



U.S. Coast Guard Sector Columbia River

COVID-19 Guidance & Other Updates

Updated: 10 APR 2020

Information is also available on Sector Columbia River

Homeport Website: <https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/columbia-river>

**MESSAGE FROM
CAPTAIN OF THE PORT:**

The Coast Guard is supporting nationwide efforts to prevent, protect, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The virus is impacting our lives in new ways and the Coast Guard is focused on supporting Federal efforts to ensure public safety while facilitating a safe and effective Maritime Transportation System. As potential cases of COVID-19 arrive in our Captain of the Port zone, we stand ready to continue our collaboration with Federal, State, local health officials and medical service providers to solve each situation with public safety as a primary consideration. –Jeremy Smith, CAPT, Sector Commander

<u>Guidance</u>	<u>Overview</u>
Center for Disease Control (CDC) Maritime Guidance	
CDC COVID-19 Resources for Maritime Industry	Overarching guidance for the maritime industry. Provides the latest information on the following: federal regulations: reporting illness/death; investigation form: explanation of key fields, vessel sanitation certificate information, definitions: signs, symptoms and conditions; and other question and answer topics for shipping industry and partners. https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/index.html
CDC COVID-19 Guidance for Vessels	Guidelines on preventing, detecting, medical treatment, and measures to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 cases onboard vessels. Also, provides information on recommended personnel protective equipment and cleaning methods. https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/recommendations-for-ships.html
COMMERCIAL VESSEL SAFETY	
Foreign Vessels	
U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 02-20 (CH-3)	17 Mar: “Novel Coronavirus – Update (Change 3)” COVID-19-related guidance for commercial vessels prior to entering U.S. ports based on listed countries, vessel types, last ports of call, where crew embarked, CDC and COTP reporting requirements, and COTP restrictions depending on the scenario. https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/
U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 06-20	13 Mar: “Vessel Reporting Requirements for Illness or Death” COVID-19-related guidance for commercial vessels on reporting illness or death in accordance with 42 CFR Part 71 requirements. Provides additional guidance on illness symptoms, CDC reporting form/instructions, and CDC Quarantine Station contact info. https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/
U.S. Coast Guard	26 Mar: “Vessel Inspections, Exams, and Documentation” COVID-19-related guidance for safeguarding the Marine Transportation (MTS) that provides the USCG’s current position on commercial vessel inspection activities. Provides

MSIB 09-20	additional information on the USCG's Port State Control foreign vessel exam program. https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/
U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 14-20	10 Apr: "Ballast Water Management (BWM) Extensions" COVID-19-related guidance on adjustments to the Ballast Water Treatment System (BWTS) extension policy for companies/vessels due to pandemic restrictions around the globe with the following impacts: closed country borders; reduced or closed shipyards/drydocks; supply chain/shipping delays to equipment/parts; limited or non-available BWM technicians; and social distancing challenges in industrial work environments. USCG is adjusting its extension policy for vessels impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with BWTS compliance dates before 1 Apr 2021. USCG expects that the installation and commissioning of a BWTS will be completed as scheduled for credit drydock exams that are able to be carried out before 1 Apr 2021. For those vessels impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic whereby it is impractical to carry out the scheduled work, the USCG has in place a process for requesting an extension. Please refer to the following for more info and extension request procedures: https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/
Cruise Ships	
<i>For any cruise ship companies requesting to layup in COTP SCR Zone or drydock in the Port of Portland, please contact LCDR Dixon Whitley at (503) 240-2594 or: Dixon.t.whitley@uscg.mil to discuss required plans and review/approval process.</i>	
Passenger Vessels with Overnight Itineraries with Total Persons >250	
Center for Disease Control (CDC) No Sail Order	On 14 Mar, CDC issued a 30 day COVID-19-related No Sail Order for Cruise Ships and large passenger vessels with overnight itineraries that have a combined passenger and crew count of 250 persons or more. Update: On 9 Apr, CDC renewed the No-Sail Order. Latest information can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/cruise/index.html
Passenger Vessels	
U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 09-20	26 Mar: "Vessel Inspections, Exams, and Documentation" COVID-19-related guidance for safeguarding the Marine Transportation (MTS) that provides the USCG's current position on commercial vessel inspection activities. Provides additional information on U.S. flag inspected and certificated vessels. https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/
Governor of Oregon Executive Orders (EOs)	In response to COVID-19, Governor's EOs prohibiting non-essential business, non-essential gatherings, etc. Latest information can be found at: https://www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/pages/executive-orders.aspx
Governor of Washington Proclamations	In response to COVID-19, Governor's Proclamations on non-essential businesses, non-essential gatherings, etc. Latest information can be found at: https://www.governor.wa.gov/office-governor/official-actions/proclamations
Towing Vessels	
U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 09-20	26 Mar: "Vessel Inspections, Exams, and Documentation" COVID-19-related guidance for safeguarding the Marine Transportation (MTS) that provides the USCG's current position on commercial vessel inspection activities with information pertaining to U.S. flag inspected and certificated vessels. Provides additional info for ROs/TPOs that survey and audit on behalf of the USCG. https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/

Commercial Fishing Vessels (CFV)

**U.S. Coast Guard
MSIB 09-20**

26 Mar: “Vessel Inspections, Exams, and Documentation”

COVID-19-related guidance for safeguarding the Marine Transportation (MTS) that provides the USCG’s current position on commercial vessel inspection activities. Provides additional information pertaining to U.S. flag inspected and certificated vessels. Also, contains procedures for any CFV owners/operators needing to request a Letter of Deferral (LOD) for extending an exam 90 days past the decal expiration date. LOD requests can be directed to USCG Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) via a CFV safety examiner. <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/>

WATERWAYS MANAGENT / FACILITIES

Waterfront Facilities

**U.S. Coast Guard
MSIB 07-20**

19 Mar: “Port and Facility operations”

COVID-19-related guidance for port and facility operations. Provides info on the following: noncompliance reporting, Declarations of Security, Declarations of Inspection, seafarer’s access, waste reception facilities, and TWIC enrollment centers. <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/>

Facility and Vessel Response Plans (FRPs/VRPs)

**U.S. Coast Guard
MSIB 12-20**

2 Apr: “Facility and Vessel Response Plans”

COVID-19 related guidance for facility and vessel owners/operators that stresses the importance of maintaining availability of response resources to ensure within stipulated response times in accordance with 33 CFR Parts 154 and 155. Facility and vessel owners/operators should continually communicate with their oil spill response and salvage and marine firefighting providers to assess changes and have contingencies for any degradation of resource availability/capabilities. <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/>

Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) – Maritime Facilities and Vessels

**U.S. Coast Guard
MSIB 13-20**

3 Apr: “TWIC Operations”

COVID-19-related guidance for exemptions to TWIC requirements. Provides additional information on the following: noncompliance reporting, Alternatives Security Program, new hires, TWIC flexibility in relation to Merchant Mariner Credentials (MMCs), TWIC readers, and escort ratios. <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/>

MARINE INVESTIGATIONS

Mariner Credentialing

**U.S. Coast Guard
MSIB 08-20 (CH-1)**

30 Mar: “Mariner Credentials – Extension of Merchant Mariner Credential Endorsements and Medical Certificates (Change 1)”

COVID-19-related guidance on mariner credentials and medical certificates. USCG is coordinating with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to ensure alignment on the extension of endorsements in accordance with the Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW). Bulletin provides

	<p>additional information on the following: Regional Exam Centers and Monitoring Units, national endorsements, STCW endorsements, STCW medical certificates, additional administrative measures, pilot annual physical exams, and course/program approvals.</p> <p>https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/</p>
<p>U.S. Coast Guard National Maritime Center Notice on Operations & Customer Service Impacts</p>	<p>31 Mar: “National Maritime Center (NMC) Operational Changes”</p> <p>COVID-19-related information regarding all 17 Regional Exam Centers (RECs) and 3 Monitoring Units (Mus) remain closed until further notice, though telework and shift-work is in effect to maintain mission-essential credential services. Provides additional information on the following: customer service center, electronic mariner applications and awaiting information, user fees, mariner records, and applications.</p> <p>https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2020/03/31/national-maritime-center-operational-changes-related-to-covid-19/</p>
Drug and Alcohol Testing	
<p>U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 10-20</p>	<p>27 Mar: “Guidance for Maritime on Compliance w/ Federal Drug Testing Requirements”</p> <p>COVID-19-related guidance for maritime operators on maintaining compliance with federal drug and alcohol testing requirements. Provides additional information on the following: reminds owner/operators of importance that random drug testing serves in keeping mariners and the industry safe; requirements remain place for drug and alcohol testing following a Serious Marine Incident; recommends training employees on drug testing urine specimen collection procedures vice bringing third party collectors aboard or having the crew transport to a shoreside facility; and option to request a waiver of pre-employment testing for credentialed mariners that are recalled to service early who are covered by another random testing program for at least 60 days within last 365 days.</p> <p>https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/</p>
AREA MARITIME SECURITY	
Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)	
<p>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) FY20 PSGP</p>	<p>Due to COVID-19 impacts, FEMA is allowing additional time to submit applications for the PSGP and four other preparedness grant programs until ***30 Apr 2020***.</p> <p>https://www.fema.gov/port-security-grant-program</p>
Cyber Security	
<p>U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 04-19</p>	<p>2019: “Cyber Adversaries Targeting Commercial Vessels”</p> <p>Informs the maritime industry of the following: email phishing and malware intrusion attempts by adversaries posing as official Port State Control (PSC) authorities and reports of malicious software designed to disrupt shipboard computer systems. Provides additional information on national cyber-attack/support agency and stresses the importance of reporting suspicious activity and breaches of security.</p> <p>https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/</p>
<p>U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 10-19</p>	<p>2019: “Cyber Attack Impacts MTSA Facility Operations”</p> <p>Informs the maritime industry of an incident involving ransomware intrusion via email phishing that impacted a MTSA regulated facility. Provides additional info on cyber risk management resources: cyber technology standards, cyber-attack/support agency info, and stresses the importance of reporting suspicious activity and breaches of security.</p> <p>https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/</p>

MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Port Resiliency

U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 11-20	<p>27 Mar: “Maintaining Maritime Commerce and Identification of Essential Maritime Critical Infrastructure Workers”</p> <p>COVID-19-related guidance on the importance of maintaining and safeguarding the Maritime Transportation System (MTS), which is critical to national security and economic vitality. On 19 Mar, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) published a memorandum with list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers”. Bulletin provides additional information/awareness for state and local officials on additional maritime labor groups and workers that the USCG deems as essential for sustaining the continuous flow of maritime commerce. NOTE: The 16 maritime labor groups/workers listed in the bulletin is not intended to be all-inclusive and serves as guidance for local maritime sectors to expand as necessary.</p> <p>https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Featured-Content/Mariners/Marine-Safety-Information-Bulletins-MSIB/</p>
U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Commons	<p>10 Apr: “Safeguarding the Marine Transportation System (MTS)”</p> <p>A message from the Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy (CG-5P), Rear Admiral Richard Timme, on the Coast Guard’s role in safeguarding the nation’s MTS during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>https://mariners.coastguard.blog/category/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>
USDOT / U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) COVID-19 Guidance	<p>COVID-19-related resources with links to the following: CDC, USCG, DHS Critical Infrastructure Information, and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency.</p> <p>https://www.maritime.dot.gov/coronavirus</p>
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	
Quick Reference	
U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Commons Blog for Maritime Professionals	<p>Latest USCG Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) COVID-19-related and other important announcements will be posted at:</p> <p>https://mariners.coastguard.blog/category/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>