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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. Linear thinking provides freedom from insight.*

## USCG – hurricane & heavy weather contingency plans



My compilation of USCG **Hurricane & Heavy Weather Contingency Plans** has been updated to include the revised Hampton Roads plan that my good friend Bruce Dalcher of Good Harbor Consulting brought to my attention. Please advise if you become aware of new or revised contingency plans that should be included in the compilation. (8/22/16) [[http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/HCP/HCP\\_160822.pdf](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/HCP/HCP_160822.pdf)].

## USCG – discarded munitions



The US Coast Guard issued an alert reminding fishermen to review their navigational charts to ensure that they are not fishing in areas labeled 'Explosives Dumping Area', that they do not handle suspicious canisters brought up from the seafloor, and that they immediately report any such canisters to the National Response Center or the USCG. **Safety Alert 11-16** (8/16/16) [<https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg545/alerts/1116.pdf>].

## USCG – TWIC reader requirements



The US Coast Guard promulgated a final rule requiring owners and operators of certain vessels and waterfront facilities to conduct electronic inspections of Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWICs) as an access control measure. The rule also implements recordkeeping requirements and security plan amendments that incorporate these TWIC requirements. The final rule enters into effect on 23 August 2018. **81 Fed. Reg. 57651** (8/23/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-08-23/pdf/2016-19383.pdf>].

## Columbia River – temporary safety zone



The US Coast Guard proposes to establish a temporary safety zone on waters of the Columbia River around the small boat Nussy and related vessels in support of Double-Crested Cormorant removal operations. Comments must be received by 12 September. **81 Fed. Reg. 57507** (8/23/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-08-23/pdf/2016-20132.pdf>].

## Brownsville – LNG facility expansion proposed



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it received a Letter of Intent (LOI) and Waterways Suitability Assessment (WSA) for construction projects expanding the LNG facilities in Brownsville. Comments must be submitted by 22 September. [81 Fed. Reg. 57599](#) (8/23/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-08-23/pdf/2016-20088.pdf>].

## SHC – meeting on 13 October



The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC), sponsored by the Department of State (DOS), will meet on 13 October in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 70). Topics on the agenda include: harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water; air pollution and energy efficiency; special areas; and particularly sensitive sea areas. [81 Fed. Reg. 57654](#) (8/23/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-08-23/pdf/2016-20113.pdf>].

## Indiana – shipbuilding antifoulant coatings



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes to approve a revision to the Indiana State Implementation Plan (SIP) regarding a new volatile organic compound limit for antifoulant coatings used in shipbuilding and ship repair facilities. Comments must be received by 22 September. [81 Fed. Reg. 57534](#) (8/23/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-08-23/pdf/2016-20011.pdf>].

## North Carolina – Battle of the Atlantic shipwrecks



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a [media release](#) stating that a survey vessel will soon visit the remains of two vessels sunk off Cape Hatteras on 15 July 1942. The freighter Bluefields was torpedoed by the German submarine U-576, which was then attacked and sunk by the convoy ships and the US military escorts. The crew members of the freighter were safely evacuated, but the sub sank with the loss of all hands. (8/22/16) [<http://www.noaa.gov/media-release/first-look-at-two-wwii-battle-of-atlantic-shipwrecks>].

## USN – Strait of Juan de Fuca collision



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that the ballistic missile submarine USS Louisiana (SSBN 743) and a USN Offshore Support Vessel collided during routine operations in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. There were no injuries. Both vessels proceeded under their own power to port. (8/19/16) [[http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story\\_id=96326](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=96326)].

## Newark – full-scale explosion exercise



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a **news release** stating that a full-scale explosion exercise was conducted at the New Jersey Marine Terminal in the Port of Newark, allowing for multi-discipline and multi-jurisdictional planning and coordination. (8/20/16) [<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2016/08/20/statement-secretary-jeh-c-johnson-full-scale-exercise-new-jersey-marine-terminals>].

## TSA – maritime security support



The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a **news release** explaining how the agency supports the US Coast Guard in maritime security, focusing on passenger security and intermodal connectivity. (8/22/16) [<https://www.tsa.gov/news/top-stories/2016/08/22/tsa-provides-support-coast-guard-secure-us-ports>].

## Australia – vessel grounded, refloated



The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) issued a **notice** stating that it has commenced an investigation into the grounding of the tank vessel Bow Singapore in Port Phillip Bay on 19 August. The vessel was refloated on high tide with tug assistance. There was no evidence of hull damage or pollution. (8/22/16) [[http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation\\_reports/2016/mair/326-mo-2016-005/](http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2016/mair/326-mo-2016-005/)].

## NW Passage – nearly ice-free



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued a **news release** stating that satellite images reveal that the Northwest Passage between Alaska and Greenland is nearly ice-free. (8/20/16)  
[<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=88597&src=iotdrss>].

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