



**Homeland
Security**

**Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation
Decision Support System**

USCG-2023-0438_Great Lakes Pilotage Rates–2024 Annual Review - Project Approved

Status

- In Preparation (01/25/2024)
- Environmental Review (01/25/2024)
- Senior Environmental Review (01/25/2024)
- Proponent Review (01/31/2024)
- Project Approved (01/31/2024)

Project Information

General

Name: USCG-2023-0438_Great Lakes Pilotage Rates–2024 Annual Review

DSS ID: DSS-USCG-2023-18379

Security: Unclassified

Description: In accordance with the statutory provisions enacted by the Great Lakes Pilotage Act of 1960, the Coast Guard is issuing new pilotage rates for the 2024 shipping season. The Coast Guard estimates that this rule will result in approximately a 7-percent increase in operating costs compared to the 2023 season.

Funded through IRA?: No

Funded through the IIJA?: No

Critical Infrastructure?: No

Adopting Another Agency Catex, or CATEX Determination?: No

Project Types:

- Administrative & Regulatory Activities - Regulations which are editorial or procedural, such as those updating addresses or establishing application procedures. (CATEX *L54)
- Administrative & Regulatory Activities - Other, A3

Existing EA/EIS?: No

Requires EA/EIS?: No

Project Priority: Normal

Federal Assistance: No

Type of Permit: N/A

Estimated Project Cost: (not entered)

Component

Component: USCG - U.S. Coast Guard

Region/Area/Unit: USCG HQ CG-REG Office of Standards Evaluation & Development

Tracking Number: USCG-2023-0438

Dates

FY Funding: 2024

Proposed Project Start: 04/01/2024

Proposed Project End: On-going

Review Start: 11/20/2023

Project Location

- U.S. Territorial Water: Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway

Team

- Document Preparer, Gabrielle Cantor (Level II), Gabrielle.R.Cantor@uscg.mil
- Collaborator-Documents Preparation, Cynthia Lederer-Sydnor, Cynthia.A.Lederer-Sydnor@uscg.mil
- Collaborator-Documents Preparation, Spencer Phillips, Spencer.Phillips@uscg.mil
- Environmental Reviewer, Diane Rusanowsky, Diane.Rusanowsky@uscg.mil
- Senior Environmental Reviewer, Diane Rusanowsky, Diane.Rusanowsky@uscg.mil
- Proponent, Wayne Arguin, Wayne.R.Arguin@uscg.mil

Categorical Exclusions

- A3 - Promulgation of rules, issuance of rulings or interpretations, and the development and publication of policies, orders, directives, notices, procedures, manuals, advisory circulars, and other guidance documents of the following nature:
 - (a) Those of a strictly administrative or procedural nature;
 - (b) Those that implement, without substantive change, statutory or regulatory requirements;
 - (c) Those that implement, without substantive change, procedures, manuals, and other guidance documents;
 - (d) Those that interpret or amend an existing regulation without changing its environmental effect;
 - (e) Technical guidance on safety and security matters; or,
 - (f) Guidance for the preparation of security plans.
- L54* - Regulations which are editorial or procedural, such as those updating addresses or establishing application procedures.

Required Conditions

1. Any change to the Proposed Action that may cause a physical interaction with the human environment will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other EP&HP requirements before the action can proceed.
2. This review addresses NEPA and other EP&HP requirements as described in DHS Directive 023-01. This review may identify the need for additional federal, state, and/or local permits, approvals, etc. required for the Proposed Action. However, this review may not satisfy those requirements and the Proponent is responsible for ensuring that all other appropriate federal, state, and/or local permits,

approvals, etc. have been obtained.

Decision Documents

- Record of Environmental Consideration (REC), 12.34kB

Attachments

- USCG FR GLP Ratemaking 2024_01.25.2024.docx, 229.05kB

Comments

- There are no comments.

EPHP Review

Environmental Resources

- Is the Proposed Action a piece of a larger action or connected to another action? -- No
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This is a single and complete action
- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on public health or safety? Areas to consider include, but are not limited to: environmental justice considerations; air quality; noise impacts; hazardous wastes and/or contamination; wastewater; potable water; and changes in modes or safety of transportation. -- No
Explain how the proposed action would not have a potentially significant effect on public health or safety. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Would the proposed action place a disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effect on minority populations and low-income populations? -- No
- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on species or habitats protected by the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, or Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act? -- No
Provide a conclusion under which statute the determination was made (e.g., no effect, NLAA, LAA, for ESA, etc.), how the determination was made, why it is considered significant, and copies of any consultation (informal and/or formal). : This action is administrative and procedural
Attachments: FWS, NMFS, or Wildlife Agency Consultation: (No files uploaded yet.)
- What is your Endangered Species Act (ESA) finding and determination? -- N/A
Explain why ESA is not applicable to your proposed action (i.e is your proposed action entirely within a building with no species present?). Recommend attaching any relevant supporting information.: This action is administrative and procedural
Attachments: ESA information: (No files uploaded yet.)

- What is your Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) finding and determination? -- N/A
Explain why MMPA is not applicable to your proposed action (i.e. is your proposed action entirely within a building with no species present?). Recommend attaching any relevant supporting information.: This action is administrative and procedural
Attachments: MMPA information: (No files uploaded yet.)
- Would the proposed action adversely affect a species protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or Migratory Bird Treaty Act or habitat for such species? -- N/A
Attachments: BGEPA MBTA information: (No files uploaded yet.)
- What is your Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (essential fish habitat) finding and determination? -- N/A
Attachments: EFH information: (No files uploaded yet.)
- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on an environmentally sensitive area? Examples include, but are not limited to: areas having special designation or recognition such as prime or unique agricultural lands, coastal zones, designated wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, 100-year floodplains, wetlands, sole source aquifers, Marine Sanctuaries, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, National Monuments, etc. -- No resources present
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action result in the potential violation of a Federal, State, or local law or requirement imposed to protect the environment? -- No
Please summarize determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action have an effect on the quality of the human environment that is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity, likely to be highly uncertain, or likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks? -- No
Required: Please explain. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action employ new or unproven technology that is likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks, where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly uncertain, or where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity? -- No
Required: Please explain.: This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future actions that have significant effects? -- No
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Is the Proposed Action significantly greater in scope or size than normally experienced for its particular category of action? -- No
Required: Please summarize determination.: This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action have the potential to result in the significant degradation of existing poor environmental conditions? Will the Proposed Action initiate a potentially significant environmentally degrading influence, activity, or effect in areas not already significantly modified from their natural condition? -- No

Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural

- Is the Proposed Action related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts? -- No

Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural

- Are there any other requirements for the protection of the environment that need to be considered for this proposed action? -- No

Historic Preservation & Cultural Resources

- Is the Proposed Action a piece of a larger action or connected to another action? -- No

Please explain how you came to this determination. : This is a single and complete action

- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on public health or safety? Areas to consider include, but are not limited to: environmental justice considerations; air quality; noise impacts; hazardous wastes and/or contamination; wastewater; potable water; and changes in modes or safety of transportation. -- No

Explain how the proposed action would not have a potentially significant effect on public health or safety. : This action is administrative and procedural

- Would the proposed action place a disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effect on minority populations and low-income populations? -- No
- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on species or habitats protected by the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, or Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act? -- No

Provide a conclusion under which statute the determination was made (e.g., no effect, NLAA, LAA, for ESA, etc.), how the determination was made, why it is considered significant, and copies of any consultation (informal and/or formal). : This action is administrative and procedural

Attachments: FWS, NMFS, or Wildlife Agency Consultation: (No files uploaded yet.)

- What is your Endangered Species Act (ESA) finding and determination? -- N/A

Explain why ESA is not applicable to your proposed action (i.e is your proposed action entirely within a building with no species present?). Recommend attaching any relevant supporting information.: This action is administrative and procedural

Attachments: ESA information: (No files uploaded yet.)

- What is your Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) finding and determination? -- N/A

Explain why MMPA is not applicable to your proposed action (i.e is your proposed action entirely within a building with no species present?). Recommend attaching any relevant supporting information.: This action is administrative and procedural

Attachments: MMPA information: (No files uploaded yet.)

- Would the proposed action adversely affect a species protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or Migratory Bird Treaty Act or habitat for such species? -- N/A

Attachments: BGEPA MBTA information: (No files uploaded yet.)

- What is your Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (essential fish habitat) finding and determination? -- N/A
Attachments: EFH information: (No files uploaded yet.)
- Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on an environmentally sensitive area? Examples include, but are not limited to: areas having special designation or recognition such as prime or unique agricultural lands, coastal zones, designated wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, 100-year floodplains, wetlands, sole source aquifers, Marine Sanctuaries, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, National Monuments, etc. -- No resources present
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action result in the potential violation of a Federal, State, or local law or requirement imposed to protect the environment? -- No
Please summarize determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action have an effect on the quality of the human environment that is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity, likely to be highly uncertain, or likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks? -- No
Required: Please explain. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action employ new or unproven technology that is likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks, where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly uncertain, or where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity? -- No
Required: Please explain.: This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future actions that have significant effects? -- No
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Is the Proposed Action significantly greater in scope or size than normally experienced for its particular category of action? -- No
Required: Please summarize determination.: This action is administrative and procedural
- Will the Proposed Action have the potential to result in the significant degradation of existing poor environmental conditions? Will the Proposed Action initiate a potentially significant environmentally degrading influence, activity, or effect in areas not already significantly modified from their natural condition? -- No
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Is the Proposed Action related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts? -- No
Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural
- Are there any other requirements for the protection of the environment that need to be considered for this proposed action? -- No
- Will the proposed action have a potentially significant effect on a district, highway, structure, or object that is listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, a historic or

cultural resource, traditional or sacred site, or result in the destruction of a significant scientific, cultural, or historic resource? -- No resources present

Please explain how you came to this determination. : This action is administrative and procedural

DHS Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) for Categorically Excluded Actions under NEPA

INTRODUCTION
<p>The purpose of this Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) 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 accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and DHS Directive 023-01 and Instruction Manual 023-01-001-01 on implementation of NEPA. DHS integrates the NEPA process with review and compliance requirements under other Federal laws, regulations, Executive Orders, and other requirements for the stewardship and protection of the human environment, as reflected in Section II (8) of this REC. Signature of the DHS Proponent on this REC demonstrates that they have considered the potential for impacts to the human environment in their decision to implement the Proposed Action as required by NEPA, and are committing to any conditions listed in Section IV of this REC that may be required for implementation of the project. When completed, the form is to be signed by the Preparer, the Environmental Approver, and the Action Proponent. The completed REC becomes a part of the administrative record for the Proposed Action.</p>
SECTION I - Description of Proposed Action
<p>1. Name of Component Authorizing the Proposed Action: U.S. Coast Guard USCG HQ CG-REG Office of Standards Evaluation & Development</p>
<p>2. Title of Proposed Action: USCG-2023-0438_Great Lakes Pilotage Rates–2024 Annual Review</p>
<p>3. Identifying Number of Proposed Action: DSS-USCG-2023-18379</p>
<p>4. Estimated Start Date and Useful Life of Proposed Action: Start Date: 04/01/2024 - End Date: On-Going</p>
<p>5. Location of Proposed Action: U.S. Territorial Water: Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway</p>
<p>6. Description of Proposed Action: In accordance with the statutory provisions enacted by the Great Lakes Pilotage Act of 1960, the Coast Guard is issuing new pilotage rates for the 2024 shipping season. The Coast Guard estimates that this rule will result in approximately a 7-percent increase in operating costs compared to the 2023 season.</p>
SECTION II - Analysis of Extraordinary Circumstances
<p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed Action is not a piece of a larger action <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Action is a piece of a larger action Remarks:</p>
8. For A through K, check the appropriate box and provide an explanation when appropriate. Include a summary of any coordination or consultation that occurred with a resource or regulatory agency, if relevant.
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No A. Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on public health or safety? Remarks:</p>

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>B. Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on species or habitats protected by the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, or Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>C. Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on a district, highway, structure, or object that is listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)? Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on a historic or cultural resource, traditional or sacred site, or result in the destruction of a significant scientific, cultural, or historic resource?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>D. Will the Proposed Action have a potentially significant effect on an environmentally sensitive area?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>E. Will the Proposed Action result in the potential violation of a Federal, State, or local law or requirement imposed to protect the environment?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>F. Will the Proposed Action have an effect on the quality of the human environment that is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity, likely to be highly uncertain, or likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>G. Will the Proposed Action employ new or unproven technology that is likely to involve unique or unknown environmental risks, where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly uncertain, or where the effect on the human environment is likely to be highly controversial in terms of scientific validity?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>H. Will the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future actions that have significant effects?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>I. Is the Proposed Action significantly greater in scope or size than normally experienced for its particular category of action?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>J. Does the Proposed Action have the potential to result in significant degradation of existing poor environmental conditions? Will the Proposed Action initiate a potentially significant environmentally degrading influence, activity, or effect in areas not significantly modified from their natural condition?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>K. Is the Proposed Action related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts?</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	
<p>SECTION III - Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) Determination</p>	

9. 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 CATEX **A3,L54*** from further environmental documentation, in accordance with Section 3 of DHS Directive 023-01, Environmental Planning Program since implementation of this action:

I. Clearly fits within one or more of the categories of excludable actions listed in Appendix A of DHS Instruction 023-01-001-01;

II. Is not a piece of a larger action which has been segmented into smaller parts in order to avoid a more extensive evaluation of the potential for significant environmental impacts;

III. 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.

SECTION IV - Conditions

10. The following conditions are required to implement the Proposed Action:

Any change to the Proposed Action that may cause a physical interaction with the human environment will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other EP&HP requirements before the action can proceed.

This review addresses NEPA and other EP&HP requirements as described in DHS Directive 023-01. This review may identify the need for additional federal, state, and/or local permits, approvals, etc. required for the Proposed Action. However, this review may not satisfy those requirements and the Proponent is responsible for ensuring that all other appropriate federal, state, and/or local permits, approvals, etc. have been obtained.

SECTION V - Signatures

11a. Preparer of this REC

Name: Gabrielle Cantor (Level II)	Digitally signed by Gabrielle Cantor (Level II) at 01/25/2024 11:46 AM Gabrielle Cantor (Level II)	Date: 01/25/2024
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11b. Environmental Approver of this REC

Name: Diane Rusanowsky	Digitally signed by Diane Rusanowsky at 01/25/2024 7:21 PM Diane Rusanowsky	Date: 01/25/2024
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11c. Action Proponent

Name: Wayne Arguin	Digitally signed by Wayne Arguin at 01/31/2024 10:38 AM Wayne Arguin	Date: 01/31/2024
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Preview of Attachments

The following pages will display this project's attachments that are of these file types:

- .jpg /.jpeg
- .png
- .gif
- .txt
- .pdf

The attachments of compatible file types from this project are:

Note:

All project attachments can be downloaded at the 'File Upload/Manage Attachments' page.