

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1231; 50 U.S.C. 191; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g), 6.04–1, 6.04–6 and 160.5; 49 CFR 1.46.

■ 2. A temporary § 165.T13–003 is added to read as follows:

§ 165.T13–003 Safety Zones; Fireworks displays in the Captain of the Port Portland Zone.

(a) *Safety Zones.* The following areas are designated safety zones:

(1) *Cinco de Mayo Fireworks Display, Portland, OR.*

(i) *Location.* All waters of the Willamette River bounded by the Morrison Bridge to the north, Hawthorne Bridge to the south, and shoreline both to the east and the west.

(ii) *Enforcement period.* From 9:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. (PDT) on May 2, 2003.

(2) *Portland Rose Festival Fireworks Display, Portland, OR.*

(i) *Location.* All waters of the Willamette River bounded by the Morrison Bridge to the north, Hawthorne Bridge to the south, and shoreline both to the east and the west.

(ii) *Enforcement period.* From 9:50 p.m. to 10:20 p.m. (PDT) on May 30, 2003.

(b) *Regulations.* In accordance with the general regulations in § 165.23 of this part, no person or vessel may enter or remain in this zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port or his designated representatives.

Dated: March 13, 2003.

Paul D. Jewell,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port.

[FR Doc. 03–7386 Filed 3–27–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–U

Effective April 3, 2003, mailers may begin using the co-packaging standards for BPM flats. Although co-packaging is optional, if a mailer chooses to co-package, then the co-packaged pieces must also be co-sacked. The required use of the co-sacking preparation standards for pieces that are not co-packaged becomes mandatory on September 1, 2003. Regardless of the date presented, all mailings that are co-packaged must also be co-sacked.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane Stefaniak at (703) 292–3548, Mailing Standards, United States Postal Service.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on November 19, 2002 (67 FR 69698–69702), the Postal Service proposed to extend the mail preparation standards for co-packaging and co-sacking in DMM M900 to include flat-size BPM mailpieces that are compatible with processing on the automated flat sorting machine (AFSM) 100. Also included as part of the November 19, 2002, proposed rule was a proposal to change the minimum weight for Presorted rate BPM flats claimed at the destination delivery unit (DDU) rates from “more than 1 pound” to “more than 20 ounces.” In the November 19, 2002, proposed rule, the Postal Service solicited written comments from interested parties. However, no written comments were received. The Postal Service is therefore adopting the content of the proposed rule with the following two changes:

1. The mandatory effective date for the use of the new co-sacking standards for flat-size BPM pieces is September 1, 2003, rather than June 1, 2003, as stated in the proposed rule.

2. The proposal to increase the minimum weight for Presorted rate BPM flats claimed at the DDU rates will not be adopted at this time.

Background

Through several previous rulemakings published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 52479–52528, 66 FR 28659–28666, and 66 FR 58944–58952), the Postal Service has established mail preparation standards in DMM M900 for co-packaging and co-traying flat-size First-Class Mail, and for co-packaging and co-sacking nonletter-size Periodicals and flat-size Standard Mail. Extending these requirements to allow the co-packaging and co-sacking of flat-size BPM mailpieces that are compatible with processing on the AFSM 100 is reasonable and in the best interests of both mailers and the Postal Service.

Presorted rate BPM flats (no barcode required) and Presorted rate BPM flats that bear a ZIP+4 or delivery point barcode and claim the barcoded discount are usually both processed by the Postal Service within the same operation. For this reason, allowing packages of flat-size barcoded and nonbarcoded pieces to be combined within the same sack (*i.e.*, co-sacking) can provide operational efficiencies that could reduce costs. Additionally, the need for the Postal Service to receive flat-size barcoded and nonbarcoded pieces in segregated packages no longer exists due to technological advances, such as the optical character reader (OCR) and image lift capabilities of the AFSM 100. Therefore, it would not be operationally beneficial to continue to require the separate preparation of Presorted rate BPM flats that qualify for and claim the barcoded discount and those that do not qualify for the barcoded discount. Continuing to segregate barcoded and nonbarcoded flats would result in more packages and sacks, reduce the average depth of sort, and cause additional workhours for the Postal Service associated with sorting, opening, and preparing flats for processing.

Under the new co-packaging standards for flat-size BPM mailpieces, mailers will have the option to co-package (*i.e.*, sort into the same package) Presorted rate BPM flat-size pieces qualifying for the barcoded discount and Presorted rate BPM flat-size pieces not qualifying for the barcoded discount. Regardless of the date presented for mailing, co-packaged pieces must be co-sacked under DMM M910. Effective September 1, 2003, the new co-sacking standards for flat-size BPM mailpieces will require that mailers co-sack (*i.e.*, sort into the same sack) packages of Presorted rate pieces qualifying for and claiming the barcoded discount with packages of Presorted rate pieces not qualifying for the barcoded discount. The containerization methods permitted for First-Class Mail, Periodicals, and Standard Mail in current DMM M920, M930, and M940 will not be available for BPM.

Co-Packaging Standards (Optional)

The new standards for the optional co-packaging of BPM flats include the following:

- All pieces must weigh 20 ounces or less and meet the AFSM 100 criteria for automation-compatible flat-size mail in DMM C820.
- A separate minimum of 300 Presorted rate pieces qualifying for and claiming the barcoded discount and a

POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 111

Bound Printed Matter: Flat-Size Mail Co-Packaging and Co-Sacking

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this final rule, the Postal Service adopts revisions to the *Domestic Mail Manual* (DMM) that will provide new mail preparation standards for the co-packaging and co-sacking of flat-size Bound Printed Matter (BPM) mailpieces.

Co-packaging is an alternate preparation option that allows the combining of Presorted pieces and barcoded pieces within the same package. Co-sacking is a preparation method that allows under specific circumstances the combining of packages of Presorted rate pieces, packages of barcoded pieces, and co-packaged pieces, within the same sack.