

**SECTOR COMMANDER
U.S. COAST GUARD
SECTOR DELAWARE BAY
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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

[MSIB # 29-15]


September 14, 2015

MARCUS HOOK RANGE AND ANCHORAGE DREDGING OPERATIONS

The U.S. Coast Guard will be enforcing the safety zone found in 33 Code of Federal Regulations 165.555 for dredging operations in Marcus Hook range in the Delaware River beginning September 15, 2015 until December 31, 2015. During this time, the dredge ESSEX will be operating within Marcus Hook range. The safety zone includes all waters within a 150 yard radius of the dredge ESSEX and all related dredging equipment. Vessels requesting to transit Marcus Hook range shall contact the dredge ESSEX on VHF channel 13 or 16, 30 minutes prior to arrival. Vessels shall then transit around the dredge project, utilizing Marcus Hook anchorage, while operating at the minimum safe speed necessary to maintain steerage and reduce wake.

During this time period, the regulations in 33 Code of Federal Regulations 110.157 (b)(11)(i) will be in effect. Vessels desiring to anchor within Marcus Hook anchorage must obtain permission from the Captain of the Port at least 24 hours in advance, at (215) 271-4807. The COTP will permit one vessel at a time in Marcus Hook anchorage on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Normally, this is a 48 hour anchorage; however, vessels will not be permitted to occupy the anchorage beyond 12 hours during this time. Vessels that require an examination by the public health service, customs or immigration authorities will be directed to an anchorage for the required inspection by the COTP. Vessels are encouraged to use Mantua Creek anchorage (anchorage #9) and Deepwater Point anchorage (anchorage #6) as alternatives.

The operator of any vessel in the safety zone shall proceed as directed by the designated representative of the Captain of the Port and shall contact the dredge ESSEX on VHF channel 13 or 16, for passing information.


B. A. COOPER
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port, Delaware Bay