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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PROPOSED CHANGES TO FEDERAL AIDS-TO-NAVIGATION
in Rhode Island waterways

Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England continues efforts to optimize the federal aids to navigation (ATON) system in Rhode Island waterways, and proposes to make some modest changes that may affect 12 of the approximately 425 federal ATON in Narragansett Bay and adjacent waters, and Block Island. We carefully evaluated these reasonably limited measures that will maintain or improve navigation safety while increasing the efficiency and cost effectiveness of our overall ATON program. Our review suggests that the 12 aids identified in this proposal consume Coast Guard (and taxpayer) resources that exceed any navigation safety benefit delivered to the boating public.

Of the 12 aids identified for modification, nine that provide very limited or no additional navigation safety value have been identified for removal. The remaining three aids are steel-hull buoys located in waters where they are susceptible to severe damage from winter icing, and which require costly repairs. These buoys will be replaced with fully functional but significantly less costly and economically repairable or replaceable foam buoys.

Comments solicited: Our proposed changes to the aids-to-navigation system in selected Rhode Island waterways are listed in the attached spreadsheet. Your feedback is welcome and should be provided to Mr. Edward G. LeBlanc at 401-435-2351, or Edward.G.LeBlanc@uscg.mil by June 30, 2016. We will carefully consider all comments submitted and adjust our proposal if warranted. Only then will we begin to make on-the-water changes to aids to navigation, and in no case would any of these changes take place before November 1, 2016.



J. T. Kondratowicz
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Southeastern New England

**U.S. COAST GUARD SECTOR SOUTHEASTERN NEW ENGLAND
PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS
AIDS TO NAVIGATION
RHODE ISLAND
MAY 2016**

	Coast Guard Light List No.	NAME	PLANNED MODIFICATION
1.	17575	Sakonnet River Entrance LWB "SR"	Disestablish & Remove
2.	17585	Sakonnet River BB "2A"	Disestablish & Remove
3.	18765	Warren River Junction Buoy	Disestablish & Remove
4.	19325	Warwick Narrows West Buoy "5"	Disestablish & Remove
5.	19330	Warwick Narrows East Buoy "6"	Disestablish & Remove
6.	19380	Warwick Cove Buoy "9"	Change to foam
7.	19385	Warwick Cove Buoy "10"	Change to foam
8.	19390	Warwick Cove Buoy "12"	Change to foam
9.	19470	Nebraska Shoal Buoy "2NS"	Disestablish & Remove
10.	19555	Gould Is. Southwest Shoal Buoy "2"	Disestablish & Remove
11.	19785	Great Salt Pond Buoy "13"	Disestablish & Remove
12.	19790	Great Salt Pond Buoy "14"	Disestablish & Remove