



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 313 of 4th January 2016

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	USCG BWM Reporting Commences 22 Feb 2016
Reference:	USCG 33CFR Vol. 80

USCG BWM Reporting Commences 22 Feb 2016

The US Coast Guard issued Federal Register / Vol. 81, No. 2, updating the Ballast Water Reporting and Recordkeeping requirements in 33 CFR 151.2060(b) through (f) and 151.2070 as per Federal Register / Vol. 80, No. 226, 24 November 2015. The US President's Office of Management and Budget approved the information collection request, with an effective date of **February 22, 2016**, for the collection-of-information as per the above-mentioned sections of the regulation. This BWM regulation applies to all vessels entering US waters that have ballast tanks

Reporting requirements

(b) Unless operating exclusively on voyages between ports or places within a single COTP one, the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel subject to this subpart and this section must submit a ballast water report to the National Ballast Information Clearinghouse (NBIC) by electronic ballast water report format using methods specified at NBIC's Web site at <http://invasions.si.edu/nbic/submit.html>. The ballast water report will include the information listed in paragraph (c) of this section and must be submitted as follows:

(c) The ballast water report required by paragraph (b) of this section must include the following information:

- (1) **Vessel information**. This includes the vessel's name, International Maritime Organization (IMO) number or other vessel identification number if an IMO number is not issued, country of registry, owner or operator, type and tonnage.
- (2) **Voyage information**. This includes the port and date of arrival, name and contact information of the person submitting the form, last port and country of call, and next port and country of call.
- (3) **Ballast water information**. This includes the vessel's total ballast water capacity, total number of ballast water tanks, total volume of ballast water onboard, total number of ballast water tanks in ballast, and the identification of ballast water management method used.

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(4) Information on ballast water tanks that are to be discharged into the waters of the United States or to a reception facility. Include the following for each tank discharged:

(i) The numerical designation, type and capacity of the ballast tank.

(ii) The source of the ballast water. This includes date(s), location(s), and volume(s). If a tank has undergone ballast water exchange, provide the loading port of the ballast water that was discharged during the exchange.

(iii) The date(s), starting location(s), ending location(s), volume(s), and method(s) of ballast water management.

(iv) The date(s), location(s), and volume(s) of any ballast water discharged into the waters of the United States or to a reception facility.

(5) Certificate of accurate information.

Include the name and title of the individual (*i.e.*, master, owner, operator, agent, person in charge) attesting to the accuracy of the information provided and that the activities were in accordance with the ballast water management plan required by § 151.2050(g). If exceptional circumstances required deviation from the plan, the details surrounding the need for deviation and associated actions must be explained.

Recordkeeping requirements

(a) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel bound for a port or place in the United States, unless specifically exempted by § 151.2015 of this subpart, must ensure the maintenance of written or digital records that include the information required to be reported by § 151.2060 of this subpart and the sediment information in paragraph (a) (1) of this section.

(1) Discharge of sediment. If sediment was discharged within the jurisdiction of the United States, include the name and location of the facility where sediment disposal took place.

(2) Certification of accurate information. Include the master, owner, operator, agent, person in charge, or responsible officer's printed name, title, and signature attesting to the accuracy of the information provided and that the activities were in accordance with the ballast water management plan required by § 151.2050(g). If exceptional circumstances required deviation from the plan, the details surrounding the need for deviation and associated actions must be explained. The signature requirement may be satisfied by affirming the certification portion of the electronic ballast water report.

REFERENCES:

- USCG 33CFR Vol. 80

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,
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