

Headlines:

NTSB – wreck confirmed as El Faro;

DOJ – company to pay \$1 million for ORB violations; and

DHS – Arctic Domain Awareness Center.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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NTSB – wreck confirmed as El Faro



A National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) representative verbally confirmed that the wreck discovered in deep water off the Bahamas has been identified as the cargo ship El Faro, which sank on 1 October during Hurricane Joaquin with the loss of 33 persons on board, according to both the general press and the maritime trade press. As of this time, though, neither the NTSB nor the Military Sealift Command (MSC), which is conducting the underwater search, has issued a press release. (11/3/15).

DOJ – company to pay \$1 million for ORB violations



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](http://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/ship-operator-pleads-guilty-crimes-related-pollution-cargo-ship-traveling-corpus) [located at <http://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/ship-operator-pleads-guilty-crimes-related-pollution-cargo-ship-traveling-corpus>] stating that the operator of the oil tanker Sestrea pleaded guilty to deliberately concealing pollution discharges and falsifying its oil record book (ORB). The company was sentenced to pay an \$800,000 criminal fine and a \$200,000 community service payment. The

company was also placed on three years' probation, during which time it must institute an environmental compliance program for its vessels. (10/27/15).

DHS – Arctic Domain Awareness Center



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a [news release](http://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/news/2015/10/27/arctic-domain-awareness-center-launched) [located at <http://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/news/2015/10/27/arctic-domain-awareness-center-launched>] stating that the Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) has been launched at the University of Alaska Anchorage. The ADAC is a new effort that enhances the DHS and US Coast Guard's capability to prepare for and respond to emergencies and to better understand the Arctic environment and its challenges. (10/27/15). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Norm Paulhus.*

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