U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

LIGHT LIST

Revised: September 17, 2025

PREFACE

In accordance with the Coast Guard's *Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration, COMDTINST M 16500.7(series),* the Light List describes both Federal and private aids to marine navigation maintained by or under the authority of the United States Government.

This Light List is available in electronic format on the Coast Guard Navigation Center (CG NAVCEN) website and is accessible at the following link: https://navcen.uscg.gov/light-lists. The Light List is digitally updated every 24 hours. All volumes of the Light List are available to the public. Through the CG NAVCEN website, users are able to download and print Light Lists for every Coast Guard District or customize the area of interest using geospatial information system (GIS) tools to zoom in and access localized data.

Changes to navigational aids are published in Coast Guard Local Notices to Mariners (LNM). Important changes are also broadcast on radio stations maintained and monitored by the Coast Guard or through Navigational Telex (NAVTEX). Broadcast Notices to Mariners (BNM) are transmitted through VHF radio (channel 22) by each Coast Guard District to communicate local information about hazards, emergent situations, and the status of federal aids to navigation. BNMs provide near real-time marine safety information, which can also be posted in the LNM if the safety concern remains relevant for a longer period. The Coast Guard also disseminates BNM information through email and the CG NAVCEN website which can be accessed at the following link: https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/broadcast-notice-to-mariners.

The public is requested to report omissions or errors in the Light List to the cognizant Coast Guard District (https://www.uscg.mil/contact/) or CG NAVCEN at NAVCENWATCH@uscg.mil.

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CHAPTER 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Light List Volumes Issued.

1. As directed by 33 CFR §72.05 and in accordance with the Coast Guard's *Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration, COMDTINST M 16500.7(series),* the Coast Guard issues volumes of Light List as prescribed by the following geographic descriptions and boundaries –

    a. Light List Volume I, Atlantic Coast, describing aids to navigation in waters of the United States from St. Croix River, Maine to Shrewsbury River, New Jersey.

    b. Light List Volume II, Atlantic Coast, describing aids to navigation in waters of the United States from Shrewsbury River, New Jersey to Little River, South Carolina.

    c. Light List Volume III, Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, describing aids to navigation in waters of the United States from Little River, South Carolina to Econfina River, Florida and The Greater Antilles.

    d. Light List Volume IV, Gulf Coast, describing aids to navigation in waters of the United States from Econfina River, Florida to Rio Grande, Texas (Eighth Coast Guard District).

    e. Light List Volume V, Mississippi River System, describing aids to navigation on the Mississippi River and adjoining navigable tributaries.

    f. Light List Volume VI, Pacific Coast and Pacific Islands, describing aids to navigation in United States waters on the Pacific Coast and outlying Pacific Islands. For the convenience of the mariner, also included are certain aids to navigation on the coast of British Columbia.

    g. Light List Volume VII, Great Lakes, describing aids to navigation maintained by the United States Coast Guard and the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation on the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, above the St. Regis River. For the convenience of the mariners, also included are certain aids to navigation maintained by Canada.

2. The Coast Guard Light List volume boundaries and limits are visually provided in Figure 1 below.

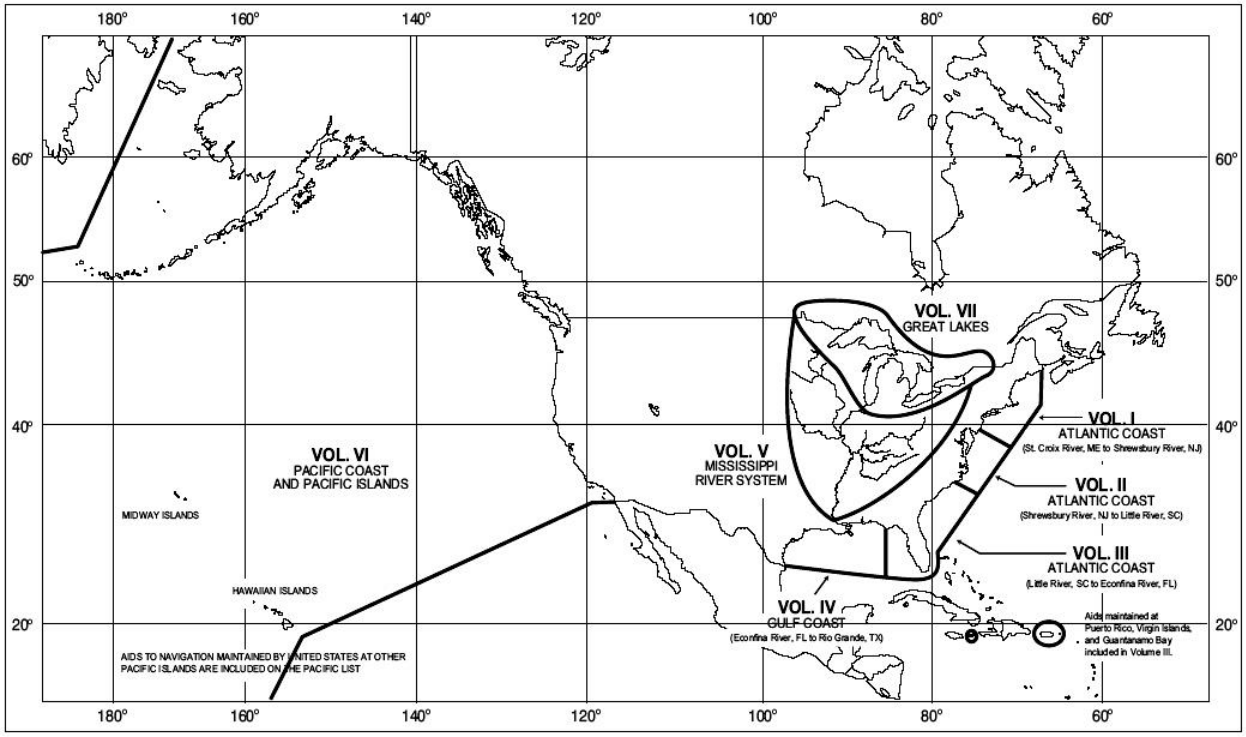


Figure 1. Visual of Light List volume boundaries and limits.

B. Light List Coast Guard District Information

As outlined in the Coast Guard's *Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration, COMDTINST M 16500.7(series),* Table 1 provides a list of Coast Guard Districts and the associated volumes of the Light Lists that each District exercises jurisdictional authority for navigational aid maintenance, repair, and replacement.

Volume	Coast Guard Districts	Geographic Description
I	**USCG Northeast District** 408 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02110-3350	St. Croix River, Maine to Shrewsbury River, New Jersey
II	**USCG East District** 431 Crawford Street Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004	Shrewsbury River, New Jersey to Little River, South Carolina
III	**USCG Southeast District** Brickell Plaza Federal Bldg. 909 SE 1st Avenue Miami, FL 33131-3050	Little River, South Carolina to Econfina River, Florida (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands)
IV	**USCG Heartland District** Hale Boggs Federal Bldg. 500 Poydras Street New Orleans, LA 70130-3310	The Gulf Coast, from Econfina River, Florida to the Rio Grande, Texas
V		Mississippi River System
VI	**USCG Southwest District** U.S. Coast Guard Island, Bldg. 54A Alameda, CA 94501-5100 **USCG Northwest District** Jackson Federal Bldg. 915 Second Ave Seattle, WA 98174-1067 **USCG Oceania District** 300 Ala Moana Blvd, Room 9-220 Honolulu, HI 96850-4982 **USCG Arctic District** P.O. Box 25517 Juneau, AK 99802-5517	Pacific Coast and Pacific Islands
VII	**USCG Great Lakes District** Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Bldg. 1240 East 9th Street Cleveland, OH 44199-2060	Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River above the St. Regis River

Table 1. Listing of Coast Guard District Light List volume jurisdictional authority.

C. Aids to Navigation Arrangement

In accordance with the Coast Guard's *Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration, COMDTINST M 16500.7(series),* and compliant with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 33 Part62, aids to navigation are arranged in geographic order as follows –

1. Aids to navigation in Volumes I, II, III, and IV are listed from north to south along the Atlantic Coast and from east to west along the Gulf Coast. Seacoast aids to navigation are listed first followed by entrance and harbor aids to navigation listed from seaward to the head of navigation. Intracoastal Waterway aids to navigation are listed from north to south on the Atlantic Coast and south to north and east to west on the Gulf Coast. Figure 2 in Appendix A provides visual guidance for the U.S. Aids to Navigation System on navigable waters excluding Western Rivers.

2. Aids to navigation in Volume V are listed in downstream order for those rivers in the Mississippi River System. Each fixed aid bears a number indicating the mileage of the stream at that point, as determined from the latest chart. The mileage of the aid determines its position in the list. The origin (zero), for most rivers is coincident with the river mouth; otherwise, the origin point is named in the heading of each page. Figure 3 in Appendix A provides visual guidance for the U.S. Aids to Navigation System on navigable waters in Western Rivers.

3. Aids to navigation in Volume VI are listed from south to north along the Pacific Coast, south to north and east to west in Alaska, and east to west in the Pacific Islands. Seacoast aids to navigation are listed first, followed by entrance and harbor aids to navigation listed from seaward to the head of navigation.

4. Aids to navigation in Volume VII are listed in a westerly and northerly direction on the Great Lakes except Lake Michigan, which is in a southerly direction on the eastern side and a northerly direction on the western side.

5. In accordance with 33 CFR § 62.21, the U.S. Aids to Navigation System and the Light List are designed for use with nautical charts. A representation of Aids to Navigation on a fictious nautical chart is provided in Figure 4 in Appendix A.

D. International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Maritime Buoyage System and Nautical Charts

In accordance with 33 CFR § 62.21, the U.S. Aids to Navigation System is consistent with the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) Maritime Buoyage System. Divided into IALA buoy system Region A and IALA buoyage system Region B, all navigable waters of the Untied States follow IALA Region B except U.S. possessions west of the International Date Line and south of the 10 degrees north latitude, which follow IALA Region A. Figure 5 in Appendix A provides visual guidance for IALA Region B during day and night operations. Additional information on the IALA Maritime Buoyage System is available in Appendix B.

CHAPTER 2. LIGHT LIST FORMAT AND DESCRIPTORS

A. Light List Format

1. As stipulated in the Coast Guard's *Aids to Navigation Manual – Administration, COMDTINST M 16500.7(series),* Aids to Navigation Listing contained in each volume of the Light List is divided into eight columns. Each column contains specific information.

    a. Column 1 (Light List Number – LLNR) - This column contains the Light List number. Aids to navigation are arranged in geographic order, except in Volume V where aids to navigation are listed by river mileage. All permanent aids to navigation are assigned a Light List number. Light List numbers are normally a whole number such as 5, 250, 345, etc. Decimal numbers are assigned when a whole number is not available (1.1, 141.10, etc). The number appears on the first line of the entry. Aids to navigation that are listed in the Seacoast Section and the Bays, Rivers, and Harbors Section will be assigned cross-reference numbers. Any cross-reference number will appear in this column, immediately below the Light List number.

    b. Column 2 (Name) - This column contains the name of the aid to navigation. No abbreviations are used in the name. The following rules apply:

        i. Number and lettering aids to navigation complies with the standard as prescribed by the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) convention. Channels are numbered and lettered sequentially. Lateral aids are numbered or lettered as consecutively as possible, beginning at the seaward end of the waterway and increasing in the conventional direction of buoyage. When two or more aids have the same number, the number may be suffixed with an identifying letter (e.g., Buoy 2A, Buoy 2B). Preferred Channel, Safewater, Isolated Danger, and Special Marks may be lettered. Wreck buoys are prefixed with the letters WR (e.g., Lighted Wreck Buoy WR6). Both Federal and private aids follow the IALA standard.

        ii. The name of lights with a nominal range of 10 nautical miles (NM) or greater (10 statute miles (SM) in the Great Lakes) appear in upper/lower case, boldface type. In addition, racons and sound signal stations are also listed in this format. The name of lights with a nominal range less than 10 NM (10 SM in the Great Lakes), range lights, and privately maintained lights appear in regular type, upper case only.

        iii. The name of lighted buoys appears in italics type, upper/lower case.

        iv. The name of unlighted buoys and daybeacons appear in regular type, upper/lower case.

v. Amplifying information, if included in the column, starts on a new line and appears in the regular type, upper/lower case. If the name of the aid to navigation describes the hazard, amplifying information is not used except to describe additional features not included in the name.

vi. Listings for the rear range light contain amplifying information describing the distance in yards or feet, and the bearing from the front range light. The distance is listed to the nearest whole foot or yard. If the range exceeds 999 feet or yards, a comma is used. The bearing is rounded to the nearest tenth of a degree, using standard mathematical rounding procedures.

vii. In the case of multiple lights contained in a listing, the number of lights is listed in parenthesis at the end of the name.

c. Column 3 (Position) – This column contains the latitude and longitude of the aid to navigation. The position is printed to the thousandth decimal place. When aids to navigation are not charted due to frequently changing conditions, a remark in column 8 or a preceding line is used to bring attention to that fact.

d. Column 4 (Characteristic) – If lighted, this column contains the light characteristic for the aid to navigation. If the light has a sector or sectors, the bearings of the sector(s) appear in column 8 (Remarks).

e. Column 5 (Height) – For fixed aids to navigation, the focal height (in feet) above water for the aid to navigation is listed in this column.

f. Column 6 (Range) – The nominal range in nautical miles, for lighted aids to navigation is listed in this column. Nominal range is not listed for range lights, directional lights, leading lights, or private aids to navigation.

g. Column 7 (Structure) –

i. Lighted buoys are listed only by the color of the buoy hull. The color of the topmost band of preferred channel buoys is listed first.

ii. Unlighted buoys are listed with the color and shape of the buoy. The color of the topmost band of preferred channel buoys is listed first.

iii. Fixed aids to navigation are identified by daymark and structure type (e.g., pile, skeleton tower, dolphin, spindle, post, etc.). Construction material (steel, wood, etc.) is not listed. Major aids to navigation contain further descriptions of the structure when necessary.

h. Column 8 (Remarks) - Remarks provide amplifying information not appropriate to any other column.

B. Remarks for Ranges

1. Ranges are pairs of beacons commonly located to define a line down the channel. They are usually, but not always lighted. It is important to accurately describe ranges because if lighted, the light may only be visible on or near the range line. Appendix B provides regulatory cites and references governing ranges.

    a. If the only light is a pencil-beam light produced by a drum optic (i.e., an RL14 or RL24) then, the Remarks column, specifies a value for light visibility each side of rangeline equal to half the beam width.

    b. If a structure uses a range lantern to mark the range, and a separate omnidirectional lantern (or lanterns) with a different characteristic to mark the aid for the purpose of avoiding an allision; and, if the omnidirectional lantern has no lateral significance, then the omnidirectional light(s) is described as a "passing light." The range light is described as a front or rear range light and the omnidirectional light is assigned a different number and described as a passing light.

C. Abbreviations

1. The following standard abbreviations are used in the Light List. These abbreviations are consistent with agreements between National Ocean Service (NOS), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), and standards established by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA). Table 2 provides illustrations and additional information for light characteristics. Additionally, Appendix B provides regulatory cites and references governing light characteristics.

Light Characteristics	Colors
Alternating – Al	Blue – Bu
Composite Group-Flashing – Fl(2+1)	Green – G
Composite Group-Occulting – Oc(2+1)	Orange – OR
Fixed – F	Red – R
Flashing – Fl	White – W
Group-Flashing – Fl(3)	Yellow – Y
Group-Occulting – Oc(2)	
Interrupted – I	
Isophase – Iso	
Morse Code – Mo(A)	
Occulting – Oc	
Quick – Q	
Seconds – s	

Illustration	Type Description	Abbreviation
	1. Fixed. A light showing continuously and steadily.	F
	2. Occulting. A light in which the total duration of light in a period is longer than the total duration of darkness and the intervals of darkness (eclipses) are usually of equal duration.	
	2.1 Single-occulting. An occulting light in which an eclipse is regularly repeated.	Oc
	2.2 Group-occulting. An occulting light in which a group of eclipses, specified in numbers, is regularly repeated.	Oc (2)
	2.3 Composite group-occulting. A light, similar to a group-occulting light, except that successive groups in a period have different numbers of eclipses.	Oc (2+1)
	3. Isophase. A light in which all durations of light and darkness are equal.	Iso
	4. Flashing. A light in which the total duration of light in a period is shorter than the total duration of darkness and the appearances of light (flashes) are usually of equal duration.	
	4.1 Single-flashing. A flashing light in which a flash is regularly repeated (frequency not exceeding 30 flashers per minute.)	Fl
	4.2 Group-flashing. A flashing light in which a group of flashes, specified in number, is regularly repeated.	Fl (2)

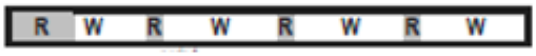
	4.3 Composite group-flashing. A light similar to a group flashing light except that successive groups in the period have different numbers of flashes.	Fl (2+1)
	5. Quick. A light in which flashes are produced at a rate of 60 flashes per minute.	
	5.1 Continuous quick. A quick light in which a flash is regularly repeated.	Q
	5.2 Interrupted quick. A quick light in which the sequence of flashes is interrupted by regularly repeated eclipses of constant and long duration.	I Q
	6. Morse Code. A light in which appearance of light of two clearly different durations (dots and dashes) are grouped to represent a character or characters in the Morse code.	Mo (A)
	7. Fixed and flashing. A light in which a fixed light is combined with a flashing light of higher luminous intensity.	F Fl
	8. Alternating. A light showing different colors alternately.	Al RW

Table 2. Light characteristics and descriptions

D. Luminous and Geographic Range

1. The nominal range in this Light List is the maximum distance a given light can be seen when the meteorological visibility is 10 nautical miles (NM). If the visibility is less than 10 NM, the range at which the light can be seen is reduced below its nominal range. If the visibility is greater than 10 NM, the light can be seen at greater than its nominal range. The distance at which the light may be expected to be seen in the prevailing visibility is called its luminous range. The diagram in Figure 6 enables the mariner to determine the approximate luminous range of a light when the nominal range and the prevailing meteorological visibility is known.

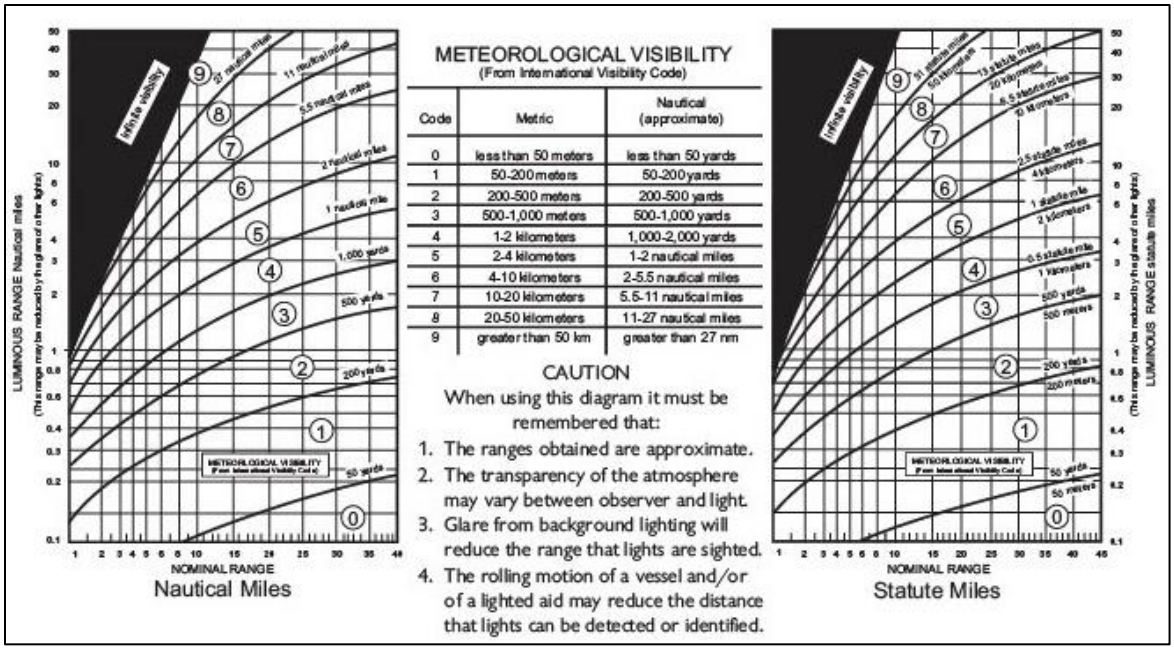


Figure 6. Luminous Range Diagram

2. Table 3 provides the approximate geographic range of visibility for an object which may be seen by an observer at sea level. It is necessary to add to the distance for the height of any object to the distance corresponding to the height of the observer's eye above sea level.

Height Feet / Meters	Distance Nautical Miles (NM)	Height Feet / Meters	Distance Nautical Miles (NM)	Height Feet / Meters	Distance Nautical Miles (NM)
5/1.5	2.6	70/21.3	9.8	250/76.2	18.5
10/3.1	3.7	75/22.9	10.1	300/91.4	20.3
15/4.6	4.5	80/24.4	10.5	350/106.7	21.9
20/6.1	5.2	85/25.9	10.8	400/121.9	23.4
25/7.6	5.9	90/27.4	11.1	450/137.2	24.8
30/9.1	6.4	95/29.0	11.4	500/152.4	26.2
35/10.7	6.9	100/30.5	11.7	550/167.6	27.4
40/12.2	7.4	110/33.5	12.3	600/182.9	28.7
45/13.7	7.8	120/36.6	12.8	650/198.1	29.8
50/15.2	8.3	130/39.6	13.3	700/213.4	31.0
55/16.8	8.7	140/42.7	13.8	800/243.8	33.1
60/18.3	9.1	150/45.7	14.3	900/274.3	35.1
65/19.8	9.4	200/61.0	16.5	1000/304.8	37.0

Example: Determine the geographic visibility of an object, with a height above water of 65 feet, for an observer with a height of eyeof 35 feet.

Enter above table;
Height of object 65 feet= 9.4 NM
Height of observer 35 feet= 6.9 NM
Computed geographic visibility= 16.3 NM

Table 3. Luminous range.

E. Dayboard Designations and Descriptions

1. Standard designations are used to describe the appearance and purpose of each dayboard used in U.S. navigable waters. A brief explanation of the designations and purpose of each type of dayboard is given below. Appendix B provides regulatory cites and references governing dayboards.

2. Dayboard Designations –

   a. First Letter – Denotes shape or purpose of the dayboard. The following provides a list of first letter designations and their associated use.

      i. "S" – Square used to mark the port (left) side of channels when proceeding from seaward.

      ii. "T" – Triangle used to mark the starboard (right) side of channels when proceeding from seaward.

      iii. "J" – Junction (square or triangle) used to mark (preferred channel) junctions or bifurcations in the channel, or wrecks or obstructions which may be passed on either side; color of top band has lateral significance for the preferred channel.

      iv. "M" – Safe water (octagonal) used to mark the fairway or middle of the channel.

v. “C” – Crossing (western rivers only) diamond-shaped, used to indicate the points at which the channel crosses the river.

vi. “K” – Range (rectangular) when both the front and rear range dayboards are aligned on the same bearing, the observer is on the azimuth of the range, usually used to mark the center of the channel.

vii. “N” – No lateral significance (diamond or rectangular shaped) used for special purpose, warning, distance, or location markers.

b. Second Letter – Denotes the color of the dayboard. The following provides a list of second letter designations and their associated color.

i. “G” – Green.

ii. “B” – Black.

iii. “Y” – Yellow.

iv. “R” – Red.

v. “W” – White.

c. Third letter – Denotes the color of the center stripe of the dayboard and applies to range boards only.

d. Any letters after the third letter following a dash denote the following additional information –

i. “I” – Intracoastal Waterway; a yellow reflective horizontal strip on a dayboard; indicates the aid to navigation marks the Intracoastal Waterway.

ii. “SY” – Intracoastal Waterway; a yellow reflective square on a dayboard; indicates the aid to navigation is a port hand mark for vessels traversing the Intracoastal Waterway. May appear on a triangular daymark where the Intracoastal Waterway coincides with a waterway having opposite conventional direction of buoyage.

iii. “TY” – Intracoastal Waterway; a yellow reflective triangle on a dayboard; indicates the aid to navigation is a starboard hand mark for vessels traversing the Intracoastal Waterway. May appear on a square daymark where the Intracoastal Waterway coincides with a waterway having opposite conventional direction of buoyage.

APPENDIX A

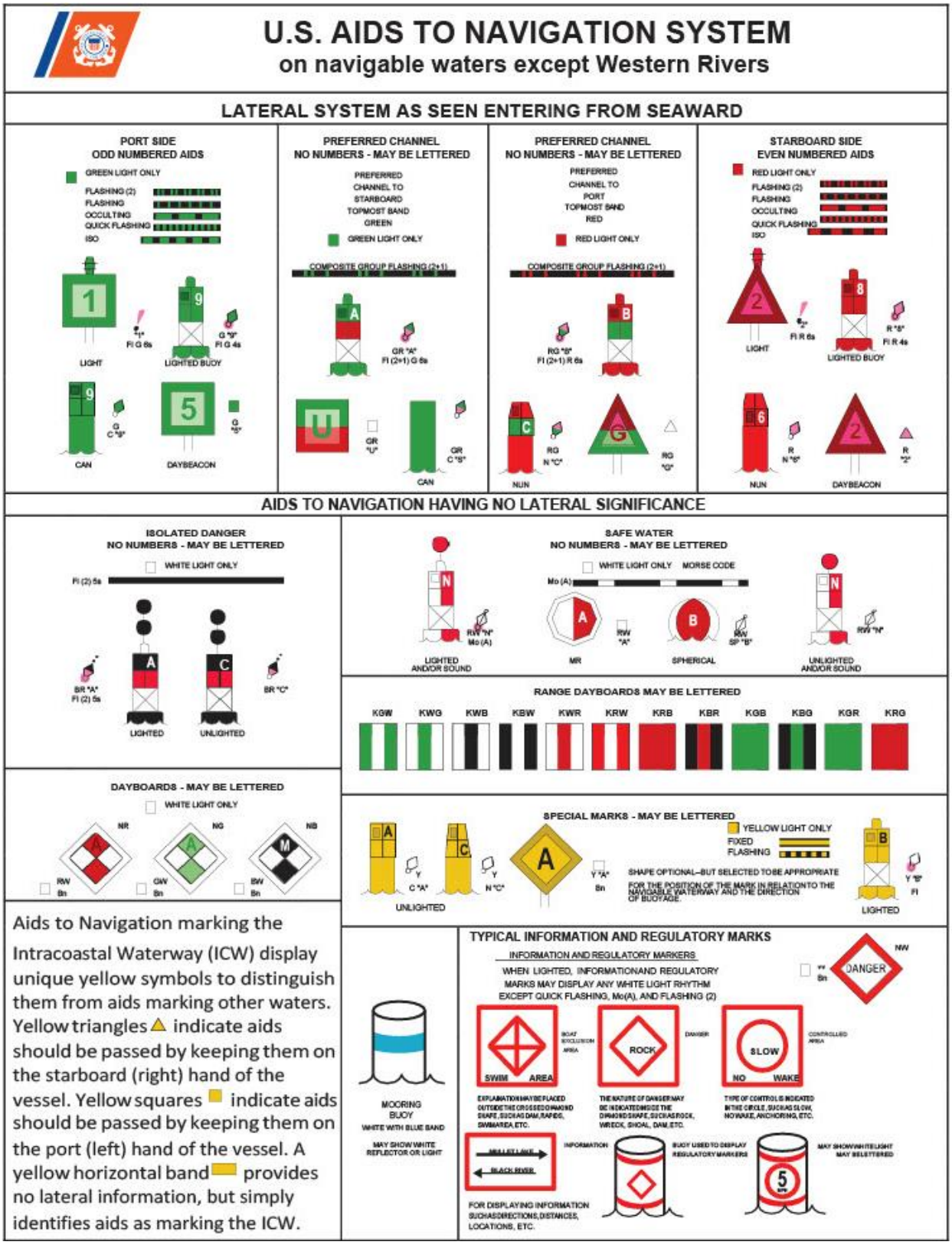


Figure 2. A visual guide to the U.S. Aids to Navigation System on navigable waters except Western Rivers.

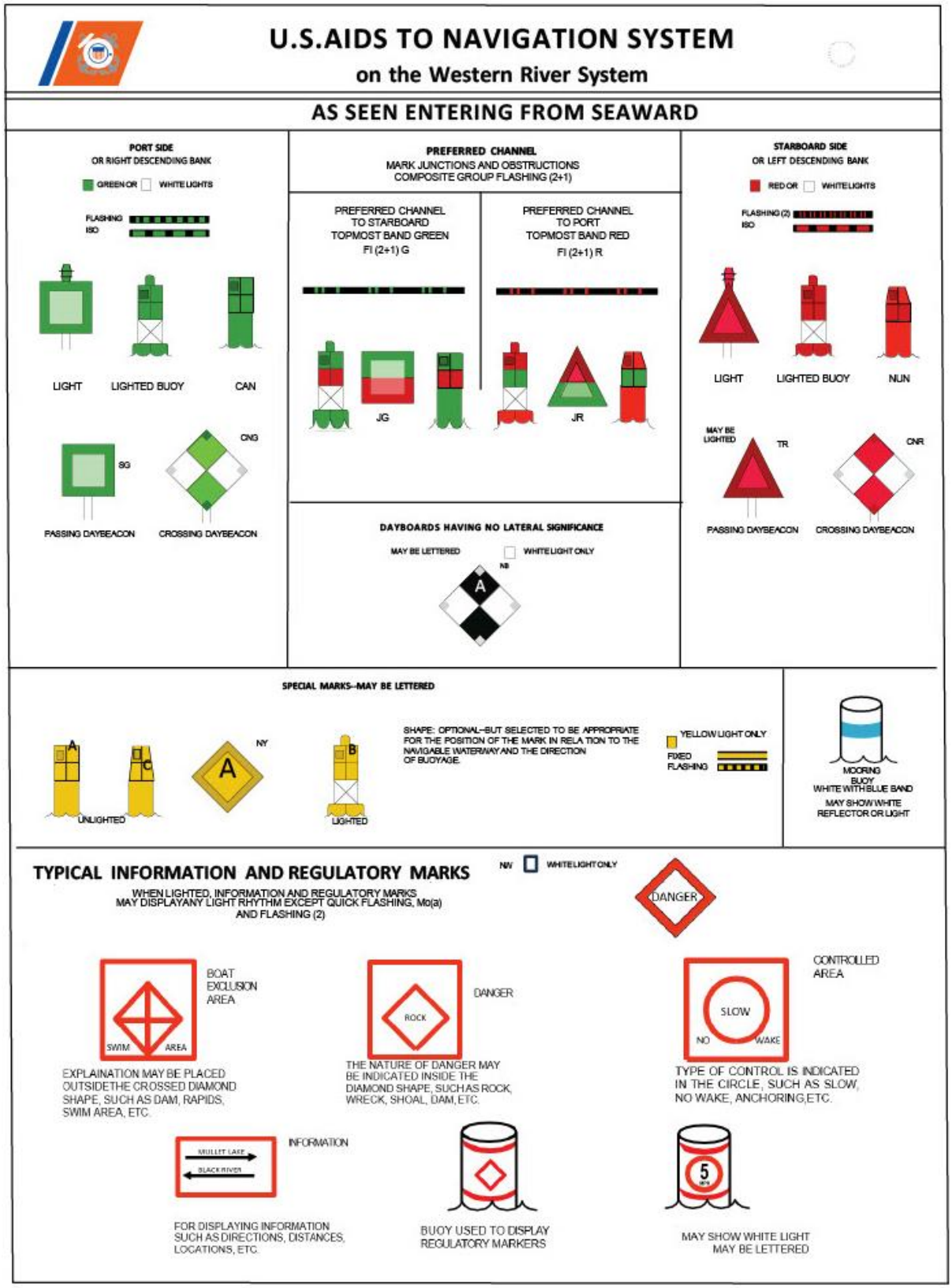


Figure 3. A visual guide to the U.S. Aids to Navigation System on Western Rivers.

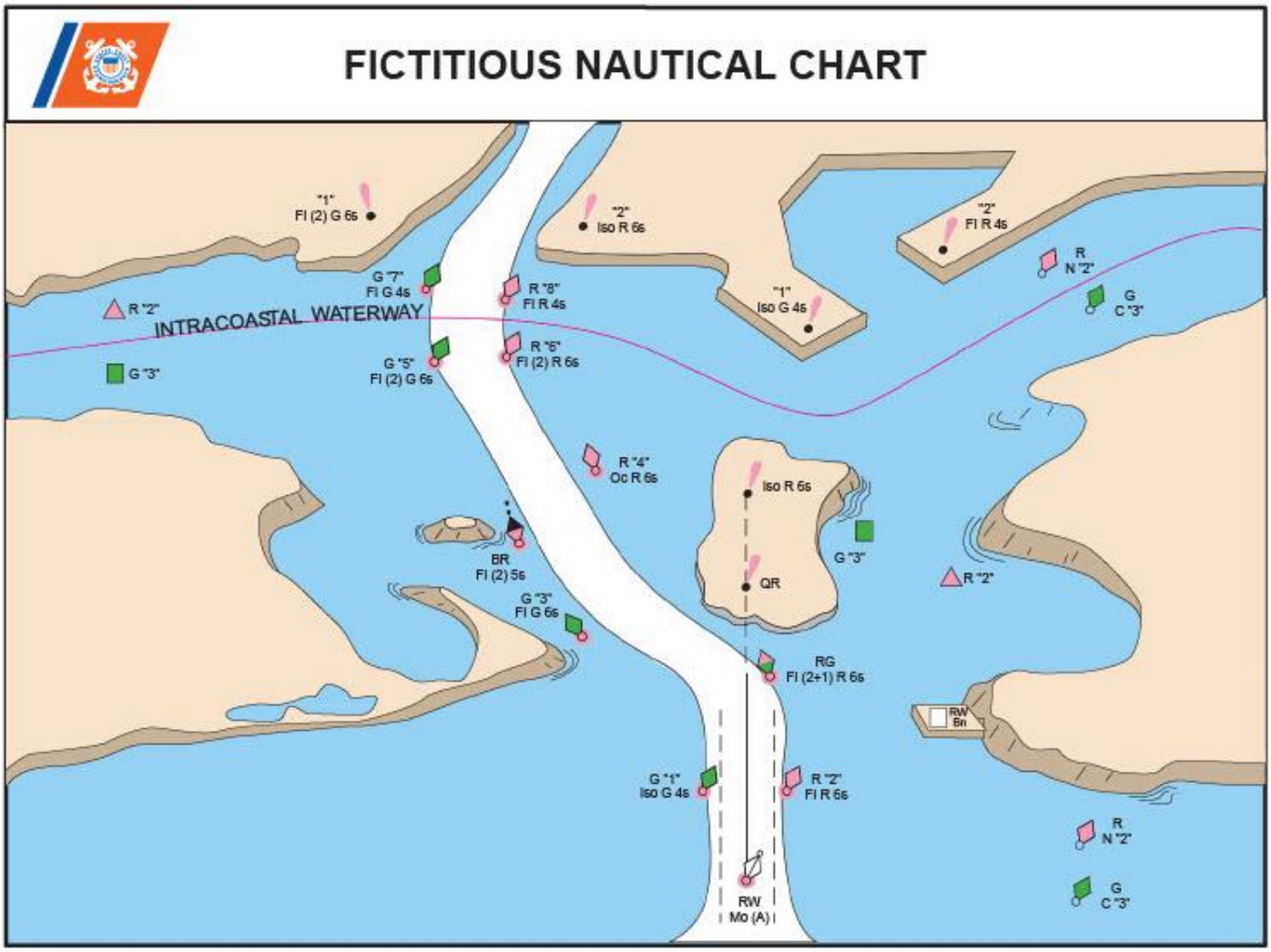


Figure 4. A representation of Aids on a fictitious nautical chart.

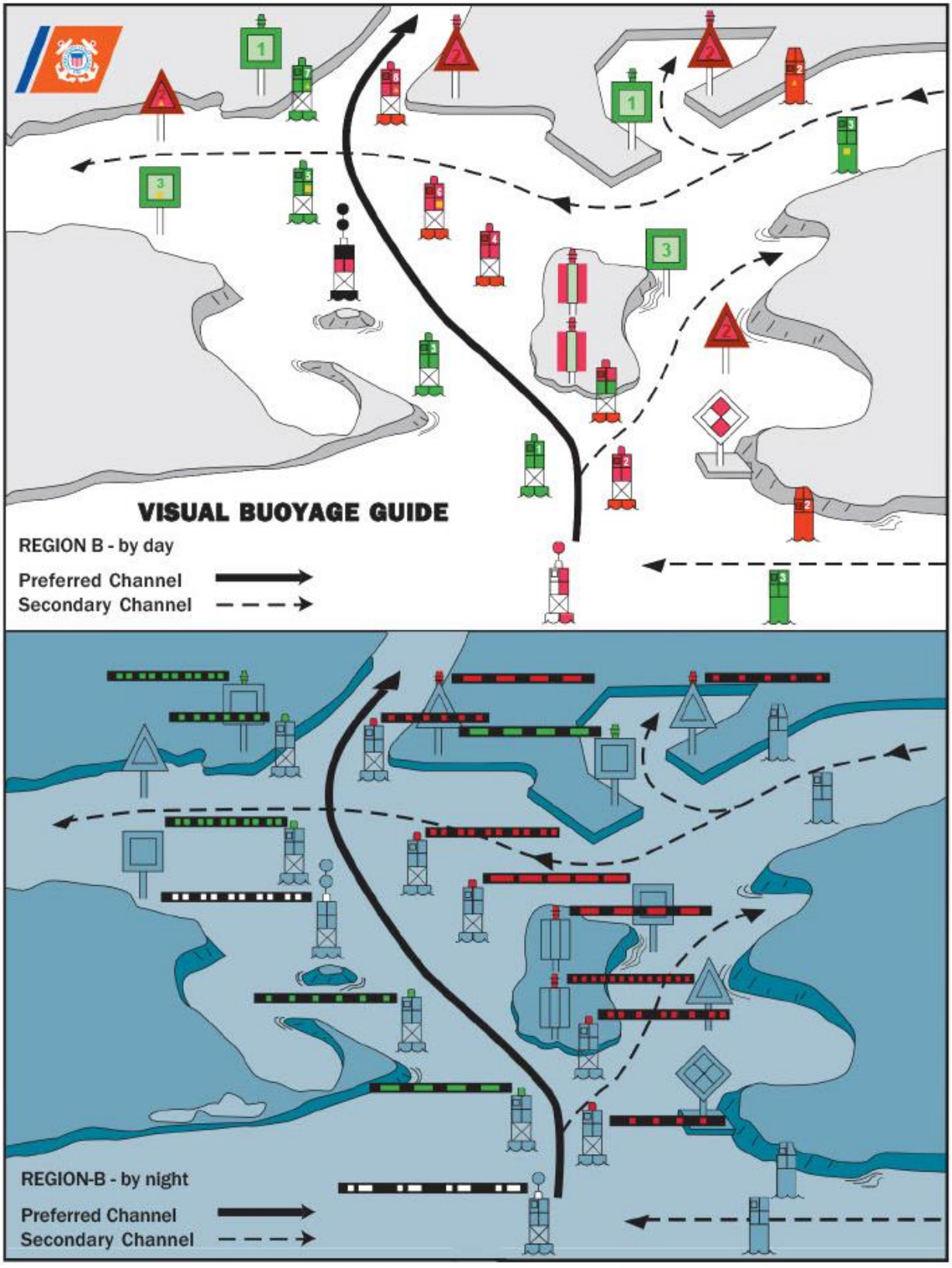


Figure 5. A visual buoyage guide for IALA Region B day and night operations.

APPENDIX B

A. Abbreviations

Various abbreviations are utilized in Broadcast Notices to Mariners, Local Notices to Mariners, on charts, and in the Light Lists. The following link provides a list of abbreviations used in these publications: https://www.iala.int/wiki/dictionary/index.php/Main_Page.

B. Regulatory Directory for Federal Aids in the United States Aids to Navigation System

Regulatory cites with associated links are provided below for the requirements governing federal aids in the United States Aids to Navigation System.

Federal Aids to Navigation Topics	Link
United States Aids to Navigation System	33 CFR §62
Beacons and Buoys	33 CFR § 62.23
Lateral Marks	33 CFR § 62.25
Safe Water Marks	33 CFR § 62.27
Isolated Danger Marks	33 CFR § 62.29
Special Marks	33 CFR § 62.31
Inland Water Obstruction Mark	33 CFR § 62.32
Information and Regulatory marks	33 CFR § 62.33
Mooring Buoys	33 CFR § 62.35
Lighthouses	33 CFR § 62.37
Ranges	33 CFR § 62.41
Numbers and Letters	33 CFR § 62.43
Light Characteristics	33 CFR § 62.45
Sound Signals	33 CFR § 62.47
Intracoastal Waterway Identification	33 CFR § 62.49
Western Rivers Marking System	33 CFR § 62.51
Automatic Identification System Aids to Navigation (AIS AtoN)	33 CFR § 62.52
Racons	33 CFR § 62.53
Ownership Identification	33 CFR § 62.54
Public Participation in the Aids to Navigation System Recommendations	33 CFR § 62.63
Procedure for reporting defects and discrepancies	33 CFR § 62.65
Marking of Structures, Sunken Vessels and Other Obstructions	33 CFR § 64
Aids to Navigation on Artificial Islands and Fixed Structures	33 CFR § 67
Interference with or Damage to Aids to Navigation	33 CFR § 70

C. Regulatory Directory for Private Aids to Navigation

Regulatory cites with associated links are provided below for the requirements governing private aids to navigation in the United States Aids to Navigation System.

Private Aids to Navigation Topics	Link
Private Aids to Navigation	33 CFR § 66
Basic Provisions	33 CFR § 66.01-1
Delegation of Authority to District Commanders	33 CFR § 66.01-3
Application Procedure	33 CFR § 66.01-5
Characteristics	33 CFR § 66.01-10
Lights	33 CFR § 66.01-11
State Aids to Navigation	33 CFR § 66.05
Unform State Waterway Marking System	33 CFR § 66.10

D. International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) Buoyage System

Information and international requirements for the IALA Buoyage System are available and accessible at the following link: R1001 The IALA Maritime Buoyage System - IALA AISM.