Headlines:

White House – National Cyber Strategy;

Conway, SC – safety zone due to high water;

USCG – removal of vessels damaged by Hurricane Florence;

USCG – flammable/combustible product storage;

USCG – recap of MERPAC meeting;

USCG – recap of MEDMAC meeting;

DOS – meeting on 18 October re MEPC 73;

NOAA – anthropogenic sound and marine mammals;

NASA – measuring Earth's changing ice; and

Canada – plastic pollution and marine litter.

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Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91st Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 - Email: dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com - Internet: http://brymar-consulting.com

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White House - National Cyber Strategy

The White House posted the National Cyber Strategy. The strategy includes specific recognition of the importance of maritime trade and maritime cybersecurity. (9/20/18) [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/National-Cyber-Strategy.pdf].

Conway, SC – safety zone due to high water

The US Coast Guard issued a news release stating that a safety zone has been established on the Waccamaw River in the vicinity of Conway, South Carolina. The high water may degrade the berms adjacent to the Santee-Cooper

ash ponds. (9/22/18)
[https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/20f2816].

USCG – removal of vessels damaged by Hurricane Florence

The US Coast Guard issued a news release providing guidance for the removal of recreational vessels and other water craft damaged by Hurricane Florence. (9/22/18)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/20f2b98].

USCG – flammable/combustible product storage

The USCG Sector Houston-Galveston issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin providing guidance regarding storage on inspected towing vessels of flammable or combustible products that do not meet applicable requirements of Subchapter M. MSIB 13-18 (9/21/18) [https://homeport.uscg.mil/Lists/Content/DispForm.aspx?&ID=29959&Source=https://homeport.uscg.mil/my-homeport/safety-Notifications/MSIB?cotpid=28].

USCG - recap of MERPAC meeting

The US Coast Guard issued a bulletin providing a recap of the recent Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) meeting. (9/21/18) [http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/09/21/9-21-2018-recap-of-recent-merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee-meeting/].

USCG – recap of MEDMAC meeting

The US Coast Guard issued a bulletin providing a recap of the recent Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MEDMAC) meeting. (9/2

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DOS – meeting on 18 October re MEPC 73

The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that an open meeting will be held on 18 October in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 73). Topics on the agenda include harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water; air pollution and energy efficiency; and reduction of GHG emissions. 83 Fed. Reg. 48358 (9/24/18) [https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-09-24/pdf/2018-20697.pdf].

NOAA - anthropogenic sound and marine mammals

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks comments on its draft User Manual for Optional User Spreadsheet Tool regarding the effects of anthropogenic sound on marine mammals. Comments must be received by 8 November. 83 Fed. Reg. 48291 (9/24/18) [https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-09-24/pdf/2018-20712.pdf].

NASA - measuring Earth's changing ice

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued a news release stating that the Ice, Cloud, and land Elevation Satellite-2 (ICESat-2) has been successfully placed into polar orbit. Its high-resolution data will document changes in the Earth's polar ice caps, improve forecasts of sea level rise bolstered by ice sheet melt in Greenland and Antarctica, and help scientists understand the mechanisms that are decreasing floating ice and assess how that sea ice loss affects the ocean and atmosphere. (9/15/18) [https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/92771/mission-to-track-earths-changing-ice-launches].

Canada – plastic pollution and marine litter

The Government of Canada issued a news release stating that the G7 meeting in Halifax recognized the need for urgent action to address the devastating impacts of plastic pollution and marine litter. (9/20/18) [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/09/environment-oceans-and-energy-ministers-ready-to-take-action-on-our-oceans-and-seas-conclude-g7-joint-meeting-on-healthy-oceans-seas-and-resilient-.html].

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Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting 4845 SW 91st Way Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 USA

1-352-692-5493 dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com http://brymar-consulting.com

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