

Headlines:

CBP - regulatory reform;

NTSB – tanker allisions;

House – bill introduced re Santa Barbara Channel speed reduction;

IMO – BWM Convention enters into force;

Canada - \$6,000 penalty for speed violation; and

UK – grounding of semi-submersible.

September 12, 2017



Bryant's Maritime News

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CBP – regulatory reform



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that it seeks assistance in identifying existing regulations, paperwork requirements, and other regulatory obligations that can be changed to reduce burdens. Comments must be received by 11 December. **82 Fed. Reg. 42751** (9/12/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-09-12/pdf/2017-19167.pdf>].

NTSB – tanker allisions



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 2 February 2016 allision of the tanker Nordbay with a dock and water intakes on the left descending bank of the Lower Mississippi River at New Orleans. Less than an hour later, as the vessel maneuvered through another bend in the river while heading toward an anchorage, it allided with a

wharf on the left descending bank. No pollution or injuries were reported. The dock, water intakes, the wharf, and the tanker sustained an estimated \$6.4 million in total damage. The probable cause of the tanker's allisions with water intakes and docks was the pilot and the master not adequately assessing the risks of handling the ballasted vessel during high-river conditions with strong following currents while turning into the wind. Contributing was the bridge team's poor situational awareness of the vessel's position in the waterway. Contributing to the second allision was the master's distraction from his duties while making a phone call. **MAB 17-30** (8/25/17)
[<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/MAB1730.aspx>].

House – bill introduced re Santa Barbara Channel speed reduction



Representative Lowenthal (D-CA) introduced the **Blue Whales and Blue Skies Act** (H.R. 3682) to direct the Director of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to create a Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program to reduce air pollution and harmful underwater acoustic impacts and the risk of fatal vessel whale strikes by recognizing voluntary reductions in the speed of vessels transiting the Greater Santa Barbara Channel Region, California, and for other purposes. (9/6/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr3682ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr3682ih.pdf>].

IMO – BWM Convention enters into force



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) has entered into force. (9/8/17)
[<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/21-BWM-EIF.aspx>].

Canada – \$6,000 penalty for speed violation



Transport Canada issued a **news release** stating that a \$6,000 penalty has been assessed against the vessel Seven Seas Navigator for violation of the Gulf of St. Lawrence speed restrictions intended to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale. (9/8/17) [https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2017/09/transport_canadaissuesgulfofstlawrencespeedrestrictionfine.html].

UK – grounding of semi-submersible



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Board (MAIB) published the report of its investigation of the grounding of the semi-submersible rig Transocean Winner on the Isle of Lewis following the loss of tow from the tug ALP Forward on 8 August 2016. Passage planning and monitoring were found to be inadequate. **Report 19/2017** (9/7/17) [<https://www.gov.uk/maib-reports/grounding-of-semi-submersible-rig-transocean-winner-after-the-loss-of-tow-from-tug-alp-forward>].

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