

§ 151.1512 Vessel safety.

Nothing in this subpart relieves the master of the responsibility for ensuring the safety and stability of the vessel or the safety of the crew and passengers, or any other responsibility.

§ 151.1514 Ballast water management alternatives under extraordinary conditions.

The master of any vessel subject to this subpart who, due to weather, equipment failure, or other extraordinary conditions, is unable to effect a ballast water exchange before entering the EEZ, must employ another method of ballast water management listed in § 151.1510, or request from the COTP permission to exchange the vessel's ballast water within an area agreed to by the COTP at the time of the request and must discharge the vessel's ballast water within that designated area.

§ 151.1516 Compliance monitoring.

(a) The master of each vessel subject to this subpart shall provide, as detailed in § 151.2040, the following information, in written form, to the COTP:

- (1) The vessel's name, port of registry, and official number or call sign.
- (2) The name of the vessel's owner(s).
- (3) Whether ballast water is being carried.

(4) The original location and salinity, if known, of ballast water taken on, before an exchange.

(5) The location, date, and time of any ballast water exchange.

(6) The salinity of any ballast water to be discharged into the territorial waters of the United States.

(7) The intended discharge port for ballast water and location for disposal of sediment carried upon entry into the territorial waters of the United States, if ballast water or sediment are to be discharged.

(8) The signature of the master attesting to the accuracy of the information provided and certifying compliance with the requirements of this subpart.

(b) The COTP may take samples of ballast water to assess the compliance

with, and the effectiveness of, this subpart.

[CGD 91-066, 58 FR 18334, Apr. 8, 1993, as amended by USCG-1998-3423, 66 FR 58391, Nov. 21, 2001]

Subpart D—Ballast Water Management for Control of Nonindigenous Species in Waters of the United States

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 4711; 49 CFR 1.46.

SOURCE: USCG-1998-3423, 64 FR 26682, May 17, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 151.2000 What is the purpose of this subpart?

This subpart implements the provisions of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA) (16 U.S.C. 4701-4751), as amended by the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (NISA).

§ 151.2005 To which vessels does this subpart apply?

(a) Sections 151.2000 through 151.2035(a) of this subpart apply to all vessels, U.S. and foreign, equipped with ballast tanks that operate in the waters of the United States.

(b) In addition, §§ 151.2035(b) through 151.2065 apply to all vessels, U.S. and foreign, equipped with ballast tanks, that enter the waters of the United States after operating beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone, except those vessels exempted in § 151.2010 and § 151.2015.

[USCG-1998-3423, 64 FR 26682, May 17, 1999, as amended at 66 FR 58391, Nov. 21, 2001]

§ 151.2010 Which vessels are exempt from the mandatory requirements?

Four types of vessels are exempt from the requirements in §§ 151.2040 and 151.2045:

(a) A crude oil tanker engaged in the coastwise trade.

(b) A passenger vessel equipped with a functioning treatment system designed to kill aquatic organisms in the ballast water. The treatment system must be utilized for ballast water discharged into the waters of the United States and it must operate as designed.

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(c) A Department of Defense or Coast Guard vessel subject to the requirements of section 1103 of the Act, or any vessel of the Armed Forces, as defined in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1322(a)) that is subject to the “Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces” (33 U.S.C. 1322(n)).

(d) A vessel that will discharge ballast water or sediments only at the same location where the ballast water or sediments originated. The ballast water or sediments must not mix with ballast water or sediments other than those taken on in areas more than 200 nautical miles from any shore and in waters more than 2,000 meters (6,560 feet, 1,093 fathoms) deep.

[USCG-1998-3423, 64 FR 26682, May 17, 1999, as amended at 66 FR 58391, Nov. 21, 2001]

§ 151.2015 Is a vessel in innocent passage exempt from the mandatory requirements?

A foreign vessel merely traversing the territorial sea of the United States (i.e., not entering or departing a U.S. port, or not navigating the internal waters of the U.S.) is exempt from the requirements of §§ 151.2040 and 151.2045, however such vessels are requested not to discharge ballast water into the waters of the United States unless they have followed the voluntary guidelines of § 151.2035.

§ 151.2025 What definitions apply to this subpart?

(a) Unless otherwise stated in this section, the definitions in 33 CFR 151.1504, 33 CFR 160.203, and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea apply to this part.

(b) As used in this part—

ANSTF means the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force mandated under the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA).

Captain of the Port (COTP) means the Coast Guard officer designated as the COTP, or a person designated by that officer, for the COTP zone covering the first U.S. port of destination. These COTP zones are listed in 33 CFR part 3.

Exchange means to replace the water in a ballast tank using one of the following methods:

(a) *Flow through exchange* means to flush out ballast water by pumping in mid-ocean water at the bottom of the tank and continuously overflowing the tank from the top until three full volumes of water has been changed—to minimize the number of original organisms remaining in the tank.

(2) *Empty/refill exchange* means to pump out the ballast water taken on in ports, estuarine, or territorial waters until the tank is empty, then refilling it with mid-ocean water; masters/operators should pump out as close to 100 percent of the ballast water as is safe to do so.

IMO guidelines mean the Guidelines for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water to Minimize the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens (IMO Resolution A.868 (20), adopted November 1997).

NANCPA means the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990.

NBIC means the National Ballast Water Information Clearinghouse operated by the Coast Guard and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center as mandated under NISA.

NISA means the National Invasive Species Act of 1996, which reauthorized and amended NANCPA.

United States means the States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Voyage means any transit by a vessel destined for any United States port from a port or place outside of the EEZ, including intermediate stops at a port or place within the EEZ. For the purpose of this rule, a transit by a vessel from a United States port to any other United States port, if at any time the vessel operates outside the EEZ or equivalent zone of Canada, is also considered a voyage.

Waters of the United States means waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States as defined in 33 CFR § 2.05-30, including the navigable waters of the United States. For this regulation, the navigable waters include the territorial sea as extended to 12 nautical miles from the baseline, pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 5928 of December 27, 1988.