

Headlines:

DOS – meeting on 1 June re IMO Legal Committee;
OFAC – Burmese Sanctions Regulations;
USCG – ballast water treatment technology issues;
USCG – recreational boating statistics;
House – bill introduced re Texas City navigational servitude;
Australia – BRM reminder; and
Panama Canal – maximum draft for Neopanamax locks.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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DOS – meeting on 1 June re IMO Legal Committee



The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that a meeting will be held on 1 June in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Legal Committee. Topics on the agenda include fair treatment of seafarers; provision of financial security in case of abandoned seafarers; and technical cooperation activities related to maritime legislation. **81 Fed. Reg. 31290** (5/18/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-18/pdf/2016-11727.pdf>].

OFAC – Burmese Sanctions Regulations



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a final rule amending the Burmese Sanctions Regulations to authorize additional transactions. The changes enter into effect immediately. **81 Fed. Reg. 31169**

(5/18/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-05-18/pdf/2016-11677.pdf>].

USCG – ballast water treatment technology issues



The US Coast Guard posted a **notice** addressing the current uncertainty surrounding ballast water treatment technology. (5/17/16) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2016/05/17/5162016-ballast-water-treatment-uncertainty-and-what-to-learn-from-it-all/>].

USCG – recreational boating statistics



The US Coast Guard posted the 2015 Recreational Boating Statistics. The report states that during the year there were 626 boating fatalities, the third-lowest number of boating fatalities on record. (5/17/16).

House – bill introduced re Texas City navigational servitude



Representative Weber (R-TX) introduced a bill (H.R. 5246) to remove the Federal claim to navigational servitude for a parcel of land in Texas City, Texas, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (5/16/16).

Australia – BRM reminder



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a notice reminding seafarers, ship owners/operators, and pilots of the importance of well-planned Bridge Resource Management (BRM) techniques, efficient watchkeeping arrangements, and passage planning requirements. **Marine Notice 11-2016** (5/17/16) [<https://apps.amsa.gov.au/MOReview/MarineNoticeExternal.html>].

Panama Canal – maximum draft for Neopanamax locks



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory announcing that the maximum allowable draft for vessels transiting the new Neopanamax locks will be 12.80 meters (42.0 feet) Tropical Fresh Water (TFW).

Advisory 26-2016 (5/17/16)

[<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-26-2016.pdf>]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Bryan Bittner of [Eagle Bulk Shipping](#).*

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

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