

Headlines:

OMB – Subchapter M cleared for publication;
USCG – review of Refugio Beach oil spill cleanup;
FMC – Supply Chain innovation Team Initiative;
Great Lakes – safety zones proposed;
FMC – complaint filed against vehicle carriers;
FMC – another complaint filed against vehicle carriers;
Northern Mariana Islands – submerged lands transfer;
DHS – successful demonstration of eLoran; and
IMO – capacity-building in the Gulf of Guinea.

May 4, 2016



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. A website recently asked if I accept cookies; I replied chocolate chip.*

OMB – Subchapter M cleared for publication



The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) completed its review of the draft final rule entitled **Inspection of Towing Vessels**, but more popularly known as Subchapter M. The document has been returned to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the US Coast Guard for final preparation prior to promulgation in the Federal Register. (5/2/16)

[<http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaViewRule?pubId=201510&RIN=1625-AB06>].

USCG – review of Refugio Beach oil spill cleanup



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that review of the Refugio Beach oil spill has been completed. The spill occurred on 19 May 2015, when a pipeline leaked and spilled more than 100,000 gallons of oil on land, some of which subsequently reached the ocean through a culvert beneath US Highway 101. (5/3/16) [<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2815998/>].
Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Norm Paulhus.

FMC – Supply Chain Innovation Team Initiative



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that the Supply Chain Innovation Team Initiative, led by Commissioner Rebecca Dye, has been officially launched. Industry leaders from 34 companies will be working in teams to develop process innovations that will improve the reliability, resilience, and competitiveness of America's global supply chain. (5/3/16) [<http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-08/>].

Great Lakes – safety zones proposed



The US Coast Guard proposes to establish temporary safety zones around tall ships visiting the Great Lakes during the Tall Ships Challenge 2016 race series. Comments on the proposal must be received by 3 June. [81 Fed. Reg. 26767](#) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-10453.pdf>] (5/4/16).

FMC – complaint filed against vehicle carriers



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that various new truck and heavy equipment dealers have filed a complaint seeking to pursue a class action against providers of vehicle carrier services in international maritime commerce for alleged violations of the Shipping Act by conspiring to fix prices. [81 Fed. Reg. 26792](#) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-10340.pdf>] (5/4/16).

FMC – another complaint filed against vehicle carriers



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that various US automobile dealers have filed a complaint seeking to pursue a class action against providers of vehicle carrier services in international maritime commerce for alleged violations of the Shipping Act by conspiring to fix prices. [81 Fed. Reg. 26793](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-10341.pdf) [https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-10341.pdf] (5/4/16).

Northern Mariana Islands – submerged lands transfer



The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) seeks comments on its draft environmental assessment (EA) for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument Northern Islands Submerged Lands Transfer to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Comments must be received by 6 June. [81 Fed. Reg. 26825](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-09955.pdf) [https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-04/pdf/2016-09955.pdf] (5/4/16).

DHS – successful demonstration of eLoran



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a **news release** stating that enhanced Loran (eLoran), a precision timing technology, was successfully demonstrated at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). (4/20/16) [https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/news/2016/04/20/st-demonstrates-precision-timing-technology-ny-stock-exchange?utm_source=GPS+Newsletter&utm_campaign=8d54dc8a3c-GPS_Bulletin_+May+3_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a2a565481e-8d54dc8a3c-198943545].

IMO – capacity-building in the Gulf of Guinea



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) recently condemned acts of murder, kidnapping, hostage-taking, and robbery by pirates in the Gulf of Guinea and encouraged regional cooperation. The UNSC also highlighted to work of the IMO in capacity-building in the area. (5/3/16) [http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/12-UNSC-GOG.aspx].

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

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