

Headlines:

Chesapeake Bay – transit restriction;
USCG – Zika virus precautions amended;
Hudson River – temporary safety zone;
SLSDC – Seaway Regulations proposal;
DOI – DWH Early Restoration Plan;
FMC – Supply Chain Engagement;
BOEM, NOAA & USGS – Atlantic Canyons project;
Congress – Coast Guard Authorization Act; and
China – low sulphur fuel use.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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. Planck's Constant isn't.*

Chesapeake Bay – transit restriction



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2783802/>] stating that transit restrictions have been placed on a portion of the Thimble Shoals Channel in Chesapeake Bay. A vessel under tow allided with buoy 11, dragging the buoy off station and eventually sinking it. Only vessels with a 20-foot draft or less are allowed to transit through the affected portion of the channel at this time. (2/4/16).

USCG – Zika virus precautions amended



The US Coast Guard posted an amended version of its Marine Safety Information Bulletin regarding Zika virus precautions. The two major amendments are to: (1) clarify that having a person onboard the vessel with Zika-like symptoms does not necessarily constitute a hazardous condition triggering the need to file a report under 33 CFR 160.215; and (2) that the mosquitos that transmit the Zika virus bite mostly during the daytime. **MSIB 01-16a** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/OO1_16_2-4-2016.pdf] (2/4/16).

Hudson River – temporary safety zone



The US Coast Guard has established, through 9 July, a temporary safety zone on the Hudson River in the vicinity of Anchorage Ground 19-W due to a dielectric oil leak from a submerged power cable and the presence of cable repair vessels. **81 Fed. Reg. 6181** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-05/pdf/2016-02276.pdf>] (2/5/16).

SLSDC – Seaway Regulations proposal



The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), in coordination with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation of Canada (SLSMC), proposes to make various amendments to the Seaway Regulations and Rules. Comments on the proposal are due by 7 March. **81 Fed. Reg. 6198** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-05/pdf/2016-02168.pdf>] (2/5/16).

DOI – DWH Early Restoration Plan



The Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a notice stating that the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) Oil Spill Final Phase V Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment has been completed. **81 Fed. Reg. 6291** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-05/pdf/2016-02089.pdf>] (2/5/16).

FMC – Supply Chain Engagement



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) posted the Order regarding International Ocean Transportation Supply Chain Engagement. **81 Fed. Reg. 6263** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-02-05/pdf/2016-02189.pdf>] (2/5/16).

BOEM, NOAA & USGS – Atlantic Canyons project



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.boem.gov/press02042016/>] stating that it, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the US Geological Survey (USGS), twelve universities and research institutions, and two companies will be awarded the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) 2015 Excellence in Partnership Award for the project “Atlantic Canyons: Pathways to the Abyss”. (2/4/16).

Congress – Coast Guard Authorization Act



The enrolled bill (e.g., final Congressional) version of the **Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015** (H.R. 4188) [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr4188enr/pdf/BILLS-114hr4188enr.pdf>] has now been posted. The bill has been sent to President Obama for consideration. (2/4/16).

China – low sulphur fuel use



The Chinese Maritime Safety Authority issued a **news release** [located at <http://en.msa.gov.cn/index.php?m=content&c=index&a=show&catid=343&id=175>] stating that, effective 1 April, vessels calling at ports in the Yangtze River Delta, including Shanghai, will have to burn low sulphur (less than 0.5%) fuel. (2/4/16).

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

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