



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

JULY 18 2012

Regulatory Division
SAS-2010-00560

NOTICE TO MARINERS
SAVANNAH RIVER

This is to advise that Augusta Southern Nationals, Inc., will be sponsoring the 27th Annual Augusta Southern Nationals Drag Boat Races. The race course will extend downstream of the US Highway 1/78/278 Bridge, River Mile 197.0, to River Mile 199.45 on the Savannah River, in Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia (approximate latitude 33.4696 and longitude 81.9439). The site and course layout (temporary buoys, floating docks, and communication links) are shown on the enclosed maps and plans.

This event, which includes course installation, is scheduled to start at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2012, and end at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, 2012, with Monday, July 23, 2012, set aside as the rain date. The temporary structures will be removed at the conclusion of the last race on or before July 23, 2012.

This race is being permitted by the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The USCG will "regulate" the Savannah River in the area of the scheduled event. In order that the race may be conducted safely, vessel owners and operators are requested to remain clear of any vessels and patrol boats involved in the race activities. Signs will be posted at the affected boat ramps on the Georgia and South Carolina sides of the River prior to the scheduled event.

The Richmond County Sheriff's Department, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will assist with the patrol of the river.

Anyone desiring further information may contact Mr. Dayton L. Sherrouse, Chairman, at (706) 823-0440.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Mr. Brian Moore, Regulatory Specialist, Coastal Branch, Regulatory Division, at (912) 652-5349.

Enclosures

1. Attachment "A": Location Map
2. Attachment "B": Description of Event
3. Attachment "C": Course Layout and Safety Lighting Plan
4. Attachment "D": Description of Temporary Structures

Augusta Southern Nationals Drag Boat Race Attachment "A" Location Map

Mile Post
199.45

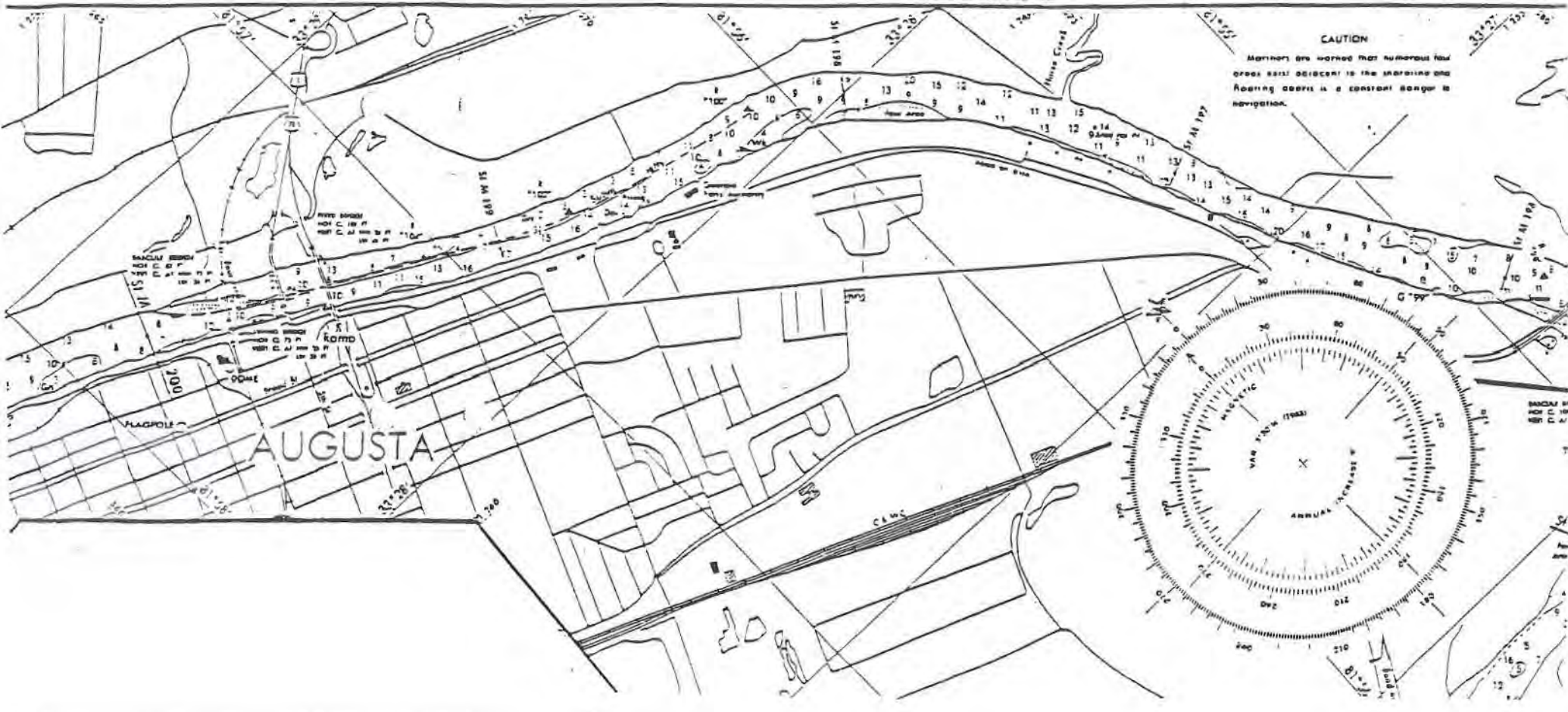
Length of Race Course

Mile Post
197.0

Revised 1958

CAUTION

Mariners are warned that numerous low areas exist adjacent to the shoreline and floating debris is a constant danger to navigation.



ATTACHMENT "B"
DESCRIPTION OF EVENT
AUGUSTA SOUTHERN NATIONALS DRAG BOAT RACE

General:

Drag boat racing became the third water event in the water activities series on the Savannah River sponsored by the Augusta Port Authority and the City of Augusta. By 1990, the Augusta Southern Nationals became known as the "World's Richest Drag Boat Race", attracting over 25,000 spectators to the annual event. The site for the race is known as the Augusta Riverfront Marina area and was developed by the City of Augusta and the August Port authority specifically to host water events on the Savannah River. Volunteers from the Augusta Southern Nationals built the second boat ramp and numerous other amenities at the site.

Course:

The Augusta Southern Nationals is a liquid quarter mile drag boat event. The race course is located below the US Highway #1/78/278 bridge approximately from river mile marker 199.5 to 197. With two 150 foot lanes, boats race in pairs and are disqualified if they leave their respective lane. Approximately one-half mile of run out past the finish line is necessary to stop the boats reaching over 150 miles per hour. The Augusta Southern Nationals is known throughout the United States in drag boat racing circuits.

Competitors:

The event typically attracts approximately 100 drag bots with an additional support staff and pit crew of over 500 personnel. These competitors visit Augusta for four to five days each year to compete for top drag boat titles and a purse of over \$150,000.

Volunteers:

The Augusta Southern Nationals is a totally community supported volunteer effort. The event requires volunteer support in excess of 500 people. This support group contributes over 15,000 hours of time, with planning requiring a year round effort of preparation for each year's race.

Budget:

The budget for the Augusta Southern Nationals is approximately \$275,000. This does not include outside vendors, special events, etc. The budget figure reflects hard cash required to conduct the event and does not include donated services, in-kind contribution or the value of the time contributed by the volunteers. The beneficiary of the event is the Georgia Special Olympics, Area Nine Chapter.

Race Frequency.

The event has been held annually the third weekend in July since 1986 with the lone exception of 1996. The race date for the 1996 race was rescheduled for the second weekend in July as a result of the 1996 Olympics held in Atlanta.

Safety and Emergency Services.

The Lucas Oil Drag Boat Racing Series Rescue Team is responsible for safety and rescue on the river during the race. On land, personnel from the trauma unit at the University Health Sciences Hospital render medical services for shore emergencies as well as care for any injured drivers. Two "Advanced Life Support" ambulances to transport patients to local hospitals are on duty at all times. The Augusta-Richmond county Fire Department provides additional assistance on the land.

Sanctioning Body:

The event is sanctioned by the Lucas Oil Drag Boat Racing Series and is designated as one of their national event.

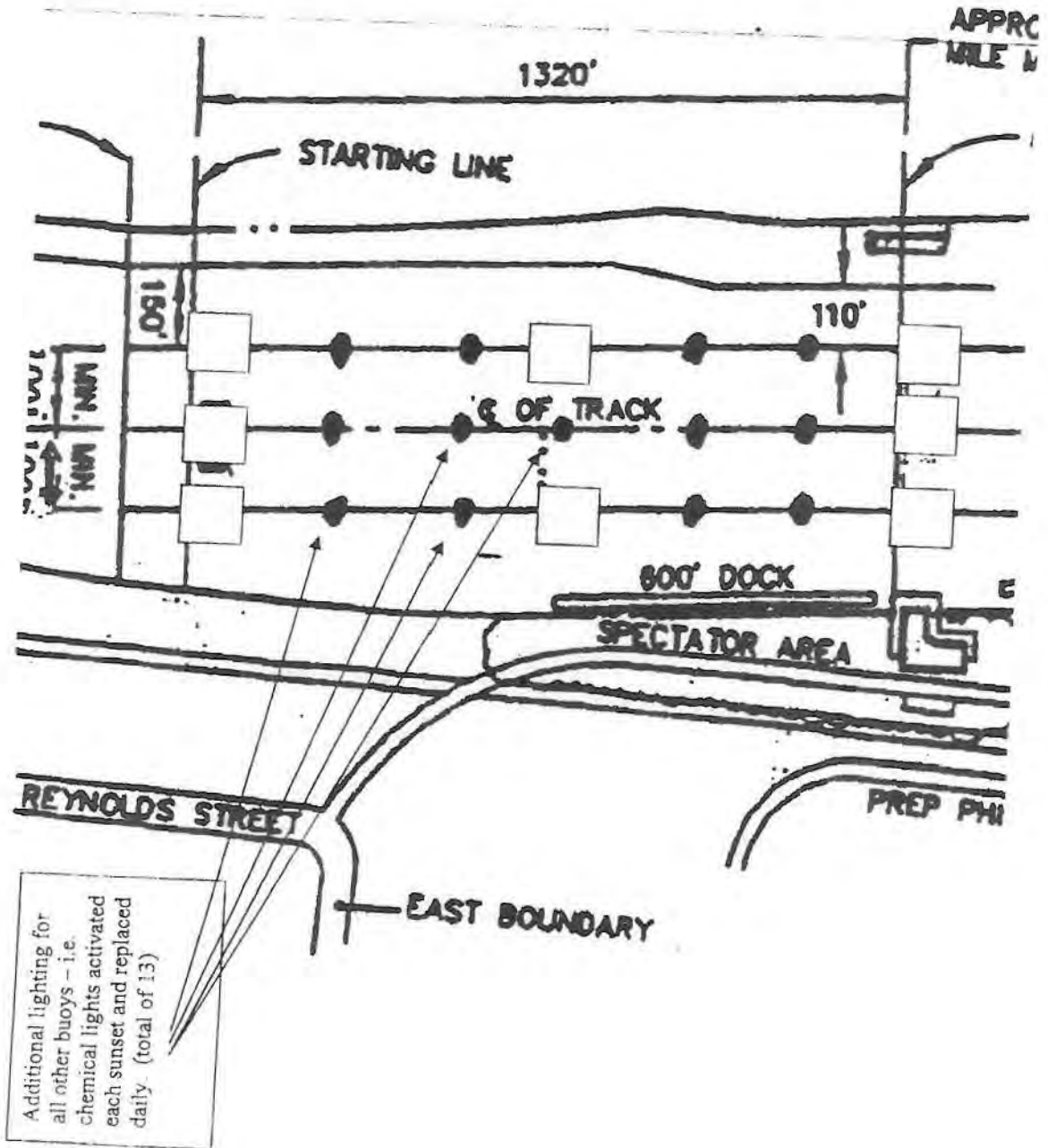
Other Benefits:

The Augusta Southern Nationals makes a significant contribution to the local economy. Approximately five hotels serve as host hotels for the event using approximately 2,000 room nights utilized by spectators, racers and support personnel. Food and beverage establishments benefit from the event as do other businesses providing services to the out-of-town guests. The Augusta Convention and Visitors Bureau estimates direct spending of approximately two million dollars to the local economy from the event. The charitable organization benefitting from the Augusta Southern Nations is the Georgia Special Olympics-Areas Nine Chapter. Each year the donation made by the event to this charity constitutes the bulk of their operating funds for the year. As a result of these contributions, the Areas Nine Chapter has been able to be selected as the host site for other state wide events sponsored by them.

Attachment "C"
Course Layout and Safety Lighting Plan

(See Attachment "D" for Description of Safety Lighting

SOUTH CAROLINA



Attachment "D"
Description of Temporary Structures
Augusta Southern Nationals Drag Boat Race
July 20-22, 2012

Please refer to the Course Layout and Safety Lighting Plan (Attachment "C") attached to the letter dated May 15 2012 for location of temporary structures to be placed in the Savannah River for the 27th Annual Augusta Southern Nationals Drag Boat Race to be held on July 20-22, 2012. The following temporary structures will be placed in the Savannah River:

1. Twenty (20) inflatable rubber buoys measuring 16" in diameter.
2. One countdown clock at the start line on floating dock measuring 6' x 10'.
3. One scoreboard clock at the finish line on floating dock measuring 8' x 20'.
4. One hold rope at the start line measuring 3/4" in diameter. This rope will be installed at the start of the race each day and taken down at the end of the day.
5. Four (4) two inch (2") aluminum poles holding the timing (sensor) lights along the centerline of the racecourse.

All of the above temporary structures will have lights attached to them during the nighttime hours as follows:

- The three lead buoys on the up river and down river end of the race course (a total of six) shown as yellow squares on Attachment C will be illuminated with a yellow flashing light.
- The middle buoys of each outer line of buoys (a total of two) shown as yellow squares on Attachment C will be illuminated with a yellow flashing light.
- All other buoys (a total of thirteen) as shown as black circles on Attachment C will be illuminated with a chemical light that is activated at sunset.
- The starting clock will have a flashing yellow/orange light.
- The starting barge will have a flashing yellow/orange light.
- The time clock will have a flashing yellow/orange light.

All temporary structures will be removed at the conclusion of the race.