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USCG – polar icebreaker RFI;
USCG – record-breaking drug seizures;
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Offshore New York – EA and FONSI;
IMO – 0.50% sulphur cap agreed;
EC – welcoming IMO action; and
Antarctic – Ross Sea region MPA.

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Bryant's Maritime News



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USCG – polar icebreaker RFI



The US Coast Guard issued a **Request for Information** (RFI) for its polar icebreaker acquisition program. The request seeks feedback on the program's notional acquisition approach and schedule and includes a draft statement of work for industry studies on heavy polar icebreaker technology risks, sustainability, productivity, and affordability. Responses must be received by 10 November. (10/25/16)

[https://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/icebreaker/rfi_acq_approach.asp]. *Note: This item was first brought to my attention by my good friend Norm Paulhus.*

USCG – record-breaking drug seizures



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that, with the recent seizure of more than 39,000 pounds of cocaine by the USCGC Waesche, the Coast Guard and its interagency partners have removed more than 416,000 pounds of cocaine worth over \$5.6 billion from potential distribution in the United States during fiscal year 2016. This breaks the previous record of 367,700 pounds of cocaine removed in FY2008. The Coast Guard also apprehended 585 suspected drug smugglers during FY2016, also a new record. (10/27/16)

[<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2896090/>].

COAC – meeting on 17 November



The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC), sponsored by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), will meet in Washington, DC on 17 November. Topics on the agenda include C-TPAT minimum security criteria and the Air, Ocean, and Rail Manifest Pilots. **81 Fed. Reg. 75423** (10/31/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-31/pdf/2016-26180.pdf>].

Offshore New York – wind energy lease sale



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued the Final Sale Notice (FSN) for the sale of one commercial wind energy lease on the outer continental shelf (OCS) offshore New York on 15 December. **81 Fed. Reg. 75429** (10/31/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-31/pdf/2016-26240.pdf>].

Offshore New York – EA and FONSI



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a notice stating that the revised environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the wind energy lease sale on the outer continental shelf (OCS) offshore New York has been completed. **81 Fed. Reg. 75438** (10/31/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-31/pdf/2016-26237.pdf>].

IMO – 0.50% sulphur cap agreed



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 70) agreed to implement a global sulphur cap of 0.50% with effect from 1 January 2020. (10/28/16) [<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/MEPC-70-2020sulphur.aspx>].

EC – welcoming IMO action



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** welcoming the progress of the IMO in addressing greenhouse gas emissions in the maritime sector. (10/28/16) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3545_en.htm].

Antarctic – Ross Sea region MPA



The New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade posted information regarding the newly-designated **Ross Sea region Marine Protected Area** in the Antarctic. (10/28/16) [<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/environment/antarctica/ross-sea-region-marine-protected-area>].



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