

Headlines:

USCG – Great Lakes regulated navigation areas;

USCG NVDC – expedited handling criteria;

DOE – oleo sponge;

Court – ROV technician is not a FLSA seaman; and

UK – new VHF channels.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – Great Lakes regulated navigation areas



The US Coast Guard proposes to amend its Great Lakes Regulated Navigation Areas to include one additional regulated navigation area in Green Bay and safety zones in the Lake Erie Islands and in Saginaw Bay. Comments must be received by 22 May. **82 Fed. Reg. 18724** (4/21/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-04-21/pdf/2017-08132.pdf>].

USCG NVDC – expedited handling criteria



The USCG National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a **reminder** regarding the requirements for requests for expedited handling of vessel documentation applications. (4/19/17) [<https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc/news/instpriority.pdf>].

DOE – oleo sponge



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a **bulletin** discussing oil spills and the potential of the oleo sponge to collect spilled oil and remove it from the water. (4/20/17) [<https://www.energy.gov/podcasts/direct-current-energygov-podcast/short-circuit-how-soak-oil-spill>].

Court – ROV technician is not a FLSA seaman



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that plaintiff remotely operated vehicle (ROV) technician was not a seaman for purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) where he had no substantial involvement in the operation or navigation of the ROV support vessel on which he performed his duties. **Halle v. Galliano Marine Service**, No. 16-30558 (5th Cir., April 19, 2017) [<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/16/16-30558-CVO.pdf>].

UK – new VHF channels



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a **notice** stating that, from Wednesday, 6 September 2017 (after 0810 hours) HM Coastguard will be using new channels to broadcast Maritime Safety Information (MSI) and conduct radio medical advice. The new channels will be VHF 62, 63, and 64. The use of VHF Channel 10 for MSI and pollution control (back up) is unchanged. (4/20/17) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/maritime-safety-information-leaflet>].

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