



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF BEN WOLFINGER

UNDERSHERIFF DAN MATTOS

June 23, 2015

Senator Mike Crapo
610 Hubbard Ave.
#209
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Dear Senator Crapo;

You may remember that I contacted your office last year regarding the insistence by the U.S. Coast Guard that they issue permits for marine events on Lake Coeur d'Alene. I just received a copy of the first permit issued by the Coast Guard, for the Ironman Triathlon to be held here on June 28th. This is for the swim portion of the event only.

Ironman submitted their application on February 18, 2015. The permit approval date is June 5, 2015. There is no wonder why people complain about the "speed of government."

As you can see by the attached documentation, the permit states that there will be a "Regatta Patrol" assigned by the Coast Guard. The problem is that the nearest Coast Guard station is in Seattle, Washington, more than 300 miles away. Each year that Ironman has competed in Kootenai County, our Marine Deputies have provided the oversight for the swim portion of the event. We have never had a problem that needed the Coast Guard to intervene. If they actually show up for the event, it will be a terrible waste of tax payer dollars.

Furthermore you will see that the Coast Guard enclosed their form letter regarding MARINE EVENT SAFETY IN PUGET SOUND. They also included the flyer that states: "Do not approach within 100 yards any Navy Vessel, Washington State Ferry or tank ship." It appears that the U.S. Coast Guard does not know that Kootenai County, IDAHO is more than 300 miles from Puget Sound. However, I can assure them that the Ironman athletes will in no way approach a Navy Vessel, Washington State Ferry or any tank ship on Lake Coeur d'Alene.

This entire process smells badly of government waste. I hope that you and your office can influence the Coast Guard to do what is right in these matters and allow local control by the local Sheriff's Office in processing marine event permits.

Sincerely,

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff

CC: Coeur d'Alene Press
Spokesman Review
Board of County Commissioners



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

June 23, 2015

Senator Jim Risch
610 Hubbard Ave.
#213
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Dear Senator Risch;

You may remember that I contacted your office last year regarding the insistence by the U.S. Coast Guard that they issue permits for marine events on Lake Coeur d'Alene. I just received a copy of the first permit issued by the Coast Guard, for the Ironman Triathlon to be held here on June 28th. This is for the swim portion of the event only.

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Sincerely,

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff

CC: Coeur d'Alene Press
Spokesman Review
Board of County Commissioners



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF BEN WOLFINGER

UNDERSHERIFF DAN MATTOS

June 23, 2015

Congressman Raul Labrador
1250 W. Ironwood Drive
#243
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Dear Congressman Labrador;

You may remember that I contacted your office last year regarding the insistence by the U.S. Coast Guard that they issue permits for marine events on Lake Coeur d'Alene. I just received a copy of the first permit issued by the Coast Guard, for the Ironman Triathlon to be held here on June 28th. This is for the swim portion of the event only.

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Sincerely,

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff

CC: Coeur d'Alene Press
Spokesman Review
Board of County Commissioners

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. COAST GUARD CG-4424 (REV 05-04)	PERMIT FOR MARINE EVENT	DATE APPROVED <i>5 Jun 2015</i>						
NAME OF EVENT Ironman Coeur d'Alene	LOCATION Lake Coeur d'Alene	DATE OF EVENT Jun 28, 2015						
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION World Triathlon Corporation	NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE Zach Ukich	TITLE Race Director						
<p>Your application for the following event is approved. Special services to be rendered by the Coast Guard are listed. You are reminded that your organization is primarily responsible for safety in the regatta area and that this permit does not relieve you of such responsibility. Participants shall be adequately briefed and their boats equipped as required by law. A permit may also be required by a state, county or municipal agency. This authorization grants no exemption from state or local ordinances. In the event of any change in the information furnished in your application you will notify this office.</p>								
<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="162 546 812 693"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will not be a Special Local Regulation issued. No restriction is placed on the use of any navigable waters by other parties. Your event shall not obstruct any channel or normal shipping lane, or interfere with any aid to navigation. The Committeeman in Charge shall control participants to prevent conditions hazardous to other craft in the area. </td> <td data-bbox="812 546 1494 693"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will be a Local Notice to Mariners issued to inform maritime interests and solicit their cooperation. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="162 693 812 798"> <input type="checkbox"/> There will be a Special Local Regulation issued establishing a restricted area and other controls. You will be provided a copy for guidance. The Committeeman in Charge shall control participants to prevent conditions hazardous to other craft in the area. </td> <td data-bbox="812 693 1494 798"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will be a Regatta Patrol assigned by the Coast Guard. The attached instruction for Patrol Commanders outlines their responsibility and authority. You should work out specific details with the Patrol Commander. </td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td data-bbox="812 798 1494 840"> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional safety equipment is stipulated below. </td> </tr> </table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will not be a Special Local Regulation issued. No restriction is placed on the use of any navigable waters by other parties. Your event shall not obstruct any channel or normal shipping lane, or interfere with any aid to navigation. The Committeeman in Charge shall control participants to prevent conditions hazardous to other craft in the area.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will be a Local Notice to Mariners issued to inform maritime interests and solicit their cooperation.	<input type="checkbox"/> There will be a Special Local Regulation issued establishing a restricted area and other controls. You will be provided a copy for guidance. The Committeeman in Charge shall control participants to prevent conditions hazardous to other craft in the area.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There will be a Regatta Patrol assigned by the Coast Guard. The attached instruction for Patrol Commanders outlines their responsibility and authority. You should work out specific details with the Patrol Commander.		<input type="checkbox"/> Additional safety equipment is stipulated below.
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 M. D. KAUFFMAN Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Chief, Waterways Management Division By direction								

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Sector Puget Sound

1519 Alaskan Way S.
Seattle, WA 98134-1192
Staff Symbol: sp
Phone: (206) 217-6051
Fax: (206) 217-6900
Email:
SectorPugetSoundVWM@uscg.mil

5760

To: Event Sponsor

Subject: MARINE EVENT SAFETY IN PUGET SOUND

Your Marine Event Permit has been approved; the following information is provided to ensure the safety of your event participants as well as the general maritime public who may be affected by your event.

As the sponsor of a marine event you are responsible for following regulations applicable to your specific event set forth in Title 33 CFR Part 100. The sponsor should ensure that all participants are advised to comply with navigational rules. An individual or organization that violates any provisions of these regulations, or any regulations or order issued pursuant to the regulations shall be subject to penalties in those regulations pursuant to 33 USC 1236. Coast Guard approval of this event does not confer release from any ordinance or regulation imposed by local or civil authority having jurisdiction in the area concerned. If at any time, Commander, Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound deems the event unsafe or not in compliance with safety and/or environmental standards and/or stipulations, the event will be terminated.

Approval of this event by the Coast Guard does not imply endorsement of the activity or guarantee that it will be accident free. The sponsor of a marine event is completely responsible for the safe conduct of the event, including the safety of the participants, safety of spectators and transient craft in the area, and safety of real and personal property in the area. The sponsor's responsibility also includes preparations, such as instructions to and qualification of participants, safety equipment inspections, rescue and first aid facilities, control of activities, removal of obstructions or menaces to navigation, and the placing and retrieving of course markers. The Coast Guard takes no part in performing functions, which are solely for the protection of the participants and assumes no responsibility in this regard. Participants should be adequately briefed and their boats equipped as required by law.

To enhance the safety of the event, it is requested that the sponsor notify Coast Guard Vessel Traffic (VTS) Service Puget Sound (Seattle Traffic) at least one hour prior to, and upon conclusion of the event via phone at 206-217-6152 or via VHF radio communication. When using radio communications, Channel 5A should be used when north of a line from Bush Point to Nodule Point in Admiralty Inlet, and/or east of Whidbey Island, and Channel 14 when south of these demarcation lines. In the event that VTS forecasts a significant navigation safety conflict between Marine Event participants and scheduled commercial traffic, a delay in the start time may be required. In more extreme cases such as a large pollution incident or marine casualty, a Marine Event may need to be canceled.

The sponsor of a marine event must provide a patrol as indicated in the application as safety vessels. Any accident involving property, damage, personal injury or death should be reported to the appropriate authorities and Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound by VHF-FM Channel 16 or by calling the Joint Harbor Operations Center at 206-217-6001.

The Sponsor should ensure event participants are informed that if the event occurs in a Narrow Channel or Fairway, Rule 9 applies, and participants may not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. Additionally any vessel shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid anchoring in a narrow channel. If the event occurs in or near a Traffic Separation Scheme, Rule 10 applies, and participants are to be informed that they may not impede the passage of any power-driven vessel following a traffic lane.

The sponsor of a marine event is responsible for taking appropriate steps for containment and cleanup of any spills. Fuel, oil, solid, human waste or other polluting substances should be handled away from the water whenever possible, and any spilled substance or residue shall be completely cleaned before a participant reenters the water. Any polluting substance spilled into the water must be reported to the Coast Guard immediately by calling the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802 or Sector Puget Sound Joint Harbor Operations Center at (206) 217-6001.

If your event is a marine fireworks display, the fireworks display should be conducted in accordance with the guidance of Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 7-02, "Marine Safety at Fireworks Displays". NVIC 7-02 has been established to provide guidance on outdoor fireworks displays from vessels and floating platforms on navigable waters of the United States. The fireworks displays should meet the requirements of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1123, Code for Fireworks Display. The U.S. Coast Guard reserves the right to inspect the site of the fireworks display prior to its commencement. The event sponsor will be notified if this will be an inspected event.

Sincerely,

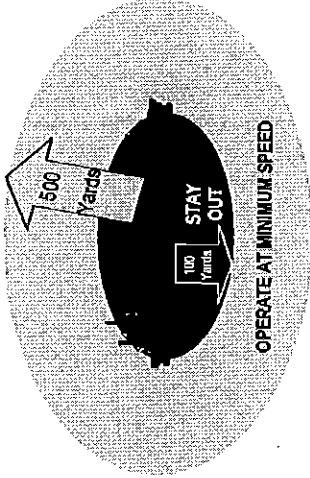
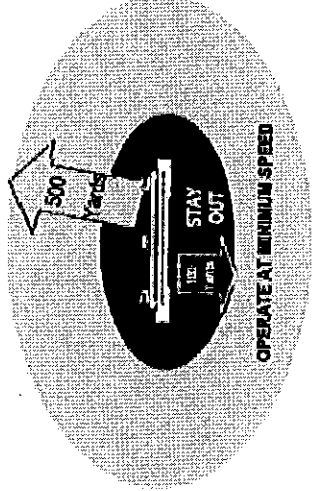
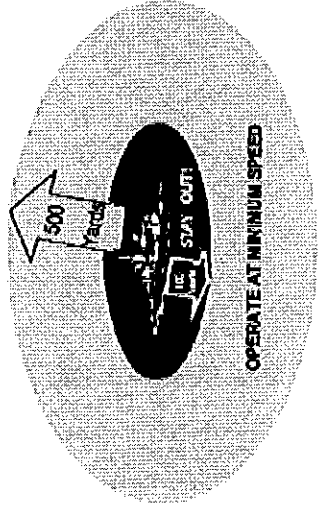


M. D. KAUFFMAN
Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Chief, Waterways Management Division
By direction

- Enclosures: (1) Naval Vessel Protection, Washington State Ferries Zone Regulations & Tank Ship Security Zone
- (2) Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular No. 7-02
- (3) Excerpt from the National Fire Protection Association 1123, Code for Fireworks Display

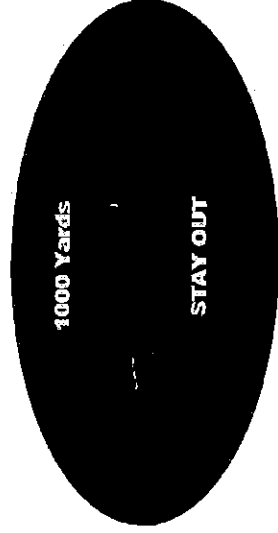
WARNING!

Do not approach within 100 yards of any Navy Vessel, Washington State Ferry or, tank ship. If you need to pass within 100 of these vessels in order to ensure a safe passage in accordance with the Navigation Rules, you must contact the tank ship on VHF-FM channel 16 or 13.(33 CFR 165.2030, 165.1317, 165.1313.)



You must operate at minimum speed within 500 yards of any of these vessel types.

Do not approach within 1000 yds of any escorted US Navy Submarine. If you need to pass within 1000 yards of a submarine to ensure safe passage in accordance with the Navigation Rules you must contact the USCG Escort on VHF-FM Channel 16 or 13 (33 CFR 165.1327)



Violations of these Security Zones are a felony offense, punishable by up to 6 years in prison and/or up to \$250,000 in fines