

Plans are required of other vessels to minimize impacts of oil spills.

Need: This information is needed to ensure that vessels and facilities are prepared to respond in the event of an oil spill incident. The information will be reviewed by the Coast Guard to assess the effectiveness of the response plan.

Respondents: Owners and operators of vessels and facilities.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden Estimate: The estimated burden has increased from 137,199 hours to 220,559 hours a year.

2. **Title:** Ballast Water Management for Vessels with Ballast Tanks Entering U.S. Waters.

OMB Control Number: 1625-0069.

Summary: The information is needed to carry out the reporting requirements of 16 U.S.C. 4711 regarding the management of ballast water, to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species into U.S. waters.

Need: The information is needed to ensure compliance with the requirements in 33 CFR part 151, subparts C and D. The information will also be used for research and periodic reporting to Congress.

Respondents: Owners and operators of certain vessels.

Frequency: On occasion.

Burden Estimate: The estimated burden has decreased from 106,193 hours to 60,769 hours a year.

Dated: May 19, 2006.

R.T. Hewitt,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Technology.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2006-24734]

National Boating Safety Advisory Council; Vacancies

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC). NBSAC advises the Coast Guard on matters related to recreational boating safety.

DATES: Application forms should reach us on or before September 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may request an application form by writing to

Commandant, Office of Boating Safety (G-PCB-1), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001; by calling 202-267-1077; or by faxing 202-267-4285. Send your application in written form to the above street address. This notice and the application form are available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>; the application form is also available at <http://www.uscgboating.org/nbsac/nbsac.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jeanne Timmons, Executive Director of NBSAC, telephone 202-267-1077, fax 202-267-4285.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC) is a Federal advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. It advises the Coast Guard regarding regulations and other major boating safety matters. NBSAC's 21 members consist of: 7 representatives of State officials responsible for State boating safety programs; 7 representatives of recreational boat and associated equipment manufacturers; and 7 representatives of national recreational boating organizations and the general public, at least 5 of whom are representatives of national recreational boating organizations. Members are appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

NBSAC normally meets twice each year at a location selected by the Coast Guard. When attending meetings of the Council, members are provided travel expenses and per diem.

We will consider applications received in response to this notice for the following seven positions that expire or become vacant in December 2006: two representatives of State officials responsible for State boating safety programs, two representatives of recreational boat and associated equipment manufacturers, and three representatives of national recreational boating organizations. The positions from the general public are not open for consideration this year.

Applicants are considered for membership on the basis of their particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in recreational boating safety. Prior applicants should submit an updated application to ensure consideration for the vacancies announced in this notice. Each member serves for a term of up to 3 years. Members may serve consecutive terms.

In support of the policy of the U.S. Coast Guard on gender and ethnic diversity, we encourage qualified

women and members of minority groups to apply.

Dated: May 18, 2006.

F.J. Sturm,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Director of Inspections and Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[CGD08-06-020]

Houston-Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Houston-Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (HOGANSAC) and its working groups will meet to discuss waterway improvements, aids to navigation, area projects impacting safety on the Houston Ship Channel, and various other navigation safety matters in the Galveston Bay area. All meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: The next meeting of HOGANSAC will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2006, at 9 a.m. The meeting of the Committee's working groups will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2006, at 9 a.m. Members of the public may present written or oral statements at either meeting. Requests to make oral presentations or distribute written materials should reach the Coast Guard five (5) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made. Requests to have written materials distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting should reach the Coast Guard at least ten (10) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made.

ADDRESSES: The full Committee will be held at the Houston Pilot's, 8150 South Loop East, Houston, TX 77017, (713-645-9620). The working groups meeting will be held at the West Gulf Maritime Association, Portway Plaza, 1717 East Loop, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77029, (713-678-7655). This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commander Jerry Torok, Executive Secretary of HOGANSAC, telephone 713-671-5164, or Lieutenant Junior Grade Kevin Cooper, Assistant to the Executive Secretary of HOGANSAC, telephone 713-678-9001, e-mail kcooper@grugalveston.uscg.mil. Written

materials and requests to make presentations should be sent to Commanding Officer, Sector Houston/Galveston, Attn: LTJG Cooper, 9640 Clinton Drive, Houston, TX 77029.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770, as amended).

Agendas of the Meetings

Houston-Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (HOGANSAC). The tentative agenda includes the following:

(1) Opening remarks by the Committee Sponsor (RADM Whitehead) or the Committee Sponsor's representative, Executive Director (CAPT Kaser) and Chairperson (Ms. Patricia Clark).

(2) Approval of the February 23, 2006 minutes.

(3) Old Business:

(a) Dredging subcommittee.

(b) Aids to Navigation (AtoN) Knockdown Working Group.

(c) Navigation Operations subcommittee report.

(d) Area Maritime Security Committee Liaison's report.

(e) Technology subcommittee report.

(f) Deep draft Entry Facilitation subcommittee.

(g) Harbor of Safe Refuge subcommittee.

(h) Port Coordination Team Updates.

(i) Limited Visibility Working Group.

(j) Liquefied Natural Gas Working Group.

(k) National Harbor Safety Committee Report.

(4) New Business:

(a) NOAA Port Updates presentation—Alan Bunn.

(b) Other presentations.

Working Groups Meeting. The tentative agenda for the working groups meeting includes the following:

(1) Presentation by each working group of its accomplishments and plans for the future.

(2) Review and discuss the work completed by each working group.

(3) Put forth any action items for consideration at full committee meeting.

Procedural

Working groups have been formed to examine the following issues: dredging and related issues, electronic navigation systems, AtoN knockdowns, impact of passing vessels on moored ships, boater education issues, facilitating deep draft movements, mooring infrastructure, and safe refuge during hurricanes. Not all working groups will provide a report at this session. Further, working group reports may not necessarily include

discussions on all issues within the particular working group's area of responsibility. All meetings are open to the public. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make presentations, oral or written, at either meeting. Requests to make oral or written presentations should reach the Coast Guard five (5) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made. If you would like to have written materials distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting, you should send your request along with fifteen (15) copies of the materials to the Coast Guard at least ten (10) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made.

Information on Services for the Handicapped

For information on facilities or services for the handicapped or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the Executive Secretary or Assistant to the Executive Secretary at the location indicated under **ADDRESSES** as soon as possible.

Dated: May 19, 2006.

R. F. Duncan,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed new information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the use of a metropolitan firefighter demographic questionnaire to collect data to determine firefighter demographics of metropolitan fire departments. For the purposes of this study, metropolitan fire departments are

defined as fire departments that have a minimum of 400 fully paid career firefighters. In addition to the 400 career firefighters, some of the metropolitan fire departments also have volunteer firefighters.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)¹ receives many requests from fire service organizations and the general public for information related to the demographics of firefighters, including gender, race and ethnicity breakdowns, and the number of firefighters holding chief officer and line officer positions. The USFA also has a need for this information to guide programmatic decisions, to ensure that the demographic make up of firefighters attending National Fire Academy training courses is comparable to that of fire departments across the United States, and to encourage and recruit women and minorities to join the fire service. Finally, recommendations for the creation of a fire department database included the collection of information related to demographics, capabilities and activities of fire departments. This recommendation came out of a Blue Ribbon Panel's review of the USFA—initiated by FEMA Director James Lee Witt in the spring of 1998. As a result of those recommendations, the USFA created the National Fire Department Census with which more than 24,500 fire departments have registered. As a continuation of this effort, USFA plans to look at a snapshot of the demographics of firefighters in metropolitan fire departments.

Collection of Information

Title: Metropolitan Firefighter Demographics Study.

Type of Information Collection: New Collection.

OMB Number: 1660-NW17.

Form Numbers: None.

Abstract: Data products and reports exist that contain fragmented or estimated information about firefighter demographics, but there is no single reference source today that aggregates this data to provide an accurate profile of firefighters on a per department basis. The USFA receives many requests for information related to firefighters, including gender, race and ethnicity, as well as the number of firefighters

¹ The USFA is currently being transferred to the newly created Preparedness Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security. During this transition FEMA, also part of the Department of Homeland Security, will continue to support this program as the new Directorate stands up. Ultimately this data collection will be transferred to the Preparedness Directorate.