

Headlines:

USCG – updated MCP forms;
USCG – sea service for engine ratings;
Portland – investigation of possible collisions;
Columbia River – temporary safety zone and RNA;
NOAA – draft acoustic guidelines;
OFAC – sanctions re Syria;
USN – USS Mount Whitney fire;
Montreal – shore power;
Quebec – shore power;
Panama Canal – possible draft restrictions; and
Coast Guard Day – 4 August 2015.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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

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

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. The proposal is all very well in practice, but it'll never work in theory.

USCG – updated MCP forms



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued an **announcement** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/implementation_of_updated_mcp_forms_notice.pdf] stating that OMB has approved the CG-719 series of forms (B,K, K/E, P, S, and C) that will replace the forms currently in use, effective 1 October, for the Mariner Credentialing Program (MCP) application process. As of the effective date, the forms can be obtained from the NMC website in fillable PDF format. (8/3/15). *Welcome to the 21st century!*

USCG – sea service for engine ratings



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued an **announcement** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/engine_service_announcement.pdf] regarding the crediting of sea service for engine ratings serving on vessels authorized a two-watch system. (8/3/15).

Portland – investigation of possible collisions



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2575098/>] stating that it is investigating a possible collision between a commercial vessel and recreational vessels during the Red Bull Flugtag event on the Willamette River in Portland, Oregon. The marine event permit for the event had been previously revoked by the Coast Guard because the event staff was unable to control event spectators and prevent hazardous conditions on the waterway, as required by the permit. (8/3/15).

Columbia River – temporary safety zone and RNA



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule establishing a temporary safety zone on waters in Sector Columbia River around the vessel Fennica and a temporary regulated navigation area (RNA) as a voluntary First Amendment area for individual who desire to exercise their First Amendment rights with regard to Arctic oil drilling operations. **80 Fed. Reg. 46194** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-04/pdf/2015-19120.pdf>] (8/4/15).

NOAA – draft acoustic guidelines



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks comments on its **Draft Guidance** for Assessing the Effects of Anthropogenic Sound on Marine Mammal Hearing [located at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/acoustics/draft%20acoustic%20guidance%20July%202015.pdf>]. When finalized, the guidelines will be used to better quantify the effects of sound exposure on marine mammals and will be used in NOAA assessments and authorizations of activities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Comments must be received by 10 September. (7/23/15).

OFAC – sanctions re Syria



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued an **update** [located at <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20150803.aspx>] with respect to the economic sanctions regarding Syria. The update includes several shipping companies and ten vessels. (8/3/15).

USN – USS Mount Whitney fire



The US Navy issued a **news release** [located at http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=90432] stating that a fire broke out onboard the command and control ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) while the ship was undergoing scheduled maintenance. There were no injuries and the fire was extinguished within 45 minutes. The incident is under investigation. (8/1/15).

Montreal – shore power



Transport Canada issued a **news release** [located at <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1014289>] stating that the Port of Montreal will be installing shore power connections for use by cruise ships and for wintering ships. (7/31/15).

Quebec – shore power



Transport Canada issued a **news release** [located at <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1014469>] stating that the Port of Quebec will be installing shore power for use by visiting ships. (7/31/15).

Panama Canal – possible draft restrictions



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory stating that decreased rainfall due to the “El Niño” phenomenon may require draft restrictions for transiting vessels. Contingency plans call for such restrictions to be imposed in 15-centimeter (six-inch) decrements, announced at least five weeks in advance. **Advisory 21-2015** [located at <http://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2015/a-21-2015.pdf>] (8/1/15).

Coast Guard Day



Today, August 4, is the 225th anniversary of the enactment of legislation establishing the **Revenue Cutter Service** (RCS), the forerunner of today's US Coast Guard. While nominally intended to enforce the collection of revenue from imported cargoes, the service was engaged in multiple missions from the beginning. Over time, other agencies and functions were merged into it. In 1915, with the merger of the RCS and the Life-Saving Service, the name of the agency was changed to the **United States Coast Guard**. An illustrious history, a proud present, and an exciting future!

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

Dennis L. Bryant

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

1-352-692-5493
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

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