

### Headlines:

USCG – guidance on maritime cybersecurity standards;  
EPA – VGP Discharge Monitoring Reports;  
SHC – meeting 4 February;  
NOAA – Arctic ringed seal;  
NOAA – threatened coral;  
CBP – interest rates;  
St. Lawrence Seaway – 40 million tonnes of cargo;  
IMO – Rescue at Sea Guide;  
ReCAAP – siphoning of oil at sea;  
Great Barrier Reef – disabled vessel under tow; and  
Hong Kong – safe navigation in poor visibility.

January 13, 2015



## Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: [dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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 – guidance on maritime cybersecurity standards**



The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing a public meeting in Washington, DC on 15 January from 0900 to 1200 EST to receive comments on development of guidance on maritime cybersecurity standards. The deadline to reserve seats for the meeting is 5 January. Written comments must be received by 29 January. **79 Fed. Reg. 73896** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-12/pdf/2014-29205.pdf>] (12/12/14). For those unable to attend in person, the Cybersecurity Public Meeting will be streamed on **YouTube** [located at <https://www.youtube.com/embed/rzOVc1ZOuvY?rel=0>]. (1/12/15).

## EPA – VGP Discharge Monitoring Reports



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a **notice** [located at [http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/incidental%20discharges/DMR\\_Data\\_submittal\\_150112.pdf](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/incidental%20discharges/DMR_Data_submittal_150112.pdf)] regarding submission of annual Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) for vessels covered by a Vessel General Permit (VGP) for discharges incidental to normal operation of the vessel. A webinar was conducted on 7 January on submittal of the DMR. A second webinar will be held on 22 January. (1/12/15).

## SHC – meeting 4 February



The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC), sponsored by the Department of State (DOS), will meet on 4 February in Arlington, Virginia to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC 2). Topics on the agenda include: subdivision and damage stability; safe return to port for passenger vessels; and towing, lifting, and anchor-handling operations. **80 Fed. Reg. 1690** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-13/pdf/2015-00279.pdf>] (1/13/15).

## NOAA – Arctic ringed seal



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that public meetings regarding the proposed designation of critical habitat for the Arctic ringed seal will be held in Nome (28 January), Anchorage (2 February), Kotzebue (17 February), and Barrow (23 February). A public meeting will also be held in Bethel on a date to be announced separately. Written comments must be received by 9 March. **80 Fed. Reg. 1618** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-13/pdf/2015-00368.pdf>] (1/13/15).

## NOAA – threatened coral



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks input that will assist it in identifying actions and activities that may impact the status of the 20 coral species occurring in the Indo-Pacific and the Caribbean recently identified as threatened. Input must be received by 16 March. **80 Fed. Reg. 1616** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-13/pdf/2015-00366.pdf>] (1/13/15).

## CBP – interest rates



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that the interest rates for the calendar quarter beginning 1 January for overpayments will be 2% for corporations and 3% for non-corporations and for underpayments will be 3% for both. **80 Fed. Reg. 1657** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-13/pdf/2015-00300.pdf>] (1/13/15).

## St. Lawrence Seaway – 40 million tonnes of cargo



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/news/press-releases/pr20150112.html>] stating that 40 million tonnes of cargo passed through the Seaway during the 2014 navigation season. This represents full recovery from the 2009 global financial crisis and its aftermath. (1/12/15).

## IMO – Rescue at Sea Guide



The IMO, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) have jointly published an updated edition of the **Rescue at Sea Guide** [located at [http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Rescue\\_at\\_Sea\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Rescue_at_Sea_Guide.pdf)] addressing legal provisions and practical procedures regarding the care of refugees encountered at sea and their disembarkation in port. (1/12/15).

## ReCAAP – siphoning of oil at sea



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) issued a **Special Report** [located at [http://www.recaap.org/Portals/0/docs/Reports/2015/Special%20Report%20on%20Siphoning%20Part%20II%20\(9%20Jan%2015\).pdf](http://www.recaap.org/Portals/0/docs/Reports/2015/Special%20Report%20on%20Siphoning%20Part%20II%20(9%20Jan%2015).pdf)] concerning incidents of siphoning of fuel/oil at sea in Asia. The frequency of such incident has escalated, with 15 reported in 2014, of which twelve were successful. It appears that the majority of these incidents involve organized crime groups with possible inside information. (1/12/15).

## Great Barrier Reef – disabled vessel under tow



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a **media release** [located at <http://www.amsa.gov.au/media/documents/12012015-Media-Release-Thor-Commander-2.pdf>] stating that a towline has been established

between the disabled general cargo vessel Thor Commander and the merchant vessel Xinfai Hai after Thor Commander suffered an engine failure just east of the Great Barrier Reef. A salvage tug is en route. (1/12/15).

### **Hong Kong – safe navigation in poor visibility**



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a notice reminding masters of the importance of safe navigation and strict adherence to the COLREGS in conditions of reduced visibility. **Notice 5-2015** [located at <http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/notices/pdf/mdn15005.pdf> ] (1/12/15).

### **Join our mailing list**



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

Join Our Mailing List!



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

### **Dennis L. Bryant**

Bryant's Maritime Consulting  
4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135  
USA

1-352-692-5493  
[dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com)  
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

© Dennis L. Bryant – January 2015



Redistribution permitted with attribution