

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Regulated Navigation Enforcement of the Gulf of Mexico: Mississippi Canyon Block 20


The Captain of the Port has established a Regulated Navigation Area (RNA) beginning on April 29, 2013 under 33 CFR 165.840 Regulated Navigation Area, Gulf of Mexico: Mississippi Canyon Block 20, South of New Orleans, LA. The RNA includes a 300-foot diameter, centered at 28° 56' 12.619" N and 088° 58' 10.303" W and extending the entire water column from the surface to the seabed, including a yellow, lighted buoy displaying "TAYLOR ENERGY-MC-20." Vessels may transit through this area, but must not anchor, moor, fish or otherwise loiter in the area, unless they have been granted special authorization by the Captain of the Port, New Orleans.

This RNA is needed to protect the subsurface monitoring and collection dome system above a leaking wellhead from the potential hazards of vessels anchoring, mooring, fishing or loitering in or near the oil and gas discharge area. In the past two years this subsurface collection system has been damaged seven times by vessels anchoring, mooring or loitering in the RNA, substantially increasing the potential for a significant oil discharge which could result in a major environmental impact in the Gulf of Mexico and to surrounding waterways and shorelines.

Failure to comply with this rule may result in civil or criminal penalties pursuant to the Port and Waterways Safety Act, 33 U.S.C. 1232 et seq., which carries a maximum penalty of \$40,000 per day.

For additional information, contact the following:

Coast Guard Sector New Orleans Incident Management:	(504) 628-0114
Coast Guard Sector New Orleans Command Center:	(504) 365-2200
Coast Guard Waterways Management:	(504) 365-2280


CAPTAIN P. W. Gautier
Captain of the Port New Orleans