

Legal Sufficiency

Successful Practices

During the audit period, outside counsel issued two findings of legal sufficiency per the requirements of 23 CFR 771.125(b) and 23 CFR 774.7(d), copies of which were provided to the Audit Team. Through interviews, the Audit Team learned UDOT has continued using the legal sufficiency process it put in place for both Section 326 CE and section 327 NEPA Assignment, which is contracting with outside counsel who have extensive experience in NEPA, other environmental laws, and Federal environmental litigation. The UDOT Environmental Managers work directly with outside counsel without the need to go through the Utah Attorney General's (AG) Office. Nevertheless, an Assistant AG assigned to UDOT is kept apprised of all communications between UDOT staff and outside counsel and reviews all bills submitted by outside counsel. Outside counsel have been included as part of the "project team" from the start of projects, and some have reviewed draft notices of intent for EISs. In addition, the UDOT, an Assistant AG, and outside counsel hold quarterly meetings at which UDOT staff apprise counsel of upcoming project reviews and anticipated review deadlines.

Training

Successful Practices

The UDOT has created a training plan that is customized to each employee's needs and disciplines to provide more focused training opportunities by specialty. The UDOT provides training on general environmental topics, such as NEPA, and provides opportunities for subject matter experts to take training related to their disciplines.

Performance Measures

Successful Practices

The UDOT's self-assessment documented the performance management details of the NEPA Assignment program in Utah, which demonstrates UDOT's procedures under NEPA assignment have resulted in a 50 percent reduction in the time to complete DCEs, EAs, and EISs. The average time to complete environmental documents is 5 months for DCEs, 18 months for EAs, and 37 months for an EIS. Although these data are based on a limited number of completed UDOT NEPA reviews since January 2017 (nine DCEs, two EAs, and one EIS), UDOT's initial timeliness results are promising. The UDOT will continue to monitor its progress towards improving timeliness

of environmental reviews as part of its performance under the NEPA Assignment Program.

Next Steps

The FHWA provided this draft audit report to UDOT for a 28-day review and comment period. The Audit Team considered UDOT comments in developing this draft audit report. The FHWA will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** for a 30-day comment period in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 327(g)(2)(A). No later than 60 days after the close of the comment period, FHWA will respond to all comments submitted to finalize this draft audit report pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327(g)(2)(B). Once finalized, FHWA will publish the final audit report in the **Federal Register**.

[FR Doc. 2019-07561 Filed 4-15-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2019-0051]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel DAY CHARTER SA; Invitation for Public Comments

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirements of the coastwise trade laws to allow the carriage of no more than twelve passengers for hire on vessels, which are three years old or more. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 16, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Number MARAD-2019-0051 by any one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search MARAD-2019-0051 and follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Docket Management Facility is in the West Building, Ground Floor of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Docket Management Facility location address is: U.S. Department of Transportation, MARAD-2019-0051, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

Note: If you mail or hand-deliver your comments, we recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and specific docket number. All comments received will be posted without change to the docket at www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the section entitled Public Participation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email Bianca.carr@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel DAY CHARTER SA is:

- Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:* "Day Charters off the South Shore of Oahu. Private day sailing, snorkeling, whale watching, weddings and funerals, sunset cruises."
- Geographic Region Including Base of Operations:* "Hawaii" (Base of Operations: Honolulu, HI)
- Vessel Length and Type:* 39' catamaran

The complete application is available for review identified in the DOT docket as MARAD-2019-0051 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the vessel name, state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in section 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

Public Participation

How do I submit comments?

Please submit your comments, including the attachments, following the instructions provided under the above heading entitled **ADDRESSES**. Be advised

that it may take a few hours or even days for your comment to be reflected on the docket. In addition, your comments must be written in English. We encourage you to provide concise comments and you may attach additional documents as necessary. There is no limit on the length of the attachments.

Where do I go to read public comments, and find supporting information?

Go to the docket online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, keyword search MARAD–2019–0051 or visit the Docket Management Facility (see **ADDRESSES** for hours of operation). We recommend that you periodically check the Docket for new submissions and supporting material.

Will my comments be made available to the public?

Yes. Be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, will be made publicly available.

May I submit comments confidentially?

If you wish to submit comments under a claim of confidentiality, you should submit three copies of your complete submission, including the information you claim to be confidential business information, to the Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, Office of Legislation and Regulations, MAR–225, W24–220, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Include a cover letter setting forth with specificity the basis for any such claim and, if possible, a summary of your submission that can be made available to the public.

Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice, DOT/ALL–14 FDMS, accessible through www.dot.gov/privacy. To facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.93(a), 46 U.S.C. 55103, 46 U.S.C. 12121)

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Dated: April 10, 2019.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2019–07476 Filed 4–15–19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD–2019–0055]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel SEA TURTLE; Invitation for Public Comments

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirements of the coastwise trade laws to allow the carriage of no more than twelve passengers for hire on vessels, which are three years old or more. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 16, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Number MARAD–2019–0055 by any one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search MARAD–2019–0055 and follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail or Hand Delivery: Docket Management Facility is in the West Building, Ground Floor of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Docket Management Facility location address is: U.S. Department of Transportation, MARAD–2019–0055, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

Note: If you mail or hand-deliver your comments, we recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

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provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the section entitled Public Participation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W23–453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202–366–9309, Email Bianca.carr@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel SEA TURTLE is:

—*Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:* “Whole boat charters—Scenic, Sunset and Private up to a maximum of 6 hours. We will be operating under a Six Pack License. Maximum 6 passengers on any given charter. We will be operating only 5–10 trips per week.”

—*Geographic Region Including Base of Operations:* “Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire” (Base of Operations: Kennebunk, ME)

—*Vessel Length and Type:* 40’ sailing catamaran

The complete application is available for review identified in the DOT docket as MARAD–2019–0055 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the vessel name, state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in section 388.4 of MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

Public Participation

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