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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions on this rule, call or email David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch; telephone (504) 671-2128, email [David.m.frank@uscg.mil](mailto: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 Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) has requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule for the Grand Lake Pontoon Bridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 231.5 west of Harvey Lock (WHL), at Grand Lake, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The deviation will allow the bridge to remain closed to navigation from 6:30 a.m. until 8 a.m. and from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning on Monday, January 9, 2012 and continuing until Friday, March 30, 2012. The purpose of the deviation is to allow for increased vehicular traffic to safely cross the bridge during the morning and evening rush hours. LDOTD is temporarily removing the Black Bayou Pontoon Bridge from service to conduct repairs to the barge. The bridge is located six miles upstream from the Grand Lake Bridge and is the only other vehicular crossing over the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

The pontoon bridge has no vertical clearance in the closed-to-navigation position. The bridge normally opens to pass navigation an average of 1005 times a month. In accordance with 33 CFR 117.5, the bridge opens on signal for the passage of vessels. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies during the closure period.

Navigation on the waterway consists mainly of tugs with tows and some fishing vessels. The delay of up to four hours for six weeks will not have a significant effect on these vessels. No practical alternate route is readily available. 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.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(c), this work will be performed with all due speed in order to return the bridge to

normal operation as soon as possible. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: December 20, 2011.

**David M. Frank,**  
*Bridge Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2012-170 Filed 1-9-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-04-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2011-1158]

#### Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Northeast Cape Fear River, Wilmington, NC

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

**SUMMARY:** The Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, has issued a temporary deviation from the regulations governing the operation of the Isabel S. Holmes Bridge, mile 1.0, across the Northeast Cape Fear River, at Wilmington, NC. The deviation restricts the operation of the draw span to facilitate structural, electrical and mechanical upgrades and repairs of the bridge.

**DATES:** This deviation is effective from 7 a.m. January 16, 2012, to 11 p.m. April 30, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket USCG-2011-1158 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG-2011-1158 in the "Keywords" box, and then clicking "Search". This material is 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 email Mr. Bill H. Brazier, Bridge Management Specialist, Fifth Coast Guard District, telephone (757) 398-6422, email [Bill.H.Brazier@uscg.mil](mailto:Bill.H.Brazier@uscg.mil). If you have questions on reviewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, (202) 366-9826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The North Carolina Department of Transportation, who owns and operates this double-leaf bascule bridge, has requested a temporary deviation from the current operating regulations set out in 33 CFR 117.829(a), to facilitate structural, electrical and mechanical upgrades and repairs of the bridge.

Under the regular operating schedule, the bridge operates as follows: The draw will be closed to pleasure craft from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day except at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. when the draw will open for all waiting vessels; the draw will open on signal for Government and commercial vessels at all times; and the draw will open for all vessels on signal from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

In the closed position to vessels, the Isabel S. Holmes Bridge has a vertical clearance of 42 feet above mean high water.

Under this temporary deviation, the drawbridge will be closed to vessels requiring an opening from 7 a.m. on January 16, 2012 until and including 11 p.m. on April 30, 2012. However, during the period of deviation, vessel openings will be provided if at least three hours advance notice is given to the bridge tender at (910) 251-5774 or via marine radio on channel 13 VHF.

Vessels that can pass under the drawbridge without an opening may do so at all times. There are no alternate routes for vessels transiting this section of the Northeast Cape Fear River. The drawbridge will be able to open in the event of an emergency.

The Coast Guard has coordinated these upgrades and repairs with the Cape Fear River Pilots Association and will use Local and Broadcast Notice to Mariners to inform all users of the waterway of the closure periods for the drawbridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impacts caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its original 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: December 22, 2011.

**Waverly W. Gregory, Jr.,**  
*Bridge Program Manager, Fifth Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 2012-172 Filed 1-9-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-04-P**