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MARAD – advisory re Zika virus;
USCG – NTSB VTS study;
USCG – OPC contract awarded;
Florida – modification of security zones;
New Jersey – SEIS cancellation;
NMIO – 2016 Global Maritime Forum;
Arctic – sea ice second lowest on record; and
EC – stronger external borders targeted.

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September 16, 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. A meal without wine is called breakfast.

MARAD – advisory re Zika virus



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued an advisory regarding the impacts of the Zika virus on maritime commerce. While ship and cargo disinfection (mosquito eradication) is not considered by the federal government to be an effective Zika virus countermeasure, some nations have imposed or are considering such measures. Vessel operators are encouraged to keep up to date on such requirements that may be imposed by nations where their vessels may operate. **Advisory 2016-03** (9/12/16)

[<https://www.marad.dot.gov/newsroom/advisory/2016/marad-advisory-2016-03/>].

USCG – NTSB VTS study



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that it fully supported the vessel traffic service (VTS) system study conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The Coast Guard will evaluate and use the results to improve the effectiveness of VTS nationwide. (9/15/16)

[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2016/09/15/ntsb-completes-vessel-traffic-services-safety-study/>].

USCG – OPC contract awarded



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that the contract for construction of the lead Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) and up to eight follow-on cutters has been awarded to Eastern Shipbuilding Group of Panama City, Florida. The OPC acquisition will replace the service's medium endurance cutters.

(9/15/16) [<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2881962/>].

Florida – modification of security zones



The US Coast Guard proposes to update and modify security zones in the ports of Palm Beach, Port Everglades, Miami, and Key West. Comments on the proposal must be received by 15 November. **81 Fed. Reg. 63728** (9/16/16)

[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-16/pdf/2016-22280.pdf>].

New Jersey – SEIS cancellation



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a notice stating that it is withdrawing its intent to prepare a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay, New Jersey Feasibility Report for Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Union Beach, New Jersey Final Feasibility Report. **81 Fed. Reg. 63747** (9/16/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-16/pdf/2016-22336.pdf>].

NMIO – 2016 Global Maritime Forum



The **2016 Global Maritime Forum**, sponsored by the National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office (NMIO), will be held on 15-16 November in Seattle. (9/15/16) [http://www.apl.washington.edu/project/project.php?id=global_maritime_forum_2016].

Arctic – sea ice second lowest on record



The National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) issued a **news release** stating that Arctic sea ice appears to have reached its seasonal minimum extent for 2016 on September 10. A relatively rapid loss of sea ice in the first ten days of September has pushed the ice extent to a statistical tie with 2007 for the second lowest in the satellite record. (9/15/16) [<http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/>].

EC – stronger external borders targeted



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** stating that it is targeting stronger external borders for the EU by, among other things accelerating the operational delivery of the European Border and Coast Guard. (9/14/16) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3003_en.htm].

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