



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2012-0372]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Bayou Boeuf, Amelia, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway Company swing span bridge across Bayou Boeuf, mile 10.2, at Amelia, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana. The deviation is necessary to perform scheduled repairs necessitated by a bridge collision. This deviation allows the bridge to remain in the closed-to-navigation position for sixteen consecutive hours.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 6 a.m. through 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket USCG-2012-0372 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG-2012-0372 in the "Keyword" box and then clicking "Search". They are also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management

Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or e-mail David Frank, Bridge Branch Office, Coast Guard; telephone 504-671-2128, e-mail David.M.Frank@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BNSF Railway Company has requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule of the swing span railroad bridge across Bayou Boeuf, mile 10.2, at Amelia, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana. The bridge provides no vertical clearance in the closed-to-navigation position.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.5, the bridge currently opens on signal for the passage of vessels. This deviation allows the vertical lift span of the bridge to remain in the closed-to-navigation position from 6 a.m. through 10 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2012.

The closure is necessary in order to change out a shaft and reducer gear damaged during a bridge collision earlier this year. Notices will be published in the Eighth Coast Guard District Local Notice to Mariners and will be

broadcast via the Coast Guard Broadcast Notice to Mariners System.

Navigation at the site of the bridge consists mainly of tows with barges and some recreational pleasure craft. Due to prior experience, as well as coordination with waterway users, it has been determined that this closure will not have a significant effect on these vessels. An alternate route is available by using the GIWW, Morgan City to Port Allen Alternate Route.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: 30 APR 2012

David M. Frank
Bridge Administrator
Eighth Coast Guard District

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