



# 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.

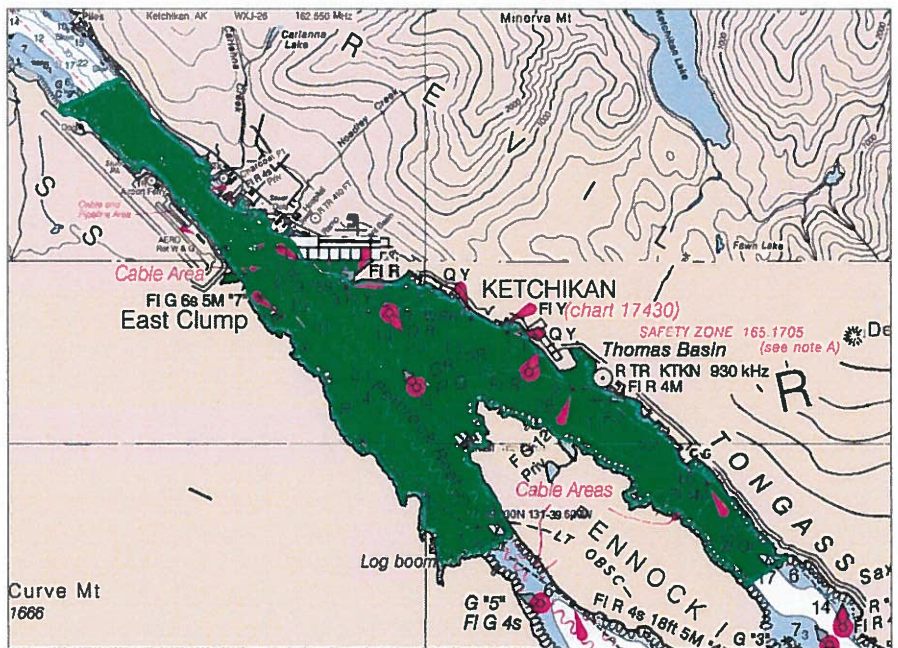
**Background** – In 1977, the Tongass Narrows speed-zone was published in the Federal Register. Originally, the speed zone had no vessel size caveat. The intention of the speed-zone has always been to control the speed of traffic, limiting the speed of larger vessels and allowing smaller vessels to depart 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.

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense: \$1,000.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: \$3,000.00
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 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