

**DHS National Environmental Policy Act**  
**Memorandum For Record**  
**for Categorically Excluded Actions that do not require a REC**

**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this Memorandum for Record is to provide a record that the potential for impacts to the quality of the human environment has been considered in the decision to implement the Proposed Action described below, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and DHS Directive 023-01 and Instruction 023-01-001-01, Implementation of NEPA. DHS has previously analyzed actions of this type and concluded that there is no potential for significant impact on the human environment, that a DHS Categorical Exclusion applies, and that a more detailed review and documentation in a Record of Environmental Consideration is not necessary.

**SECTION I - Description of Proposed Action**

**1. Title of Proposed Action:** USCG-2024-0013; Security Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 94 to 97 Above Head of Passes, New Orleans, LA

**2. Identifying Number of Proposed Action (if available):** DSS-USCG-2024-18662, DSS-USCG-2024-18662

**3. Project Security Type:** Unclassified

**4. Estimated Start Date:** 02/10/2024

**5. Location of Proposed Action (e.g., Nationwide, Regional, Site-Specific. If site-specific, provide street address, city, county and state):**

U.S. Territorial Water: Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 94 to 97 Above Head of Passes, New Orleans, LA

**6. Project Type:**

Administrative & Regulatory Activities - Approvals of regatta and marine parade event permits for the following events: Events that are not located in, proximate to, or above an area designated environmentally sensitive by an environmental agency of the Federal, state, or local government. For example, environmentally sensitive areas may include such areas as critical habitats or migration routes for endangered or threatened species or important fish or shellfish nursery areas. All USCG MFRs that are prepared require an environmental reviewer, senior environmental reviewer, and a proponent signature. (CATEX L63a)

**7. Description of Proposed Action.**

The Coast Guard will enforce a security zone for all navigable waters within 400 yards of the Left Descending Bank (LDB) of the Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Mile Marker (MM) 94.4 to MM 95.1, Above Head of Passes (AHP), New Orleans, LA. This security zone is necessary to provide security and protection for visiting personnel during the events related to the Mardi Gras celebration. No person or vessel may enter this security zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port New Orleans (COTP) or a designated representative.

**8. Document Preparer:** Ryan Howard

**9. Environmental Reviewer:** Thad Lettsome (Level I)

**SECTION II - Finding**

This action is not expected to result in any significant adverse environmental impacts as described in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The proposed action has been thoroughly reviewed by the U.S. Coast Guard and it has been determined, by the undersigned, that this action is categorically excluded under current DHS by the undersigned, that this action is categorically excluded under current DHS CATEX(L63(a)) from further environmental documentation, in accordance with DHS Directive 023-01 and Instruction 023-01-001-01, Implementation of NEPA, since implementation of this action:

1. Clearly fits within one or more of the categories of excludable actions listed in Appendix A of DHS Instruction 023-01-001-01;
2. Has not been segmented into smaller parts in order to avoid a more extensive evaluation of the potential for significant environmental impacts; and
3. Does not involve any extraordinary circumstances, as defined in DHS Instruction 023-01-001-01, Section V(B)(2), that would create the potential for a normally excluded action to have a significant environmental effect.

01/16/2024

Date

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01/16/2024

Date

Thad Lettsome (Level I)

Environmental Reviewer