

Headlines:

White House – invasive species safeguards;
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard – speed restriction;
Greater Farallones NMS – discharge restrictions;
California – southern sea otter;
DOE – authorization to export LNG;
Court – LHWCA and limitation of liability; and
SS Mont Blanc explosion in Halifax – 6 December 1917.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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White House – invasive species safeguards



President Obama issued an **Executive Order** regarding safeguards against invasive species. The new order strengthens the previous one, providing additional safeguards against the impact of non-native species. (12/5/16)
[<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/05/executive-order-safeguarding-nation-impacts-invasive-species>].

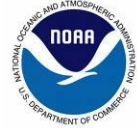
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard – speed restriction



The US Coast Guard promulgated a temporary rule establishing, through 30 June 2017, a regulated navigation area (RNA) on waters of the Piscataqua River near the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The RNA, which enters into effect immediately, establishes speed restrictions to eliminate dangerous

vessel wake. **81 Fed. Reg. 87813** (12/6/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-12-06/pdf/2016-29260.pdf>].

Greater Farallones NMS – discharge requirements



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has extended for six months the delay in effectiveness of discharge requirements for US Coast Guard activities in the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS). **81 Fed. Reg. 87803** (12/6/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-12-06/pdf/2016-29234.pdf>].

California – southern sea otter



The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued a notice stating that it seeks comments on the draft revised marine mammal stock assessment report (SAR) for the southern sea otter in California. Comments must be submitted by 6 March. **81 Fed. Reg. 87951** (12/6/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-12-06/pdf/2016-29190.pdf>].

DOE – authorization to export LNG



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a notice announcing its decision granting final long-term, multi-contract authorization for Magnolia LNG to engage in the export of domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the proposed facility near Lake Charles. **81 Fed. Reg. 87915** (12/6/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-12-06/pdf/2016-29206.pdf>].

Court – LHWCA and limitation of liability



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit ruled that, in a case brought under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) after the ship owner filed for limitation of liability, the estate of a deceased longshoreman may not bring a separate action against the ship owner alleging liability as a stevedore. **Seaboard Spirit Ltd v. Hyman**, No. 15-12953 (11th Cir., December 5, 2016) [<http://media.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/unpub/files/201512953.pdf>].

***SS Mont Blanc* explosion in Halifax – 6 December 1917**



The *SS Mont Blanc* exploded in the Halifax Narrows on 6 December 1917, following its collision with the *SS Imo*. The *Mont Blanc* was carrying military explosives and ammunition from New York to France. The crew abandoned ship after the collision, but a fire caused by the collision detonated 20 minutes later. The entire crew survived, except for one individual killed by falling debris. The explosion, though, was so powerful that it destroyed major parts of the nearby buildings and houses, killing approximately 2,000 residents in Halifax and Dartmouth. The incident is explored in depth in the book [Curse of the Narrows](#) by Laura MacDonald.

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