

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Captain of the Port
United States Coast Guard
Western Alaska

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16670
January 06, 2009

CAPTAIN OF THE PORT, WESTERN ALASKA NAVIGATION SAFETY ADVISORY

Dear Mariner:

In response to industry feedback, I have revised this winter's Operating Procedures for Ice Conditions in Cook Inlet to more accurately reflect current best practices. I would also like to take this opportunity to clarify how these Operating Procedures are implemented. At the beginning of winter, after cold temperatures and ice accumulation have begun to significantly impact navigation, this office sends an initial advisory requesting that mariners provide voyage plans and potentially make their vessels available for examination. Dependent on where ice is prevalent, voyage plans may be requested of vessels arriving anywhere in Cook Inlet or just north of The Forelands. After the initial advisory is issued, and for the remainder of the ice season, vessels are encouraged to adhere to practices specified in the subsection titled *Procedures for all Vessels Transiting Cook Inlet During Ice Operating Conditions*. When this office is made aware of particularly hazardous ice conditions at the Port of Anchorage or Nikiski, a navigation advisory will be issued notifying mariners that Phase One or Phase Two of the Operating Procedures is in effect. These phases provide additional precautionary measures that mariners are encouraged to take while moored at these facilities. Phase One or Phase Two will be retracted when hazardous conditions abate.

Questions or comments regarding this advisory or the Operating Procedures for Ice Conditions in Cook Inlet may be directed to Lieutenant John Backus at (907) 271-6956, or Petty Officer Gary Bullock at (907) 271-6721.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. M. Hamilton".

H. M. HAMILTON
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port, Western Alaska

Copy: Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (dpw)
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (dl)
Supervisor, Marine Safety Detachment Kenai