

Headlines:

USCG – El Faro investigation transcripts;
NOAA – humpback whale;
Hawaii – humpback whale approach regulations;
Alaska – humpback whale approach regulations;
DOE – Freeport LNG terminal;
IWUB – meeting on 5 October;
Gulfport – FTZ application;
DOC – agricultural commodity exports to Cuba;
OSHA – fall protection in shipyard employment;
Panama Canal – escort tug requirements;
Disaster at Honda Point – 8 September 1923; and
Fire on SS Morro Castle – 8 September 1934.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

Seebald & Associates International

IMO & USCG ACCEPTED FACILITY SECURITY TRAINING
FSAs | FSPs | ANNUAL FSP AUDITS

WWW.SEEBALD.COM | 1.800.801.2310 | 1.716.481.5597



September 8, 2016



Bryant's Maritime News

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. A meal without wine is called breakfast.*

USCG – El Faro investigation transcripts



The USCG Marine Board of Investigation (MBI) regarding the loss of the cargo ship El Faro with 33 persons on board on 1 October 2015 issued a [media release](#) stating that the transcripts for the hearing session, held in February, is available at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doctype/4007/286370/>. The third hearing session, anticipated for this winter, will examine additional elements of the investigation including information retrieved from the ship's voyage data recorder (VDR). (9/7/16)

[http://www.uscgnews.com/external/content/document/4007/2880518/1/MBI_Transcripts%20Hearing%201_Media%20Release.pdf].

NOAA – humpback whale



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) promulgated a final rule revising the listing status of the humpback whale by dividing it into 14 distinct population segments (DPSs) and listing four DPSs as endangered and one DPS as threatened. This rule enters into effect on 11 October. [81 Fed. Reg. 62259](#) (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21276.pdf>].

Hawaii – humpback whale approach regulations



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) promulgated an interim rule establishing approach regulations regarding humpback whales in waters surrounding the islands of Hawaii. The regulations enter into effect on 11 October. [81 Fed. Reg. 62010](#) (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21277.pdf>].

Alaska – humpback whale approach regulations



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) promulgated a final rule amending the approach regulations regarding humpback whales in waters surrounding Alaska. The amendments enter into effect on 11 October. [81 Fed. Reg. 62018](#) (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21278.pdf>].

DOE – Freeport LNG terminal



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice stating that it received an application from Freeport LNG Expansion, LP seeking authorization to engage in additional exports of domestically produced LNG. Comments on the application must be received by 7 November. **81 Fed. Reg. 62109** (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21579.pdf>].

IWUB – meeting on 5 October



The Inland Waterways Users Board (IWUB), sponsored by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), will meet on 5 October in Tinley Park, Illinois. Topics on the agenda include funding for inland navigation projects and the status of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) Lock General Re-evaluation Report. **81 Fed. Reg. 62107** (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21569.pdf>].

Gulfport – FTZ application



The Department of Commerce (DOC) issued a notice stating that it received an application for a foreign trade zone (FTZ) designation of manufacturing of ocean-going vessels at the TopShip, LLC facility in Gulfport. Comments on the application must be received by 18 October. **81 Fed. Reg. 62078** (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21651.pdf>].

DOC – agricultural commodity exports to Cuba



The Department of Commerce (DOC) seeks comments on the effectiveness of its licensing procedures for export of agricultural commodities to Cuba. Comments must be received by 11 October. **81 Fed. Reg. 62079** (9/8/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21607.pdf>].

OSHA – fall protection in shipyard employment



The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a request for information (RFI) regarding safety standards that address access and egress, fall and falling object protection, and scaffolds in shipbuilding, ship repair, shipbreaking, and other shipyard-related employment. Comments

should be submitted by 7 December. **81 Fed. Reg. 62052** (9/8/16)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21369.pdf>].

Panama Canal – escort tug requirements



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory stating that certain Neopanamax vessels are required to have additional tug assistance while transiting the Canal. Neopanamax LNG carriers require escort tug assistance through Gatun Lake and in the Pacific and Atlantic channels. Neopanamax vessels transiting with a displacement for transit of 120,000 metric tons or more require escort tug assistance through Gatun Lake. **Advisory 46-2016** (9/6/16)
[<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-46-2016.pdf>].

Disaster at Honda Point – 8 September 1923



The **Honda Point Disaster** occurred just off the spit of land at the north end of the Santa Barbara Channel on the evening of 8 September 1923 when seven US Navy destroyers, traveling at full speed, grounded in the fog on charted rocks. Due to poor visibility, the ships, transiting as a squadron from San Francisco to San Diego, were utilizing dead reckoning. A radio signal from a new radio direction finder (RDF) station had been received but misinterpreted. Twenty-three sailors died in the grounding. Two other destroyers grounded briefly, but refloated themselves. Five destroyers from the rear of the formation were able to avoid grounding. The squadron commander and the squadron navigators, as well as the commanding officers of the seven destroyers that were lost, were all court-martialed. This marine casualty is the first in which electronic navigation played a significant role.

Fire on SS Morro Castle – 8 September 1934



The passenger/cargo ship **SS Morro Castle** caught fire and burned on 8 September 1934, while on a voyage from Havana, Cuba to New York. The origin of the fire was never conclusively determined. The master had died in his sleep the previous night of an apparent heart attack. The fire was detected in the First Class Writing Room at about 3 a.m. It spread rapidly through the extensive wood used in construction of the passenger spaces. The Acting Captain maneuvered the ship toward the New Jersey shore, but the ship soon lost power and steering. It eventually grounded on the beach at Asbury Park. A total of 137 passengers and crew died in the casualty. Major changes were later made to the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention to address use of fire retardant materials, automatic fire doors, fire alarms, and life boat drills, reducing the risk of future casualties.

Join my mailing list



If you are not receiving my almost daily electronic newsletter and would like to have it sent directly to your email inbox, please send me an email, or see below:

Join Our Mailing List!



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>

© Dennis L. Bryant – September 2016



Redistribution permitted with attribution