

Ship Report Transcript

Friday, May 24, 2024

By Joanne Rideout

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It's time for the Ship Report the show about all things maritime. I'm Joanne Rideout. It's Friday, May 24th, 2024.

Well, I thought I would start out today with some fun things. This week. We have some great special days to celebrate that have a maritime focus. Yesterday was World Turtle Day, which I learned from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which, by the way, has a really fun Facebook page. If you've never taken a look at their page for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District, their social media folks are funny, topical and spot on and their posts are just a delight to read.

So I didn't know until I learned from them about World Turtle Day and that we have two native turtle species in the Pacific Northwest, the painted turtle and the northwestern pond turtle, and apparently the pond turtles which are endangered, have started making a comeback, showing up again in sites near the Bonneville Dam. So this is really good news for turtles. So Happy World Turtle Day.

And Wednesday was National Maritime Day, declared as such by Congress in 1933. National Maritime Day is a U.S. holiday created to recognize the maritime industry. It's observed on May 22nd every year. That's the date in 1819 that the American steamship Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia, on the first ever trans oceanic voyage under steam power.

So we salute mariners this week here in the U.S. and everywhere, for that matter, out in the world. Since we welcome mariners from all over the world in our river daily. Even though they are on ships and kind of invisible to us most of the time. So happy National Maritime Day to them and to all of us. Although I could make a good case that every day is maritime Day here on the ship report. And that's just how I like it.

Let's take a look at our marine weather forecast as we head into this Memorial Day weekend. It looks like another weather disturbance arrives today into Saturday. Winds and seas are expected increase with this late week system before calmer winds return early next week. Today, we can expect south winds 10 to 15 knots, gusting up to 20 knots. Seas 3 to 5 feet.

And in the forecast, it looks like the National Weather Service has changed the way that they describe wave conditions out there in the ocean and are calling them all waves.

Previously, they were described in the forecast as waves and swells, which was kind of a good thing, I thought, because they tend to have different causes.

Swells tend to come from a long ways away from weather systems that are far across the sea, and waves tend to be local wind waves caused by our local weather. That's why we often have two sets of waves coming from different directions out in the ocean. But from the point of view of a person out there in a vessel, they're all waves.

So today's wave detail, as they call it, will have waves from the west four feet high at 6 seconds apart and waves from the southwest two feet high at 15 seconds apart. And showers are in the forecast

mainly in the morning. And let's take a look at our ship schedule for the day. We have just one inbound year so far on the schedule. The Ohio is a tanker arriving from Anacortes is headed for Port Westward and Clatskanie. And I believe that her cargo will be ethanol and she is going to pass Astoria inbound around 6 a.m. probably reach the port westward docks there in Clatskanie by about 8:30 a.m..

In our outbounders, we have the Abilene leaving Portland. She is a bulk carrier and her cargo is urea, and she's leaving Portland around 4 a.m., could be in Astoria by 10 a.m.. And I'm kind of wondering whether she could possibly be going to the Astoria Anchorage.

From what I can see on the schedule information here, instead of going out to sea, rarely ships do stop on their way out. It's not a usual thing, but if that is what happens, if you happen to be near the Astoria Anchorage by about 10 a.m., you may see the Abilene come in and anchor or she could pass by and just go out to sea. Not quite sure there, but that if so, that would be an unusual situation of a ship coming from upriver and anchoring instead of going out to sea.

The East Bangkok is leaving Portland. I think she might be a container ship leaving around 10:30 a.m.. She could pass Astoria outbound around 4:30 p.m.. The Brave Hawk is leaving Kalama carrying wheat, leaving around 12:30 p.m.. She could pass Astoria outbound by around 5:30 p.m..

The Liberty King is leaving Portland. Brand new Hyundais there, leaving around 6 p.m., passing Astoria outbound around midnight. The Albion Bay is leaving Longview salt, industrial salt was her cargo leaving around 7 p.m., passing Astoria outbound around 10:30 p.m. and the Orient Pioneer leaving Vancouver with wheat on board, leaving around 10 p.m., passing Astoria outbound around 4 a.m. on Saturday in our Astoria Anchorage is we could see the Abilene there by about 10 a.m., either passing by outbound or stopping in the Astoria Anchorage.

The BBC Guijiang is headed from the Anchorage to Vancouver to pick up wheat. She'll be leaving at about 3 p.m. and in Vancouver by about 9 p.m.. That leaves three vessels awaiting orders in the Astoria Anchorage. The Erithiani, the Marco and the Light Venture are all awaiting orders and they will be sitting there pretty light in the water. You'll see a lot of that dull red bottom paint there. Eventually those ships will be headed upriver to pick up their own cargoes.

And in case you happen to be going to the beach this weekend here in the northwest Oregon or southwest Washington area, be aware that it's possible that you could see the residue of an oil spill that seems to have happened out there in the ocean.

So this is from a press release that the Coast Guard issued a couple of days ago: "Federal agencies along with Washington and Oregon state agencies, are responding to a tar like substance from an unknown source affecting a shoreline near Beard's Hollow, Washington and multiple birds in northern Oregon and southern Washington. This was as of Wednesday. The Oil Spill Response Organization and WSF Environmental has been contracted clean up tar balls that were discovered along Benson Beach at a beach at Beards Hollow in Ilwaco, Washington.

Responders have collected samples of the tar balls and sent them to a lab for analysis. The first reports of tar balls and potentially contaminated wildlife began on Sunday, May 19th. As of 4 p.m. on Tuesday, they had a total of ten contaminated birds that had been located at various locations extending from Lincoln City north to Long Beach, Washington."

So the Coast Guard has been conducting overflights to assess the area and they're trying to find out what the source of this is. But in the meantime, if you happen to be at the beach and you see a bird that is affected or any other wildlife affected with this, the substance that's washing up, you can report these findings to 1-800 22 BIRDS. And in numbers that is 1-800-222-4737.

And I will put this number on the Ship Report Facebook page, and with the podcast both on my website and with the podcasts on Apple and Spotify. you're listening and you just don't happen to be in a position to write down a number right now, it will be in those places.

So if you find a bird or other creature that's been affected by this, if you're not an experienced wildlife rehabilitator, it's really best if you get someone else to help you handle this. And so call that number. So just want to give you a heads up for that. I hope perhaps you won't see it anymore, but since a lot of people will be going to the beach this weekend, it's a good thing to look out for.

And Monday is Memorial Day. And it's a holiday for me. So I will be back on the air with you on Tuesday. And I'm wishing everyone a great Memorial Day weekend.

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