

§ 13.1172

§ 13.1172 When general operating restrictions do not apply.

Section 13.1170 does not apply to a vessel being used in connection with federally permitted whale research or monitoring; other closures and restrictions in "Vessel Operating Restrictions," §§ 13.1170 through 13.1180, do not apply to authorized persons conducting emergency or law enforcement operations, research or resource management, park administration/supply, or other necessary patrols.

§ 13.1174 Whale water restrictions.

(a) May 15 through September 30, the following waters are designated as whale waters.

(1) Waters north of a line drawn from Point Carolus to Point Gustavus; and south of a line drawn from the northernmost point of Lars Island across the northernmost point of Strawberry Island to the point where it intersects the line that defines the Beardslee Island group, as described in § 13.1180(a)(4), and following that line south and west to the Bartlett Cove shore (so as to include the Beardslee Entrance and Bartlett Cove); and

(2) Other waters designated by the superintendent as temporary whale waters.

(b) The public will be notified of other waters designated as temporary whale waters in accordance with § 1.7 of this chapter.

(c) Violation of a whale water restriction is prohibited. The following restrictions apply in whale waters unless otherwise provided by the superintendent in the designation:

(1) Operating a motor vessel less than one nautical mile from shore (where the width of the water permits), or in narrower areas navigating outside of mid-channel is prohibited. This restriction does not apply to motor vessels less than 18 feet in length, or vessels actively engaged in fishing activities or operating solely under sail.

(2) Unless other restrictions apply, operators may perpendicularly approach or land on shore (*i.e.*, by the most direct line to shore) through designated whale waters, but they may not transit along the shore.

(3) Operators must follow motor vessel speed limits in § 13.1176(a).

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§ 13.1176 Speed restrictions.

(a) From May 15 through September 30, in designated whale waters the following are prohibited:

(1) Operating a motor vessel at more than 20 knots speed through the water; or

(2) Operating a motor vessel at more than 13 knots speed through the water, when the superintendent has designated a maximum speed of 13 knots, or at a maximum speed designated by the superintendent based on NOAA guidelines or new scientific information.

(b) From July 1 through August 31, operating a motor vessel on Johns Hopkins Inlet waters south of 58°54.2' N latitude (a line running due west from Jaw Point) at more than 10 knots speed through the water is prohibited.

§ 13.1178 Closed waters, islands and other areas.

The following are prohibited:

(a) Operating a vessel or otherwise approaching within 100 yards of South Marble Island; or Flapjack Island; or any of the three small unnamed islets approximately one nautical mile southeast of Flapjack Island; or Eider Island; or Boulder Island; or Geikie Rock; or Lone Island; or the northern three-fourths of Leland Island (north of 58°39.1' N latitude); or any of the four small unnamed islands located approximately one nautical mile north (one island), and 1.5 nautical miles east (three islands) of the easternmost point of Russell Island; or Graves Rocks (on the outer coast); or Cormorant Rock, or any adjacent rock, including all of the near-shore rocks located along the outer coast, for a distance of 1½ nautical miles, southeast from the mouth of Lituya Bay; or the surf line along the outer coast, for a distance of 1½ nautical miles northwest of the mouth of the glacial river at Cape Fairweather.

(b) Operating a vessel or otherwise approaching within 100 yards of a Steller (northern) sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*) hauled-out on land or a rock or a nesting seabird colony: *Provided, however*, that vessels may approach within 50 yards of that part of South Marble Island lying south of 58°38.6' N latitude (approximately the southern one-half