

## Headlines:

DOT – GPS adjacent band compatibility;  
USACE – emergency employment of resources;  
BSEE – decommissioning of offshore structures;  
Chukchi Sea – FSEIS for lease sale released;  
House – bill introduced to establish CBP;  
Australia – directions to vessels;  
Singapore – bunker licenses revoked; and  
Sea Empress grounding & salvage – 15-21 February 1996.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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*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.*

## **DOT – GPS adjacent band compatibility**



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a notice stating that it will host a workshop on 12 March in El Segundo to continue discussions of the Global Positioning System (GPS) Adjacent Band Compatibility Assessment. **80 Fed. Reg. 8125** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-13/pdf/2015-03020.pdf>] (2/13/15).

## **USACE – emergency employment of resources**



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requests public comment on potential revisions to its regulations and policies related to disaster preparedness; eligibility for rehabilitation assistance for flood control works; and options to address complex natural resource challenges while mitigating impacts to threatened or endangered species. Comments must be received by 14 April.

80 Fed. Reg. 8014 [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-02-13/pdf/2015-03033.pdf>] (2/13/15).

### **BSEE – decommissioning of offshore structures**



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a **notice** [located at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/BSEE-Discusses-Decommissioning-at-Offshore-Workshop/>] concerning requirements for decommissioning of offshore structures in the Gulf of Mexico. (2/12/15).

### **Chukchi Sea – FSEIS for lease sale released**



The Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/interior-department-releases-updated-assessment-for-chukchi-sea-lease-sale.cfm>] stating that the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (**FSEIS**) for the Chukchi Sea Lease Sale has been released. (2/12/15).

### **House – bill introduced to establish CBP**



Representative Miller (R-MI) introduced a bill (H.R. 878) to provide for the authorization of border, maritime, and transportation security responsibilities and functions in the Department of Homeland Security and the establishment of United States Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (2/11/15).

### **Australia – directions to vessels**



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice its process for issuing directions to vessels in Australian waters, including directions that a vessel not enter or use its ports for a period of time. **Marine Notice 03/2015** [located at <https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOREview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>] (2/11/15).

### **Singapore – bunker licenses revoked**



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a **news release** [located at [http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/global\\_navigation/news\\_center/mpa\\_news/mpa\\_](http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/global_navigation/news_center/mpa_news/mpa_)

news\_detail.page?filename=nr150212.xml] stating that the licenses of a bunker supplier and a bunker craft operator have been revoked for violation of the terms and conditions of their licenses. (2/12/15).

### **Sea Empress grounding & salvage – 15-21 February 1996**



On 15 February 1996, the tanker **Sea Empress** grounded while entering the port of Milford Haven, spilling approximately 2,500 tons of its cargo of crude oil. The vessel was quickly refloated and anchored in deep water in preparation for lightening some of the remaining cargo. Gale force winds drove the tanker aground again, spilling an additional 69,300 tons of crude oil. The tanker was finally refloated again on 21 February and salvage was completed. Investigation revealed that the initial grounding was due to pilot error. The subsequent grounding was the result, in part, of insufficient tugs of appropriate power and maneuverability, together with a lack of full understanding of local tidal currents.

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