

# US Customs Notice & Boston Pilots Association



**U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**  
**Department of Homeland Security • 617-737-2380**

## BOSTON AREA NOTICE TO MARINERS

- U.S. laws and regulations require that **ALL** private boats arriving from a foreign port or place **MUST** report to Customs and Border Protection **IMMEDIATELY** upon their arrival into the United States.
- Every person must be seen in person for immigration purposes except those participating in the I-68 “Canadian Border Boat Landing Program.” (However, holders of form I068 are still required to report their arrival into the U.S. to Customs and Border Protection).
- Masters and passengers must provide proof of citizenship or legal immigration status, and be in possession of a valid passport and visa, if required.
- Citizens of countries that are participants in the Visa Waiver Program are not eligible to seek admission to the U.S. under that program via private vessel.
- Once your boat is anchored or tied, you are considered to have entered the U.S. No one may leave the vessel until Customs and Border Protection grants permission. The only exception to this requirement is to report your arrival to Customs and Border Protection.
- **Mariners arriving in the greater Boston area must report their arrival to Customs and Border Protection at: (207) 532-2131 x255 : HOULTON MAINE (CASC), OPERATED AND STAFFED TWENTY-FOUR HOURS/SEVEN DAYS A WEEK**
- If boarding or inspection is required, you **MUST** proceed to one of the following maritime areas:  
Gloucester | New Bedford | Boston (locations within Boston Harbor only)
- Officers from the Boston Seaport Customs and Border Protection Office will conduct the inspections.
- Failure to comply with these requirements could result in serious criminal and civil penalties, including seizure of the vessel.



---

**Tel: 617-569-4500 | VHF Ch. 20 International**

**Vessels 350 gross tons and more must use a pilot to enter Boston Harbor.**