The use of paddleboards on lakes and rivers is growing in popularity. The U.S. Coast Guard classifies paddleboards as vessels.

Requirements for Paddleboards

When using a paddleboard beyond the narrow limits of a swimming, surfing, or bathing area, certain requirements apply.

Paddleboard users must comply with recreational boating laws and rules.

Paddleboards must have:

- A life jacket for each person on board
- · A sound-producing device such as a whistle
- Navigation lights when used between sunset and sunrise—this
 may be a flashlight or headlamp with a white light