

Headlines:

Beaufort & Chukchi Seas – NPDES drilling permit;
NOAA – protection proposed for Lolita;
House – bill introduced to amend LHWCA; and
Hong Kong – navigational safety seminar.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Beaufort & Chukchi Seas – NPDES drilling permit



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has extended, through 19 February, the period within which to submit comments on the proposed issuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for oil and gas geotechnical surveys and related activities in federal waters of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. [79 Fed. Reg. 4344](#) (January 27, 2014).

NOAA – protection proposed for Lolita



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) proposes to remove the exclusion of “Lolita”, the sole member of the Southern Resident killer whale distinct population segment (DPS) held in captivity, as a protected member of that DPS. Lolita was captured from the Southern Resident population in 1970 and currently resides at the Miami Seaquarium. The Southern Resident killer whale DPS was listed as endangered in 2005. Comment on the proposal should be submitted by 28 March. [79 Fed. Reg. 4313](#) (January 27, 2014).

House – bill introduced to amend LHWCA



Representative Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) introduced a bill (**H.R. 3896**) to amend the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act to provide a definition of recreational vessel for purposes of such Act. (1/16/14).

Hong Kong – navigational safety seminar



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a **press release** concerning its recent navigational safety seminar. Attendees were reminded of, among other things, the importance of exercising caution when underway in reduced visibility and avoiding fatigue at work. (1/23/14).

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