The Coast Guard has received reports of commercial vessels, including tugs and barges, anchored outside designated anchorage areas along the Hudson River. Commercial vessel operators anchoring in the Hudson River are reminded to only anchor in authorized, federally designated Anchorage Grounds. These include Anchorage Ground numbers 16, 17, 18-A, 18, 19 East, 19 West, and 19-A. For reference, the Anchorage Grounds for the Port of New York are codified at 33 CFR 110.155. They can also be found at http://www.ecfr.gov as well as within U.S. Coast Pilot 2, Chapter 2 Navigation Regulations, available at http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm.

33 CFR 110.155(l)(2) states, “Except in cases of great emergency, no vessel shall be anchored in the navigable waters of the Port of New York outside of the anchorage areas established in this section, nor cast anchor within a cable or pipe line area shown on a Government chart, nor be moored, anchored, or tied up to any pier, wharf, or vessel in such manner as to obstruct or endanger the passage of any vessel in transit by, or to or from, adjacent wharves, piers, or slips.” If a vessel must anchor due to an emergency, immediately after addressing the safety hazards the operator should contact either Vessel Traffic Service New York or the Sector New York Command Center to inform the Coast Guard of the nature of the emergency. Failure to comply with these regulations could result in a civil penalty of up to $40,000.00.

Mariners are also reminded of the lighting requirements for vessels as required by the Inland Navigation Rules, codified in 33 CFR Part 83. The Rules can also be found at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov by selecting the “Nav Rules” tab near the top of the webpage. Additional deck lighting is authorized but should not interfere with the required navigation lights.

Charlets of the seven anchorage grounds located on the Hudson River are attached.

Questions regarding any content in this MSIB should be directed to Sector New York’s Waterways Management Division Chief, LCDR William Grossman at William.M.Grossman@uscg.mil, 718-354-2353 or the Waterways Management Coordinator, Mr. Jeff Yunker at Jeff.M.Yunker@uscg.mil, 718-354-4195.