U.S. Coast Guard
Great Lakes Pilotage Program

Harbor Safety Committee Conference

27 August 2014
Program Mission

- Ensure safe, reliable and efficient pilotage service to foreign trade vessels navigating the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River and

- Establish fair and reasonable rates pilots may charge for their services giving due consideration to the public interest.
All US Pilotage is Regulated by the State, except Great Lakes Pilotage Act of 1960 requires USCG oversight as per
- 46 USC 9301 - 9308
- 46 CFR 401 - 404
Background (cont’d)

- **Shared Responsibility with Canada**
  - Memorandum of Arrangements/ Understanding (MOA/MOU)

- **Navigation Season – approx 9 months (closed for winter season)**
Great Lakes Pilot Associations

- Pilotage is provided by 3 Independent Pilot Associations

- Associations are responsible for their own operations including:
  - Pilot compensation
  - Infrastructure such as docks, pilot boats, offices
  - Dispatching services
  - Billing and invoicing
  - Professional development and training
Overview
USCG Responsibilities

- Issue rates pilots may charge for their services
- Approve work rules such as dispatch procedures, rest and rotation, etc.
- License mariners as Great Lakes registered pilots
- Approve applicant pilots and pilot training plans
USCG Responsibilities (cont’d)

- Provide Regulatory Oversight
  - Approve/Certify Pools
  - Adjudicate Billing Disputes
  - Enforce Regulations
  - Commence Registrations Suspension and Revocation Proceedings
  - Impose Civil Penalties
Pilotage Rates

- Rates are published by March 1\textsuperscript{st} of each year through a public rulemaking process
  - 46 USC 9303(f)
  - 46 CFR Part 404
- Rates reimburse pilots for necessary expenses and pilot compensation
Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee

- Federal Advisory Committee
  - “The Secretary shall, whenever practicable, consult with the Committee before taking any significant actions relating to Great Lakes Pilotage.” 46 USC 9307(d)(1)

- Seven Members
  - Pilot Association Presidents (3)
  - Vessel Operators that contract for pilotage services
  - Ports
  - Shippers
  - Impartial Member
    - Unanimously Recommended by Committee
Questions & Discussion