



U.S. COAST GUARD SECTOR JUNEAU



August 19, 2019

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tongass Narrows Speed-Zone

This safety bulletin is published to inform mariners of the 7-knot speed-zone in the Tongass Narrows.

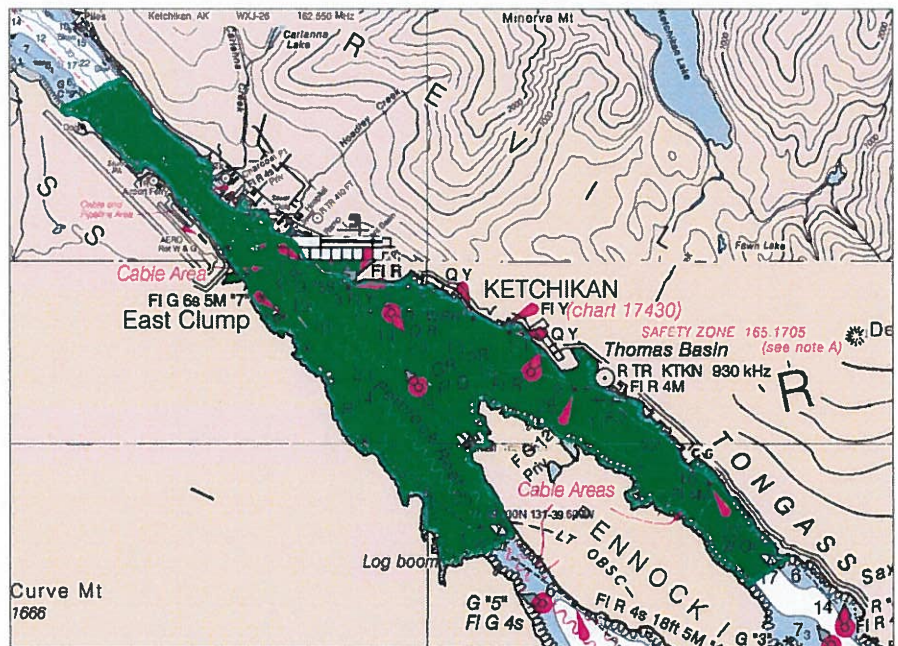
Background – In 1977, the Tongass Narrows speed-zone was published in the Federal Register. Originally, the speed zone had no vessel size caveat. The intention of the speed-zone has always been to control the speed of traffic, limiting the speed of larger vessels and allowing smaller vessels to depart speedily, thereby limiting congestion. The speed-zone has been adjusted variously over the years but exists today in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 33 CFR 164.240.

The CFR states – No vessel (*except float planes and vessels $\leq 23'$*) shall exceed a speed of 7 knots in the region of Tongass Narrows bounded to the north by Tongass Narrows Buoy 9 and to the south by Tongass Narrows East Channel Regulatory marker and Tongass Narrows West Channel Regulatory marker. (*see illustration below*)

Reminder – Violators of the speed-zone restriction will receive fines.

- 1st offense: \$1,000.00
- 2nd offense: \$3,000.00
- 3rd offense: \$6,000.00

Contact – For any questions regarding the speed-zone, please contact the Sector Juneau Command Center at 907-463-2980.



Sincerely,

S. R. WHITE
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port, Southeast Alaska