

## Headlines:

USCG – Marine Safety Manual, Vol. III;  
USCG – regulatory reform taskings;  
USCG – Atlantic HMS handgear vessels;  
FMC - \$925,000 collected;  
FMC – meeting on 19 July;  
Upper Mississippi – barge allision with bridge;  
St. Marys River – grounding of laker; and  
Beaufort Sea- oil exploration plan approved.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **USCG – Marine Safety Manual, Vol. III**



The US Coast Guard issued a notice announcing the availability of Change-2 to the Marine Safety Manual (MSM), Volume III, Marine Industry Personnel. The change enters into effect immediately. **82 Fed. Reg. 32488** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14738.pdf>].

## **USCG – regulatory reform taskings**



The US Coast Guard issued a series of notices announcing that five of its advisory committees are being tasked with helping the agency identify existing regulations, guidance, and collections of information for possible repeal. The advisory committees are: Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (TSAC)

**82 Fed. Reg. 32515** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14768.pdf>]; Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) **82 Fed. Reg. 32511** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14770.pdf>]; Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MEDMAC) **82 Fed. Reg. 32513** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14769.pdf>]; National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (NOSAC) – the committee will also meet via teleconference on 3 August to discuss this tasking **82 Fed. Reg. 32514** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14771.pdf>]; and Towing Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) **82 Fed. Reg. 32510** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14772.pdf>].

### USCG – Atlantic HMS handgear vessels



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** advising that MSIB 08-17 (corrected) provides guidance to highly migratory species (HMS) charter fishing vessels, the commercial fishing industry, and the Coast Guard concerning the application of commercial fishing vessel requirements on Atlantic HMS permitted handgear vessels. (7/13/17) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/07/13/7132017-msib-008-17-application-of-commercial-fishing-vessel-requirements-on-atlantic-hms-permitted-handgear-vessels/>].

### FMC – \$925,000 collected



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that it collected \$925,000 through compromise agreements with eight non-vessel-operating common carriers (NVOCCs) and one unlicensed entity for alleged violations of the Shipping Act. (7/13/17) [<https://www.fmc.gov/NR17-15/>].

### FMC – meeting on 19 July



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that the Commissioners will meet on 19 July in Washington, DC. During the open session, they will receive an update on the Controlled Carrier List. During the closed session they will receive briefings on the West Coast MTO Discussion Agreement and the Transpacific Stabilization Agreement. **82 Fed. Reg. 32549** (7/14/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-07-14/pdf/2017-14942.pdf>].

## Upper Mississippi – barge allision with bridge



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the report of its investigation of the 6 April 2016 allision of the tow of the vessel Michael G Morris with the Thebes Railroad Bridge at mile marker 43.7 on the Upper Mississippi River. The vessel and the bridge sustained no damage, but all 30 loaded grain barges broke away. Sixteen of the barges incurred \$850,000 in estimated damages. No injuries or pollution was reported. The probable cause of the allision was the pilot not correctly accounting for the river current in the bend just above the bridge, resulting in his late and insufficient use of rudder while making the turn. **MAB 17-23** (7/13/17)

[<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1723.pdf>].

## St. Marys River – grounding of laker



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 27 May 2016 grounding of the laker Roger Blough near the Gros Cap Reefs Light off Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Canada. The grounding occurred as the vessel entered the Birch Point Course section of the St. Marys River federal navigation channel from Whitefish Bay in eastern Lake Superior. There were no injuries and no pollution reported. The vessel sustained \$4.5 million in damage to its hull and cargo system. The probable cause of the grounding was the second mate's failure to use all navigational resources to determine the ship's position as it approached shallow water near Gros Cap Reefs. Contributing to the accident was inadequate monitoring of the vessel by Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) St. Marys River. **MAB 17-25** (7/13/17)

[<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1725.pdf>].

## Beaufort Sea – oil exploration plan approved



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a **press release** stating that it has approved the Eni Beaufort Sea Exploration Plan. The plan calls for drilling into a federal outer continental shelf (OCS) reservoir from a pre-existing gravel island. (7/12/17)

[<https://www.boem.gov/press07122017/>].

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