The swing span bridge has a vertical clearance of 2.5 feet above mean high water, elevation 9.0 feet Mean Sea Level and 11.5 feet above mean low water, elevation 0.0 Mean Sea Level in the closed-to-navigation position.

Navigation at the site of the bridge consists mainly of tows with barges and some recreational craft. There are no commercial fishermen that transit the waterway at the bridge site. Due to prior experience, as well as coordination with water way users, it has been determined that this three day closure will not have a significant effect on these vessels. The bridge normally opens to pass navigation an average of 490 times per month. In accordance with 33 CFR 117.478, the draw of the LA 77 bridge, mile 47.0 (Alternate Route) at Grosse Tete, shall open on signal; except that, from about August 15 to about June 5 (the school year), the draw need not be opened from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. The draw shall open on signal at any time for an emergency aboard a vessel. The bridge will not be able to open for emergencies during the closure period. Alternate routes are available. Mariners

may transit the area via the Mississippi River through the Harvey Canal lock or via the Atchafalaya River through the Old River lock.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(c), this work will be performed with all due speed in order to return the bridge to normal operation as soon as possible. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: April 28, 2003.

Marcus Redford,

Bridge Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[COTP Port Arthur 03-002]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zones; Port Neches Riverfest, Neches River, Port Neches, TX

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing temporary safety zones for all waters of the Neches River adjacent to Port Neches Park in Port Neches, TX. These safety zones are necessary to protect spectators and vessels from the potential safety hazards associated with boat races and a fireworks display that are part of the Port Neches Chamber of Commerce Riverfest. Entry into these zones by anyone other than event participants is prohibited, unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Port Arthur or a designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 1 p.m. on May 10, 2003, until 6 p.m. on May 11, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket (COTP Port Arthur-03-003) and are available for inspection or copying at Marine Safety Office Port Arthur, 2875 Jimmy Johnson Blvd., Port Arthur, TX 77640 between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) Bryan Markland, Waterways Management Branch, Marine Safety Office Port Arthur at (409) 723-6500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: