

Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)(42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have concluded that there are no factors in this case that will limit the use of a categorical exclusion under section 2.B.2 of the Instruction. Therefore, this rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(h), of the Instruction, from further environmental documentation. Special local regulations issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade permit are specifically excluded from further analysis and documentation under that section.

Under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(h), of the Instruction, an “Environmental Analysis Check List” and a “Categorical Exclusion Determination” are not required for this rule.

#### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

Marine Safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Waterways.

■ For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

#### PART 100—SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 100 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 33 U.S.C. 1233; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

■ 2. Add a temporary § 100.35–T05–124 to read as follows:

##### § 100.35–T05–124 Choptank River, Cambridge, MD.

###### (a) Definitions.

*Coast Guard Patrol Commander* means a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard who has been designated by the Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore.

*Official Patrol* means any vessel assigned or approved by Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore with a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer on board and displaying a Coast Guard ensign.

*Participant* includes all vessels participating in the Chesapeake Challenge under the auspices of the Marine Event Permit issued to the event sponsor and approved by Commander, Coast Guard Activities Baltimore.

*Regulated area* includes all waters of the Choptank River, from shoreline to shoreline, bounded to the west by the Rt. 50 bridge and bounded to the east by a line drawn along longitude 076° 00′ 00″ W at Oystershell Point. All coordinates reference Datum: NAD 1983.

(b) *Special local regulations:* (1) Except for event participants and

persons or vessels authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area.

(2) The operator of any vessel in the regulated area shall:

(i) Stop the vessel immediately when directed to do so by any Official Patrol.

(ii) Proceed as directed by any Official Patrol.

(iii) Unless otherwise directed by the Official Patrol, operate at a minimum wake speed not to exceed six (6) knots.

(c) *Enforcement period.* This section will be enforced from 11:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. on September 28, 2003.

Dated: September 2, 2003.

**Sally Brice-O'Hara,**

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910–15–P**

#### POSTAL SERVICE

##### 39 CFR Part 111

##### Parcel Return Services Experiment

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule sets forth the *Domestic Mail Manual* (DMM) standards adopted by the Postal Service to implement the Parcel Return Services experiment pursuant to the Decision of the Governors of the Postal Service approving the Recommended Decision of the Postal Rate Commission in its Docket No. MC2003–2. The recommended decision is based on the Stipulation and Agreement that represented a negotiated settlement of all issues in that docket.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This final rule is effective at 12:01 a.m. on October 19, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Obataiye B. Akinwale, 703–292–3643.

##### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### PRS Background

The Postal Service is conducting this Parcel Return Services (PRS) experiment to respond to the rapidly evolving market of Internet and catalog sales. Merchandise sales inevitably lead to returns, and many consumers, as well as Internet and catalog retailers, rely on the Postal Service for return of merchandise. By taking advantage of new ways of handling returned parcels, the new Parcel Return Services can provide convenience to consumers and competitive prices for retailers.

Commercial shippers generally enter their parcels in bulk at postal facilities near their destinations and receive discounts for doing so. With the PRS experiment, they will be able to pick up returns in bulk at those same facilities and receive discounts for the handling and transportation costs the Postal Service otherwise would have incurred for single-piece handling and transportation of those parcels back to the original shipper. Thus, the experiment provides return parcels with the benefits of worksharing and the advantages of Parcel Select service realized by mailers for outgoing parcels.

##### PRS Rate Categories

PRS consists of three rate categories for returned Package Services parcels retrieved in bulk by a permit holder.

- The Parcel Select Return Delivery Unit (RDU) rate category applies to Parcel Post subclass parcels retrieved from a designated delivery unit.<sup>1</sup> The RDU rates are flat rates that do not vary by weight. There is one rate category for all regular-sized parcels and a separate flat rate for all oversized parcels.

- The Parcel Select Return Bulk Mail Center (RBMC) rate category applies to Parcel Post subclass parcels retrieved in bulk from any of the 21 Bulk Mail Centers (BMCs) listed in DMM L601, or other equivalent facility. Permit holders are required to develop reverse manifests of each piece they retrieve.

- The Bound Printed Matter (BPM) Return Bulk Mail Center (RBMC) rate category applies to BPM subclass parcels retrieved in bulk from any of the 21 BMCs. Permit holders are required to develop reverse manifests of each piece they retrieve. Flat-shaped single-piece rate BPM eligible for a rate reduction in the form of a flat differential does not qualify for the RBMC rate. There is no separate BPM rate for parcels retrieved from RDUs. BPM parcels can qualify as PSRS parcels retrieved from a DDU.

##### PRS Rates

As part of this experiment, participants will be charged the applicable rate in new DMM G993.3.1 through 3.4.

<sup>1</sup> Designated delivery units are those that currently offer extended hours for entry of Parcel Select-DDU parcels, and represent approximately 6,500 of the largest offices. This limit will allow the Postal Service to better manage and evaluate the experiment. Delivery unit information can be obtained from the Drop Ship Product, which provides information to customers who deliver their Package Services mailings to BMCs and DDUs. The Drop Ship Address portion of the product contains USPS facility address and telephone information. The Drop Ship Product is available by subscription from the National Customer Support Center (NCSC), Memphis, TN.