Headlines:

USCG – working under revoked MMC;

MARAD – Small Shipyard Grant Program;

MARAD – proposed DWP in Gulf of Mexico;

NOAA – restoration planning re crude oil spill;

CRTF – meeting on 4 April;

NOAA – HSRP members sought; and

House – bill introduced re North Atlantic right whale.

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USCG – working under revoked MMC

The US Coast Guard issued a bulletin stating that a mariner was found to be working under a revoked merchant mariner credential (MMC). He was convicted of the offense and sentenced to 24 months incarceration. Investigation revealed certain database management and technical issues with the Coast Guard's online MMC verification tool, which have since been resolved. (3/7/19) [http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2019/03/07/3-7-2019-investigation-leads-to-mariner-conviction-and-prompts-coast-guard-data-quality-improvements/].

MARAD - Small Shipyard Grant Program

The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a notice stating that, under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, \$19.6 million is available for grants for

capital and related improvements to qualified shipyard facilities. Applications must be received by 16 April. 84 Fed. Reg. 8000 (3/8/19) [].

MARAD – proposed DWP in Gulf of Mexico

The issued a notice stating that a public scoping meeting will be held on 22 March in Lake Jackson, Texas to receive comments on the proposed deepwater port (DWP) in the Gulf of Mexico to be constructed and operated by Texas COLT LLC. Written comments must be received by 8 April. 84 Fed. Reg. 8000 (3/8/19) [].

NOAA – restoration planning re crude oil spill

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice that it intends to conduct restoration planning regarding that discharge of crude oil on 19 May 2015 from the Plains All American Pipeline 901 into the Pacific Ocean near Santa Barbara. 84 Fed. Reg. 8000 (3/8/19) [].

CRTF – meeting on 4 April

NOAA .

The Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF), sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will meet on 4 April in Washington, DC. Public comments must be received by 22 March. 84 Fed. Reg. 8000 (3/8/19) [].

NOAA – HSRP members sought

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seeks nominations for membership on the Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP). Nominations should be submitted by 1 May. 84 Fed. Reg. 8000 (3/8/19) [].

House – bill introduced re North Atlantic right whale

Representative Moulton (D-MA) introduced a bill (H.R. 1568) to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation

programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (3/6/19).

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