

Headlines:

White House – voyages to Cuba to be restricted;
USCG – towing industry safety statistics;
USCG – RADM Benkert Awards for Marine Environmental Protection Excellence;
NOSAC – meeting on 27-28 March;
CFSAC – meeting on 15 March;
House – bill introduced re leasing off Florida coast; and
Senate – call for better roads and ports.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Don't believe everything you think.

White House – voyages to Cuba to be restricted



President Trump issued a **Proclamation** authorizing the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance and enforce restrictions on vessels that may be used for voyages to Cuban waters. (2/22/18)

[<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-proclamation-modifying-continuing-national-emergency-respect-cuba-continuing-authorize-regulation-anchorage-movement-vessels/>].

USCG – towing industry safety statistics



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** announcing release of the joint USCG and American Waterways Operators (AWO) National Quality Steering Committee's annual safety report containing freight-carrying towing industry data and measures for calendar years 1994 to 2016. (2/21/18)

[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/21/2-21-2018-towing-industry-safety-statistics-for-2016/>].

USCG – RADM Benkert Awards for Marine Environmental Protection Excellence



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** announcing recipients of the Rear Admiral William M. Benkert Awards for Marine Environmental Protection Excellence. (2/22/18) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/22/2-22-18-2018-biennial-rear-adm-william-m-benkert-award-recipients-announced/>].

NOSAC – meeting on 27-28 March



The National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (NOSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 27-28 March in New Orleans to discuss regulatory reform. **83 Fed. Reg. 8095** (2/23/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-23/pdf/2018-03758.pdf>].

CFSAC – meeting on 15 March



The Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee (CFSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet by teleconference on 15 March to discuss regulatory reform. **83 Fed. Reg. 8096** (2/23/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-23/pdf/2018-03749.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re leasing off Florida coast



Representative Rutherford (R-FL) introduced the **PROTECT Florida Act** (H.R. 5014) to provide for a moratorium on oil and gas leasing and exploration on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Florida until 2029, and for other purposes. (2/14/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr5014ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr5014ih.pdf>].

Senate – call for better roads and ports



Senator Inhofe (R-OK) posted an **article** co-authored with Senator Whitehouse (D-RI) and published in the Wall Street Journal calling for substantial infrastructure investment to improve the nation's roads and ports. (2/22/18) [<https://www.inhofe.senate.gov/newsroom/article/-inhofe-and-whitehouse-in-wsj-both-sides-of-the-aisle-want-better-roads-and-ports>]. *Note: As Chair and Ranking Member respectively of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, these individuals exercise substantial clout over infrastructure issues.*

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