

## Headlines:

USCG – challenges and opportunities;  
Cook Inlet – LNG carrier incident;  
Chukchi Sea – temporary safety zones proposed;  
USCG – NAVSAC applications sought;  
DOE – Wave Energy Prize;  
CBP – User Fee Advisory Committee;  
CBP – COAC charter renewed;  
NOAA – Common Thresher Shark;  
Senate – bill introduced re waters of the United States;  
Senate – bill introduced re waters of the United States; and  
California – biofouling management.

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# 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>

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## USCG – challenges and opportunities



Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant, USCG, was the keynote speaker at the American Waterways Operators (AWO) conference. His speech focused on four main issues: (1) [transnational criminal organizations](#); (2) [America's energy renaissance](#); (3) [cybersecurity](#); and (4) [developments in the Arctic](#). (4/23/15).

## Cook Inlet – LNG carrier incident



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2500634/>] stating that the LNG carrier Excel experienced a loss of propulsion due to a failed engineering gasket

while inbound to Cook Inlet, Alaska on 27 April and anchored in Kachemak Bay near Homer. While preparing to get underway on 29 April after repairs, the vessel experienced an automated engineering casualty and canceled its voyage until a classification society surveyor could verify that the casualty was fully resolved. Repairs were effected and the vessel was allowed to proceed to the LNG plant in Nikiski, but only with a tug escort as required by the Coast Guard. Excel is now at the LNG plant and permanent repairs are being implemented and verified. (5/1/15).

### **Chukchi Sea – temporary safety zone proposed**



The US Coast Guard proposes to establish temporary safety zones on waters of the Chukchi Sea around the drillship Noble Discoverer and around its mooring spread during 2015. Comments on the proposal must be received by 3 June. **80 Fed. Reg. 25256** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10376.pdf>] (5/4/15).

### **USCG – NAVSAC applications sought**



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it seeks applications for membership on the Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (NAVSAC). Applications should be received by 30 June. **80 Fed. Reg. 25310** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10329.pdf>] (5/4/15).

### **DOE – Wave Energy Prize**



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice announcing the availability of the Wave Energy Prize, designed to achieve game-changing performance enhancements to wave energy conversion (WEC) devices. **80 Fed. Reg. 25286** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10409.pdf>] (5/4/15).

### **CBP – User Fee Advisory Committee**



The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that it seeks applications for membership on the Airport and Seaport Inspections User Fee Advisory Committee. Applications should be received by 3 June. **80 Fed. Reg. 25311** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10308.pdf>] (5/4/15).

## CBP – COAC charter renewed



The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that the charter of the Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (COAC) has been renewed. [80 Fed. Reg. 25312](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10371.pdf>] (5/4/15).

## NOAA – Common Thresher Shark



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has extended, through 6 July, the period within which to submit comments on its 90-day finding on a petition to list the Common Thresher Shark as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. [80 Fed. Reg. 25272](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-04/pdf/2015-10348.pdf>] (5/4/15).

## Senate – bill introduced re waters of the United States



Senator Barrasso (R-WY) introduced a bill (S. 1140) to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term “waters of the United States”, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Senator Barrasso issued a [news release](#) explaining the measure. (4/30/15).

## Senate – bill introduced re waters of the United States



Senator Flake (R-AZ) introduced a bill (S. 1178) to prohibit implementation of a proposed rule relating to the definition of the term “waters of the United States” under the Clean Water Act, or any substantially similar rule, until a Supplemental Scientific Review Panel and Ephemeral and Intermittent Streams Advisory Committee produce certain reports, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (4/30/15).

## California – biofouling management



The California State Lands Commission (SLC) issued a [notice](#) [located at [http://www.slc.ca.gov/Division\\_Pages/MFD/MFD\\_Home\\_Page.html](http://www.slc.ca.gov/Division_Pages/MFD/MFD_Home_Page.html)] stating that it is proposing regulatory amendments to Article 4.8, Biofouling Management to Minimize the Transfer of Nonindigenous Species from Vessels Operating in California Waters. A public hearing will be held on 16 June in Long

Beach regarding this proposal. Written comments must be received by 16 June. (4/25/15).

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## 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>

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