

Headlines:

USCG – comments sought re APC National Guidelines;
USCG – mariner training course approval backlog;
NOAA – black and white abalone;
Panama Canal – largest capacity vessel transit;
UK – human factors; and
Winter Cruising – 22 December 1837.

December 22, 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>

Contact me to help you reach your target audience

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. The biggest lie I tell myself is: "I don't need to write that down – I'll remember it."

USCG – comments sought re APC National Guidelines



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that it is reopening the comment period for the Alternative Planning Criteria (APC) National Guidelines. It is specifically interested in comments related to the economic impact of the policy, especially in remote areas. Additionally, the coast Guard is interested in public comment regarding the exercise and verification aspects of the policy. (12/21/16) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2016/12/21/12212016-comment-period-to-re-open-for-alternative-planning-criteria-national-guidelines/>].

USCG – mariner training course approval backlog



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued an **announcement** stating that, due to increased volume, it is taking longer than usual to process mariner training course approval applications. Applications are usually turned

around in 65 days, but some requests are now taking more than 90 days.

(12/20/16)

[https://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/course_approvals_inventory_notice.pdf].

NOAA – black and white abalone



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that it intends to conduct five-year reviews for the black and white abalone. Comments must be received by 21 February 2017. **81 Fed. Reg. 93902** (12/22/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-12-22/pdf/2016-30710.pdf>].

Panama Canal – largest capacity vessel transit



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** stating that the 10,500+ TEU containership Valparaiso Express transited the expanded locks, making it the largest capacity vessel transit to date. (12/20/16) [<https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2016/12/20/pr614.html>].

UK – human factors



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a guidance note raising awareness of twelve of the most common people-related factors – the Deadly Dozen – that can affect maritime safety, along with suggested mitigating actions available to companies, masters, and seafarers. **MGN 520(M)** (12/21/16) [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/579069/MGN_520_Final.pdf].

Winter Cruising – 22 December 1837



On this date in 1837, Congress enacted the so-called ‘Winter Cruising’ statute (**5 Stat. 208**), which provided: “*The President of the United States is authorized to cause any suitable number of public vessels, adapted to the purpose, to cruise upon the coast, in the severe portions of the season, when the public service will allow of it, and so afford such aid to distressed navigators as their circumstances and necessities may require; and such public vessels shall go to sea prepared fully to render such assistance.*”

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 or are interested in advertising in this newsletter, 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 – December 2016

 Redistribution permitted with attribution