

Headlines:

Nantucket Sound – port access route study;
Maryland – ‘no discharge’ zone proposed;
IMO – GloBallast Partnerships Programme to conclude;
Somalia – pirates release dhow; and
Yemen – maritime advisory.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Nantucket Sound – port access route study



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that the Nantucket Sound Port Access Route Study (PARS) has been completed. The study concludes that no regulatory changes are needed. [82 Fed. Reg. 15367](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-28/pdf/2017-06088.pdf) (3/28/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-28/pdf/2017-06088.pdf>].

Maryland – ‘no discharge’ zone proposed



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it received a petition from the State of Maryland requesting a determination that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the Chester River, Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, Maryland and that such waters be designated a no discharge zone. Comments on the petition must be received by 27 April. [82 Fed. Reg.](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-28/pdf/2017-06088.pdf)

15357 (3/28/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-28/pdf/2017-06113.pdf>].

IMO – GloBallast Partnerships Programme to conclude



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that, in June 2017, the GloBallast Partnerships Programme will conclude. Since 2007, this partnership with the Global Environment Facility and the United National Development Programme has been assisting developing countries to reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water and implement the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention. (3/27/17) [<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/11-GBTTF.aspx>].

Somalia – pirates release dhow



The UK Maritime Trade Operations (MTO) issued a report stating that the hijacked dhow: CASAYR II - No.30 has been located approximately 70nms from Qalansyia, Socotra Island. The dhow has been released by the pirates after taking one skiff, food and diesel. The whereabouts of the Pirates is unknown. (3/28/17).

Yemen – maritime advisory



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued an advisory recommending that US-flag commercial vessels avoid entering or loitering near Yemen's Red Sea ports and that vessels transiting the area exercise special vigilance. **Advisory 2017-002** (3/27/17) [<https://www.marad.dot.gov/environment-and-safety/office-of-security/msci/advisory/>].

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