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DHS – FY 2015 preparedness grants;  
Lower Mississippi River – anchorage grounds considered;  
USCG – Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee;  
USCG – diver specialty established;  
USCG – Waves on the Waterfront;  
North Atlantic – sailor rescued after 66 days;  
Hawaii – monk seals rehabilitated;  
NTSB – Houston Ship Channel collision;  
St. Lawrence Seaway – 2015 navigation season opens;  
Australia – Wreck Removal Convention; and  
Singapore – near-miss reporting.

April 3, 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. I welcome any criticism that you have so long as it does not affect me.*

## DHS – FY 2015 preparedness grants



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.dhs.gov/news/2015/04/02/dhs-announces-grant-guidance-fiscal-year-fy-2015-preparedness-grants>] announcing grant guidance for FY 2015 preparedness grants. The Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) is being funded at more than \$100 million. An **Information Bulletin** [located at [http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1427988844882-bb5a1660b640fb529c2afce3aad6f43b/FY2015\\_IB403.PDF](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1427988844882-bb5a1660b640fb529c2afce3aad6f43b/FY2015_IB403.PDF)] has also been released, as well as a PSGP **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** [located at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/103706>]. (4/2/15).

## Lower Mississippi River – anchorage ground considered



The US Coast Guard seeks input regarding potential changes to the Cedar Grove Anchorage and the potential for two new anchorages, Point Michele Anchorage and Plaquemines Point Anchorage on the Lower Mississippi River. Comments must be received by 2 June. **80 Fed. Reg. 18175** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-04-03/pdf/2015-07504.pdf>] (4/3/15).

## USCG – Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee



The US Coast Guard seeks nominations for membership on the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee. Nominations must be received by 2 June. **80 Fed. Reg. 182450** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-04-03/pdf/2015-07654.pdf>] (4/3/15).

## USCG – diver specialty established



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2484674/>] announcing establishment of the diver enlisted rating and the corresponding chief warrant officer diver specialty. About 50 enlisted personnel and three chief warrant officers will initially transition to the Diver (DV) rating and Diving (DIV) specialty, respectively. (4/2/15).

## USCG – OCS DP systems public meeting



The US Coast Guard posted an **After-Action Report** from the 31 March outer continental shelf (OCS) dynamic positioning (DP) systems public meeting. (4/2/15).

## USCG – Waves on the Waterfront



The USCG Office of Port and Facility Compliance (CG-FAC) posted the April 2015 edition of **Waves on the Waterfront** [located at [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg544/Waves%20on%20the%20Waterfront/WavesOnTheWaterfront%20\(April\).pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg544/Waves%20on%20the%20Waterfront/WavesOnTheWaterfront%20(April).pdf)]. This edition addresses, among other things, the recent Maritime Security Survey; anhydrous ammonia; and use of LNG as a marine fuel. (5/2/15).

## North Atlantic – sailor rescued after 66 days



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2486958/>] stating that the container ship Houston Express spotted a disabled sailboat approximately 200 miles off the North Carolina coast. The rescued lone sailor on board had been adrift for a reported 66 days. The Coast Guard evacuated the sailor for medical treatment ashore. (4/2/15).

## Hawaii – monk seals rehabilitated



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2486430/>] stating that two critically endangered Hawaiian monk seals were successfully returned to Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument after being rehabilitated at the Marine Mammal Center's Ke Kai Ola Hawaiian Monk Seal Hospital in Kona. (4/1/15).

## NTSB – Houston Ship Channel collision



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a [preliminary marine accident summary](#) [located at [http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/DCA15MM017\\_preliminary.aspx](http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/DCA15MM017_preliminary.aspx)] regarding the 9 March 2015 collision in the Houston Ship Channel involving the chemical tanker Carla Maersk and the bulk carrier Conti Peridot. Visibility in the waterway was reduced by fog. The collision resulted in the discharge of MTBE cargo by the Carla Maersk. The probable cause of the collision is yet to be determined. (4/2/15).

## St. Lawrence Seaway – 2015 navigation season opens



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a [press release](#) [located at <http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/news/press-releases/pr20150402.html>] announcing the opening of the 2015 navigation season. (4/2/15).

## Australia – Wreck Removal Convention



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice providing guidance on the application of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, which enters into force on 14 April. [Marine Notice](#)

04/2015 [located at <https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOReview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>] (4/2/15).

## Singapore – near-miss reporting



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) posted a circular encouraging ships in Singapore waters and the Singapore Strait to voluntarily submit confidential reports of near-misses encountered or observed. **Port Marine Circular 04-2015** [located at

[http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars\\_and\\_notices/pdfs/port\\_marine\\_circulars/pc15-04.pdf](http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars_and_notices/pdfs/port_marine_circulars/pc15-04.pdf)] (4/1/15).

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

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