



Coast Guard Sector New York
Marine Safety Information Bulletin
MSIB – (2023-001)
Port of New York and Vicinity
Anchorage Areas



Since the release of Sector New York MSIB 2015-014, the Coast Guard received requests for clarification of anchorage regulations on the Hudson River and, specifically, their application in the “Port of New York” as listed in 33 CFR 110.155. Based on detailed research of the anchorage regulatory history for the “Port of New York,” the term “Port of New York” was found to encompass the navigable waters within an approximately 25-mile radius of the Statue of the Liberty. The specific boundary points for the “Port of New York” for the purpose of anchorage regulations are the same as the “Port of New York District,” created by a 1921 inter-state compact between New York and New Jersey. This area is now referred to as the “Port of New York and New Jersey.” Accordingly, the anchorage regulations found in 33 CFR 110.155 for the “Port of New York” extend up the Hudson River to just south of the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. Mariners operating outside of this region therefore are not subject to 33 CFR 110.155 because they are not considered to be in the “Port of New York.” The full boundaries from the 1921 inter-state compact are shown on the attached chartlet.

When anchoring within the “Port of New York,” all mariners must comply with 33 CFR 110.155(l)(2). This section states that “except in cases of great emergency, no vessel shall be anchored in the navigable waters of the Port of New York outside of the anchorage areas established in this section, nor cast anchor within a cable or pipe line area shown on a Government chart, nor be moored, anchored, or tied up to any pier, wharf, or vessel in such manner as to obstruct or endanger the passage of any vessel in transit by, or to or from, adjacent wharves, piers, or slips.” If a vessel must anchor within the Port of New York due to an emergency, the operator should first address all safety hazards and then contact either Vessel Traffic Service New York or the Sector New York Command Center to inform the Coast Guard of the nature of the emergency.

All regulations pertaining to anchorage grounds and special anchorage areas, to include for the “Port of New York” and vicinity, are located in 33 CFR 110.60 and 33 CFR 110.155. These regulations are available through <http://www.ecfr.gov>. All mariners must also comply with the Inland Navigation Rules as codified in 33 CFR Part 83. The Rules can be found at <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/> by selecting the “Nav Rules” tab near the top of the webpage.

Questions regarding any content in this MSIB should be directed to Sector New York’s Waterways Management Division at D01-SMB-SecNY-Waterways@uscg.mil, (718) 354-4117.

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