Headlines:

USCG – tonnage regulations; Port of New York – anchorage grounds; CBP – ACE FDA pilot program to be permanent; FWS – GOM Atlantic salmon; US & Japan – port security best practices; CRS – changes in the Arctic; India – procedures for laying-up vessels; and New Zealand – container weight verification.

March 31, 2016



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 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. Gravity waves were found to be hiding behind the dark matter.

USCG – tonnage regulations

The US Coast Guard promulgated a final rule amending its tonnage regulations to implement statutory changes, codify principal technical interpretations, and incorporate administrative, non-substantive clarifications and updates. The changes enter into effect on 2 May. 81 Fed. Reg. 18701 [located at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/pdf/2016-05623.pdf] (3/31/16).

Port of New York – anchorage regulations

The US Coast Guard promulgated a final rule disestablishing thirteen anchorage grounds and one special anchorage area that are now obsolete in Newark Bay, the East River, Western Long Island Sound, Raritan Bay, and Lower New York Bay; and reducing the size of three anchorage grounds in

Raritan, Sandy Hook, and Lower New York Bays. The changes enter into effect on 2 May. 81 Fed. Reg. 18494 [located at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/pdf/2016-07307.pdf] (3/31/16).

CBP – ACE FDA pilot program to be permanent

The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) pilot program concerning submission of certain data required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) has been a success and that program is being made permanent. The FDA pilot program will end on 2 May. 81 Fed. Reg. 18634 [located at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/pdf/2016-07255.pdf] (3/31/16).

FWS – GOM Atlantic salmon

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) seeks comments on the draft recovery plan for the endangered Gulf of Maine (GOM) distinct population segment (DPS) of Atlantic salmon. Comments must be received by 31 May. 81 Fed. Reg. 18639 [located at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/pdf/2016-07227.pdf] (3/31/16).

US & Japan – port security best practices

The US Coast Guard issued a news release stating that its International Port Security team recently completed a bilateral engagement with Japanese officials to share best practices. (3/30/16) [located at http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2804337/].

CRS – changes in the Arctic

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) issued a report entitled "Changes in the Arctic: Background and Issues for Congress". The report provides an overview of the impacts and potential effects of diminishment of Arctic sea ice in particular. R41153 (3/25/16) [located at http://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41153.pdf].

India – procedures for laying-up vessels

The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a draft notice regarding procedures for laying-up vessels within port limits. Comments must be received by 3 April. (3/29/16 [located at http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201603290617320769316draft_ms_notice_290316.pdf].

New Zealand – container weight verification

Maritime New Zealand issued a **notice** stating that the consultation on implementation of the verified gross mass (VGM) requirement for containers shipped in international commerce has concluded and the final rule is being prepared for signing with an in-force date of 1 July. (3/30/16) [located at http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Consultation/Container-verification/default.asp].

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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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