

## Headlines:

White House – statement re Korean ferry sinking;  
USCG NVDC – reducing backlog;  
USCG NVMC – NOAD Schema 3.4;  
SHC – meeting re FC 39;  
ISAC – meeting;  
BOEM – renewable energy projects on OCS;  
NOAA – GFNMS and MBNMS;  
MMC – meeting correction;  
Guam – port expansion project;  
House– bill introduced re maritime education;  
California – spill prevention & response;  
EP – maritime search and rescue;  
EU – maritime spatial planning; and  
Deepwater Horizon explosion & fire – 20 April 2010.

April 18, 2014



# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **White House – statement re Korean ferry sinking**



The White House issued a **Statement** by President Obama on the tragic ferry sinking off the coast of the Republic of Korea. (4/17/14).

## **USCG NVDC – reducing backlog**



The USCG National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a **notice** stating that, starting 17 April, the NVDC's phones will not be manned on

Thursdays and customers will not be able to leave messages. This action is being taken in order to allow the NVDC to focus on the reduction of instrument backlogs that are secondary to Initial and Reissue COD backlogs. (4/16/14).

### USCG NMVC – NOAD Schema 3.4



The USCG National Vessel Movement Center (NVMC) issued a **notice** stating that a draft of NOAD Schema 3.4 has been added to the Developer Resource Files. The final version of the schema will be released on 22 April. (4/16/14).

### SHC – meeting re FC 39



The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC), sponsored by the Department of State (DOS), will meet in Arlington, Virginia on 13 May to prepare for the upcoming session on the IMO Facilitation Committee (FC 39). Topics on the agenda include: e-business possibilities; formalities connected with the arrival, stay, and departure of persons; and the ship/port interface. **79 Fed. Reg. 21991** (April 18, 2014).

### ISAC – meeting



The Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC), sponsored by the Department of the Interior (DOI), will meet in Arlington, Virginia on 13-15 May. Topics on the agenda include: revision of the National Invasive Species Management Plan; the role of utilization (including harvesting) of invasive species in control programs; and management of invasive species in the context of climate change. **79 Fed. Reg. 21943** (April 18, 2014).

### BOEM – renewable energy projects on OCS



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) amended its timing requirements for submitting a site assessment plan (SAP) or general activities plan (GAP) for renewable energy projects on the US outer continental shelf (OCS). Under the revised rule, all OCS renewable energy leases and grants will have a preliminary term of twelve months within which a lessee or grantee must submit a SAP or a GAP. The amendment comes into effect on 19 May. **79 Fed. Reg. 21617** (April 17, 2014).

## NOAA – GFNMS and MBNMS



The National oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has reopened, through 5 May, the period within which to submit comments on its proposal to prohibit the introduction of introduced species into state waters of the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay national marine sanctuaries (GFNMS and MBNMS). [79 Fed. Reg. 21658](#) (April 17, 2014).

## MMC – meeting correction



The Marine Mammal Commission (MMC) has corrected its prior notice to state that the meeting of the Commission will be held 6-8 May. [79 Fed. Reg. 21811](#) (April 17, 2014).

## Guam – port expansion project



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a [news release](#) celebrating the groundbreaking for the final stage of the \$50 million Port of Guam expansion project. When completed, this project will double the facility's freight capacity. (4/14/14).

## House – bill introduced re maritime education



Representative Castor (D-FL) introduced the [Seafarers Educational Advancement Act](#) (H.R. 4468) to require career and technical education for maritime careers. (4/10/14).

## California – spill prevention and response



The California Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) will host “[Spill Prevention and Response Day](#)” on 14 May at the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo. (4/17/14).

## EP – maritime search and rescue



The European Parliament (EP) issued a [press release](#) stating that new maritime search and rescue rules have been approved. In addition to clarifying how border guards serving in Frontex sea operations should deal with migrants, it provides that ship masters and crew should not face criminal sanctions for the sole reason of having rescued persons in distress at sea and bringing them to a place of safety. (4/16/14).

## EU – maritime spatial planning



The European Commission (EC) issued a [press release](#) welcoming the endorsement by the European Parliament of a Directive for Maritime Spatial Planning to help avoid potential conflicts between diverse uses of the marine environment. (4/17/14).

## Deepwater Horizon explosion and fire – 20 April 2010



Four years ago Sunday, on 20 April 2010, the **MODU Deepwater Horizon**, engaged in drilling for oil and gas in the Gulf of Mexico, suffered a catastrophic explosion and fire. Eleven workers died. Due primarily to the heroic efforts of the crew of the OSV Damon B. Bankston, the other 115 persons on the MODU were evacuated safely. A massive oil spill ensued; the cleanup has been completed; and restoration work is slowly beginning. Many of the damage claims have been settled and litigation is ongoing. While root causation and ultimate responsibility for this casualty continue to be disputed, it is clear that the tragic incident was preventable.

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