



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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MSIB Number: 22-003
Date: April 1, 2022
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Port Access Route Study: Approaches to Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts

This bulletin addresses the notice of study for the Approaches to Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts Port Access Route Study.

1. The Coast Guard has commenced an Approaches to Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts Port Access Route Study (MNMPARS). The purpose of this study will be to evaluate the adequacy of existing vessel routing measures and determine whether additional vessel routing measures are necessary for port approaches to Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and international and domestic transit areas in the First Coast Guard District area of responsibility. The MNMPARS will consider whether existing or additional routing measures are necessary to improve navigation safety due to factors such as planned or potential offshore development, current port capabilities and planned improvements, increased vessel traffic, changing vessel traffic patterns, weather conditions, or navigational difficulty. Vessel routing measures, which include traffic separation schemes, two-way routes, recommended tracks, deep-water routes, precautionary areas, and areas to be avoided, are implemented to reduce risk of marine casualties. The recommendations of the study may subsequently be implemented through rulemakings or in accordance with international agreements.
2. The Notice of Study is available under Federal Register docket number USCG-2022-0047, and can be accessed through the federal portal at <https://www.regulations.gov/search?filter=uscg-2022-0047>.
3. To submit your comment online, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, insert "USCG-2022-0047" in the "search box". Click "Search" and then click "Comment". We will consider all comments and material received on or before May 16, 2022.
4. For questions regarding this Marine Safety Information Bulletin contact LTJG Thomas Davis, Waterways Management at First Coast Guard District, telephone (617) 223-8632, e-mail SMB-D1Boston-MNMPARS@uscg.mil.

Captain Richard J. Schultz, First Coast Guard District Chief of Prevention, sends