



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PILOTS
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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POLICY & PROCEDURE NOTICE # 020896
MONTAUK CHANNEL

The Board has decided to revise its policy to allow pilotage of vessels through the Montauk-Block Island Channel, on a case by case basis, at the option of the pilot, but under the following general guidelines:

The Montauk-Block Island Channel (as defined by the R"2" Southwest Ledge and Green "Block Island Sound" buoys) shall be closed for navigation during periods of heavy weather when seas, swells, and wind or tidal current conditions make the channel unsafe for pilot boarding, or pose a threat to the safety of any pilot boat, vessel, person, prudent navigation, or safety of the environment. In such adverse weather conditions, vessels requiring a State pilot shall use the Block Island Sound East Channel and the Brenton or Point Judith Pilot stations, conditions permitting. In no event will a vessel with a draft greater than 38 feet be piloted through the channel.

Any State pilot found to be in violation of the foregoing policy and procedure shall be subject to Board investigation, and if found to be in error, shall be subject to sanctions, including license revocation.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

8 February 1996

Robert H. Pouch
Executive Director