

Headlines:

St. Lawrence Seaway – Seaway Notices;
Senate – opposition to USCG budget cut;
State Court – punitive damages for unseaworthiness;
ReCAAP – Piracy & Sea Robbery Conference;
New Zealand – biofouling ejection;
UK – Marine Navigation Act assessment; and
Daylight saving time.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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St. Lawrence Seaway – Seaway Notices



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System posted its usual series of **Seaway Notices** in anticipation of the scheduled 20 March opening of the 2017 navigation season. (3/10/17) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/news/notices/seaway/index.html>].

Senate – opposition to USCG budget cut



Twenty-three Senators have sent a **letter** to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) registering their opposition to the proposed \$1.3 billion reduction to the Coast Guard's FY 2018 Presidential budget request. (3/8/17) [<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/03082017%20Letter%20to%20OMB%20Director%20Mulvaney,%20CG%20FY18.pdf>]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Kim Hall of [Brizo Maritime Consulting](http://brizo-maritime.com).*

State court – punitive damages for unseaworthiness



In an en banc decision, the Supreme Court of the State of Washington ruled that seamen are entitled to seek punitive damages when their alleged injuries are due in part to an unseaworthy condition on their vessel in circumstances indicating at least recklessness on the part of the vessel owner. The court noted that unseaworthiness actions arise in common law and that punitive damages are available in common law. There is no US Supreme Court decision on point and the court declined to follow federal appellate decisions to the contrary. **Tabingo v. American Triumph LLC**, No. 92913-1 (Wash., March 9, 2017) [<https://www.courts.wa.gov/opinions/pdf/929131.pdf>]. *Note: This decision was brought to my attention by my friend Rivers Black of **Nicoll Black & Feig**.*

ReCAAP – Piracy & Sea Robbery Conference



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre issued a **notice** stating that the Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2017 will be held in Singapore on 27 April. (3/10/17) [[http://www.recaap.org/Portals/0/docs/Piracy%20and%20Sea%20Robbery%20Conference%202011/2017/ReCAAP%20ISC%20PSR%202017%20Programme%20\(CAA%203%20Mar%202017\).pdf](http://www.recaap.org/Portals/0/docs/Piracy%20and%20Sea%20Robbery%20Conference%202011/2017/ReCAAP%20ISC%20PSR%202017%20Programme%20(CAA%203%20Mar%202017).pdf)].

New Zealand – biofouling ejection



The New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries issued a **media release** stating that the bulk carrier DL Marigold was ordered to leave New Zealand waters and to have its hull thoroughly cleaned prior to re-entry. A dense coating of barnacles and tube worms was discovered on the hull and other underwater surfaces after the vessel arrived in Tauranga. (3/7/17) [<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/media-releases/dirty-vessel-ordered-to-leave-new-zealand/>]. *Note: This is the first reported instance of ejection of a vessel from port for biofouling.*

UK – Marine Navigation Act assessment



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) posted its **Memorandum** to the Transport Select Committee of Parliament comprising the Post Legislative Assessment of the Marine Navigation Act 2013. Among other things, the legislation amended other Acts relating to pilotage, harbor authorities, and the movement, mooring, manning, and equipment of ships. Comments received during the assessment were generally supportive, although a minority believed

that the Act brought no obvious benefits. No stakeholders reported adverse impacts. (3/10/17)
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/598025/post-legislative-assessment-of-the-mna-2013-memorandum-to-the-tsc-web-version.pdf].

Daylight saving time



Long-suffering readers are reminded that at 0200 local time, Sunday, 12 March 2017, most of the United States and Canada, plus Bermuda, the Bahamas, Cuba, and Haiti, implemented daylight saving time (going from GMT-5 to GMT-4 for the Eastern Time Zone). European nations and some others in the northern hemisphere implement daylight savings time on the last Sunday in March. It is unclear why we don't utilize daylight saving time year-round. It is also unclear how changing the clock actually saves any daylight. There are mysteries not disclosed to mere mortals.

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