

*Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies*

TITLE 15. Navigation and Aeronautics

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*Agency*

**Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**

*Subject*

**Boating Safety**

*Inclusive Sections*

**§§ 15-121-A1—15-121-D2c**

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**Boating Safety**

**Sec. 15-121-A1. Definitions**

As used in sections 15-121-A2 to 15-140j-3, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) “Marker” means either a floating or a fixed object to be used to aid or regulate waterway traffic. There shall be three types of markers: regulatory, navigational and special purpose.

(b) “Steerage speed” means the minimum speed necessary to allow a vessel to be steered while making forward progress.

(c) “Bow” means the forward half of a vessel.

(d) “Hull” means the outside body of a vessel exclusive of the deck or any superstructure, masts, or rigging.

(e) “Emergency” means a situation in which life, limb, or property are at imminent and serious risk.

(f) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

(g) “Person” means any individual, partnership, firm, association, corporation or other entity.

(h) “Town” includes city, town, borough or any other political subdivision of the state.

(i) “PFD” means a personal flotation device that is labeled, maintained, stored and used in compliance with 33 CFR 175, Subpart B.

(j) “Slow-No-Wake” means that a vessel shall not produce more than a minimum wake and shall not attain speeds greater than 6 miles per hour over the ground unless a higher minimum speed is necessary to maintain steerageway when traveling with a strong current. In no case shall the wake produced by the vessel be such that it creates a danger of injury to persons, or will damage vessels or structures of any kind.

(k) “Federal waters” means the navigable waters of the United States, as defined by 33 CFR 2.36(a), within the territorial limits of the state.

(l) “State waters” means all waters within the territorial limits of the state except federal waters.

(m) “Waters of the state” means all waters, including federal waters, within the territorial limits of the state.

(n) “Marine dealer” means a person engaged in the business of manufacturing, selling or repairing new or used vessels.

(o) “Marine engine manufacturer” means a person engaged in the business of manufacturing, selling or repairing marine engines.

(p) “Marine surveyor” means a person who is certified by the National Association of Marine Surveyors or accredited by the Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors and who is engaged in the business of inspection, survey or examination of vessels or associated equipment to assess, monitor and report on the condition of the vessel or associated equipment.

(q) “Airboat” means a vessel that is typically flat-bottomed and propelled by an aircraft-

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type propeller that is powered by an engine.

(r) “Auxiliary sail” means a vessel with sail as its primary method of propulsion and mechanical propulsion as its secondary method.

(s) “Cabin motorboat” means a vessel propelled by propulsion machinery and providing enclosed spaces inside its structure.

(t) “Houseboat” means a motorized vessel that is usually non-planing and designed primarily for multi-purpose accommodation spaces with low freeboard and little or no foredeck or cockpit.

(u) “Hull identification number” or “HIN” means a number required by 33 CFR 181.23.

(v) “Inboard”, in the context of an engine, means an engine mounted inside the confines of a vessel which powers a drive shaft that turns a water jet impeller or that runs through the bottom of the hull and is attached to a propeller at the other end.

(w) “Inflatable boat” means a vessel that uses air-filled flexible fabric for buoyancy.

(x) “Open motorboat” means a vessel equipped with propulsion machinery and having an open load carrying area that does not have a continuous deck to protect it from the entry of water.

(y) “Outboard”, in the context of an engine, means an engine with propeller or water jet integrally attached, which is usually mounted at the stern of a vessel.

(z) “Overall length of vessel” means the horizontal distance between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stern, excluding bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments, as reported on the manufacturer’s certificate of origin or builder’s certificate for the subject vessel; or absent such certificate of origin or builder’s certificate, as reported on a current or expired certificate of number or certificate of documentation for the subject vessel issued by a governmental agency; or absent such certificate of origin, certificate of number, builder’s certificate or certificate of documentation, as measured by the owner.

(aa) “Paddlecraft” means a vessel powered only by its occupants, using a single or double-bladed paddle as a lever without the aid of a fulcrum provided by oarlocks, thole pins, crutches, or similar arrangements.

(bb) “Pod drive” means an engine mounted in front of the transom of a vessel and attached through the bottom of the hull to a steerable propulsion unit.

(cc) “Pontoon boat” means a vessel with a broad, flat deck that is affixed on top of closed cylinders which are used for buoyancy, the basic design of which is usually implemented with two rows of floats as a catamaran or with three rows of floats as a trimaran.

(dd) “Rowboat” means an open vessel manually propelled by oars.

(ee) “Sail only” means a vessel propelled only by sails.

(ff) “State of principal operation” or “State of principal use” means the state in whose waters a vessel is or will be operated most during a calendar year.

(gg) “Sterndrive” means an engine, powering a propeller through a series of shafts and gears, mounted in front of the transom of a vessel and attached through the transom to a drive unit that is similar to the lower unit of an outboard; and may also be known as an

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inboard-outdrive or an inboard-outboard.

(Effective April 23, 1993; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007; Amended July 8, 2011; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-A2. Regulatory markers**

(a) There shall be two types of regulatory markers, three dimensional markers and two dimensional markers. For the purpose of sections 15-121-A3 to 15-121-A5, inclusive, a three dimensional marker shall be called a buoy and a two dimensional marker shall be called a beacon. Regulatory markers shall be of a size, shape, color and materials as designated in this section and approved by the commissioner upon application.

(b) A regulatory buoy shall be cylindrical in shape above its waterline. Colors on the buoy shall be white and reflective international orange. Two horizontal bands of reflective international orange shall be placed on the buoy, one at the top and one near the bottom but above the waterline, each being a minimum of three inches in width. The area in between these two bands shall be white, and shall contain the appropriate symbol of the regulation specified in subsection (d) of this section.

(c) A regulatory beacon shall be square or rectangular in silhouette. A band of reflective international orange of at least three inches shall form the outside border of the beacon. The area within the border shall be white, and shall contain the appropriate symbol of regulation specified in subsection (d) of this section.

(d) The appropriate symbol of regulation, in reflective international orange color, shall be centered on the white portion of a regulatory buoy or beacon as follows:

- (1) a vertical open-faced diamond to mean danger;
- (2) a vertical open-faced diamond having a cross in its center meaning that vessels are excluded absolutely from the marked area;
- (3) an open-faced circle meaning that a vessel operated within the marked area is subject to certain operating restrictions;
- (4) a square or rectangle with lettering on the inside giving directions or information.

(e) Numbers, letters and words shall be used on both regulatory buoys and regulatory beacons and may state the statutory or regulatory authority of or clarify the specific meaning of the marker. Such numbers, letters and words shall be black, of plain block style, well proportioned and of sufficient size to be visible from one hundred feet. When letters are used to identify regulatory markers, the identifying letters shall follow alphabetical sequence and the letters I and O shall be omitted to prevent confusion with numbers.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-A3. Special purpose markers**

(a) **Anchorage or mooring area buoy.** An anchorage or mooring area buoy shall designate areas where boats may be anchored or moored. An anchorage or mooring area buoy shall be white, except that yellow buoys shall be used to mark quarantine anchorage areas. White buoys with a clearly visible horizontal blue band around the circumference of

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the buoy centered midway between the top of the buoy and the waterline shall be used to mark individual vessel moorings.

(b) **Diver's flag.** A diver shall mark his position with a diver's flag. The diver's flag shall be two sided and shall be of stiff material or fitted with stiffener(s) or batten(s) so that it remains unfurled. It shall consist of a red background not less than thirteen inches in height by fifteen inches in width with a white diagonal stripe not less than three inches in width running downward from the top corner of the flag where attached to the staff to the opposite lower corner. On flags so used to indicate the presence of a submerged diver between sunset and sunrise, the white diagonal stripe shall be of reflectorized material. The diver's flag shall be made of nylon, plastic, or other waterproof material and shall be supported by a stiff mast not less than twenty inches in length. Each mast shall be fixed to the boat from which divers are operating or to a float of sufficient size and stability to support the masted flag in a vertical upright position.

(c) Not more than four persons shall use the same diver's flag simultaneously, except when engaged in underwater swimming or diving from an anchored vessel displaying such flag in which case the number of persons using the same flag shall be limited to the legal capacity of such vessel.

(Effective November 5, 1991; Amended September 8, 1998)

**Sec. 15-121-A4. Navigational markers**

(a) **Construction.** Navigational markers shall be buoys or beacons lighted or unlighted and whose size, shape, color and material are as designated in this section and approved by the Commissioner upon application.

(b) **Colors and purposes.**

(1) **Well defined channels.** Solid-green and solid-red colored buoys indicate well-defined channels. A red and a green buoy shall be installed at both ends of the channel. Any staggering of the green and red buoys shall be limited to instances where they are close enough together to eliminate any possible confusion, and they shall be installed in conformity with the buoys at the beginning of the channel. If numbers are used, such numbers shall be colored white and may be reflectorized. Odd numbers shall be used on green buoys and even numbers on red buoys. To distinguish the state uniform system from the federal lateral system, all numbered state uniform system navigational marker buoys shall have the prefix CT before the number. In cases where there are no numbers, the letters CT shall be painted white.

(2) **Channels not well-defined.** Where there is no well-defined channel, or where the obstruction is of such a nature or in such a location that it can be approached from more than one direction, a cardinal system shall be used, by using a white colored buoy with a red top or a white buoy with a green top, the width of the top color to be approximately one-third of the portion of the buoy showing above the water level. Navigation shall be to the south or west of the red-topped buoys, and to the north or east of the green-topped buoys. Numbers may be used on these buoys. If numbers are used, they shall be colored white and

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may be reflectorized and shall be placed in the top portion of the buoy. Odd numbers shall be used on green-topped buoys and even numbers on red-topped buoys. This subdivision pertains to state waters only.

(3) **Reflectorized material.** If reflectorized material or reflectors are used, the reflective color red shall be used on solid-red colored buoys and the reflective color green shall be used on solid-green colored buoys except where numbers are painted, in which case, the number's reflective color shall be white. All other buoys used in the cardinal system may have silver or white reflectors or reflectorized material.

(4) **Navigational lights.** All navigational lights shall be flashing; the color of the light lens shall be red for solid-red colored buoys, green for solid-green colored buoys and white for all other buoys.

(5) **Lights on bridges.** All lights on bridges shall be fixed red lights marking the edges of the safe channel with a single fixed green light placed over the center of the safe channel to indicate maximum vertical clearance at that point.

(Effective August 25, 1987; Amended March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-A5. Permission required to place markers**

(a) No person or town, shall place any regulatory or navigational marker except as authorized in this section.

(b) Any town desiring to place any regulatory or navigational marker in waters within its jurisdiction shall apply to the commissioner for authorization to place said markers.

(c) Any person desiring to place any regulatory or navigational marker shall apply to the commissioner for authorization to place said marker after having obtained signed approval from the chief executive authority of the town or designated lake authority in which said marker will be placed.

(d) Application for any such authorization shall be made on forms provided by the commissioner. A detailed map or drawing to a scale which readily depicts the marked area and its surroundings and shows the proposed location of each marker and its relation to nearby shores, channels and water traffic patterns shall accompany the application.

(e) Criteria for authorization shall include:

(1) Signed approval from the chief executive authority of the town or designated lake authority in which said marker will be placed;

(2) completeness, accuracy and detail of the application form;

(3) demonstrated need for the proposed markers;

(4) public safety considerations;

(5) environmental impact considerations;

(6) review for possible conflicts with various water use groups;

(7) visibility and durability of proposed markers;

(8) conformity with existing authorizations; and

(9) consistency with federal, state and local law.

(f) The commissioner may impose whatever conditions he deems necessary regarding



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an application for placement of regulatory or navigational markers pursuant to this section. If authorization from the commissioner has been granted, said markers shall be deemed lawfully placed, provided said markers are placed subject to any conditions set forth therein and in the manner specified by the authorization. If the commissioner finds authorized markers to be an obstruction or menace to navigation or a hindrance to public use of waters, he may revoke the authorization.

(Effective June 23, 1988; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-A6. Marine parades, regattas, races, tournaments and exhibitions**

(a) No marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity requiring exclusive use of a specified portion of a water body, use of a state boating access area, or modification or suspension of the statutory and regulatory requirements and restrictions set forth in subsection (c) of this section, shall be permitted on state waters except as authorized by a permit issued by the commissioner. A permit shall not be required, however, for a tournament authorized by a permit issued by the commissioner under section 26-112-42 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The discharge of pyrotechnic displays where any part of the shooting platform or the spent shell safety fallout zone is over state waters shall be considered an exhibition.

(b) In accordance with 33 CFR Part 100, the commissioner may issue a permit for a marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity identified in subsection (a) of this section on federal waters, provided the United States Coast Guard has not approved or denied an application for such marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity identified in subsection (a) of this section. A marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity identified in subsection (a) of this section on federal waters requiring use of a state boating access area shall require a permit issued by the commissioner for authorization for such use.

(c) The commissioner may modify or suspend during a marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity identified in subsection (a) of this section the following statutory and regulatory requirements and restrictions:

(1) Numbering requirements may be modified or suspended pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 15-143 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(2) Safety devices and equipment requirements may be modified or suspended pursuant to section 15-130 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(3) Waterskiing requirements may be modified or suspended pursuant to subsection (e) of section 15-134 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(4) Speed and use restrictions may be suspended or modified pursuant to subsection (b) of section 15-121-B18 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

(d) The person requesting permission to hold a marine parade, regatta, race, tournament, exhibition or other activity identified in subsection (a) of this section shall make application in duplicate on forms provided by the commissioner at least forty-five days prior to the date

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of the proposed event and shall provide the following information on the application:

- (1) The name and address of organization holding the event;
- (2) the nature and purpose of the event;
- (3) information as to general public interest;
- (4) the estimated number and types of spectator watercraft;
- (5) the time schedule and a description of events, with times that nonparticipating craft will be allowed to enter the area;
- (6) a chart or drawing showing the boundaries of the event and various watercourses or areas to be utilized by participants, officials, and spectator craft;
- (7) an explanation of the system used to mark off the area;
- (8) approval of the town official in charge of enforcement or the town official's designee who shall provide the event with patrols as he deems necessary; and
- (9) any desired modification or suspension of regulations mentioned above with the reasons for the request.

(e) The person obtaining permission to hold such event shall be responsible for safety in the event area and shall display during the event such warning flags or other marine event warning devices as specified in the permit so that at least one will be seen by all the nonparticipating watercraft. Marine event warning devices shall meet the following specifications:

(1) **Marine event warning flags:** Each warning flag shall be orange in color and shall measure 24 inches by 24 inches. Each flag shall be made of nylon, plastic, or other waterproof material and shall be supported by a fiberglass mast not less than 48 inches nor more than 72 inches in length. Each mast shall be fixed to a float of styrofoam or similar flotation material orange in color and of sufficient size and stability to support the masted flag in a vertical upright position. Such marker shall be placed and held in its authorized location by the use of an anchor and line. Such anchor shall be made of concrete or metal and the anchor line shall be of sufficient length and tensile strength to insure restricted marker movement and retrieval of the anchor.

(2) **Marine event warning buoys:** Each warning buoy shall be orange in color and cylindrical in shape. The minimum dimensions for each buoy shall be 9 inches in diameter and 60 inches in height with at least 36 inches exposure above the surface of the water. Each buoy shall be constructed of foam filled plastic or air inflated rubber or vinyl material sufficiently strong to resist puncture and abrasion during normal use. Anchoring of each buoy shall be by the same method and materials as specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(3) **Marine event fixed warning signs:** Fixed warning signs may be substituted for floating marine event warning devices during marine events such as canoe races, kayak races, raft races, and similar events when such events are held on a river or stream not more than 100 feet wide or when the use of floating warning devices described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection is not practicable, provided that no such fixed warning signs shall be placed in the water but must be placed on shore or securely suspended on a line at

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least 15 feet above the water at midstream. Fixed warning signs shall be not less than 2 feet square nor more than 3 feet square, shall be constructed of 3/8 inch exterior grade plywood and shall be painted orange on both sides with the words “MARINE EVENT IN PROGRESS” in block style black letters at least 3 inches in height on the side which faces water traffic entering the event area.

(4) **Night Events:** Marine event warning devices authorized for night events shall be the same as described in subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of this subsection, except that they shall incorporate reflectorized materials as follows:

(A) Warning flags. A 2 inch wide orange reflectorized band along the entire perimeter of the flag on both sides of the flag.

(B) Warning buoys. A 2 inch wide orange reflectorized band around the buoy at its top and a second 2 inch wide orange reflectorized band around the buoy 12 inches below the top band.

(C) Fixed warning signs. A 2 inch wide orange reflectorized band along the entire perimeter of the sign on both sides of the sign.

(f) Nonparticipating watercraft shall not enter the event area while the marine event warning devices described in subsection (e) of this section are displayed except that the official in charge of the event may allow nonparticipating watercraft to enter the event area at such times that will not interfere with the progress of the event or its participants.

(Effective June 23, 1988; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-A7. Reportable boating accidents**

A boating accident occurs when a vessel or its equipment is damaged or involved in the injury, death, or unexplained disappearance of any person on board. A boating accident includes, but is not limited to, capsizing, collision, foundering, flooding, fire, explosion and the disappearance of a vessel otherwise than by theft.

(Effective May 31, 1974)

**Sec. 15-121-A8. Reporting of boating accidents**

(a) A written report on forms provided by the department is required to be submitted to the department as prescribed by Section 15-149a of the General Statutes, whenever any one or more of the following occurs on board, or involves any vessel:

- (1) the death of any person from whatever cause;
- (2) the disappearance of any person from on board;
- (3) the injury of any person sufficient to require medical attention;
- (4) loss or damage to property of any kind, including the vessel, in an amount of more than five hundred dollars.

(b) Every written report of a boating accident shall contain the following information:

- (1) Number and name of each vessel involved;
- (2) Name and address of each owner of each vessel involved;
- (3) Name of the nearest town, the county, the state, and the body of water;

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- (4) Time and date the casualty or accident occurred;
- (5) Location on the water;
- (6) Visibility, weather, and water conditions;
- (7) Estimated air and water temperatures;
- (8) Name, address, age, or date of birth, telephone number, vessel operating experience, and boating safety training of the operator making the report;
- (9) Name and address of each operator of each vessel involved;
- (10) Number of persons onboard or towed on skis by each vessel;
- (11) Name, address, and date of birth of each person injured or killed;
- (12) Cause of each death;
- (13) Weather forecasts available to and weather reports used by the operator before and during the use of the vessel;
- (14) Name and address of each owner of property involved;
- (15) Availability and use of personal flotation devices;
- (16) Type and number of each fire extinguisher used;
- (17) Nature and extent of each injury;
- (18) Description of all property damage and vessel damage with an estimate of the cost of all repairs;
- (19) Description of each equipment failure that caused or contributed to the cause of the casualty;
- (20) Description of the vessel casualty or accident;
- (21) Type of vessel operation (cruising, drifting, fishing, hunting, skiing, racing, or other), and the type of accident (capsizing, sinking, fire, explosion, or other);
- (22) Opinion of the person making the report as to the cause of the casualty, including whether or not alcohol or drugs, or both, was a cause of or contributed to causing the casualty;
- (23) Characteristics of the reporting operator's vessel, including:
  - (A) Make;
  - (B) Model;
  - (C) Type: Authorized terms are "airboat", "auxiliary sail", "cabin motorboat", "houseboat", "inflatable boat", "open motorboat", "paddlecraft", "personal watercraft", "pontoon boat", "rowboat", "sail only", or "other";
  - (D) Beam width at widest point;
  - (E) Overall length of vessel;
  - (F) Depth from transom to keel;
  - (G) Horsepower;
  - (H) Propulsion: Authorized terms are "air thrust", "manual", "propeller", "sail", "water jet", or "other";
  - (I) Fuel: Authorized terms are "electric", "diesel", "gas", or "other";
  - (J) Engine drive type: Authorized terms are "inboard", "outboard", "pod drive", "sterndrive", or "other";

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(K) Hull material: Authorized terms are “aluminum”, “fiberglass”, “plastic”, “rubber/vinyl/canvas”, “steel”, “wood”, or “other”; and,

(L) Model year.

(24) Name, address, and telephone number of each witness;

(25) Manufacturer’s hull identification number, if any, of the reporting operator’s vessel; and,

(26) Name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the report.

(Effective June 23, 1988; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-A9. Requirements when water skiing**

(a) Any person required to obtain a safe water skiing endorsement by section 15-140e of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be required to carry on board the vessel engaged in water skiing a physical copy or electronic proof of such endorsement.

(b) No person shall operate a vessel engaged in water skiing at such a speed or maneuver a vessel engaged in water skiing in such a manner as to impede the navigation of another vessel or endanger the life, limb or property of another person. No person shall water ski in such a manner as to impede the navigation of any vessel or endanger the life, limb or property of another person. No person shall engage in water skiing in such a manner as to strike or threaten to strike any person, vessel or object other than an object designed to be used in a water skiing course and no person shall operate a motorboat or manipulate a tow line or other towing device in such a manner as to cause a water skier to strike or threaten to strike another person, vessel or object other than an object designed to be used in a water skiing course.

(c) No person shall operate a vessel towing a water skier without an observer present on the vessel who shall assist the operator and monitor the progress of the water skier. The observer shall be designated by the operator of the vessel and shall be at least twelve years of age.

(d) The number of persons on board the vessel towing a water skier added together with the number of water skiers being towed shall not exceed the carrying capacity of the towing vessel, as indicated on the capacity label permanently affixed to the towing vessel by its manufacturer, except that the commissioner may grant a marine event permit, or seasonal marine event permit, to authorize the number of persons on board a towing vessel added together with the number of water skiers being towed to exceed the carrying capacity of such towing vessel as indicated on the capacity label permanently affixed to such towing vessel by its manufacturer. The commissioner may require appropriate safeguards or protections, as the commissioner deems necessary, when authorizing such marine event permit or seasonal marine event permit.

(e) No person shall stand or sit either on the bow or gunwales of a vessel which is towing a water skier except in an emergency.

(f) Each water skier shall wear a personal flotation device approved by the U.S. Coast Guard and used in accordance with any requirements stated on the approval label and with

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any requirements in its owner's manual, if the approval label makes reference to such manual, and no vessel operator shall tow a water skier who is not wearing such a device. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person shall use an inflatable personal flotation device to meet the PFD requirements of this section.

(1) This subsection shall not apply to skiers engaged in barefoot water skiing who wear a barefoot wetsuit designed specifically for such activity.

(2) This subsection shall not apply to skiers engaged in trick water skiing whose movements would be restricted or impeded by the bulk of a personal flotation device. For purposes of this subsection, a trick water skier means a water skier whose equipment and activities have all of the following characteristics:

(A) Type of skis: for standard double trick skis, length of no more than 46 inches and width of at least 8 inches, with no keels on bottom; for single trick ski boards, length of no more than 56 inches and width of at least 22 inches, with no keel on bottom;

(B) speed of tow no more than 20 miles per hour; and

(C) tow rope no longer than 50 feet.

(3) The operator of a vessel towing a trick water skier or barefoot water skier shall make a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device readily available aboard the tow vessel for each such skier who elects not to wear such a device while skiing.

(g) No person shall operate a vessel towing a person or persons on an inner tube unless such inner tube is fitted with permanent handholds or with a covering with permanent handholds.

(h) No person shall operate a vessel towing a water skier from one half hour after sunset until sunrise or when weather conditions restrict normal visibility to less than one hundred yards.

(i) No person shall engage in teak surfing or platform dragging and no person shall operate a motorboat or have the engine of a motorboat run idle while a person is teak surfing or platform dragging. For the purposes of this section, "teak surfing" or "platform dragging" means holding onto the swim platform, swim deck, swim step, swim ladder, or any portion of the exterior of the transom of a motorboat for any amount of time while the motorboat is underway at any speed.

(j) (1) Kite skiing and parasailing are permitted on all waters where unlimited water skiing activity is permitted. Kite skiing and parasailing are prohibited on waters where water skiing is prohibited or subject to special regulation.

(2) Nothing in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be interpreted as allowing kite skiing or parasailing on any water when boating pressure by other users makes these activities imprudent because of risks involved.

(3) Kite skiers and parasailers shall not fly over or under overhead obstructions such as power and telephone lines, bridges; nor shall they fly over dams, locks, docks, launching ramps, swim areas, marinas or congested areas.

(k) Except as authorized through a marine event permit issued by the commissioner, no person shall operate a vessel towing a water skier with a tow line greater than one hundred

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feet in length, measured from the vessel tow-post to the water skier's tow handle, and no part of any such tow line shall include an elastic component, such as a bungy cord, rubber band or similar material which readily extends the length of the tow line.

(l) No person shall operate a vessel with a rigid metal tow pole, commonly used in barefoot skiing with the pole at a right angle to the tow vessel, unless the vessel is engaged in towing a water skier from the tow pole or from the stern and at least one person on board the vessel is using the tow pole for training. When the vessel is not engaged in towing a water skier or no one on board the vessel is using the tow pole for training, the tow pole may remain on the vessel, provided the operator of such vessel ensures that it is dismantled or folded so that it is inside of the gunwale and parallel to the centerline of the vessel.

(m) On any single day, any law enforcement officer empowered to enforce the provisions of this section may terminate any water skiing activity from the vessel for that day if any person on board or any water skier being towed by that vessel violates any provision of this section or section 15-134 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(n) The commissioner shall revoke the safe water skiing endorsement of any person who is: (A) charged with a violation of this section or section 15-134 of the Connecticut General Statutes and who is also convicted under section 15-132a, 15-133(d), 15-140k, 15-140l, 15-140m, or 15-140n of the Connecticut General Statutes for the same incident, or (B) convicted twice, in the aggregate, in the same calendar year for separate incidents under this section or section 15-134 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any combination thereof. The safe water skiing endorsement shall be revoked for the remainder of the year in which the triggering conviction takes place and for the entire following calendar year. A person who has such safe water skiing endorsement revoked shall surrender to the commissioner any and all safe water skiing-endorsed safe boating certificates or certificates of personal watercraft operation, and any stand-alone safe water skiing endorsements such person may possess. Such person may regain such endorsement only after the revocation period ends and only after successfully completing the safe water skiing instruction course described in section 15-140f-1 of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies following such end.

(o) Violation of this section shall be an infraction.

(Effective April 23, 1993; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended January 3, 2007; Amended December 22, 2016)

**Sec. 15-121-A10. Self-propelled water-skis or surf boards prohibited. Operation of wing-in-ground effect vessels restricted**

(a) No person shall operate a self-propelled water-ski or surf board on the waters of the state. For the purpose of this regulation, a self-propelled water-ski or surf board is a vessel propelled by machinery, which:

- (1) Has a width not greater than twenty-four inches, or
- (2) Is capable of carrying at least one individual who while operating the vessel, has no means of steerage other than by shifting his or her body weight.

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(b) No person shall operate any device on the waters of the state, which tows a waterskier who controls the direction and speed of the motorized towing device using remote control lines.

(c) No person shall operate a wing-in-ground effect vessel on or over waters of this state unless approval is granted by the Commissioner for recreational operation or from the United States Coast Guard, captain of the port for research and development or commercial operations. For the purposes of this subsection a “wing-in-ground effect vessel” is a vessel that is capable of operating completely above the surface of the water on a dynamic cushion created by aerodynamic lift due to the ground effect between the vessel and the water surface.

(Effective August 25, 1987; Amended March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-A11—15-121-A12. Repealed**

Repealed July 8, 2011.

**Sec. 15-121-A13. Personal flotation devices for manually propelled racing vessels**

(a) Racing shell, Rowing scull, racing canoe, or racing kayak as used in this section means a manually-propelled vessel that is recognized by national and international associations for use in competitive racing and one in which all occupants row, scull, or paddle with the exception of the coxswain, if one is provided, and is not designed to carry and does not carry any equipment not used solely for competitive racing.

(b) No person on board a racing shell, rowing scull, racing canoe, or racing kayak shall be required to carry any PFD on board, provided any such vessel shall be accompanied at all times by an escort vessel. Each escort vessel shall accompany no more than three vessels at a time and shall keep the escorted vessels in sight at all times, without the use of artificial devices other than eyeglasses. The requirement to use an escort vessel shall not apply to any organized race event when race organizers have taken steps to provide for the safety of such participants, provided the organizer of such event shall give a written explanation of participant safety provisions to the commissioner at least thirty days in advance of the event, and the commissioner approves such provisions in writing before the event.

(Effective January 25, 1983; Amended September 8, 1998)

**Sec. 15-121-A14. Rules for safe operation**

(a) No operator of a vessel under power shall allow any person to be on a decked-over bow of such vessel while underway unless the bow of the vessel is equipped with a handrail that encompasses the bow, and all persons on the bow are inward of such handrail. On vessels under power with open bows not decked-over, no operator shall allow any person to sit or stand on the gunwale at the bow of such vessel while underway. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to persons in or on the bow of vessels engaged in anchoring, mooring, or docking activities and proceeding at dead slow speed.

(b) No operator of a vessel under power shall allow any person in or on the bow of such



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vessel to hang any portion of the body beyond the handrail or outside the vessel over the top of the gunwale while underway, except when proceeding at dead slow speed.

(Effective August 25, 1987)

**Sec. 15-121-A15. Personal watercraft safety restrictions**

(a) The use of personal watercraft, as defined in section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes, shall be subject to the following operation restrictions:

(1) All persons aboard personal watercraft shall wear a United States Coast Guard approved PFD and no operator of a personal watercraft shall allow any person who is not wearing a PFD to be aboard such personal watercraft. No person aboard a personal watercraft shall use an inflatable PFD to meet the requirements of this section.

(2) No person shall operate a personal watercraft, or be on board or towed by personal watercraft operated by another, between sunset and sunrise.

(3) No person shall operate a personal watercraft towing a water-skier and no person shall water-ski while being towed by a personal watercraft, except under the following conditions:

(A) The personal watercraft towing a water-skier shall have:

(i) A capacity label permanently affixed by its manufacturer on the personal watercraft indicating that the vessel is designed for and capable of carrying at least two persons in addition to the operator;

(ii) a minimum length overall of 119 inches, a minimum width overall of 46 inches and a minimum horizontal seat surface length of 39 inches for three person capacity. For personal watercraft with greater than a three person capacity noted on the capacity label affixed to the personal watercraft by its manufacturer, for each additional person the minimum horizontal seat length must be increased by at least 13 inches; and

(iii) handholds at or near the rear of the seat suitable for use by a rearward-facing observer to conveniently hold on to with two hands;

(B) whenever a skier is being towed, there shall be an observer, who is at least twelve years old, other than the operator, onboard the personal watercraft towing such water-skier, who shall face the skier at all times;

(C) the number of persons on board the personal watercraft towing a water-skier added together with the number of water-skiers being towed shall not exceed the “persons” carrying capacity, as indicated on the capacity label permanently affixed to the personal watercraft by its manufacturer; and

(D) the operator of a personal watercraft towing a water-skier and the skier being towed shall, in addition to the requirements of this section, comply with all provisions of section 15-134 of the Connecticut General Statutes and section 15-121-A9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

(4) No person shall operate a personal watercraft at a speed in excess of Slow -No -Wake within two hundred feet of shore, or of a dock, pier, float or anchored or moored vessel, unless said personal watercraft is approaching such float, dock or shore for the

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purpose of enabling a person engaged in waterskiing to take off or land.

(5) No person operating a personal watercraft shall cross or jump the wake of another vessel, when within one hundred feet of the vessel creating such wake, in such a manner that the hull of the personal watercraft jumping the wake completely leaves the water.

(6) No person less than sixteen years of age, who has not been issued a certificate of personal watercraft operation on or before March 9, 2004, shall operate a personal watercraft without the onboard supervision of a person who is at least eighteen years of age and in possession of a certificate of personal watercraft operation.

(7) No person shall operate a personal watercraft equipped by its manufacturer with a device for shutting off the engine, known as a “shut-off lanyard”, unless such device is attached via a lanyard to the operator, his clothing, or his personal flotation device in a manner which will shut off the engine in the event the operator is ejected from the personal watercraft while underway.

(b) Any operator of a vessel less than sixteen feet in length designed so that the operator and passengers ride on the outside surface of the vessel as opposed to riding inside the vessel, and in which the operator and passenger may in the normal course of use fall overboard, and which has an internal combustion engine powering a propeller as its primary source of motor propulsion shall be subject to the restrictions in subsection (a) of this section. Any such operator shall in addition have his vessel equipped with a device for shutting off the engine, known as a “shut-off lanyard”, which device shall be attached via a lanyard to the operator, his clothing or his personal flotation device in a manner which will shut off the engine in the event the operator is ejected from the vessel while underway.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-A16. Posting methods for regulations and local ordinances**

In the case of any regulation or municipal ordinance respecting the operation of vessels adopted pursuant to Section 15-136 of the General Statutes, which regulation or ordinance has not been published and distributed in pamphlet form on or before the first day of April in accordance with the provisions of Section 15-138 of the General Statutes, the adopting authority shall post each affected waterbody with signs as follows:

(a) Signs shall be posted in a manner and at locations such that the signs are likely to come to the attention of boaters. For a regulation or ordinance affecting a lake or pond, signs concerning such regulation or ordinance shall be posted at every location where public access by boat to such lake or pond is available. For a regulation or ordinance affecting a river or tidal water, a sign or signs concerning such regulation or ordinance shall be posted at every location where public access by boat to such river or tidal water is available when such location is within five miles of the affected waterbody or portion thereof.

(b) Each sign shall be no smaller than eleven inches in width and fifteen inches in height.

(c) Each sign shall be made of plastic or other waterproof material.

(d) At the top of each sign shall be the words, “notice: new boating regulation” or “notice:

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new boating ordinance,” as appropriate, in letters at least one inch in height. The word “notice” shall be on a separate top line. All other letters and numerals on the sign shall be at least three eighths inch in height. The sign shall include the actual text of the regulation or ordinance or a summary of such regulation or ordinance, as well as the words, “posted in accordance with Section 15-138 of the Connecticut General Statutes,” which words shall be printed at the bottom of each sign.

(Effective April 23, 1993)

**Sec. 15-121-A17. Personal flotation devices for manually propelled vessels**

During the period from October first through May thirty-first all persons aboard a manually propelled vessel shall wear a United States Coast Guard approved PFD of appropriate size and in serviceable condition. Except as provided in subsection (b) of section 15-121-A13 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, no operator, owner or user of said manually propelled vessel shall allow any person to be aboard who is not wearing a PFD.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended January 3, 2007; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-A18. Public safety light**

Vessels engaged in government sanctioned public safety activities, and commercial vessels performing similar functions, may display an alternately flashing red and yellow light signal. This identification light signal must be located so that it does not interfere with the visibility of the vessel’s navigation lights. This identification light signal may be used only as an identification signal and conveys no special privilege to the vessel. Public safety activities include but are not limited to patrolling marine events or regattas; traffic control; salvage; firefighting; medical assistance; assisting disabled vessels; and search and rescue. The public safety light is not a towing light. The light fixture shall be a standard police type beacon, with clear, weatherproof lens over a pair of rotating lights; one red and the other yellow. The lights shall rotate between 70 and 100 revolutions per minute.

(Adopted effective March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-A19. Marine safety and security zones**

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Safety zone” means a water area, shore area, or water and shore area to which, for safety or environmental purposes, access is limited to authorized persons, vehicles, or vessels. It may be stationary and described by fixed limits or it may be described as a zone around a vessel in motion; temporary zones may be established by the commissioner, permanent zones, by the United States Coast Guard under 33CFR 165, et seq.;

(2) “Security zone” means an area of land, water, or land and water which is so designated under 33 CFR 165, et seq. by the Captain of the Port or District Commander of the United States Coast Guard for such time as is necessary to prevent damage or injury to any vessel or waterfront facility, to safeguard ports, harbors, territories, or waters of the

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state; and

(3) “Regulated navigation area” means a water area within a defined boundary under 33 CFR 165, et seq., for which regulations for vessels navigating within the area have been established under 33 CFR 165, et seq.

(b) The commissioner may, when necessary for the safety of the public or protection of the environment, establish temporary marine safety zones on the waters of this state for the purposes of restricting vessel traffic.

(c) As described in this section, a temporary marine safety zone shall not exist for longer than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours. Only in the event of an environmental disaster, marine disaster or public safety emergency shall the commissioner have the authority to extend the zone beyond seventy-two (72) hours.

(d) No person shall operate, allow the operation of a vessel or anchor any vessel on the waters of the state within a zone established under subsection (b) of this section or within a marine safety or security zone or a regulated navigational area established by the United States Coast Guard under 33 CFR 165, et seq., as amended from time to time.

(e) This section shall not apply to vessels used exclusively by municipal, state or federal agencies, or security vessels authorized by the United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port, Long Island Sound.

(Adopted effective April 29, 2005)

**Sec. 15-121-B1. Requirements of an application for a certificate of number**

The application for a certificate of number shall include the following:

- (1) Name of owner;
- (2) Address of owner, including zip code;
- (3) Owner identifier, which shall consist of the owner’s tax identification number, the owner’s date of birth together with the owner’s driver’s license number, or the owner’s date of birth together with the owner’s identity card number issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles in accordance with section 1-1h of the Connecticut General Statutes;
- (4) State of principal operation;
- (5) Number previously issued by an issuing authority;
- (6) Application type: Authorized terms are “new number”, “renewal of number”, or “transfer of ownership”;
- (7) Primary operation: Authorized terms are “charter fishing”, “commercial fishing”, “commercial passenger carrying”, “other commercial operation”, “pleasure”, “rent or lease”, or “livery”;
- (8) Make and model of vessel;
- (9) Model year;
- (10) Hull identification number, if any;
- (11) Overall length of vessel;
- (12) Vessel type: Authorized terms are “air boat”, “auxiliary sail”, “cabin motorboat”, “canoe”, “houseboat”, “inflatable boat”, “open motorboat”, “paddlecraft”, “personal

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watercraft”, “pontoon boat”, “rowboat”, “sail only”, or “other”;

(13) Hull material: Authorized terms are “aluminum”, “fiberglass”, “plastic”, “rubber/vinyl/canvas”, “steel”, “wood”, or “other”;

(14) Propulsion type: Authorized terms are “air thrust”, “manual”, “propeller”, “sail”, “water jet”, or “other”;

(15) Engine drive type: Authorized terms are “inboard”, “outboard”, “pod drive”, “sterndrive”, or “other”;

(16) Fuel: Authorized terms are “electric”, “diesel”, “gas”, or “other”; and,

(17) Signature of the owner.

(Effective January 13, 1981; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-B2. Information on a certificate of number**

The certificate of number shall show the following:

(1) Number issued to the vessel;

(2) Expiration date of the certificate;

(3) State of principal operation;

(4) Name of owner;

(5) Address of owner, including zip code;

(6) Primary operation: Authorized terms are “charter fishing”, “commercial fishing”, “commercial passenger carrying”, “other commercial operation”, “pleasure”, “rent or lease”, or “livery”;

(7) Hull identification number, if any;

(8) Make and model of vessel;

(9) Model year;

(10) Overall length of vessel;

(11) Vessel type: Authorized terms are “air boat”, “auxiliary sail”, “cabin motorboat”, “canoe”, “houseboat”, “inflatable boat”, “open motorboat”, “paddlecraft”, “personal watercraft”, “pontoon boat”, “rowboat”, “sail only”, or “other”;

(12) Hull material: Authorized terms are “aluminum”, “fiberglass”, “plastic”, “rubber/vinyl/canvas”, “steel”, “wood”, or “other”;

(13) Propulsion type: Authorized terms are “air thrust”, “manual”, “propeller”, “sail”, “water jet”, or “other”;

(14) Engine drive type: Authorized terms are “inboard”, “outboard”, “pod drive”, “sterndrive”, or “other”; and,

(15) Fuel: Authorized terms are “electric”, “diesel”, “gas”, or “other”.

(Effective January 13, 1981; Amended March 16, 2018)

**Sec. 15-121-B3. Numbering pattern to be used**

(a) The identification numbers awarded under the Connecticut system shall consist of three parts. The first part shall consist of the letters “CT” indicating this state. The second part shall consist of not more than four arabic numerals. The third part shall consist of not

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more than two letters.

(b) The parts shall be separated by a hyphen or an equivalent space. As examples: CT-1-A; CT-1234-AA; CT 56 ZZ.

(c) Since the letters “I,” “O” and “Q” may be mistaken for arabic numerals, they shall not be used in the suffix.

(Effective May 31, 1974)

**Sec. 15-121-B4. Display of number and validation decal**

The owner or operator of any vessel shall display the vessel registration number and registration decals issued pursuant to Section 15-144 of the General Statutes as follows:

(a) The vessel registration number, and no other, shall be painted on or attached by adhesive to each side of the hull at the bow and so positioned as to be clearly legible from outside the vessel. When, due to vessel configuration, positioning of the vessel registration number on the hull will not provide ready identification, the vessel registration number may be painted on or attached by adhesive to each side of the permanent superstructure located on the forward half of the vessel in a location as nearly vertical as possible. When, due to vessel configuration, positioning of the vessel registration number on either the hull or the superstructure will not provide ready identification, the vessel registration number may be painted on or attached to a sign or plaque firmly attached by a bracket or fixture to the bow with the number clearly legible from both sides of the vessel.

(b) The letters and numerals of the vessel registration number shall be of plain block design not less than three inches high, and of a color which will contrast with the background for maximum legibility. That is, light numbers shall be used on a dark hull or background and vice versa.

(c) The letters and numerals of the vessel registration number shall be vertical (not slanted), plain (not script or varying in thickness), and any border, outline or shadowing shall be disregarded in determining the height or color contrast of the letters and numerals. Between the prefix, the numerals, and the suffix there shall be a hyphen or a space. Examples of correct number displays are CT-1234-AB and CT 5678 DF.

(d) The two current Connecticut registration decals shall be displayed on each side of the bow in line with and two inches to the right of the vessel registration number. No other decal shall be displayed with the vessel registration number except a current decal for the same vessel issued by another state or the United States Coast Guard. A current validation decal issued by another state or the United States Coast Guard shall be displayed near the assigned boat number in a location other than that specified for the current Connecticut validation decals.

(e) In the case of a vessel for which the owner holds a valid marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard and for which the owner is required to display a Connecticut registration decal pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 15-142 of the General Statutes, each such decal shall be displayed on each side of the bow forward of the midship section. Such decals shall be firmly affixed and positioned so as to be distinctly visible from either side

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of the vessel.

(f) In the case of a vessel for which the owner holds a valid certificate of number awarded either by the United States or by another state and for which the owner is required to display a Connecticut registration decal pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 15-142 of the general statutes, each such decal shall be displayed on each side of the bow in line with and not more than six inches to the left of the number awarded by the United States or another state. Such decals shall be firmly affixed and positioned so as to be distinctly visible from either side of the vessel.

(Effective April 23, 1993)

**Sec. 15-121-B5. Criteria for the issuance of marine dealer registration numbers**

(a) The Commissioner may issue a marine dealer registration number to a marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer or marine surveyor who satisfies the following criteria, except a person who sells or manufacturers vessels not required to be numbered pursuant to Sections 15-142 and 15-143 of the Connecticut General Statutes such as non-motorized vessels including canoes, kayaks, sailboards and sailboats under 19 1/2 feet in length, shall not apply for or receive a marine dealer registration number:

(1) Each marine dealer who applies for a marine dealer registration number shall keep written records of sales of vessels required to be numbered pursuant to Sections 15-142 and 15-143 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Each marine engine manufacturer, who applies for a marine dealer registration number, shall keep a written record of each marine engine manufactured, sold or repaired by such manufacturer. Each marine surveyor shall keep a written record of each vessel surveyed by such marine surveyor. The aforementioned records shall be kept for a minimum of four years from the date of any such manufacture, sale, survey, or repair and made available to agency representatives for inspection upon request. Such records may consist of: listings, deposit receipts, canceled checks, trust records, or other documents showing manufacture, sales, survey, or repair transactions. Records of sales shall include: the name and address of the purchaser, the selling price, the date of sale and a description of the vessel or engine sold including but not limited to any previous registration number or documentation number and the hull identification number of all recreational vessels manufactured after November 1, 1973. Records of marine surveys shall include: the name and address of the owner and the person purchasing the survey, the purpose of the survey, the date of the survey, and a detailed description of the vessel surveyed including, but not limited to, the hull identification number.

(2) A marine dealer shall have an established place of business with office space and vessel display area which is used for the sale or manufacture or both of vessels, unless specifically exempted from the requirement to have an established place of business pursuant to Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes. A marine engine manufacturer shall have an established place of business for the manufacture, sale, trade, display or repair of marine engines. The minimum size of the office and display area shall be 144 square feet. Such office and display area shall be accessible and open to the public.

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A vessel display area separate from the marine dealer's or marine engine manufacturer's office, such as a slip or mooring at a marina, which is rented, leased or owned in the business name of the marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer and used to facilitate the demonstration of vessels for sale or the testing or repair of marine engines, may be substituted for the required vessel display area at the established place of business.

(3) A marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer shall erect a sign at his or her place of business, unless a marine dealer is specifically exempted from the requirement to have an established place of business pursuant to Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The sign shall be a minimum of 250 square inches in size and legibly display the business name of the marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer, as applicable. The sign shall be erected in a conspicuous place so that it comes to the attention of the general public. A marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer substituting a separate display area as described in subdivision 15-121-B5(a)(2), shall also display, in a conspicuous location, on the vessel for sale or on a vessel used to test or repair marine engines, or at its slip or mooring, a sign not less than 144 square inches in size, bearing the marine dealer's or marine engine manufacturer's business name and business telephone number. Such name and telephone number shall be legible and discernible from a distance of not less than fifty feet. Yacht brokers shall display, in a conspicuous location, on the vessel for sale, and while bearing the marine dealer registration number of the yacht broker, a sign not less than 144 square inches in size, bearing the yacht broker's business name and business telephone number and the words "For Sale By Broker". Such information shall be legible and discernible from a distance of not less than fifty feet.

(4) A marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer or marine surveyor shall have a telephone number listed with the telephone company in its business name and published in the telephone company directory for public information.

(5) Each marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer or marine surveyor who applies for marine dealer registration numbers and who has not previously been issued such numbers or who is reapplying after failing to meet the renewal criteria set forth in this section shall do so on a form specified by the Commissioner. Such marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer shall pay an examination fee of one hundred and forty dollars. A marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer or marine surveyor shall sign a statement under oath indicating that he or she has complied with the requirements and criteria for the issuance of marine dealer registration numbers and that he or she agrees to display the marine dealer registration number in the case of a marine dealer, on vessels used solely pursuant to Section 15-145(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, or in the case of a marine engine manufacturer, on vessels used solely for the purpose of testing or demonstrating a marine engine manufactured or repaired by such manufacturer, or in the case of a marine surveyor, on vessels used solely for the purpose of performing a marine survey, and agrees not to display the marine dealer registration number on vessels operated for any other reason.

(b) The Commissioner may renew a marine dealer registration number if he or she is satisfied that the marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer continues to meet the criteria



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of subsection 15-121-B5(a) and that the marine dealer or marine engine manufacturer also satisfied at least one of the following criteria during the year prior to the application for renewal:

(1) Manufacture or sale of more than five vessels required to be numbered or registered pursuant to Section 15-142 of the Connecticut General Statutes;

(2) Manufacture or sale of two to five vessels required to be numbered or registered pursuant to Section 15-142 of the Connecticut General Statutes, of not less than \$50,000 total gross value where the gross value credited by any vessel towards the \$50,000 minimum is no more than \$25,000;

(3) Not less than fifty percent of the adjusted gross income of a marine dealer as determined for purposes of federal income tax is derived from vessel sales subject to proof satisfactory to the Commissioner;

(4) Not less than fifty percent of a marine engine manufacturer's adjusted gross income, as determined for purpose of federal income tax, is derived from the manufacture, sale and repair of marine engines by such manufacturer. Subject to proof satisfactory to the Commissioner, a marine engine manufacturer shall provide records to the Commissioner demonstrating that such manufacturer's income complies with the requirements of this subdivision; or

(5) The manufacture, sale or repair of more than five marine engines by a marine engine manufacturer.

(c) The fee for each marine dealer registration number shall be one hundred dollars per year.

(d) No person applying for a marine dealer registration number who fails to meet the criteria for the issuance of such number shall reapply for a number for a period of one year from the date of such person's last application.

(e) Yacht brokers, as defined in Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes, who meet the requirements of subsection 15-121-B5(a)(1), (4) and (5) and who have not previously been issued a marine dealer registration number may be issued one marine dealer registration number. The Commissioner may renew the marine dealer registration number of a yacht broker who meets the requirements of subsections 15-121-B5(a)(1), (4) and (5) and 15-121-B5(b)(1), (2) or (3). Yacht brokers may apply for additional marine dealer registration numbers concurrent with their application for renewal of their marine dealer registration number subject to the conditions set forth in this subsection. Yacht brokers who fail to meet the criteria for renewal of their marine dealer registration number are subject to the requirements of subsection (d) of this section. A yacht broker shall make any and all documents or records required to be maintained pursuant to this subsection and Section 15-145(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes available for inspection by the Commissioner at a place designated by the Commissioner within five business days of the Commissioner's request to review such documents or records. A yacht broker who meets the criteria for issuance of marine dealer registration numbers shall only display such numbers on vessels operated pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

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(f) Marine surveyors who possess current and valid certification or accreditation acceptable to the Commissioner as defined in Section 15-141 of the Connecticut General Statutes may be issued one marine dealer registration number. The Commissioner may renew the marine dealer registration number of a marine surveyor who possesses a marine dealer registration number provided the marine surveyor possesses current and valid certification or accreditation acceptable to the Commissioner and the Commissioner is satisfied that the marine surveyor continues to meet the criteria of subsection 15-121-B5(a) at the time the application for renewal of the marine dealer registration number is submitted to the Commissioner.

(Effective August 25, 1987; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended July 8, 2011)

**Sec. 15-121-B5a. Marine dealer registration numbers: application and display**

(a) The description of the vessel shall be omitted from a marine dealer identification number application and from the certificate of number since the numbers and certificate of number may be transferred from one vessel to another.

(b) The marine dealer registration number(s) assigned by the Commissioner to a marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer, or marine surveyor shall be painted on or attached to a removable sign. The sign shall be temporarily but firmly mounted upon or attached to the vessel which is used pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes, or which is used by a marine engine manufacturer for the sole purpose of testing marine engines manufactured or repaired by such manufacturer provided the display meets the requirements of Section 15-121-B4 of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies. If a marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer, or marine surveyor demonstrates to the Commissioner's satisfaction that such display may be unsafe or impracticable, the Commissioner may substitute the display requirements of this subsection with a satisfactory alternative. The Commissioner shall notify the marine dealer, marine engine manufacturer, or marine surveyor in writing of the substitution and such written notice shall be carried on board whenever the vessel is in use. Pursuant to Section 15-121-B5(a)(3) of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies, yacht brokers shall display, in a conspicuous location, on the vessel for sale, and while bearing the marine dealer registration number of the yacht broker, a sign not less than 144 square inches in size, bearing the yacht broker's business name and business telephone number and the words "For Sale By Broker". Such information shall be legible and discernible from a distance of not less than fifty feet.

(c) The number assigned to a marine dealer shall contain the suffix "DL." An example of such number is "CT-1234-DL." The number assigned to a marine engine manufacturer shall contain the suffix "XP". An example of such number is "CT-1234-XP". The number assigned to a yacht broker shall contain the suffix "YB". An example of such number is "CT-1234-YB". The number assigned to a marine surveyor shall contain the suffix "MS". An example of such number is "CT-1234-MS".

(d) All the requirements of law and regulation governing equipment, lights, and operation

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shall apply to vessels operated by a marine dealer, or a marine engine manufacturer who has obtained an identification number pursuant to Section 15-121-B5.

(e) No marine dealer or his or her employee shall display a marine dealer number on any vessel that is not owned by the dealership except as provided in subsection (c) of Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes. No person, other than the marine dealer to whom the number is issued or his or her employee, shall display such marine dealer number except as provided in subsections 15-145(c), (d), and (e) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(f) No marine engine manufacturer shall display a marine dealer number on any vessel that is not being used pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of Section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes for the sole purpose of testing or repairing an engine manufactured or repaired by such manufacturer. A marine engine manufacturer may only utilize an engine in a vessel not owned by such manufacturer, if:

- (1) The engine is being used for experimental purposes only; and
- (2) Such marine engine manufacturer carries on board such vessel a copy of the engine test agreement between the marine engine manufacturer and the manufacturer of the vessel.

(Effective August 25, 1987; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended July 8, 2011)

**Sec. 15-121-B6. Numbering of livery boats**

(a) The description of the motor and type of fuel will be omitted from the application and certificate of number of a livery boat in any case where the boat is speeds in excess of eight miles per hour and may engage rented with different motors or with the person renting the board supplying the motor.

(b) The certificate of number of a livery shall be plainly marked “livery boat.”

(c) The number awarded the boat livery man will contain the letters “BL” in the suffix. An example of such a number is “CT-1234-BL.”

(Effective May 31, 1974)

**Sec. 15-121-B7—15-121-B11. Repealed**

Repealed May 31, 1974.

**Sec. 15-121-B12. Vessel, vessel speeds and fishing restrictions regarding swim areas and boating access areas**

(a) No person shall operate or allow the operation of a vessel inside markers demarcating a restricted swim area which has been authorized in writing by the commissioner.

(b) No person shall operate or allow the operation of a vessel at a speed in excess of Slow-No-Wake when within one hundred feet of markers placed to designate a restricted swim area or boating access area which has been authorized in writing by the commissioner.

(c) This section shall not apply to vessels used exclusively as lifeguard rescue boats.

(d) No person shall fish inside the markers demarcating a restricted swim area that has

been authorized in writing by the commissioner.

(Effective November 5, 1991; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-B13. Restricted areas adjacent to dams on the Housatonic River**

No person shall operate a vessel within three hundred feet of the upstream side of the Lake Housatonic Dam in Derby, the Stevenson Dam in Oxford, the Shepaug Dam in Southbury, or the Bleachery Dam in New Milford. No person shall operate a vessel within fifteen hundred feet of the downstream side of the Lake Housatonic Dam in Derby or the Shepaug Dam in Southbury, within seven hundred feet of the downstream side of the Stevenson Dam in Oxford, or within three hundred feet of the downstream side of the Bleachery Dam in New Milford.

(Effective April 23, 1993)

**Sec. 15-121-B14. Restricted speed limit**

(a) No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of Slow-No-Wake within one hundred feet of shore, or of a dock, pier, float, or anchored or moored vessel, unless such motorboat is approaching such float, dock or shore for the purpose of enabling a person engaged in waterskiing to take off or land.

(b) The Commissioner may temporarily limit vessel speed to Slow-No-Wake in a construction area or in association with a marine event authorized by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 15-121-A6. Uniform State Waterway Marking System controlled area regulatory markers may be placed to indicate the Slow-No-Wake area.

(c) Violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be an infraction.

(d) This section shall not preempt town ordinances or regulations which are adopted in accordance with Section 15-136 of the Connecticut General Statutes and which have more stringent speed limits or distance from shore limits.

(Effective April 23, 1993; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended July 8, 2011)

**Sec. 15-121-B15. Connecticut River regulation**

(a) No person shall operate a vessel in other than a careful and prudent manner, having regard to conditions and circumstances such as weather, current, visibility, water depth, width of channel, proximity to shore and water hazards, vessel traffic and water use, so as not to unreasonably interfere with free and proper use of the navigable waters or endanger life, limb or property.

(b) When not within areas governed by subsection (c) of this section, from the Bulkeley Bridge in Hartford to Saybrook outer light in Old Saybrook, when passing a marina, yacht club area in which boats are docked at anchor, or being launched or retrieved or a congested area, a motorboat shall be operated with minimum wake and not in excess of Slow-No-Wake.

(c) No person shall operate a motorboat in excess of Slow-No-Wake within:

(1) The area between the Saybrook breakwaters bounded northerly by the Say-brook

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inner light and bounded southerly by the Saybrook outer light in Old Saybrook;

(2) The area bounded northerly by navigation aid Connecticut River light # 15 and bounded southerly by the southernmost point of Saybrook Point in Old Saybrook;

(3) The area bounded northerly by navigation aid Connecticut River red nun #20 and bounded southerly by the railroad bascule bridge in Old Saybrook;

(4) The area bounded northerly by a point eight hundred feet upstream from the East Haddam Bridge and bounded southerly by a point one thousand five-hundred feet downstream from the East Haddam Bridge;

(5) The area bounded northerly by a point five hundred feet downstream from the highway bridge in Middletown and bounded southerly by navigation aid Connecticut River light #87;

(6) The area bounded northerly by navigation aid Connecticut River light #113 and bounded southerly by the water tower on property now or formerly known as the Connecticut Foundry, in Rocky Hill;

(7) The area bounded northerly by the rail road bridge (north of the Bulkeley Bridge) and bounded southerly by Navigation Aid #143 (south of the Charter Oak Bridge).

(d) Subject to the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section, no person shall operate a vessel in excess of the following speed limits:

(1) 45 miles per hour from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset on Monday through Friday, inclusive, during all seasons, and on Saturdays and Sundays from the Saturday following Labor Day to the Friday preceding Memorial Day, inclusive;

(2) 30 miles per hour from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset on Saturdays and Sundays from the Saturday preceding Memorial Day to the Sunday preceding Labor Day, inclusive, and on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day;

(3) 25 miles per hour from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise on all days of the year.

(e) For the purposes of this section, Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day shall be as defined in Section 1-4 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(Effective April 23, 1993; Amended March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-B15a. Candlewood Lake special regulation**

(a) On the waters of Candlewood Lake, including Squantz Pond, the following restrictions shall apply:

(1) No person shall operate a vessel in excess of twenty-five (25) miles per hour from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise;

(2) No person shall operate a vessel in excess of forty-five (45) miles per hour from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset;

(3) Within the area of Lattins Cove, from the end northerly for two-thousand five-hundred (2,500) feet no person shall operate a vessel in excess of Slow-No-Wake; and

(4) Within the area of Squantz Cove, from the causeway southeasterly for two-thousand five-hundred (2,500) feet no person shall operate a vessel in excess of Slow-No-Wake.

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(b) No person shall operate a registered vessel that is 26 feet in length or greater on the waters of Candlewood Lake unless such operation has been exempted or authorized by the Commissioner under this subsection. For the purpose of this subsection the registered length of the vessel shall be determined from the length identified on the vessel's certificate of number awarded by this state, by another state or by the United States pursuant to the provisions of the federal Boat Safety Act of 1971, or marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard.

(1) The following vessels are exempt from the requirements of this subsection:

(A) Vessels that while on the waters of Candlewood Lake are operated exclusively by authorized law enforcement personnel in the performance of official duties;

(B) Vessels that while on the waters of Candlewood Lake are used exclusively for invasive species control, sewage transfer, or marine structure or infrastructure construction or maintenance; and

(C) Vessels displaying a valid marine dealer registration number that are being demonstrated for sale, test run in connection with maintenance or repair, or surveyed by a certified marine surveyor.

(2) The Commissioner shall authorize the operation of vessels that are 26 feet in length or greater on the waters of Candlewood Lake that meet one of the following conditions:

(A) The vessel is owned by a person other than a marine dealer and such person purchased and registered the vessel prior to the effective date of this regulation and presents evidence to the Commissioner of one or more of the following:

(i) dockspace on Candlewood Lake for such vessel which dockspace was owned or rented on or before the effective date of this regulation;

(ii) a written contract or agreement executed on or before the effective date of this regulation for the storage of such vessel on property abutting Candlewood Lake;

(iii) a written contract or agreement which explicitly references Candlewood Lake that was executed on or before the effective date of this regulation that includes a provision for the launching of such vessel onto Candlewood Lake or the retrieving of such vessel from Candlewood Lake; or,

(iv) other documentation evidencing the use of the subject vessel on the waters of Candlewood Lake for more than ten consecutive days or twenty days in the aggregate, over the twenty four months preceding the effective date of this regulation.

(B) The vessel is owned by a marine dealer located in one of the five surrounding municipalities (Danbury, Brookfield, New Milford, Sherman, or New Fairfield) where the vessel is present in inventory or ordered for inventory prior to the effective date of this regulation.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, for any marine dealer located within one of the five municipalities surrounding Candlewood Lake who shares ownership of vessel inventory with other businesses that are located outside of the five municipalities surrounding Candlewood Lake or with a branch or branches of the same business that are located outside of the five municipalities surrounding Candlewood Lake, the Commissioner

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may authorize the number of vessels equal to the average number of vessels 26 feet in length or greater that were sold per year over the last five years, rounded up to the nearest whole number, from that business located within one of the five municipalities surrounding Candlewood Lake.

(D) For the purpose of this section, a “marine dealer” means any business that possesses a Marine Dealer Registration Number pursuant to section 15-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes, or that uses a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) or Standard Industry Classification (SIC) code for vessels sales in tax filings, and can demonstrate the use of such code in tax filings prior to the effective date of this regulation.

(3) The Commissioner shall provide permanent numbered decals that shall be attached to those vessels that are 26 feet in length or greater that are authorized by the Commissioner to operate on the waters of Candlewood Lake and that are not exempt in accordance with this subsection. The Commissioner shall issue one such authorizing decal for each vessel 26 feet or greater in length meeting one of the conditions of subdivision (2) of this subsection. The authorizing decal shall be affixed to the starboard side of the vessel such that the decal is not obstructed from view on the hull and above the waterline and closer to the stern than the bow, or on a superstructure or windshield near the operator’s station. The authorizing decal shall be permanently affixed to the vessel for the life of the vessel. The authorizing decal shall not be transferable to other vessels or other hulls.

(A) Requests for an authorizing decal made by a person other than a marine dealer shall be made on or before December 31, 2014, and on a form provided by the Commissioner for this purpose.

(B) Requests for an authorizing decal made by a marine dealer shall be made within sixty days of the effective date of this regulation and on a form provided by the Commissioner for this purpose. A marine dealer shall provide proof to the satisfaction of the Commissioner regarding the ownership, identity and number of vessels claimed for authorization, and that such vessels were present in inventory or ordered for inventory prior to the effective date of this regulation, as applicable.

(4) The Commissioner may issue a replacement authorizing decal at any time upon written application.

(5) An individual vessel owner or marine dealer whose vessel is denied an authorizing decal or a replacement authorizing decal by the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee may apply to the Commissioner for reconsideration of the denial. Such application shall be made in writing by the vessel owner or owners and shall contain the original signature of the applicant or applicants and the statement, “ I (we) declare under penalty of false statement that the information furnished herein is true and complete to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief.” Such application shall be notarized and shall include additional evidence not considered in the denied application, which evidence may include, but shall not be limited to, financial records, contracts or agreements, photographs, vessel safety check records, third party affidavits, government records, newspaper articles, or other information evidencing the right to seek authorization for use of such vessel on Candlewood

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Lake pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall review such application and may issue an authorizing decal or a replacement decal after considering such evidence. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall be the sole judge as to the weight and suitability of such evidence.

(6) The Commissioner may designate the Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) to act as agent in issuing authorizing decals upon receipt of written agreement from the executive officer of the lake authority. The Commissioner may designate any or each of the governments of the several lakefront municipalities (Danbury, Brookfield, New Milford, Sherman, and New Fairfield) to act as agent in issuing authorizing decals upon receipt of written agreement from the municipality's executive officer. The CLA or any municipality so designated may withdraw from being a designated agent upon written request by the Chairman of the CLA or that municipality's executive officer to the Commissioner, and such withdrawal shall be effective forty-five (45) days from the date which the written withdrawal is received by the Commissioner.

(7) Any law enforcement officer or lake patrolman duly authorized to enforce these regulations may terminate the operation of a vessel that is in violation of this section. On and after the sixth month following the effective date of this regulation, operation of a registered vessel on the waters of Candlewood Lake that is 26 ft in length or greater and that does not have an authorizing decal issued by the Commissioner shall be an infraction.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended October 31, 2012; Amended October 5, 2015)

**Sec. 15-121-B15b. Lake Lillinonah special regulation**

On the waters of Lake Lillinonah, located in the towns of Bridgewater, Brookfield, New Milford, Newtown, and Southbury, no person shall operate a vessel at a speed in excess of forty-five miles per hour, except that the speed limit shall be twenty-five miles per hour from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise.

(Effective November 5, 1991; Amended September 8, 1998)

**Sec. 15-121-B15c. Mount Tom Pond special regulation**

No person shall use any internal combustion engine to propel a vessel on Mount Tom Pond located in the towns of Litchfield, Morris and Washington.

(Effective November 5, 1991)

**Sec. 15-121-B15d. Lake Quassapaug special regulation**

On the waters of Lake Quassapaug located in the towns of Middlebury and Woodbury the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) No person shall operate a vessel at a speed in excess of twenty five miles per hour.

(b) No person shall operate a vessel at a speed in excess of six miles per hour from the third Saturday in April through the first Tuesday after Labor Day, both days inclusive.



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(c) No person shall operate a motorboat between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. prevailing time.

(Effective November 5, 1991)

**Sec. 15-121-B15e. Long Pond and Bush Pond special regulation**

On the waters of Long Pond and Bush Pond, both located in the towns of Ledyard and North Stonington, the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) No motorboat shall be operated on such waters at a speed in excess of five miles per hour.

(b) Water skiing and similar activities involving the towing of any person behind a vessel under power are prohibited on such waters.

(Effective November 5, 1991)

**Sec. 15-121-B15f. Lake Housatonic special regulation**

On the waters of Lake Housatonic located in the towns of Seymour, Oxford, Derby and Shelton the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) No person shall operate a vessel in excess of 45 miles per hour, except that speed limit shall be 25 miles per hour from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise.

(b) All vessels proceeding upstream shall, when it is safe and practical, keep to that side of midstream which lies on the starboard side of the vessel. All vessels proceeding downstream shall, when it is safe and practical, keep to that side of midstream which lies on the starboard side of the vessel.

(c) Motorboats must be operated at the minimum speed necessary to maintain steerage when within twenty-five feet of any dock, pier, shore, or anchored vessel, except for the purpose of enabling a water-skier to take off or land.

(d) The launching into the air of objects or persons towed by a motorboat is prohibited; however, a town may, in waters within its jurisdiction, permit such activity provided the area, time, and conditions are approved by the commissioner through issuance of a marine event permit pursuant to Section 15-140b of the General Statutes.

(Effective November 5, 1991; Amended September 8, 1998)

**Sec. 15-121-B15g. Bantam Lake special regulation**

On the waters of Bantam Lake located in the towns of Morris and Litchfield the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) The launching into the air of objects or persons towed by a motorboat is prohibited; however, a town may, in waters within its jurisdiction, permit such activity provided the area, time, and conditions are approved by the commissioner through issuance of a marine event permit pursuant to Section 15-140b of the General Statutes.

(b) No person shall operate or allow the operation of any motorboat between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M. prevailing time.

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(c) No person shall operate or allow the operation of any motorboat which is towing a water skier closer than one hundred and fifty feet from the shore, unless such motorboat is approaching the shore for the purpose of enabling a water skier to take off or land.

(Effective November 5, 1991)

**Sec. 15-121-B15h. West Hill Pond special regulation**

On the waters of West Hill Pond located in the towns of New Hartford and Barkhamsted the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) No person shall operate or allow the operation of a motorboat equipped with a motor or motors with a total greater than eight horsepower from Memorial Day through the fifteenth of September, both days inclusive. For purposes of this subsection, Memorial Day shall be as defined in section 1-4 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(b) No person shall operate or allow the operation of a motorboat at a speed in excess of fifteen miles per hour.

(c) No person shall operate or allow the operation of a motorboat at a speed in excess of six miles per hour between sunset and sunrise.

(d) No person shall water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier.

(Effective November 5, 1991; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-B15i. Farmington River special regulation**

No person shall operate or allow the operation of a vessel at a speed in excess of thirty-five miles per hour on that portion of the Farmington River known as Rainbow Reservoir located in the town of Windsor and bounded upstream by the Windsor town line and downstream by the Rainbow Dam.

(Effective November 5, 1991)

**Sec. 15-121-B15j. Crystal Lake regulation**

On the waters of Crystal Lake, located in the towns of Ellington and Stafford, the following restrictions shall apply:

(a) No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of forty-five miles per hour;

(b) No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of six miles per hour from sunset to 9:00 A.M.;

(c) No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of six miles per hour on Sunday from noon until 3:00 P.M.;

(d) No person shall tow anyone or anything, except a disabled boat, with a motorboat on Sunday from noon until 3:00 P.M.;

(e) No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of six miles per hour at any time when weather conditions restrict normal visibility to less than one hundred yards;

(f) No person shall operate a vessel less than sixteen feet in length which has an inboard mounted internal combustion engine powering a water-jet pump as its primary source of motor propulsion and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or

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kneeling on the vessel, rather than the conventional manner of sitting or standing within the vessel;

(g) An operator of a vessel towing a water skier shall proceed in a counterclockwise direction around the lake;

(h) No person shall waterski, and no person shall operate a motorboat towing a water skier, from 4:00 P.M. until 10.00 A.M. from the third Saturday in April until the third Saturday in May, inclusive;

(i) No person operating a motorboat shall tow more than two water skiers at any one time;

(j) No person shall engage in kite skiing or parasailing;

(k) No person shall anchor or moor any vessel unattended at a distance in excess of seventy-five feet from shore;

(l) No person shall launch, moor, or otherwise use a vessel with a permanently installed toilet capable of overboard discharge;

(m) No person shall use a vessel for overnight camping unless such vessel is equipped with a U.S. Coast Guard approved marine sanitation device which is not capable of overboard discharge;

(n) No person shall discharge, dispose of, or otherwise release any human or animal sewage overboard.

(Effective April 23, 1993)

**Sec. 15-121-B15k. Lake Zoar special regulation**

On the waters of Lake Zoar located in the towns of Southbury, Newtown, Oxford and Monroe, no person shall operate a vessel in excess of forty-five miles per hour, except that speed limit shall be twenty-five miles per hour from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended September 8, 1998)

**Sec. 15-121-B15l. Pine Island Bay and Baker Cove regulation**

On the waters of Pine Island Bay and Baker Cove, both located in the City of Groton and the Noank section of the Town of Groton bounded on the west by a line extending from the southernmost point of Avery Point to the westernmost point of Pine Island and bounded on the east by a line extending from the southernmost point of the east bank of Baker Cove to the westernmost point of Bushy Point, the following restrictions shall apply from the fifteenth day of May through the fifteenth day of September:

(a) All motorboats shall be operated at Slow-No-Wake;

(b) No person shall water-ski and no person shall operate a vessel towing a water-skier.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-B15m. Housatonic River regulation**

(a) No person shall operate a vessel in other than a careful and prudent manner, so as

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not to unreasonably interfere with free and proper use of the navigable waters or endanger life, limb or property, having due regard for conditions and circumstances such as weather, current, visibility, water depth, width of channel, proximity to shore, water hazards, vessel traffic and water use.

(b) When not within areas governed by subsection (c) of this section, from the lower Housatonic Dam in Shelton to the southern tip of the outer break wall in Milford, and when passing a marina, yacht club, fuel dock, an area in which boats are docked, at anchor, being launched or retrieved, or congested area, no person shall operate a vessel in excess of Slow-No-Wake.

(c) No person shall operate a vessel in excess of Slow-No-Wake within:

(1) The area bounded northerly by a point five hundred feet upstream from navigation aid #4 and bounded southerly by a point five hundred feet downstream from navigation aid #3;

(2) the channel east of Nells Island and all channels, creeks or waterways within the Charles E. Wheeler Wildlife Management Area, including Nells Island;

(3) the area bounded northerly by the Devon railroad bridge between Milford and Stratford and bounded southerly by navigation aid #14; and

(4) the area bounded northerly by the northernmost tip of Wooster Island and bounded southerly by the southernmost tip of Wooster Island.

(Effective September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-B15n. Mansfield Hollow Lake (Naubesatuck) special regulation**

On Mansfield Hollow Lake (Naubesatuck) motorboats shall not operate at a speed in excess of eight miles per hour and no person shall water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier.

(Adopted effective March 9, 2004)

**Sec. 15-121-B15o. Mystic River regulation**

No person shall operate a vessel in excess of Slow-No-Wake in the Mystic River within the following two areas: (1) Between the entrance to the Mystic Harbor and Red Navigation Marker No. 22, excluding Beebe Cove, where the entrance to Mystic Harbor shall be a line beginning at the southernmost tip of Mouse Island, then east to Red Navigation Buoy “4”, known as Whale Rock, then generally northeasterly to Green Navigation Buoy “9” to the northern tip of Ram Island and to the southernmost tip of Mason Point, and (2) from Red Navigation Buoy “26” northward to Green Navigation Buoy “53”.

(Adopted effective July 8, 2011)

**Sec. 15-121-b15p. Lake Waramaug special regulation**

No person shall operate a motorboat on Lake Waramaug in the towns of Washington, Warren and Kent in excess of slow-no-wake from May 15 through September 15, inclusive, in the cove adjacent to Lake Waramaug State Park in the area beginning at the northernmost

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tip of the cove, bounded by the shorelines, and southerly from said northernmost tip for a distance of 1,300 feet.

(Effective December 12, 2014)

**Sec. 15-121-B16. Vessel restrictions on state-owned lakes and ponds**

(a) Motorboats shall not be operated at a speed in excess of eight miles per hour and no person shall water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier on the following state-owned lakes and ponds unless specified in subsection (b) of this section:

- (1) Amos Lake, Preston;
- (2) Avery Lake, Preston;
- (3) Babcock Pond, Colchester;
- (4) Beachdale Pond, Voluntown;
- (5) Beseck Lake, Middlefield;
- (6) Burr Pond, Torrington;
- (7) Dooley Pond, Middletown;
- (8) Eagleville Lake, Coventry and Mansfield;
- (9) Gorton Pond, East Lyme;
- (10) Halls Pond, Ashford and Eastford;
- (11) Hatch Pond, Kent;
- (12) Higganum Reservoir, Haddam;
- (13) Holebrook Pond, Hebron;
- (14) Hopeville Pond, Griswold;
- (15) Mono Pond, Columbia;
- (16) Morey Pond, Ashford and Union;
- (17) North Farms Reservoir, Wallingford;
- (18) Park Pond, Winchester;
- (19) Pataconk Lake, Chester, and in addition, the use of internal combustion engines is prohibited during the months of July and August;
- (20) Pattagansett Lake, East Lyme;
- (21) Pickerel Lake, Colchester and East Haddam;
- (22) Powers Lake, East Lyme;
- (23) Silver Lake (Peat Works Pond), Berlin and Meriden;
- (24) Tetreault Pond, Killingly;
- (25) Winchester Lake, Winchester; and
- (26) Wyassup Lake, North Stonington.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. from June fifteenth to the Sunday following Labor Day, inclusive, motorboats on Amos Lake, Beseck Lake, Pattagansett Lake, Pickerel Lake, Wyassup Lake and Silver Lake may be operated at speeds in excess of eight miles per hour and persons may water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier. With respect to Wyassup Lake, however, no person shall water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier between the islands and the east

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shore.

(c) No person shall use and no owner shall allow the use of an internal combustion engine to propel a vessel on the following state-owned lakes and ponds:

- (1) Bigelow Pond, Union;
- (2) Bishops Swamp, Andover;
- (3) Black Pond, Meriden and Middlefield;
- (4) Breakneck Pond, Union;
- (5) Brewster Pond, Lebanon;
- (6) Crystal Lake, Middletown;
- (7) Green Falls Reservoir, Voluntown;
- (8) Griggs Pond, Woodstock;
- (9) Hampton Reservoir, Hampton;
- (10) Horse Pond, Salem;
- (11) Howells Pond, Hartland;
- (12) Huntington State Park Ponds (all waters within the boundaries of Collis P. Huntington State Park), Redding and Bethel;
- (13) Messerschmidt's Pond, Deep River, Westbrook;
- (14) Millers Pond, Durham;
- (15) Pine Acres Lake, Hampton;
- (16) Ross Pond, Killingly;
- (17) Savin Lake, Lebanon;
- (18) Stillwater Pond, Torrington;
- (19) Wauregan Reservoir, Killingly; and
- (20) Wintergreen Lake, Hamden.

(d) No person shall use and no owner shall allow the use of an internal combustion engine or an electric motor on the following state-owned lakes and ponds:

- (1) Barber Pond, Bloomfield;
- (2) Beaver Brook Pond (Bibbins Pond), Windham;
- (3) Dodge Pond, East Lyme; and
- (4) Mohawk Pond, Cornwall and Goshen.

(e) Except as otherwise specified herein, no person shall use and no owner shall allow the use of a vessel on the following state-owned lakes and ponds:

- (1) Barber Pond, Bloomfield. Provided that from May sixteenth to October thirty-first, manually propelled vessels may be used;
- (2) Beaver Brook Pond (Bibbin Pond), Windham. Provided that from May sixteenth to October thirty-first, manually propelled vessels may be used;
- (3) Black Rock Pond, Watertown;
- (4) Day Pond, Colchester;
- (5) Gay City Pond, Hebron;
- (6) Mad River Impoundment, Winchester;
- (7) Schreeder Pond (Chatfield Hollow Pond), Killingworth; and

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(8) Wharton Pond, Wallingford.

(f) The following additional restrictions shall apply:

(1) Beach Pond, Voluntown. No person shall water-ski and no person shall operate or allow the operation of a motorboat which is towing a water-skier in the narrow area from the dam east eight hundred feet to the mouth of said narrow area. At the discretion of the commissioner the eastern end of this restricted area may be marked with a regulatory buoy;

(2) Gorton Pond, East Lyme. The operation of personal watercraft as defined in section 15-140j of the Connecticut General Statutes, is prohibited;

(3) Pachaug Pond, Griswold. No person shall water-ski and no person shall operate or allow the operation of a motorboat which is towing a water-skier in the narrow area from the dam one thousand feet southeast to the mouth of said narrow area. At the discretion of the commissioner the southeastern end of this restricted area may be marked with a regulatory buoy; and

(4) Somersville Mill Pond, Somers. No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of six miles per hour and no person shall water-ski or operate a vessel towing a water-skier.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended September 8, 1998; Amended March 9, 2004; Amended January 3, 2007)

**Sec. 15-121-B17. Repealed**

Repealed November 5, 1991.

**Sec. 15-121-B18. Modification of regulations during marine events. Exemption for law enforcement and emergency vessels**

(a) Section 15-121-B12 through Section 15-121-B15, inclusive, Sections 15-121-B15a through 15-121-B15o, inclusive, and Section 15-121-B16 shall not apply to:

(1) A law enforcement or emergency vessel owned by a federal, state or municipal agency while such vessel is being used in the performance of official duties in connection with law enforcement or an emergency, or;

(2) A non emergency vessel owned by a federal, state or municipal agency when such vessel is being used in connection with official functions, if compliance with such sections would impede the performance of those functions, or;

(3) An emergency vessel eligible for assistance referrals from the U.S. Coast Guard or from a state or municipal law enforcement agency while such vessel is responding to an emergency.

(b) The commissioner may, by written authorization, expand, with or without modification, the exemption in subsection (a) of this section to include vessels owned by the general public during any marine event authorized by the commissioner or upon receipt of a copy of the U.S. Coast Guard authorization for a marine event, based on consideration of the following factors:

(1) the nature and purpose of the event;

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- (2) the estimated number and types of spectator watercraft;
- (3) physical boundaries of the event and various water courses or areas to be utilized by participants, officials and spectator craft;
- (4) the time schedule and a description of events, including times that nonparticipating craft will be allowed to enter the area;
- (5) the system used to mark the area;
- (6) expected traffic conditions and density of boating activity at the time and area of the event;
- (7) potential conflicts with various water use groups;
- (8) public safety considerations and precautions to be taken by event organizers;
- (9) consistency with federal, state, and local law; and
- (10) the necessity for the proposed modification or suspension in order to carry out the event.

(Effective May 19, 1994; Amended September 6, 1998; Amended July 8, 2011)

**Restricted Zones for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials**

**Sec. 15-121-C1. Transportation of hazardous substances in Connecticut waters**

(a) No vessel, regardless of tonnage size, or manner of propulsion, and whether self-propelled or not, transporting oil or other hazardous substance in bulk shall navigate in Connecticut waters in Long Island Sound north of a “Shore Clearance Line” except when, in the judgment of the master, the safety of the vessel, cargo or crew would be jeopardized and except further that a course not less than sixty degrees north of the Shore Clearance Line may be taken when making an approach to the channel entrance at a port of call or in departing from same and except further that a vessel may navigate north of the Shore Clearance Line at Long Sand Shoal when making an approach to the Connecticut River.

(b) Oil means oil of any kind or in any form, including but not limited to petroleum, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse, and oil mixed with wastes other than dredge spoil; hazardous substance means any liquid cargo which is inflammable or combustible or which, when discharged in any quantity into or upon the waters of Connecticut causes or is likely to cause significant damage to the environmental resources of Connecticut, including but not limited to, fish, shellfish, wildlife, shorelines, and beaches; Shore Clearance Line means a series of straight lines connecting sequentially the following navigation aids as numbered and described in Coast Guard Light List (CG-158) Volume I, Atlantic Coast (1972):

<i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Nearest Locality</i>
981	Parsonage Point Lighted Buoy 40	Mamaroneck, N.Y
976	The Cows Lighted Bell Buoy 32	Stamford, Conn.
969	Norwalk Harbor Lighted Gong Buoy 24A	Norwalk, Conn.
968	Cockenoe Island Shoal Lighted Bell 24	Norwalk, Conn.
961	Stratford Point Lighted Bell Buoy 18	Stratford, Conn.



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<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Nearest Locality</u>
958	New Haven Light	New Haven, Conn.
954	Townshend Ledge Lighted Gong Buoy 10A	East Haven, Conn.
952	Goose Island Lighted Bell Buoy 10G1	Guilford, Conn.
947	Long Sand Shoal West End Lighted Bell Buoy	Westbrook, Conn.
946	Long Sand Shoal Lighted Gong Buoy 8B	Westbrook, Conn.
944	Long Sand Shoal Lighted Whistle Buoy 8A	Old Saybrook, Conn.
942	Saybrook Bar Lighted Bell Buoy 8	Lyme, Conn.
934	Bartlett Reef Lighted Whistle Buoy 2A	Seaside Pt., Conn.
917	Seaflower Reef Light	Mumford, Pt., Conn.
916	North Dumpling Light	(North of North Hill, Fisher's Island, N.Y.)

(Effective July 11, 1973)

**Sec. 15-121-D1a—15-121-D1c. Transferred**

Transferred to Sec. 15-140f, September 8, 1998

**Sec. 15-121-D1d. Repealed**

Repealed March 9, 2004.

See § 15-140f-4.

**Sec. 15-121-D1e. Repealed**

Repealed March 9, 2004.

**Sec. 15-121-D1f. Repealed**

Repealed March 9, 2004.

See § 15-140e-4.

**Sec. 15-121-D2a. Repealed**

Repealed March 9, 2004.

See § 15-140j-2.

**Sec. 15-121-D2b—15-121-D2c. Transferred**

Transferred to Sec. 15-140j, September 8, 1998