

Headlines:

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Tampa Bay – safety zone;
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EPA – CARB TRU regulation;
MTSNAC – meeting on 1 December;
NOAA – scalloped hammerhead shark;
GAO – female military officer applicants;
Court – OPA 90 claim presentment;
India – partnership firms; and
Suez Canal opened to shipping – 17 November 1869.

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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. Time passes because it consistently gets good marks.

El Faro – video documentation complete



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a [news release](http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR_20151116.aspx) [located at http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR_20151116.aspx] stating that video documentation of the wreck of the cargo ship El Faro and the associated debris field has been completed, but the voyage data recorder (VDR) has yet to be located. No further search missions are planned. (11/16/15).

Tampa Bay – safety zone



The US Coast Guard has established, through 18 December, a temporary safety zone on waters of the old Passage Key Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range at the entrance to Tampa Bay during periods of unexploded ordnance detonation. **80 Fed. Reg. 71693** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-17/pdf/2015-29347.pdf>] (11/17/15).

USCG – foreign vessel safety & security



The US Coast Guard posted a **notice** [located at <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2015/11/16/11162015-safety-update-foreign-vessels/>] providing updates regarding foreign vessel safety. A **second notice** [located at <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2015/11/16/11162015-security-update-foreign-vessels/>] provides updates regarding foreign vessel security. (11/16/15).

EPA – CARB TRU regulation



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it received an application for federal approval of amendments to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) regulation to its In-Use Diesel-Fueled Transport Refrigeration Units (TRUs) and TRU Generator Sets and Facilities Where TRUs Operate. A public hearing concerning the application will be held on 6 January 2016 if any party notifies EPA by 15 December to express an interest in presenting oral testimony. **80 Fed. Reg. 71791** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-17/pdf/2015-29368.pdf>] (11/17/15).

MTSNAC – meeting on 1 December



The Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council (MTSNAC), sponsored by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), will meet in Arlington, Virginia on 1 December. **80 Fed. Reg. 71915** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-17/pdf/2015-29193.pdf>] (11/17/15).

NOAA – scalloped hammerhead shark



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that it has determined that there are no marine areas within the jurisdiction of the United States that meet the definition of critical habitat for the Central and Southwest Atlantic distinct population segment (DPS), the Indo-West Pacific DPS, or the Eastern Pacific DPS of the scalloped hammerhead shark. **80 Fed. Reg. 71774** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-17/pdf/2015-29262.pdf>] (11/17/15).

GAO – female military officer applicants



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) posted its report on female officer applicants for the Department of Defense (DOD) and the US Coast Guard. The report states that DOD and Coast Guard fiscal year 2010-14 data show an overall slight increase in female officer accessions rates (e.g. the number of female officer accessions during a period of time, expressed as a percentage of total accessions) for all of the Armed Forces, with the Coast Guard having the highest percentage increase. Female officer accession rates for the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force fluctuated from fiscal year 2010 through fiscal year 2014. The Marine Corps had slight increases from 7.6 percent to 11.8 percent. **GAO-16-55** [located at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/673633.pdf>] (11/13/15).

Court – OPA 90 claim presentment



In a revised opinion, the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that a claim for oil spill damages under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) has been properly presented when it contains substantially all the information necessary to adjudicate the claim, but that the claim presentment must comply with both the requirement that the claimant must wait at least 90 days before filing suit and that suit must be filed within three years of date of the loss on which the claim is based. **Nguyen v. ACL**, No. 15-30070 (5th Cir., November 13, 2015) [located at <http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/15/15-30070-CV0.pdf>].

India – partnership firms



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a Notice calcifying that partnership firms, as such, are ineligible to Indian-registered

vessels. [Notice 11-2015](http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201511160443251113745note11_2015_nt.pdf) [located at http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201511160443251113745note11_2015_nt.pdf] (11/16/15).

Suez Canal opened to shipping – 17 November 1869



The **Suez Canal** opened to shipping on 17 November 1869. Excavation of the Canal had taken ten years, using forced labor and rudimentary mechanical equipment. Construction had been opposed by British interests, who feared competition in trade with India. Once the Canal opened and proved successful, British interests acquired a majority ownership. The Canal was closed to shipping during the Suez Crises of 1956-57 and during the Arab-Israeli Wars of 1967 and 1973. In 2008, over 21,000 ships transited the Canal, earning the Government of Egypt over \$5 billion in tolls. Recently, a second lane to the Canal has been completed and placed into service.

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

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