

## Headlines:

US & Cuba – resolving maritime boundary issues;  
Alaska – Bristol Bay off limits to drilling;  
DOJ – chief engineer convicted in ‘magic hose’ case;  
DOJ – shipping company pleads guilty;  
USCG – maritime cybersecurity standards;  
NOAA – RESTORE Act funding call;  
NTSB – fatality following collision with submerged pipeline;  
DOS – World Ocean Assessment;  
TSA – updated TWIC reader QTL;  
Congress – support for domestic maritime industry;  
EP – irregular maritime migration; and  
UK – report on DUKW accidents.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **US & Cuba – resolving maritime boundary issues**



As part of its “[Charting a New Course with Cuba](#)”, the White House announced that it is opening negotiations with Cuba and Mexico to discuss the remaining unresolved maritime boundaries in the Gulf of Mexico. (12/17/14).

## **Alaska – Bristol Bay off limits to drilling**



President Obama issued a [Memorandum](#) [located at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/16/presidential->

[memorandum-withdrawal-certain-areas-united-states-outer-con](#) ] withdrawing from disposition by leasing for oil and gas exploration and exploitation the portion of the outer continental shelf (OCS) designated as the North Aleutian Basin Planning Area, including Bristol Bay offshore Alaska. (12/16/14).

### **DOJ – chief engineer convicted in ‘magic hose’ case**



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/cargo-ship-chief-engineer-convicted-environmental-crimes-obstruction-justice-and-witness> ] stating that the former chief engineer of the cargo ship Trident Navigator was convicted in federal court after a week-long trial of knowingly falsifying the ship’s oil record book (ORB), obstruction of justice, and witness tampering in connection with the use of a “magic hose” to improperly discharge oily waste water overboard. The operator of the vessel previously pleaded guilty to falsifying the ORB and obstruction of justice and paid a \$900,000 criminal penalty. (12/17/14).

### **DOJ – shipping company pleads guilty**



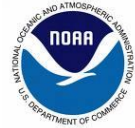
The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/italian-shipping-company-plead-guilty-environmental-crimes-concealing-vessel-pollution> ] stating that Carbofin S.P.A. pleaded guilty in federal court to falsifying the oil record book (ORB) of the tanker Marigola and to pay a \$2.75 million criminal penalty. The tanker’s second engineer pleaded guilty to his role in the offense. The tanker’s chief engineer is also expected to plead guilty. (12/16/14).

### **USCG – maritime cybersecurity standards**



The US Coast Guard seeks input from the maritime industry and other interested parties on how to identify and mitigate potential vulnerabilities of cyber-dependent systems. The agency seeks comment on a number of questions, including: “What cyber-dependent systems, commonly used in the maritime industry, could lead or contribute to a Transportation Security Incident (TSI) if they failed or were exploited by an adversary?” Comments must be received by 17 February 2015. [79 Fed. Reg. 75574](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-18/pdf/2014-29658.pdf> ] (12/18/14).

## NOAA – RESTORE Act funding call



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** [located at [http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2014/20141217\\_restoreact.html](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2014/20141217_restoreact.html)] announcing a call for proposals under the first federal funding opportunity under the NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program, which supports research in the Gulf of Mexico on long-term sustainability of the ecosystem and its fisheries. Letters of intent must be received by 30 January 2015 and final proposals must be received by 17 March. (12/17/14).

## NTSB – fatality following allision with submerged pipeline



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) posted the report of its investigation into the fire on board towing vessel Shanon E. Settoon in Bayou Perot, Louisiana on 12 March 2013 when it struck a submerged pipeline. Allision with the submerged pipeline caused a release of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), which entered air intake for the towing vessel's engine and ignited. The towing vessel was destroyed by the fire and the captain was severely burned and later died. The report concluded that the probable cause of the casualty was incomplete information about the location of submerged pipelines provided to the captain by the vessel company. **MAB 14-22** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1422.pdf>] (12/17/14).

## DOS – World Ocean Assessment



The Department of State (DOS) seeks experts to assist in the review of the draft World Ocean Assessment, being developed under the auspices of the United Nations. **79 Fed. Reg. 75609** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-18/pdf/2014-29676.pdf>] (12/18/14).

## TSA – updated TWIC reader QTL



The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued an updated **TWIC Reader Qualified Technology List** [located at [http://www.tsa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/twic/twic\\_reader\\_qtl\\_current.pdf](http://www.tsa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/twic/twic_reader_qtl_current.pdf)]. (12/16/14).

## Congress – support for domestic maritime industry



The House and Senate passed the **Carl Levin and Howard P. ‘Buck’ McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015** (H.R. 3979) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-113hr3979enr/pdf/BILLS-113hr3979enr.pdf> ] and it now awaits signature by President Obama. On pages 613-614 of this 697-page bill is section 3503, the Sense of Congress on the Role of the Domestic Maritime Industry in National Security, which states, in pertinent part: “It is the sense of Congress that United States coastwise trade laws promote a strong domestic trade industry, which supports the national security and economic vitality of the United States and the efficient operation of the United States transportation system.” (12/12/14).

## EP – irregular maritime migration



The European Parliament (EP) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20141212IPRO1244/html/Migration-MEPs-call-on-EU-countries-to-share-responsibility> ] stating that a resolution has been adopted calling for a comprehensive EU approach to irregular migration and more effort to prevent further loss of life at sea. (12/17/14).

## UK – report on DUKW accidents



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) posted the report of its investigation of the sinking and abandonment of the DUKW amphibious passenger vehicle Wacker Quacker 1 in Salthouse Dock, Liverpool on 15 June 2013 and the fire and abandonment of the DUKW amphibious passenger vehicle Cleopatra on the River Thames, London on 29 September 2013. The investigation found that the converted World War II-vintage craft had not been properly approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) when they were certified to carry passengers in 2000. Over the years, the MCA’s regulatory supervision was insufficient to ensure the DUKWs were being operated safely. **Report 32-2014** [located at [http://www.maib.gov.uk/cms\\_resources.cfm?file=/DUKW32\\_2014.pdf](http://www.maib.gov.uk/cms_resources.cfm?file=/DUKW32_2014.pdf) ] (12/17/14).

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