

Headlines:

Tampa Bay – security and safety zones;
USCG – commercial fishing vessel safety;
OMB – Deepwater Ports NPRM cleared;
Gulf of Mexico – 107 new marine species discovered;
Arctic Council – EPPR Working Group meeting;
Australia – maximum period of seaboard service;
Panama Canal – installation of first new gate; and
Singapore – freight forwarders fined.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Better to light one candle than curse your flashlight.

Tampa Bay – security and safety zones



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule consolidating three security zone regulations into one regulation for Tampa Bay. In addition two safety zones have been converted into security zones. The amendments come into effect immediately. [79 Fed. Reg. 75054](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-17/pdf/2014-29582.pdf) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-17/pdf/2014-29582.pdf>] (12/17/14).

USCG – commercial fishing vessel safety



The US Coast Guard posted a Marine Safety Information Bulletin reminding the commercial fishing industry about safety and equipment requirements. [MSIB 18-14](http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/018_14_12-1-2014.pdf) [located at http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/018_14_12-1-2014.pdf] (12/1/14).

OMB – Deepwater Ports NPRM cleared



The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) completed its review of the Coast Guard's proposed rulemaking on **Deepwater Ports**. The proposal would provide additional information, clarify existing regulations, provide additional flexibility, and add new requirements to enhance safety. (12/15/14). *Note: The proposal will probably appear in the Federal Register in January.*

Gulf of Mexico – 107 new marine species discovered



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.boem.gov/press12162014/>] stating that 107 new marine species have been discovered the collaborative research in the Gulf of Mexico. (12/16/14).

Arctic Council – EPPR Working Group meeting



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2014/BSEE-Attends-Arctic-Council-Working-Group-Meeting/>] stating that the Arctic Council Emergency Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (EPPR) Working Group met in Seattle to review recent spill response exercises, progress on ongoing Arctic projects, and progress on a guidebook for oil spill response in ice and snow conditions. The working group also voted on proposals for new projects. (12/16/14).

Australia – maximum period of seaboard service



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice reminding stakeholders of the provisions of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 relating to the maximum period of shipboard service for seafarers. **Marine Notice 18-2014** [located at <https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>] (12/16/14).

Panama Canal – installation of first new gate



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2014/12/15/pr534.html>] announcing that the process of installation of the new lock gates for the Canal Expansion Project has begun with installation of a gate in lock head two in the new locks on the Atlantic side. The gate is ten meters wide, 30.19 meters high,

and weighs 3,285 tons. When completed, there will be sixteen rolling gates – eight on the Atlantic side and eight more on the Pacific side. (12/15/14).

Singapore – freight forwarders fined



The Competition Commission of Singapore (CCS) issued a **media release** [located at http://www.news.gov.sg/public/sgpc/en/media_releases/agencies/ccs/press_release/P-20141211-1/AttachmentPar/o/file/Media%20Release_CCS%20Fines%2010%20Freight%20Companies%20for%20Price%20Fixing%2011%20Dec%202014%20_final%20of%20immediate%20release.pdf] stating that it issued an Infringement Decision (ID) against eleven freight forwarders and their Singapore subsidiaries for infringing section 34 of the Competition Act by collectively fixing certain fees and surcharges and exchanging price and customer information in relation to the provision of freight forwarding services for shipments from Japan to Singapore. Fines have been assessed against ten of the freight forwarders, one being entitled to immunity. (12/11/14).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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