

Headlines:

White House – national emergency re Iran;
USCG – draft Merchant Marine Medical Manual;
USCG – another Subchapter M TPO approved;
NOAA – coastal resilience funding;
NSIDC – Arctic sea ice report;
GAO – Arctic planning;
California – biofouling management;
Australia – ROVs to investigate lost containers.

November 13, 2018



Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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. Why make the same mistake twice when there are so many possibilities?*

White House – national emergency re Iran



The White House issued a **statement** announcing that the national emergency with respect to Iran has been continued for another year. (11/8/18) [<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/text-notice-continuation-national-emergency-respect-iran/>].

USCG – draft Merchant Mariner Medical Manual



The US Coast Guard seeks comments on the draft Merchant Mariner Medical Manual. The document includes guidance on the medical certificate and related processes, including procedures for application, issuance, and cancellation of the medical certificate. Comments must be received by 14

January 2019. **83 Fed. Reg. 56272** (11/13/18)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-11-13/pdf/2018-24502.pdf>].

USCG – another Subchapter M TPO approved



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that Engineering Design & Testing (EDT) has been approved as a third-party organization (TPO) to carry out certain functions in accordance with Subchapter M relating to inspected towing vessels. (11/9/18)

[<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2018/11/09/11-9-2018-engineering-design-testing-edt-approved-as-third-party-organization-under-subchapter-m/>].

NOAA – coastal resilience funding



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** announcing that, together with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and their partners, \$28.9 million in new grants for the restoration or expansion of natural features such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, mangroves, forests, coastal rivers, and barrier islands that help minimize the impacts of storms, rising sea levels and other extreme events on nearby communities and infrastructure in 22 states and Puerto Rico. (11/9/18)

[<https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/nfwf-noaa-announce-289-million-in-grants-for-2018-national-coastal-resilience-fund>].

NSIDC – Arctic sea ice report



The National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) issued a **news release** stating that on the Pacific side of the Arctic, a pattern of unusual warmth noted in September continued. While sea ice extent in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas remains below average, extent remains especially low on the Atlantic side of the Arctic in the Barents and Laptev Seas. October sea ice extent in the Arctic was the third lowest in the satellite record. (11/6/18)

[<https://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/2018/11/unusual-warmth-continues/>].

GAO – Arctic planning



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued an assessment of the Navy's June 2018 report. It found that the report aligns with Department of Defense (DOD) assessments that the Arctic is at low risk for conflict and that DOD has the capabilities to execute the 2016 DOD Arctic Strategy. The June 2018 report also aligns with assessments of Arctic capabilities and gaps in the Navy's 2014 roadmap for implementing the strategy. The June 2018 report states that the Navy can execute the strategy with subsurface, aviation, and surface assets. The report notes the significant limitations for operating surface ships in the Arctic, but states that the Navy has the capabilities required for executing the strategy, and so has no plan to design ice-hardened surface ships. In addition, DOD officials stated that the United States has options other than Navy surface ships for demonstrating the US right to operate in the Arctic, including using Coast Guard vessels, Navy submarines, or military aircraft. [GAO-19-42](#) (11/8/18) [<https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/695312.pdf>].

California – biofouling management



The California State Lands Commission (SLC) posted its recent [webinar](#) on biofouling management. This should be considered in conjunction with the SLC [Guidance Document](#) and [Biofouling Information Sheet](#). (11/9/18) [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpRjRNED8yM&feature=youtu.be>].

Australia – ROVs to investigate lost containers



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a [news release](#) stating that it has contracted for deployment of remotely operated underwater vehicles (ROVs) to investigate the 81 cargo containers lost from YM Efficiency on 1 June off Newcastle. (11/9/18) [<https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/news-and-media-releases/amsa-deploy-drones-assess-ym-efficiency-containers>].

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