

MONTHLY REPORT for ICS

December 2025

NOTE TO THE READER: Reference to the Federal Register may be found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR>.

References to legislation may be found at <https://www.congress.gov> at the center of the page.

Senior Maritime Executives Confirmed by Senate

After 11 months since nominated by the President, the Senate has finally confirmed ADM Kevin Lundy as the Commandant of the USCG (previously served as "Acting Commandant") and Steve Carmel as the new MARAD Administrator. In addition, Laura Di Bella was confirmed as a Federal Maritime Commissioner. Robert Harvey, who was nominated for the final Federal Maritime Commissioner position has yet to be confirmed. The industry welcomes these confirmations and looks forward to new initiatives relative to the reinvigoration of the US flag fleet and US shipbuilding capacity consistent with the President's Executive Order earlier this year.

National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2025 (S 1071)

Congress passed and the President signed into law S 1071 on December 18, 2025. While the vast majority of the over 1200 page bill relates directly to the US Department of Defense/War programs, the USCG Authorization Act of 2025 was also included in the enacted bill. Of most significance is the inclusion of provisions that would allow the USCG to establish a performance driven exam schedule for all inspected vessels (foreign and US flag) once an assessment with the cited GAO study is completed and the new inspection program is found to be at least as safe as the current fixed examination schedule. This is of particular interest to CSA members relative to the years long issues associated with the scheduling of Certificates of Compliance (COCs) in a timely fashion which often times has resulted costly delays to the vessel due to lack of inspection resources in certain US ports. With these provisions, it is expected that the USCG can better allocate their inspection resources to area where they are most needed and thus mitigate the inspection delays encountered in the past.

California State Lands Commission (CSLC) – 2026 Marine Invasive Species Program Updates

CSLC has published its marine invasive species program update in late December 2025 and provides relevant updates on information for the 2026 compliance year. Included in the update are sections addressing general reporting information (annual vessel reporting form, ballast water management report), updates on the recently discovered golden mussel in the Stockton area, vessel inspections notification, data summaries access by the regulated public and a summary of the new emergency ballast water management regulation. A copy of the full report may be accessed at: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/bulletins/401f297>

California Air Resources Board (CARB) – Commercial Harbor Craft – Biennial Report to CARB

CARB staff has published its biennial report providing an assessment of commercial availability and implementation status of the amended Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation adopted by CARB in March 2022. CARB directed staff to form a Technical Working Group to assess the commercial availability of lower-emitting combustion engines and zero-emission technologies for all categories of harbor craft and report biennially on its findings. CARB also has requested staff to provide a biennial report on implementation of the regulations. A copy of the report may be downloaded on the CARB CHC program website at: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/commercial-harbor-craft/reports-board?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

State of Oregon – Revised Submission Process for Pre-Arrival Ballast Water Reporting Forms

For vessels trading to/from the State of Oregon, there is a new email address for submitting the form to meet the state requirements. The new submission system will send a confirmation of submission from the state as well as automated requests to submit revised reports if there are errors (e.g., reports that are submitted using the older versions of the NBIC reporting form which will be rejected). The text below outlines the new reporting format and requirements.

Ballast water management reporting -New as of Nov. 21, 2025 In addition to federal requirements for submitting forms to the National Ballast Information Clearinghouse, vessels must also submit a copy of OMB Form Control No. 1625-0069 to DEQ at least 24 hours before arriving in state waters. Reports may be submitted as email attachments (.pdf or .xml formats only) to: forms@marinerapp.io -OR- by using the BWMR submission portal at DEQ's MARINER Application. In the event a vessel's actual ballast practices differ from

those projected on the report, the vessel operator must submit an amended report to DEQ before departure.

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Pages/Ballast-Water.aspx> (Oregon ballast water website)

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/bwpFSballastmanage.pdf> (Oregon ballast water program's general information document)

