

## Headlines:

Chukchi Sea – updated drilling permit issued;  
USCG – towing industry safety statistics;  
USCG – foreign passenger vessel exam techniques;  
USCG, USACE & DOT – NDGPS;  
CFSAC – meeting;  
NTSB – lookout failure; and  
Adoption of OPA 90 – 18 August 1990.

August 18, 2015



# 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>

*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.*

## Chukchi Sea – updated drilling permit issued



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a [press release](http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/BSEE-Approves-Updated-Permit-for-Exploration-Activities-in-Arctic-Waters-Under-Rigorous-Safety-Requirements/) [located at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/BSEE-Approves-Updated-Permit-for-Exploration-Activities-in-Arctic-Waters-Under-Rigorous-Safety-Requirements/>] stating that an updated permit for exploration activities into potential oil-bearing zones in the Chukchi Sea has been issued to Shell following extensive review and under a robust array of safety requirements. (8/17/15).

## USCG – towing industry safety statistics



The US Coast Guard posted its [Towing Industry Safety Statistics: 1994-2014](#). The metrics track overall trends in safety and environmental protection, focusing on crew fatality rates; oil spill volumes; oil spill rates; vessel incidents; and crewmember injuries. (8/17/15).

## USCG – foreign passenger vessel exam techniques



The US Coast Guard posted its **Foreign Passenger Vessel Initial Certificate of Compliance Exam Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTP)** [located at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/csncoe/docs/CGTTP%203%2072%205%20FPV%20Initial%20COC%20Exam%20SC%2020150714.pdf>]. This document provides guidance to USCG personnel performing the many tasks involved in conducting the ICOC examination of foreign passenger vessels. (July 2015).

## USCG, USACE & DOT – NDGPS



The US Coast Guard, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Department of Transportation (DOT) seek comment on a proposal to reduce coverage provided by the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System (NDGPS). The proposal calls to the shutdown and decommissioning of 62 DGPS sites, leaving 22 operational sites available to users in coastal areas. Comments must be received by 16 November. **80 Fed. Reg. 50018** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-18/pdf/2015-20401.pdf>] (8/18/15).

## CFSAC – meeting



The Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee (CFSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 15-16 September in Seattle. Topics on the agenda include the status of regulatory projects, safety and survival equipment, and classification of fishing vessels. **80 Fed. Reg. 50017** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-18/pdf/2015-20378.pdf>] (8/18/15).

## NTSB – lookout failure



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the report of its investigation of the collision of the offshore supply vessel (OSV) Gloria May and the fishing vessel Capt Le on 24 August 2014 in the Gulf of Mexico. The fishing vessel was holed and sank. Damage to the OSV was minor. There were no injuries resulting from the collision. The major cause of the collision was the failure of the crew of both vessels to maintain an adequate lookout. **MAB 15-16** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1516.pdf>] (8/17/15).

## Adoption of OPA 90 – 18 August 1990



On 18 August 1990, the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (**OPA 90**) was enacted into law. The measure was adopted by Congress in near-record time (for them) following the grounding of and oil spill from the tanker Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound, Alaska and several other high-visibility oil spills. Despite predictions of train wrecks and the threatened halting of oil shipments to US ports, its various remedial measures, including higher liability limits, double hulls on oil tankers, and oil spill response plans entered into effect over the next few years. The amount of oil entering the waters of the United States from vessels has been reduced significantly. The legislation also served as a model for efforts undertaken elsewhere to address the oil spill problem. I had the great honor of supervising an outstanding group of Coast Guard personnel and employees in developing regulations to implement many of its provisions.

### Join our mailing list



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

Join Our Mailing List!



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

### 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>

 **Redistribution permitted with attribution**