

Headlines:

DHS – funds requested for new heavy polar icebreaker;
US & Canada – joint investigation of MOL Prestige fire;
USCG – medical certificate applications;
MEDMAC – meeting on 6-7 March;
HSRP – meeting on 4-5 April;
NOAA – HSRP members sought;
NOAA – remote sensing during oil spill;
USN – 30-year ship acquisition plan;
Court – ringed seal listed as threatened; and
EMSA – guidance on LNG bunkering.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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DHS – funds requested for new heavy polar icebreaker



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) **FY2018 Budget-in-Brief** requests that Congress appropriate \$11.6 billion for the US Coast Guard. Among other things, the budget requests \$750 million to continue efforts to award a contract for detail design and construction to maintain scheduled delivery of a new heavy polar icebreaker in 2023. Specifically, funding provides detail, design, long lead time materials, construction, program management office support, feasibility studies and maintaining the indicative design, cybersecurity planning, project resident office initiation, and Navy reimbursable technical support. (2/12/18)
[<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/DHS%20FY19%20BIB.pdf>]. *Note: This is a major development, one on which the Coast Guard has been working for years. The ball is now passed to Congress.*

US & Canada – joint investigation of MOL Prestige fire



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that investigators from Sector Puget Sound and from the Transportation Safety Board of Canada boarded the container ship MOL Prestige in Seattle to begin investigations into the cause of the 1 February engine room fire that disabled the vessel. (2/13/18)

[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1daabob>].

USCG – medical certificate applications



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **bulletin** announcing that medical certificate applications (CG-719K and CG-719KE forms) may now be submitted directly to the NMC. Regional Examination Centers (RECs) will continue to accept medical certificate application submissions as well. (2/5/18)

[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2018/submission_med_cert_apps_nmc.pdf].

MEDMAC – meeting on 6-7 March



The Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MEDMAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 6-7 March in Nashville. Topics on the agenda include diet and wellness and regulatory reform. **83 Fed. Reg. 6604** (2/14/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-14/pdf/2018-02943.pdf>].

HSRP – meeting on 4-5 April



The Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP), sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will meet in Miami on 4-5 April. **83 Fed. Reg. 6518** (2/14/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-14/pdf/2018-02968.pdf>].

NOAA – HSRP members sought



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks nominations for membership on the Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP). Nominations should be submitted by 25 May. [83 Fed. Reg. 6519](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-14/pdf/2018-02969.pdf) (2/14/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-14/pdf/2018-02969.pdf>].

NOAA – remote sensing during oil spill



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) posted a [Blog](https://blog.response.restoration.noaa.gov/remote-sensing-during-deepwater-horizon-brings-light-importance-surface-oil-oil-spill-response-and?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery) on remote sensing during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. (2/13/18) [https://blog.response.restoration.noaa.gov/remote-sensing-during-deepwater-horizon-brings-light-importance-surface-oil-oil-spill-response-and?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery].

USN – 30-year ship acquisition plan



The US Navy issued a [news release](http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=104353) stating that its 30-year ship acquisition plan has been submitted to Congress. The plan serves as a roadmap to reach a 355-ship fleet. (2/12/18) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=104353].

Court – ringed seal listed as threatened



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed the district court and ruled that the finding of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to list the Arctic subspecies of the ringed seal as threatened was supported by the record and was not speculative. [Alaska Oil & Gas Association v Ross](https://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/memoranda/2018/02/12/16-35380.pdf), No. 16-35380 (9th Cir., February 12, 2018) [<https://cdn.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/memoranda/2018/02/12/16-35380.pdf>].

EMSA – guidance on LNG bunkering



The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) posted **Guidance on LNG Bunkering for Port Authorities and Port Administrations**. (2/6/18) [<http://www.emsa.europa.eu/emsa-homepage/2-news-a-press-centre/news/3207-guidance-on-lng-bunkering-to-port-authorities-and-administrations.html>].

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