

Headlines:

FMC – meeting on 7 December;
FMC – Fact Finding 28 approved;
USCG – REC Anchorage closed due to earthquake;
MARAD – aquaculture vessel waivers sought;
EPA – current VGP program continued;
CMTS – infrastructure needs in the US Arctic; and
NOAA – seal-eel-nose.

December 10, 2018



Bryant's Maritime News

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FMC – meeting on 7 December



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that the Commissioners met in open session to receive a briefing on Fact Finding 28: Conditions and Practices Relating to Detention, Demurrage, and Free Time in International Oceanborne Commerce and on recommendations for changes to regulations governing the licensing and financial responsibility requirements for Ocean Transportation Intermediaries (OTIs). In a closed session, they received an update on alliance agreements and also considered monitoring requirements for the West Coast MTO Agreement. (12/7/18) [https://www.fmc.gov/fmc_meets_to_consider_detention__demurrage_report_changes_to_oti_rules/].

FMC – Fact Finding 28 approved



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that the Commissioners approved the recommendations in **Fact Finding 28: Conditions and Practices Relating to Detention, Demurrage, and Free Time in International Oceanborne Commerce**. Innovation Teams of private sector experts will be assembled early in 2019 to determine the commercial viability of four key ideas that have the potential to bring clarity and uniformity to when and how shippers pay detention and demurrage fees. (12/7/18)
[https://www.fmc.gov/commission_approves_recommendations_in_detention_demurrage_report/].

USCG – REC Anchorage closed due to earthquake



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **bulletin** stating that the Regional Exam Center (REC) Anchorage is closed until further notice, having been impacted by the recent earthquake. Paper applications should be sent to another REC for processing. (12/4/18) [].

MARAD – aquaculture vessel waivers requested



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a notice stating that it received a request for authorization to allow certain vessels with registry endorsements of foreign flag vessels to be used in operations that treat aquaculture fish or protect aquaculture. Comments must be received by 9 January 2019. **83 Fed. Reg. 63557** (12/10/18)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-12-10/pdf/2018-26589.pdf>].

EPA – current VGP program continued



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a **notice** stating that new Vessel General Permit (VGP) requirements will not be issued. Rather, the current VGP requirements will remain in effect until such time as new regulations are finalized and enforceable as provided in Title IX of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (**S. 140**). (12/7/18)
[<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/vessels-vgp>].

CMTS – infrastructure needs in US Arctic



The Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) issued a **notice** stating that the updated report: “**Revisiting Near-Term Recommendations to Prioritize Infrastructure Needs in the US Arctic**” is now available. (12/718) [<https://www.cmts.gov/posts/d7c759bf-1258-4985-a242-a5949e9dob5c>].

NOAA – seal-eel-nose



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) shared a **photo and brief report** of a young endangered Hawaiian monk seal with an eel in its nose. Occurrences such as this are unusual and there is no good explanation. (12/6/18) [<https://www.facebook.com/HMSRP/photos/a.645951835444837/2534312423275426/?type=3&theater>]. *Note: Probably a juvenile dare that went wrong.*

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