

Headlines:

NTSB – engine room fire;
Cape Canaveral – SpaceX rocket and debris removal;
USCG – 2017 Domestic Vessel Annual Report;
NOAA – 2018 Arctic Report Card;
EPA & USACE – ‘waters of the United States’;
DOT - \$1.5 billion for infrastructure projects;
ReCAAP – three crew members abducted; and
UK – Code of Safe Working Practices.

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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. The proposal is all very well in practice, but it will never work in theory.*

NTSB – engine room fire



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a **press release** stating that an insufficient maintenance program and a lack of guidance for responding to engine high-temperature conditions led to the January 14, 2018 fire aboard the small passenger vessel *Island Lady* in the waters of the Pithlachascotee River near Port Richey, Florida, resulting in one fatality among the 53 persons on board. (12/11/18) [<https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/NR20181211.aspx>].

Cape Canaveral – SpaceX rocket and debris removal



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule establishing, through 28 December, a safety zone in waters off Cape Canaveral to support the control and removal of the SpaceX rocket and debris. The rocket made an emergency landing

in waters off the Kennedy Space Center on 5 December. **83 Fed. Reg. 63804** (12/12/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-12-12/pdf/2018-26860.pdf>].

USCG – 2017 Domestic Vessel Annual Report



The US Coast Guard posted its **2017 Domestic Vessel Annual Report**. The report highlights for the first time US domestic fleet deficiencies, inspections, and marine casualty statistics and will serve as a baseline to study trends, identify key performance indicators, and bring attention to issues in the fleet. (12/11/18) [<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/CG-CVC/CVC1/AnnualRpt/2017DomesticAnnualReport.pdf>].

NOAA – 2018 Arctic Report Card



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) posted its **2018 Arctic Report Card**. This year's report shows that the Arctic region experienced the second-warmest air temperatures ever recorded; the second-lowest overall sea-ice coverage; lowest recorded winter ice in the Bering Sea; and earlier plankton blooms due to early melting of sea ice in the Bering Sea. (12/11/18) [<https://www.arctic.noaa.gov/report-card>].

EPA & USACE – ‘waters of the United States’



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a **news release** stating that it and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are proposing a new ‘waters of the United States’ definition. (12/11/18) [<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-propose-new-waters-united-states-definition>].

DOT – \$1.5 billion for infrastructure projects



The Department of Transportation issued a **news release** announcing \$1.5 billion in discretionary grant funding to 91 projects in 49 states and the District of Columbia. The grants are made through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Grants program and support road, rail, transit, and port infrastructure projects across the country. (12/11/18) [<https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/us->

transportation-secretary-elaine-l-chao-announces-15-billion-build-transportation].

ReCAAP – three crew members abducted



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre issued an **Incident Alert** stating that three crew members were abducted by persons believed to be from the Abu Sayyaf Group in the Sulu Sea. (12/10/18)
[[http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/alerts/2018/Incident%20Alert%202018%20\(10%20Dec%2018\)\(1\).pdf](http://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/alerts/2018/Incident%20Alert%202018%20(10%20Dec%2018)(1).pdf)].

UK – Code of Safe Working Practices



The UK Maritime and Coast Guard Agency (MCA) published an updated **Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers**. Caution: This document is 545 pages in length. (12/11/18)
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/763497/Code_of_safe_working_practices_for_merchant_seafarers__amendment_3_October_2018.pdf].

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