

Headlines:

USCG – fishing vessels dispensing petroleum products;
MERPAC – working group meeting;
USACE – GLMRIS EIS;
USCG – heavy lift cargo operations; and
UK – casualty investigations commenced.

January 5, 2015



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. Soon after a new safety device is invented, innovative mariners develop a work-around.

USCG – fishing vessels dispensing petroleum products



The US Coast Guard has reopened, through 4 February, the period within which to submit comments on its proposed rulemaking regarding commercial fishing vessels dispensing petroleum products. [80 Fed. Reg. 204](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30810.pdf) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30810.pdf>] (1/5/15).

MERPAC – working group meeting



A working group of the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet in Linthicum Heights, Maryland on 28-29 January to work on and review Task Statement 30, concerning evaluating military education, training, and assessment for STCW and Coast Guard certifications. [80 Fed. Reg. 244](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30850.pdf) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30850.pdf>] (1/5/15).

USACE – GLMRIS EIS



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has extended, through 30 January, the period within which to submit comments on its notice of intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS), evaluating aquatic nuisance species control measures near Brandon Road Lock and Dam. An additional public scoping meeting will be held on 8 January in New Orleans. **80 Fed. Reg. 210** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-05/pdf/2014-30859.pdf>] (1/5/15).

USCG – heavy lift cargo operations



USCG Sector Houston-Galveston issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) reminding stakeholders of the importance of careful planning and strict adherence to protocols during heavy lift cargo operations. **MSIB 17-14** (12/31/14).

UK – casualty investigations commenced



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued a **news release** [located at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/maib-investigations-launched>] stating that investigations have been launched into the sinking of the cement carrier Cemfjord in the Pentland Firth north of Scotland and into the listing and grounding of the car carrier Hoegh Osaka on the Bramble Bank in the Solent. The upturned bow of the Cemfjord was sighted on 3 January by the passenger ferry Hrossey. The crew of eight is missing. The Hoegh Osaka developed a severe list as it departed Southampton and was intentionally grounded. The crew of 25 was evacuated safely. Salvage planning for the latter vessel has commenced.

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

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