U.S. AIDS TO NAVIGATION SYSTEM
on navigable waters except Western Rivers

LATERAL SYSTEM AS SEEN ENTERING FROM SEAWARD

PORT SIDE
ODD NUMBERED AIDS

GREEN LIGHT ONLY

FLASHING (2)
FLASHING
OCCULTING
QUICK FLASHING
ISO

1
"1"
Fl G 6s
LIGHT

9
G "9"
Fl G 4s
LIGHTED BUOY

9
G
C "9"
CAN

5
G
"5"
DAYBEACON

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS - MAY BE LETTERED

PREFERRED
CHANNEL TO
STARBOARD
TOPMOST BAND
GREEN

GREEN LIGHT ONLY

COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

A
GR "A"
Fl (2+1) G 6s

U
GR "U"

S
GR
C "S"
CAN

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS - MAY BE LETTERED

PREFERRED
CHANNEL TO
PORT
TOPMOST BAND
RED

RED LIGHT ONLY

COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

B
RG "B"
Fl (2+1) R 6s

C
RG
N "C"
NUN

G
RG
"G"

STARBOARD SIDE
EVEN NUMBERED AIDS

RED LIGHT ONLY

FLASHING (2)
FLASHING
OCCULTING
QUICK FLASHING
ISO

2
"2"
Fl R 6s
LIGHT

8
R "8"
Fl R 4s
LIGHTED BUOY

6
R
N "6"
NUN

2
R
"2"
DAYBEACON

AIDS TO NAVIGATION HAVING NO LATERAL SIGNIFICANCE

ISOLATED DANGER
NO NUMBERS - MAY BE LETTERED

WHITE LIGHT ONLY

Fl (2) 5s

A
BR "A"
Fl (2) 5s
LIGHTED

C
BR "C"
UNLIGHTED

SAFE WATER
NO NUMBERS - MAY BE LETTERED

WHITE LIGHT ONLY   MORSE CODE

Mo (A)

N
RW "N"
Mo (A)
LIGHTED
AND/OR SOUND

A
RW
"A"
MR

B
RW
SP "B"
SPHERICAL

N
RW "N"
UNLIGHTED
AND/OR SOUND

RANGE DAYBOARDS–MAY BE LETTERED

KGW	KWG	KWB	KBW	KWR	KRW	KRB	KBR	KGB	KBG	KGR	KRG

DAYBOARDS - MAY BE LETTERED

WHITE LIGHT ONLY

NR
RW
Bn

NG
A
GW
Bn

NB
M
BW
Bn

SPECIAL MARKS - MAY BE LETTERED

YELLOW   LIGHT ONLY
FIXED
FLASHING

A
Y
C "A"

C
Y
N "C"
UNLIGHTED

A
Y "A"
Bn

B
Y "B"
Fl
LIGHTED

SHAPE OPTIONAL--BUT SELECTED TO BE APPROPRIATE
FOR THE POSITION OF THE MARK IN RELATION TO THE
NAVIGABLE WATERWAY AND THE DIRECTION
OF BUOYAGE.

Aids to Navigation marking the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) display unique yellow symbols to distinguish them from aids marking other waters. Yellow triangles △ indicate aids should be passed by keeping them on the starboard (right) hand of the vessel. Yellow squares ☐ indicate aids should be passed by keeping them on the port (left) hand of the vessel. A yellow horizontal band ☐ provides no lateral information, but simply identifies aids as marking the ICW.

TYPICAL INFORMATION AND REGULATORY MARKS

INFORMATION AND REGULATORY MARKERS

WHEN LIGHTED, INFORMATION AND REGULATORY
MARKS MAY DISPLAY ANY WHITE LIGHT RHYTHM
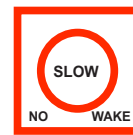EXCEPT QUICK FLASHING, Mo(A), AND FLASHING (2)

W
Bn

NW
DANGER

MOORING
BUOY
WHITE WITH BLUE BAND

MAY SHOW WHITE
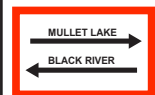REFLECTOR OR LIGHT

SWIM   AREA
BOAT
EXCLUSION
AREA
EXPLANATION MAY BE PLACED
OUTSIDE THE CROSSED DIAMOND
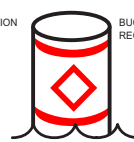SHAPE, SUCH AS DAM, RAPIDS,
SWIM AREA, ETC.

ROCK
DANGER
THE NATURE OF DANGER MAY
BE INDICATED INSIDE THE
DIAMOND SHAPE, SUCH AS ROCK,
WRECK, SHOAL, DAM, ETC.

SLOW
NO   WAKE
CONTROLLED
AREA
TYPE OF CONTROL IS INDICATED
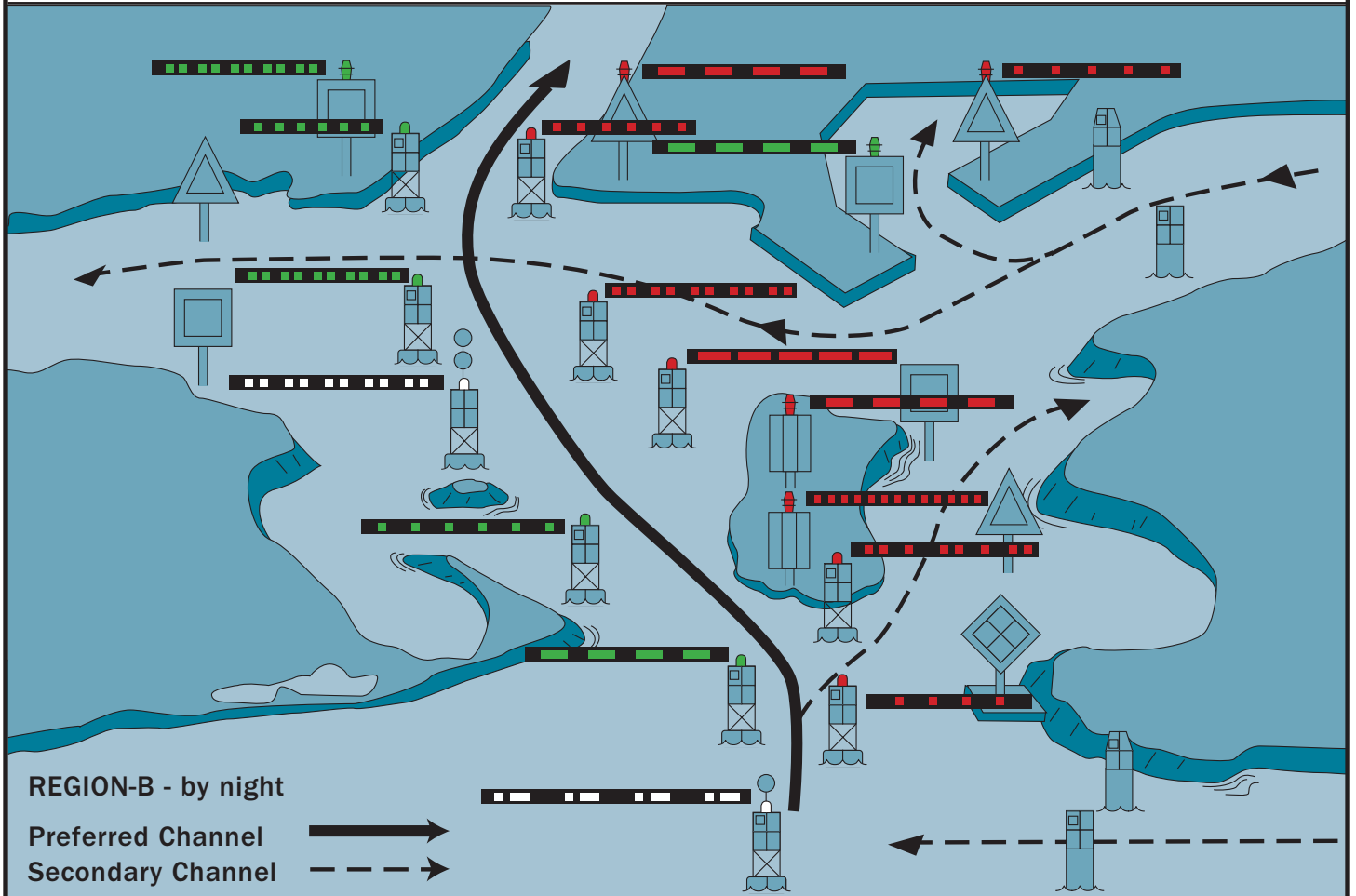IN THE CIRCLE, SUCH AS SLOW,
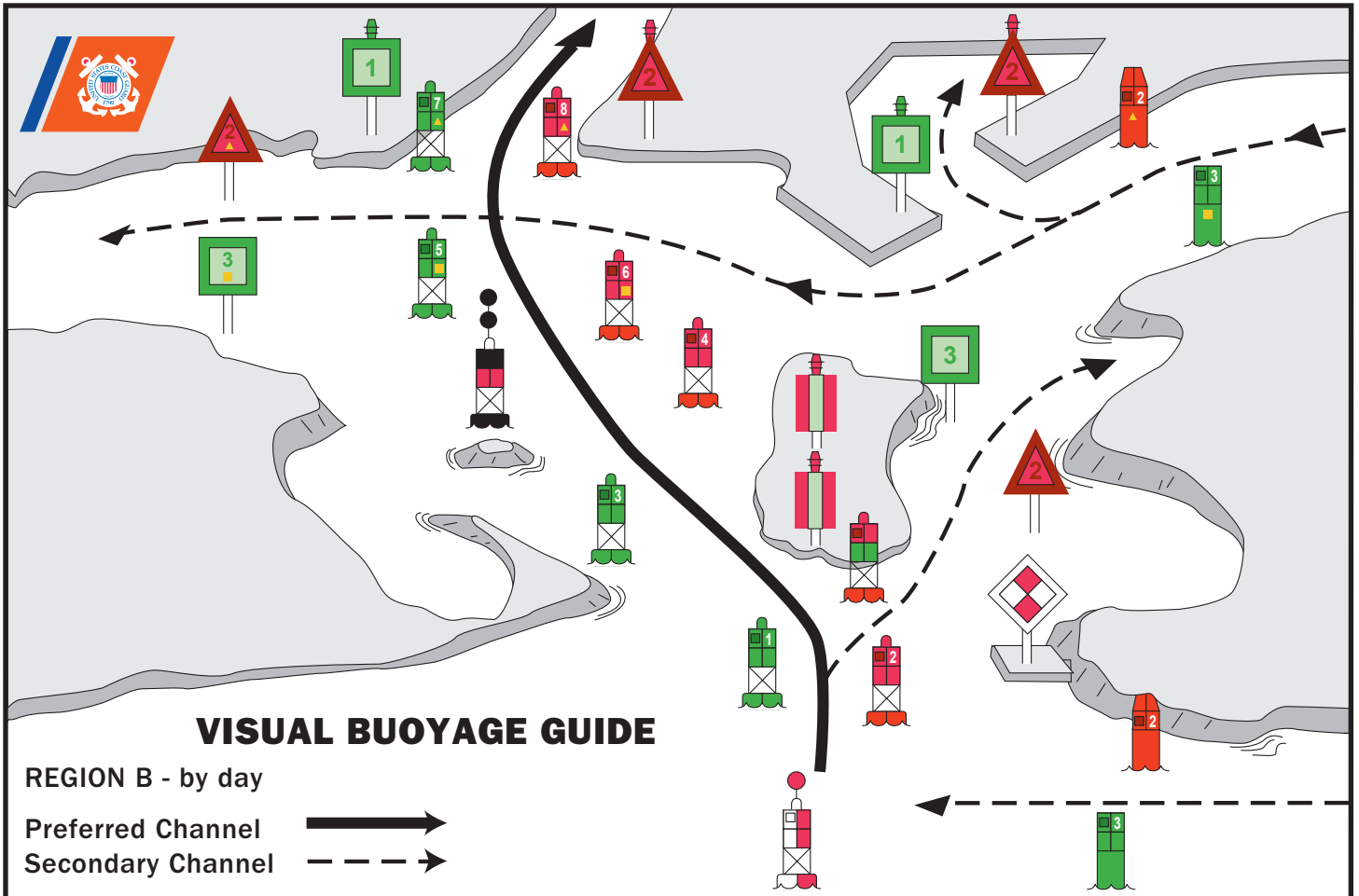NO WAKE, ANCHORING, ETC.

MULLET LAKE
BLACK RIVER
FOR DISPLAYING INFORMATION
SUCH AS DIRECTIONS, DISTANCES,
LOCATIONS, ETC.

INFORMATION

BUOY USED TO DISPLAY
REGULATORY MARKERS

5
MPH
MAY SHOW WHITE LIGHT
MAY BE LETTERED

PLATE 1

VISUAL BUOYAGE GUIDE

REGION B - by day

Preferred Channel ⟶

Secondary Channel ⤏

REGION-B - by night

Preferred Channel ⟶

Secondary Channel ⤏

FICTITIOUS NAUTICAL CHART

"1"
Fl (2) G 6s

"2"
Iso R 6s

"2"
Fl R 4s

R
N "2"

G "7"
Fl G 4s

R "8"
Fl R 4s

"1"
Iso G 4s

G
C "3"

R "2"   INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

G "5"
Fl (2) G 6s

R "6"
Fl (2) R 6s

G "3"

R "4"
Oc R 6s

Iso R 6s

BR
Fl (2) 5s

G "3"

R "2"

G "3"
Fl G 6s

QR

RG
Fl (2+1) R 6s

RW
Bn

G "1"
Iso G 4s

R "2"
Fl R 6s

R
N "2"

RW
Mo (A)

G
C "3"

PLATE 3

U.S. AIDS TO NAVIGATION SYSTEM
on the Western River System

AS SEEN ENTERING FROM SEAWARD

PORT SIDE
OR RIGHT DESCENDING BANK

GREEN OR ☐ WHITE LIGHTS

FLASHING
ISO

LIGHT   LIGHTED BUOY   CAN

CNG

SG

PASSING DAYBEACON   CROSSING DAYBEACON

176.9
MILE BOARD

PREFERRED CHANNEL
MARK JUNCTIONS AND OBSTRUCTIONS
COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

PREFERRED CHANNEL
TO STARBOARD
TOPMOST BAND GREEN
Fl (2+1) G

PREFERRED CHANNEL
TO PORT
TOPMOST BAND RED
Fl (2+1) R

JG

JR

DAYBOARDS HAVING NO LATERAL SIGNIFICANCE

MAY BE LETTERED   ☐ WHITE LIGHT ONLY

NB

A

STARBOARD SIDE
OR LEFT DESCENDING BANK

RED OR ☐ WHITE LIGHTS

FLASHING (2)
ISO

LIGHT   LIGHTED BUOY   NUN

MAY BE LIGHTED
TR

CNR

PASSING DAYBEACON   CROSSING DAYBEACON

123.5
MILE BOARD

SPECIAL MARKS--MAY BE LETTERED

A

C

NY
A

B

SHAPE: OPTIONAL--BUT SELECTED TO BE APPROPRIATE
FOR THE POSITION OF THE MARK IN RELATION TO THE
NAVIGABLE WATERWAY AND THE DIRECTION
OF BUOYAGE.

☐ YELLOW LIGHT ONLY
FIXED
FLASHING

UNLIGHTED   LIGHTED

MOORING
BUOY
WHITE WITH BLUE BAND

MAY SHOW WHITE
REFLECTOR OR LIGHT

TYPICAL INFORMATION AND REGULATORY MARKS
INFORMATION AND REGULATORY MARKERS

WHEN LIGHTED, INFORMATION AND REGULATORY MARKS
MAY DISPLAY ANY LIGHT RHYTHM EXCEPT QUICK FLASHING, Mo(a)
AND FLASHING (2)

NW ☐ WHITE LIGHT ONLY

DANGER

BOAT
EXCLUSION
AREA

SWIM   AREA

EXPLAINATION MAY BE PLACED
OUTSIDE THE CROSSED DIAMOND
SHAPE, SUCH AS DAM, RAPIDS,
SWIM AREA, ETC.

DANGER

ROCK

THE NATURE OF DANGER MAY
BE INDICATED INSIDE THE
DIAMOND SHAPE, SUCH AS ROCK,
WRECK, SHOAL, DAM, ETC.

CONTROLLED
AREA

SLOW

NO   W AKE

TYPE OF CONTROL IS INDICATED
IN THE CIRCLE, SUCH AS SLOW,
NO WAKE, ANCHORING, ETC.

MULLET LAKE
BLACK RIVER

INFORMATION

FOR DISPLAYING INFORMATION
SUCH AS DIRECTIONS, DISTANCES,
LOCATIONS, ETC.

BUOY USED TO DISPLAY
REGULATORY MARKERS

5
MPH
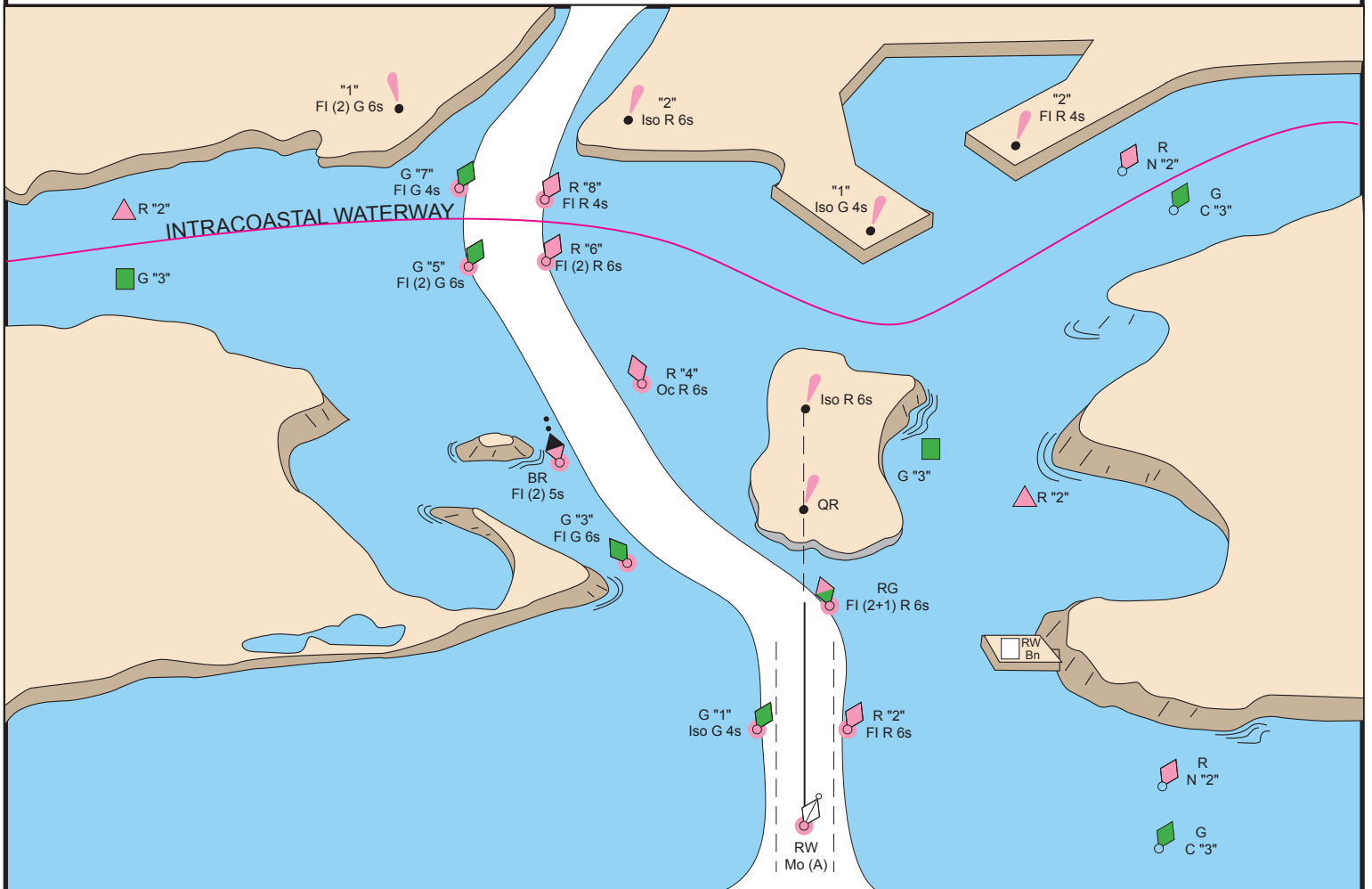
MAY SHOW WHITE LIGHT
MAY BE LETTERED

STATE WATERS

3

2

INLAND (STATE) WATERS OBSTRUCTION MARK
MAY SHOW WHITE
REFLECTOR OR QUICK FLASHING WHITE LIGHT

BLACK-STRIPED
WHITE BUOY

Used to indicate an obstruction to navigation,
extends from the nearest shore to the buoy. This
means "do not pass between the buoy and the
nearest shore." This aid is replacing the red and
white striped buoy within the USWMS, but cannot
be used until all red and white striped buoys on a
waterway have been replaced.

PLATE 4