

UNITED STATES COAST PILOT CORRECTIONS

COAST PILOT 6 36 Ed 2006 Change No. 17
LAST NM 51/06

Page 61—Paragraphs 466 to 480; read:

§117.1 Purpose.

(a) This part prescribes the general and special drawbridge operating regulations that apply to the drawbridges across the navigable waters of the United States and its territories. The authority to regulate drawbridges across the navigable waters of the United States is vested in the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) Subpart A contains the general operation requirements that apply to all drawbridges.

(c) Subpart B contains specific requirements for operation of individual drawbridges. These requirements are in addition to or vary from the general requirements in Subpart A. Specific sections in subpart B that vary from a general requirement in Subpart A supersede the general requirement. All other general requirements in Subpart A, that are not at variance, apply to the drawbridges and removable span bridges listed in Subpart B.

§117.3 [Removed].

§117.4 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this part:

Appurtenance means a attachment or accessory extending beyond the hull or superstructure that is not an integral part of the vessel and is not needed for a vessel’s piloting, propelling, controlling, or collision avoidance capabilities.

Automated drawbridge means a drawbridge that is operated by an automated mechanism, not a drawtender. An automated drawbridge is normally kept in the open to navigation position and closes when the mechanism is activated.

Deviation means a District Commander’s action authorizing a drawbridge owner to temporarily not comply with the drawbridge opening requirements in this part.

Drawbridge means a bridge with an operational span that is intended to be opened for the passage of waterway traffic.

Drawspan means the operational span of a drawbridge.

Lowerable means a non-structural vessel appurtenance that is or can be made flexible, hinged, collapsible, or telescopic so that it can be mechanically or manually lowered.

Nonstructural means that the item is not rigidly fixed to the vessel and can be relocated or altered.

Not essential to navigation means that a nonstructural vessel appurtenance, when in the lowered position, would not adversely affect the vessel’s piloting, propulsion, control, or collision-avoidance capabilities.

Public vessel means a vessel that is owned and operated by the United States Government and is not engaged in commercial service, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 2101.

Remotely operated drawbridge means a drawbridge that is operated by remote control from a location away from the drawbridge.

Removable span bridge means a bridge that requires the

complete removal of a span by means other than machinery installed on the bridge to open the bridge to navigation.

Untended means that there is no drawtender at the drawbridge.

§117.5 When the drawbridge must open.

Except as otherwise authorized or required by this part, drawbridges must open promptly and fully for the passage of vessels when a request or signal to open is given in accordance with this subpart.

§117.7 General requirements of drawbridge owners.

Except for drawbridges that have been authorized, before January 3, 2007, to remain closed to navigation or as otherwise specified in subpart B, drawbridge owners must:

(a) Provide the necessary drawtender(s) for the safe and prompt opening of the drawbridge.

(b) Maintain the working machinery of the drawbridge in good operating condition.

(c) Cycle the drawspan(s) periodically to ensure operation of the drawbridge.

(d) Ensure that the drawbridge operates in accordance with the requirements of this part.

(e) Any drawbridge allowed to remain closed to navigation prior to January 3, 2007, when necessary, must be returned to operable condition within the designated time set forth by the District Commander and will become subject to the requirements of this part.

§117.8 Permanent changes to drawbridge operation.

(a) Anyone may submit a written request to the District Commander for a permanent change to a drawbridge operating requirement. The request must include documentation supporting or justifying the requested change.

(b) If after evaluating the request, the District Commander determines that the requested change is not needed, he or she will respond to the request in writing and provide the reasons for denial of the requested change.

(c) If the District Commander decides that a change may be needed, he or she will begin a rulemaking to implement the change.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 63—Paragraph 505, line 3 to Paragraph 506; read: information provided by sound and visual signals.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 64—Paragraph 519, line 9 to Paragraph 520; read: channel should be shown in the lower right quadrant.

§117.31 Drawbridge operations for emergency vehicles and emergency vessels.

(a) Upon receiving notification that an emergency vehicle is responding to an emergency situation, a drawtender must make all reasonable efforts to have the drawspan closed at the time the emergency vehicle arrives.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 65—Paragraph 546, line 4 to Paragraph 553; read: 1.07).

Subpart B—Specific Requirements

§117.51 General.

The drawbridges in this subpart are listed by the state in which they are located and by the waterway they cross. Waterways are arranged alphabetically by state. The drawbridges listed under a waterway are generally arranged in order from the mouth of the waterway moving upstream. The drawbridges on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway are listed from north to south and on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway from east to west.

§117.53 [Removed].

§117.55 Posting of requirements.

(a) The owner of each drawbridge under this subpart, other than removable span bridges, must ensure that a sign summarizing the requirements in this subpart applicable to the drawbridge is posted both upstream and downstream of the drawbridge. The requirements to be posted need not include those in Subpart A or §§117.51 through 117.59 of this part.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 65—Paragraph 555, line 3 to Paragraph 556; read: phone number of the person to be notified.

§117.57 [Removed].

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 73—Paragraphs 704 to 706; read:

- (3) Vessels of 500 tons or more.
- (4) Tugs with a tow on a hawser.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 73—Paragraph 717; read:

(4) During the period that the Federal Lock at Troy is inoperative, the drawspans need not be opened for the passage of vessels.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 73—Paragraph 718; read:

§117.97 Lake Champlain.

(a) The drawspan for each drawbridge listed in this section must open as soon as possible for public vessels of the United States.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

Page 75—Paragraph 765; read:

§117.993 Lake Champlain.

(a) The drawspan for each of the drawbridges listed in this section must open as soon as possible for the passage of public vessels of the United States.

(FR 12/4/06) 1/07

COAST PILOT 6 36 Ed 2006 Change No. 18
Page 64—Paragraph 527 to Page 65—Paragraph 541; read:
§117.35 Temporary change to a drawbridge operating schedule.

(a) For any temporary change to the operating schedule of a drawbridge, lasting less than or equal to 180 days, the District Commander may issue a deviation approval letter to the bridge owner and publish a “Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulation” in the **Federal Register**.

(b) If the time period for a temporary change to the operating schedule of a drawbridge will be greater than 180 days, the District Commander will follow appropriate rulemaking procedures and publish a temporary rule in the **Federal Register** prior to the start of the action.

(c) Request for change. (1) To temporarily change the drawbridge-operating requirements the bridge owner must submit a written request to the District Commander for approval of the change.

(2) The request must describe the reason for the closure and the dates and times scheduled for the start and end of the change.

(3) Requests should be submitted as early as possible, preferably 90 days before the start of the action. District Commanders have discretion to accept requests submitted less than 90 days before a needed change if those requests can be processed before the date of the needed change.

(d) Determination. The District Commander’s determination to allow the schedule change is normally forwarded to the bridge owner within ten working days after receipt of the request. If the request is denied, the reasons for the denial will be set out in the District Commander’s decision letter.

(e) The drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period.

(f) If the authorized closure period for an event is broken into separate time periods on the same day or on consecutive days, the drawbridge must provide openings for navigation between the authorized closures.

(g) The District Commander will also announce the change to the operating schedule in the Local Notice to Mariners and other appropriate local media.

§117.36 Closure of drawbridge for emergency repair.

(a) When a drawbridge unexpectedly becomes inoperable, or should be immediately rendered inoperable because of mechanical failure or structural defect, the drawbridge owner must notify the District Commander of the closure without delay and give the reason for the emergency closure of the drawbridge and an estimated time when the drawbridge will be returned to operating condition.

(b) The District Commander will notify mariners about the drawbridge status through Broadcast Notices to Mariners, Local Notice to Mariners and any other appropriate local media.

(c) Repair work under this section must be performed with all due speed in order to return the drawbridge to operation as soon as possible.

§117.37 [Removed]

§117.39 Authorized closure of drawbridge due to infrequent requests for openings.

(a) When there have been no requests for drawbridge openings for at least two years, a bridge owner may request in writing that the District Commander authorize the drawbridge to remain closed to navigation and to be untended.

(b) The District Commander may:

- (1) Authorize the closure of the drawbridge;
- (2) Set out any conditions in addition to the requirement in paragraph (d); and
- (3) Revoke an authorization and order the drawbridge returned to operation when necessary.

(c) All drawbridges authorized to remain closed to navigation, under this section, must be maintained in operable condition.

(d) Authorization under this section does not:

- (1) Authorize physical changes to the drawbridge structure, or
- (2) Authorize removal of the operating machinery.

(e) Drawbridges authorized under this section to remain closed to navigation and to be untended are identified in subpart B of this part.

§117.45 [Removed]
(FR 12/4/06)

1/07

§117.40 Advance notice for drawbridge opening.

(a) Upon written request by the owner of a drawbridge, the District Commander may authorize a drawbridge to operate under an advance notice for opening. The drawbridge tender, after receiving the advance notice, must open the drawbridge at the requested time and allow for a reasonable delay in arrival of the vessel giving the advance notice.

(b) If the request is approved, a description of the advanced notice for the drawbridge will be added to subpart B of this part.

§117.41 Maintaining drawbridges in the fully open position.

(a) Drawbridges permanently maintained in the fully open to navigation position may discontinue drawtender service as long as the drawbridge remains fully open to navigation. The drawbridge must remain in the fully open position until drawtender service is restored.

(b) If a drawbridge is normally maintained in the fully open to navigation position, but closes to navigation for the passage of pedestrian, vehicular, rail, or other traffic, the drawbridge must be tended unless:

- (1) Special operating requirements are established in subpart B of this part for that drawbridge; or
- (2) The drawbridge is remotely operated or automated.

§117.42 Remotely operated and automated drawbridges.

(a) Upon written request by the owner of a drawbridge, the District Commander may authorize a drawbridge to operate under an automated system or from a remote location.

(b) If the request is approved, a description of the full operation of the remotely operated or automated drawbridge will be added to subpart B of this part.

§117.43 [Removed]