

Headlines:

St. Lawrence River – increased water flows;
FMC – meeting on 24 May;
USACE – Three Rivers Study Site in Arkansas;
Senate – USCG authorization bill introduced;
Senate – USCG authorization bill clears committee;
Senate – bill introduced re maritime workforce training;
House – USCG authorization bill introduced;
House – resolution introduced re UNCLOS;
Canada – drones in the marine environment;
New Zealand – PACSAR conference; and
MREN – Biofouling.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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St. Lawrence River – increased water flows



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a notice stating that, in order to relieve flooding to help alleviate flooding conditions around Lake Ontario, outflows from Lake Ontario through the St. Lawrence River have been increased. Mariners transiting the Montreal-Lake Ontario Section are advised to exercise caution. [Seaway Notice 10-2017](http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/pdf/navigation/notice20170519.pdf) (5/19/17) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/pdf/navigation/notice20170519.pdf>].

FMC – meeting on 24 May



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that the Commissioners will meet on 24 May in Washington, DC. During the open session they will receive briefings on the Global Regulatory Summit; the Global Liner Shipping Conference; the 5-Year Strategic Plan and Regulatory Reform Task Force; and the Global Ocean Carrier Alliances. During the closed session, they will receive a staff update on Global Ocean Carrier Alliances. **82 Fed. Reg. 23247** (5/22/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-22/pdf/2017-10482.pdf>].

USACE – Three Rivers Study Site in Arkansas



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a notice stating that it is withdrawing its 2015 Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Feasibility Study to Investigate Hydrologic and Hydraulic Problems Threatening Navigation, Aquatic Ecosystem Habitat, Recreation, Flood Damage Reduction, and Existing Infrastructure at the Three Rivers Study Site in Southeast Arkansas. Rather, the agency will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to address the impacts. **82 Fed. Reg. 23206** (5/22/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-22/pdf/2017-10352.pdf>].

Senate – USCG authorization bill introduced



Senator Sullivan (R-AK) introduced the **Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017** (S. 1129) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes. (5/16/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s1129is/pdf/BILLS-115s1129is.pdf>].

Senate – USCG authorization bill clears committee



The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation issued a **press release** stating, in pertinent part, that it approved by voice vote the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017 (S. 1129). (5/18/17) [<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=B791979F-682A-4A3B-A9DE-29E6B4620DC9>]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Duncan Smith of the **Smith Advocacy Group**.*

Senate – bill introduced re maritime workforce training



Senator Baldwin (D-WI) introduced a bill (S. 1186) to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain entities as centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (5/18/17).

House – USCG authorization bill introduced



Representative Hunter (R-CA) introduced the **Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017** (H.R. 2518) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, and for other purposes. (5/18/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr2518ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr2518ih.pdf>].

House – resolution introduced re UNCLOS



Representative Courtney (D-CT) introduced a resolution (**H.Res. 339**) calling upon the United States Senate to give its advice and consent to the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. (5/18/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hres339ih/pdf/BILLS-115hres339ih.pdf>].

Canada – drones in the marine environment



Transport Canada issued a bulletin advising on the use of unmanned air vehicles/drones in the vicinity of port facilities and marine vessels. The agency is developing a strong regulatory framework that is expected to be published next year. **Ship Safety Bulletin 06-2017** (5/16/17) [<http://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/marinesafety/SSB-06-2017E.pdf>].

New Zealand – PACSAR conference



In preparation for the upcoming Pacific Search and Rescue (PACSAR) conference in Auckland, Maritime New Zealand posted the **PACSAR Strategic Plan 2017-2021**. PACSAR includes Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand,

and the United States, along with representatives from 26 Pacific islands. (5/19/17) [<http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/about/what-we-do/safety-and-response/documents/PACSARStrategicPlan.pdf>].

MREN – Biofouling



In the May 2017 edition of Maritime Reporter and Engineering News, you can find my article entitled **Biofouling**. The article discusses the rise of biofouling as a front-burner issue and how the IMO Guidelines are in the process of being made mandatory by various jurisdictions. (5/19/17) [<http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/MREN/MREN170500.pdf>].

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