

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUTNAM COUNTY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT URGING TE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO REJECT PROPOSED RULE  
USCG-2016-0132 IN RELATION TO HUDSON RIVER ANCHORAGE GROUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, under title 33 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 109.05, U.S. Coast Guard District Commanders are delegated the authority to establish anchorage grounds by the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; and

**WHEREAS**, in proposed rule USCG-2016-0132, the Coast Guard is considering establishing new anchorage grounds in the Hudson River from Yonkers, New York, to Kingston, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard is currently accepting public comment on the proposed rule; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard is contemplating anchorage grounds in Tomkins Cove that would cover approximately 98 acres for up to three vessels for long term usage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard is further contemplating a Newburgh anchorage ground that would cover 445 acres for up to five vessels for long term usage; and

**WHEREAS**, these anchorage grounds are not in Putnam County but the proximity still has great environmental concerns that vary at each anchorage point and have not been fully studied by the scientific community; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term mooring points established under this rule would create sediment disturbances and pose new and potentially catastrophic environmental risks from collisions, loss of aquatic habitat under the vessels, and unmitigated oil spills; and

**WHEREAS**, “scarring” of the riverbed caused by the use of anchors, anchorage chains and pile moorings may negatively impact the endangered Sturgeon population and further fish and aquatic wildlife habitat, presenting a threat to biodiversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the permanent impact upon soil, water and ecological issues in the communities of Putnam County along the Hudson River estuary are major concerns that deserve a full environmental impact study and risk assessment;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District pauses in its deliberations to urge the United States Coast Guard to reject proposed rule USCG-2016-0132 as drafted; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Board of Directors further pauses in its deliberations to urge the United States Coast Guard to conduct a full environmental study and risk assessment for this proposal in accordance with the applicable federal environmental guidelines, policies, regulations and laws; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District Manager of the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District is hereby authorized and directed to submit a copy of this resolution to the docket at [www.regulations.gov/docket?D=USCG-2016-0132](http://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=USCG-2016-0132); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Rear Admiral Linda L. Fagan, Commander, First Coast Guard District, United States Coast Guard; Michael Latham, Director of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee; Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell; Putnam County Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, Chairwoman of the Putnam County Board of Legislators Committee of Health, Social, Educational & Environmental Committee.