

USCG/SENE WAMS for Block Island Sound

Saturday, March 05, 2011
11:30 AM

From: Ward, Amber LT <Amber.S.Ward@uscg.mil>
Date: Thu, Mar 3, 2011 at 19:42
Subject: WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT SURVEY FOR BLOCK ISLAND SOUND

United States Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England
Waterways Analysis and Management Systems (WAMS) Survey for
BLOCK ISLAND SOUND (Charts 13205 & 13215)

The WAMS process is an essential component of both the Aids to Navigation Program and the Marine Transportation System. The Coast Guard, under this WAMS process, is conducting a review of the **Block Island Sound**. Your input is critically important to this process and the Coast Guard greatly appreciates your time and attention to this survey. Responses are requested **no later than April 15, 2011.**

Date: _____
Name: _____ Phone number: _____
Organization: _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____
Total years navigation experience: _____
Years operating on Block Island Sound waterways: _____
In which area(s) of Block Island Sound do you primarily operate?

For the following, please check all categories that apply to you when operating in Block Island Sound: *If you operate more than one vessel, please use a number instead of a check for vessel type, draft, and length.*

Vessel Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Motor	<input type="checkbox"/> Sail	<input type="checkbox"/> Ferry
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Tug	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep Draft	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
Vessel Draft	<input type="checkbox"/> less than 6 ft	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 to 12 ft	<input type="checkbox"/> more than 12 ft		
Vessel Length	<input type="checkbox"/> less than 40 ft	<input type="checkbox"/> 40 to 70 ft	<input type="checkbox"/> 71 to 100 ft	<input type="checkbox"/> more than 100 ft	
Average Transit Frequency	<input type="checkbox"/> Daily	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> Bi-monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually
Average Transit Speed	<input type="checkbox"/> less than 6 kts	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 to 15 kts	<input type="checkbox"/> 16 to 25 kts	<input type="checkbox"/> more than 25 kts	
Transit Season	<input type="checkbox"/> Year-round	<input type="checkbox"/> Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall	<input type="checkbox"/> Winter
Anticipated Future Usage	<input type="checkbox"/> one year	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 to 4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> more than 4 years		

1. Please rank the following navigational tools in the order of its importance to you in transiting the waterways, with 1 being the most important (If not applicable, please mark "N/A"):

<input type="checkbox"/> Paper Charts	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Charts	<input type="checkbox"/> Radar	<input type="checkbox"/> D/GPS	<input type="checkbox"/> SATNAV
<input type="checkbox"/> Shore Lights	<input type="checkbox"/> Buoys	<input type="checkbox"/> Fathometer	<input type="checkbox"/> Lighthouses	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetic Compass	<input type="checkbox"/> Gyro Compass	<input type="checkbox"/> Seaman's Eye	<input type="checkbox"/> VHF RDF	

2. What, if any, special environmental conditions exist in Block Island Sound? (e.g., weather, current, visibility, etc.)

3. In your experience, what is/are the most difficult part(s) of safely navigating Block Island Sound? (e.g., Sea conditions, shoal, visibility, submerged hazards, vessel traffic, swimmers, etc.)

4. Do you use the waterways as marked or do you use the aids to navigation as references for alternate routes?

5. Which existing aids to navigation do you feel are the most critical in your transits of Block Island Sound and why?
6. Are you satisfied with the present position and signal quality of the existing aids to navigation in Block Island Sound? (e.g. aid could be better positioned, light too dim/bright)
7. Are any of the existing aids to navigation confusing or unnecessary to mariners?
8. What, if anything, may help improve navigation safety in Block Island Sound?
9. Do you know of any plans or proposals that may increase, decrease or significantly change this waterway's use?
10. Please provide any additional comments here or on an additional sheet of paper.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Lieutenant Amber Ward at (401) 435-2348 or Amber.S.Ward@uscg.mil. Please e-mail your completed survey to Amber.S.Ward@uscg.mil, fax to (401) 435-2399, or mail to the below address **no later than April 15, 2011**:

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Waterways Management Division
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