

Headlines:

USCG – NAVSAC members sought;
DHS – cybersecurity sharing policies;
House – hearing on USCG mission needs;
Court – lack of personal jurisdiction;
NATO – SAR exercise;
Great Barrier Reef – rodent extinction; and
General Slocum fire – 15 June 1904.

June 15, 2016



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. Human beings are remarkable for their disinclination to learn from the experience of others.

USCG – NAVSAC members sought



The US Coast Guard issued a notice soliciting applications for membership on the Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (NAVSAC). Applications should be submitted by 15 August. **81 Fed. Reg. 39060** (6/15/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-15/pdf/2016-14154.pdf>].

DHS – cybersecurity sharing policies



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a notice announcing the availability of Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (CISA) Final Guidance Documents. These documents address policies and procedures relating to receipt and sharing of cyber threat indicators and defensive measures by the federal government. **81 Fed. Reg. 39061** (6/15/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-15/pdf/2016-13742.pdf>].

House – hearing on USCG mission needs



The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure conducted a hearing on **Coast Guard Mission Needs and Resources Allocation**. Subcommittee Chair Duncan Hunter (R-CA) noted that the subcommittee supports the Coast Guard but finds it difficult to unravel the true needs of the service from the various reports that it is provided. Testimony was heard from Admiral Charles Michel, USCG and Ms. Jennifer Grover of the Government Accountability Office (GAO). (6/14/16)

[<http://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=400365>].

Court – lack of personal jurisdiction



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed the dismissal of a complaint for personal injury filed in Louisiana against a Norwegian company for an incident that occurred off the coast of Russia. The court held that the defendant's limited contacts with the United States, consisting wholly of eleven employee secondment agreements, were insufficient to satisfy due process concerns. **Patterson v. Aker Solutions**, No. 15-30690 (5th Cir., June 13, 2016)

[<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/15/15-30690-CV0.pdf>].

NATO – SAR exercise



NATO issued a **news release** stating that its large scale search and rescue (SAR) exercise Dynamic Mercy 2016 has concluded after two months of diverse training. This year's exercise involved twelve scenarios with fifteen rescue coordination centers (RCCs) from nine NATO countries. (6/8/16)

[<http://www.shape.nato.int/2016/nato-helps-promote-search-and-rescue-training>].

Great Barrier Reef – rodent extinction



The Queensland Department of Environment and Health Protection issued its **survey report** concerning the status of the Bramble Cay melomys. This is a small rodent found only on Bramble Cay, a small island off the northern coast of Queensland and is (or was) the only known mammal endemic to the Great Barrier Reef. While once fairly prolific, it has not been detected on the island in some years, due to habitat loss and sea level rise. The

report recommends that the species be classified as extinct. (6/14/16)
[<https://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/threatened-species/documents/bramble-cay-melomys-survey-report.pdf>].

General Slocum fire – 15 June 1904



On 15 June 1904, the excursion steamer *General Slocum* caught fire while operating on the East River in New York City. More than 1,000 passengers and crew lost their lives. It was one of the worst maritime disasters in US history. Congress responded by adopting a series of bills providing the Steamboat Inspection Service with authority to prescribe measures to prevent and extinguish fires and to determine the amount and type of lifesaving equipment to be carried on board.

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