

Headlines:

EPA – proposal to amend dispersant regulations;
USCG – Western Florida AMSAC;
NOAA – sawfish;
USCG – revision of Auxiliary regulations;
Coral Reef Task Force – meeting;
Court – DOHSA case dismissed; and
Suez Canal – leakage in New Canal area.

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

EPA – proposal to amend dispersant regulations



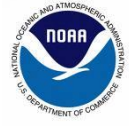
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes to amend its requirements that govern the use of dispersants, other chemical and biological agents, and other spill mitigating substances when responding to oil discharges into waters of the United States. Comments on the proposal must be received by 22 April. **80 Fed. Reg. 3379** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-22/pdf/2015-00544.pdf>] (1/22/15).

USCG – Western Florida AMSAC



The US Coast seeks applications from persons interested in serving on the Western Florida Area Maritime Security Advisory Committee. Applications must be received by 1 March. **80 Fed. Reg. 3972** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-26/pdf/2015-01335.pdf>] (1/26/15).

NOAA – sawfish



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a final rule designating five species of sawfish as endangered. This designation is effective immediately. **80 Fed. Reg. 3914** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-26/pdf/2015-01348.pdf>] (1/26/15).

USCG – revision of Auxiliary regulations



The US Coast is revising, effective 23 February, the regulations that apply to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Among other things, the amendments reflect recent statutory changes and update provisions on liability protection for Auxiliary members assigned to Coast Guard duty. **80 Fed. Reg. 3470** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-23/pdf/2015-01045.pdf>] (1/23/15).

Coral Reef Task Force – meeting



The Coral Reef Task Force, sponsored by the Department of the Interior (DOI), will meet on 19 February in Washington, DC. Pre-meeting comments should be submitted by 28 January. **80 Fed. Reg. 3616** [located at (1/23/15)].

Court – DOHSA case dismissed



The US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled that affirmed dismissal of a wrongful death action brought under the Death on the High Seas Act (DOHSA) filed by the widow of decedent husband, who was master and vessel owner killed by a round fired by a US Navy frigate while under NATO operational control during an anti-piracy mission under Operation Ocean Shield. Decedent's fishing vessel had been taken over by Somali pirates a year before. USS GROVES was issued orders by the Dutch NATO commander to take action against the vessel. Three pirates and decedent were killed and two hostage crewmembers were freed. Dismissal was affirmed based on grounds of political question and discretionary function. **Wu Tien Li-Shou**, No. 14-1206 (4th Cir., January 23, 2015) [located at <http://www.ca4.uscourts.gov/Opinions/Published/141206.P.pdf>].

Suez Canal – leakage in New Canal area



The Suez Canal Authority issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/SCnewsDetails.aspx?Show=527>] stating that there was minor leakage at one of the dumping basins in the New Canal area. Two trucks and a loader were swept away, but there no casualties or injuries. (1/19/15).

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

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