

USCG Ballast Water Management Program



Richard Everett

Environmental Standards Division (CG-OES-3)

Office of Operating and Environmental Standards (CG-OES)



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

BWM Technology Conference
December 7-9, 2020

Topics

- Message to Industry
- National Patterns of BW Discharge and Management
- Extensions
- Alternate Management Systems
- R&D
- Outreach



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Our message to industry ...

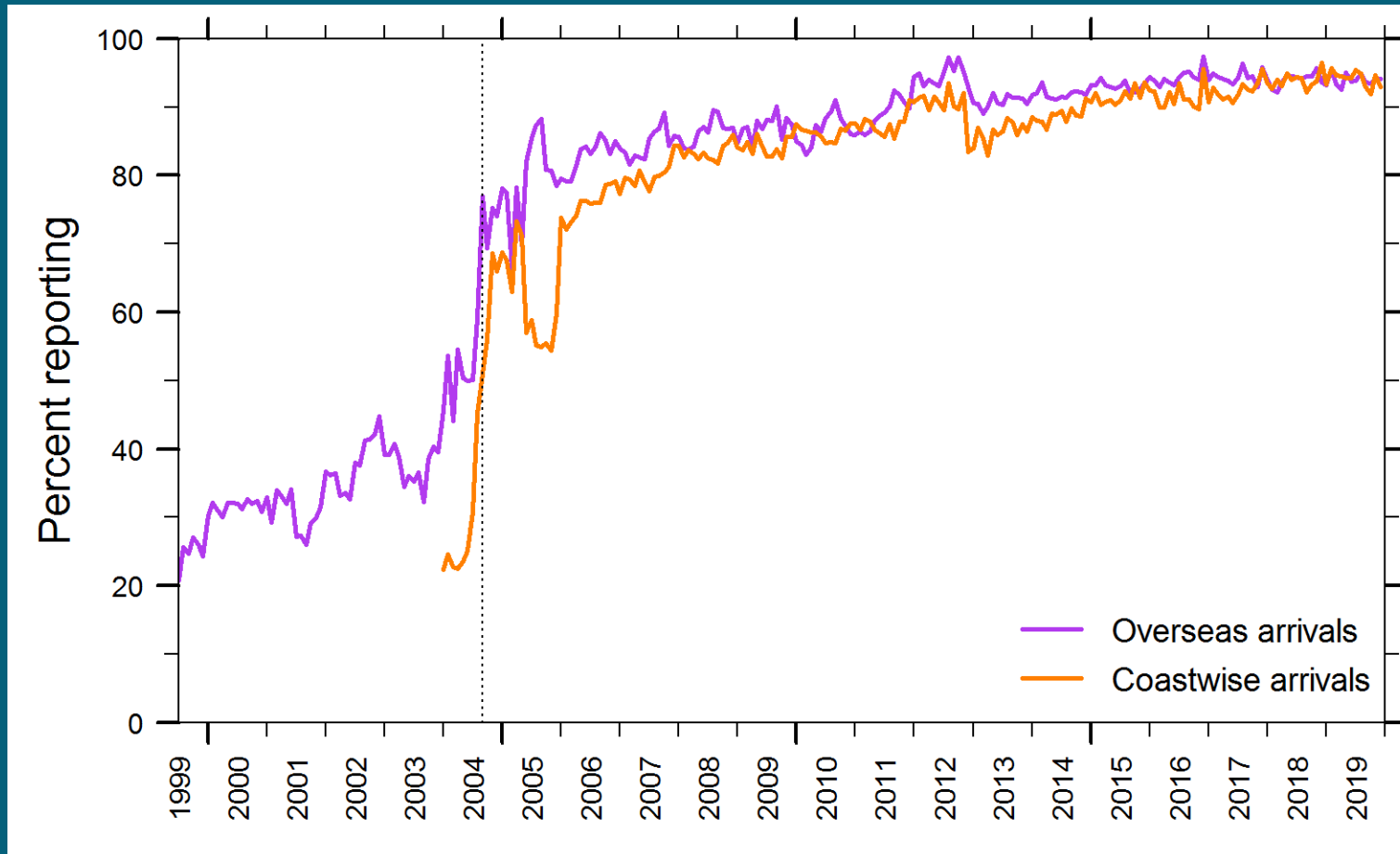


- Invasive species carried by vessels are harmful to the environment and economy
- Current BWM regulations enforced, until VIDA implementing regulations in effect.
- Compliance/enforcement similar to other pollution prevention and control requirements.
- Vessel-specific BWM Plans should address contingencies for when preferred management method is not available.



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

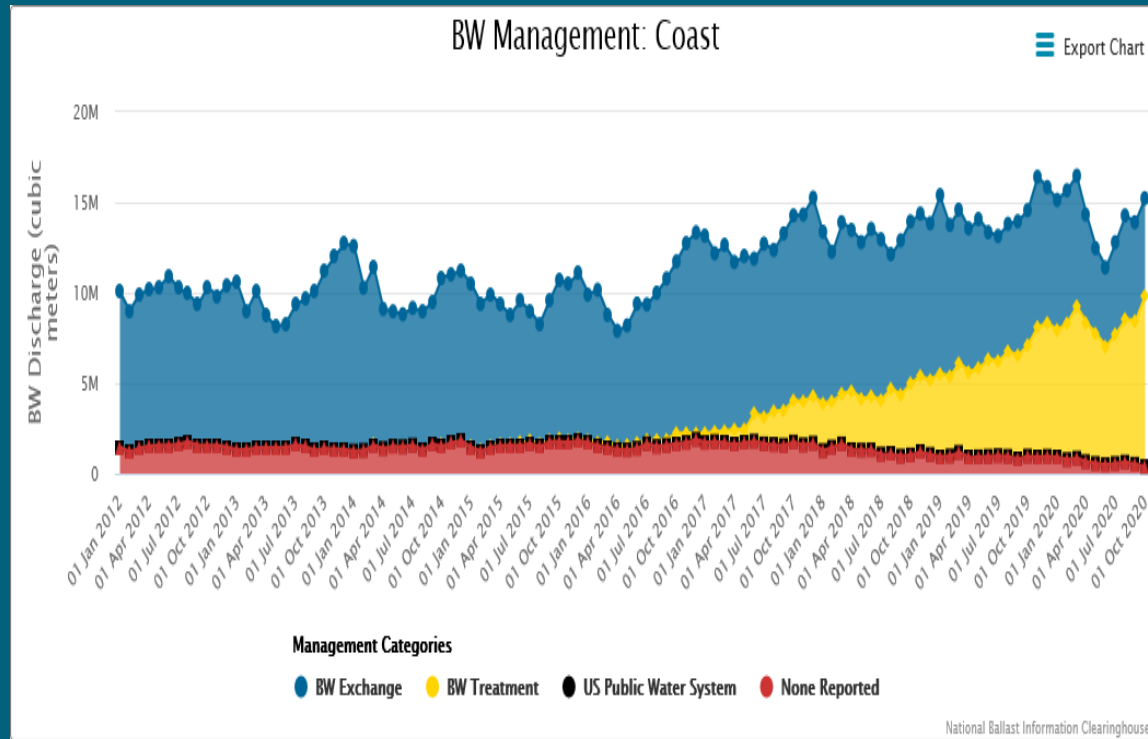
Compliance with BW Reporting Requirement is High



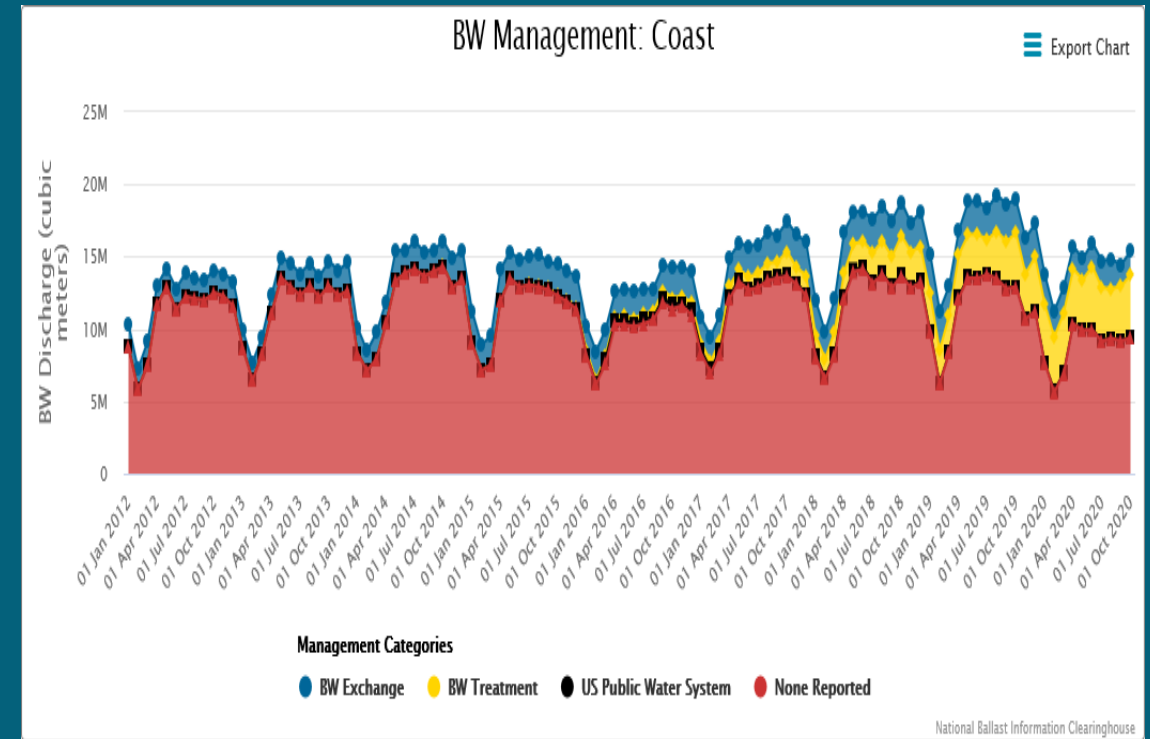
United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Management of BW is Increasing

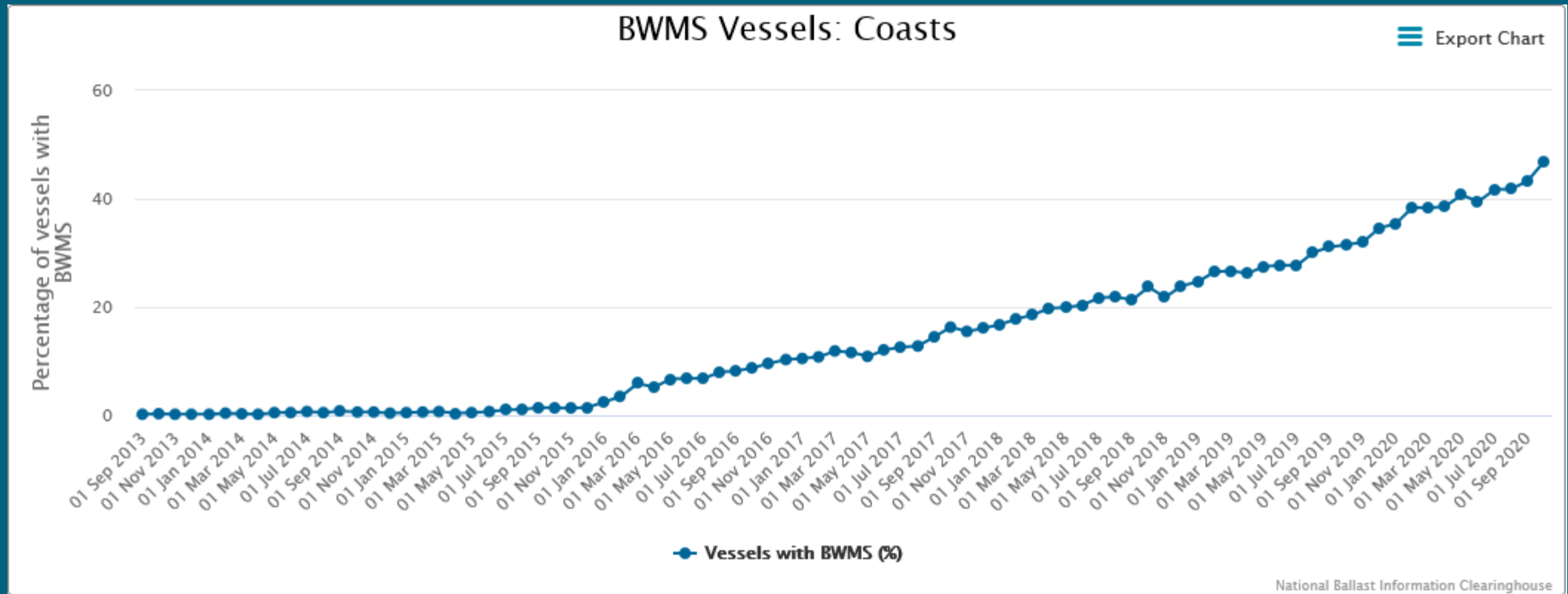
Overseas



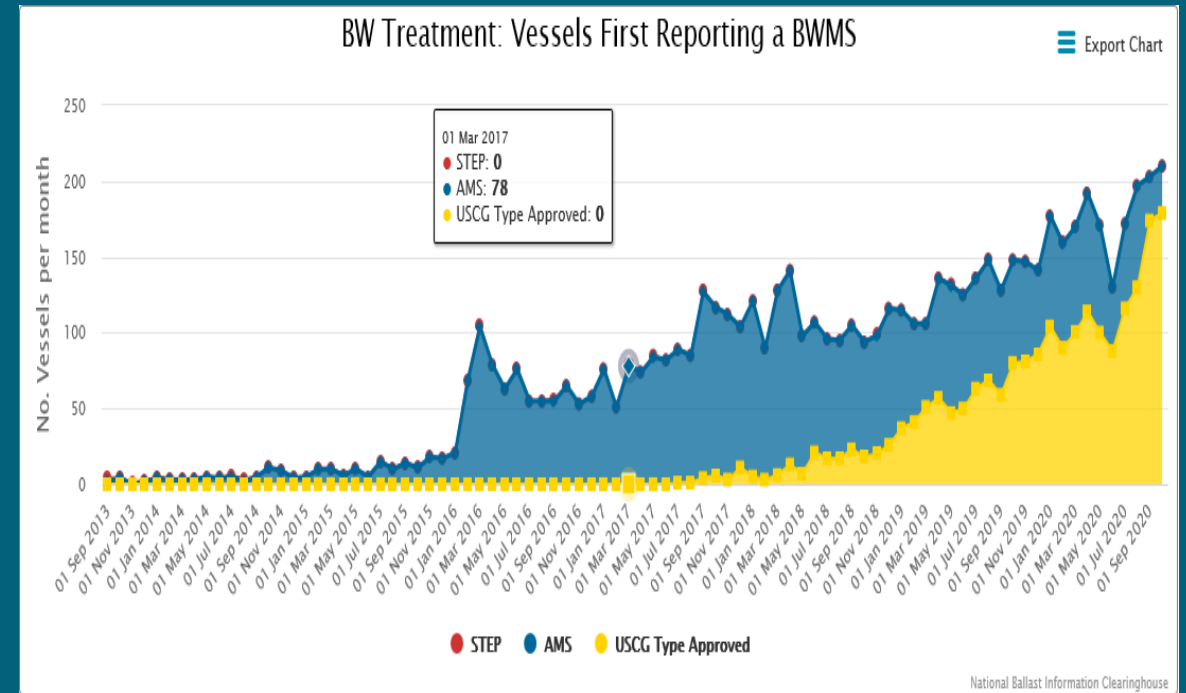
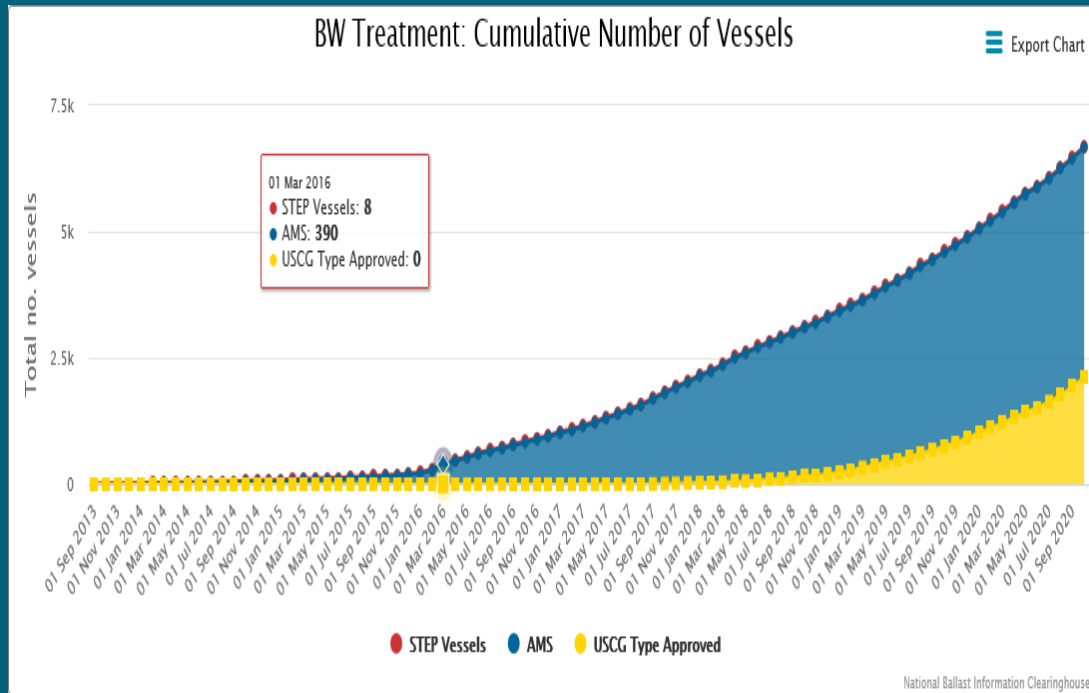
Coastwise



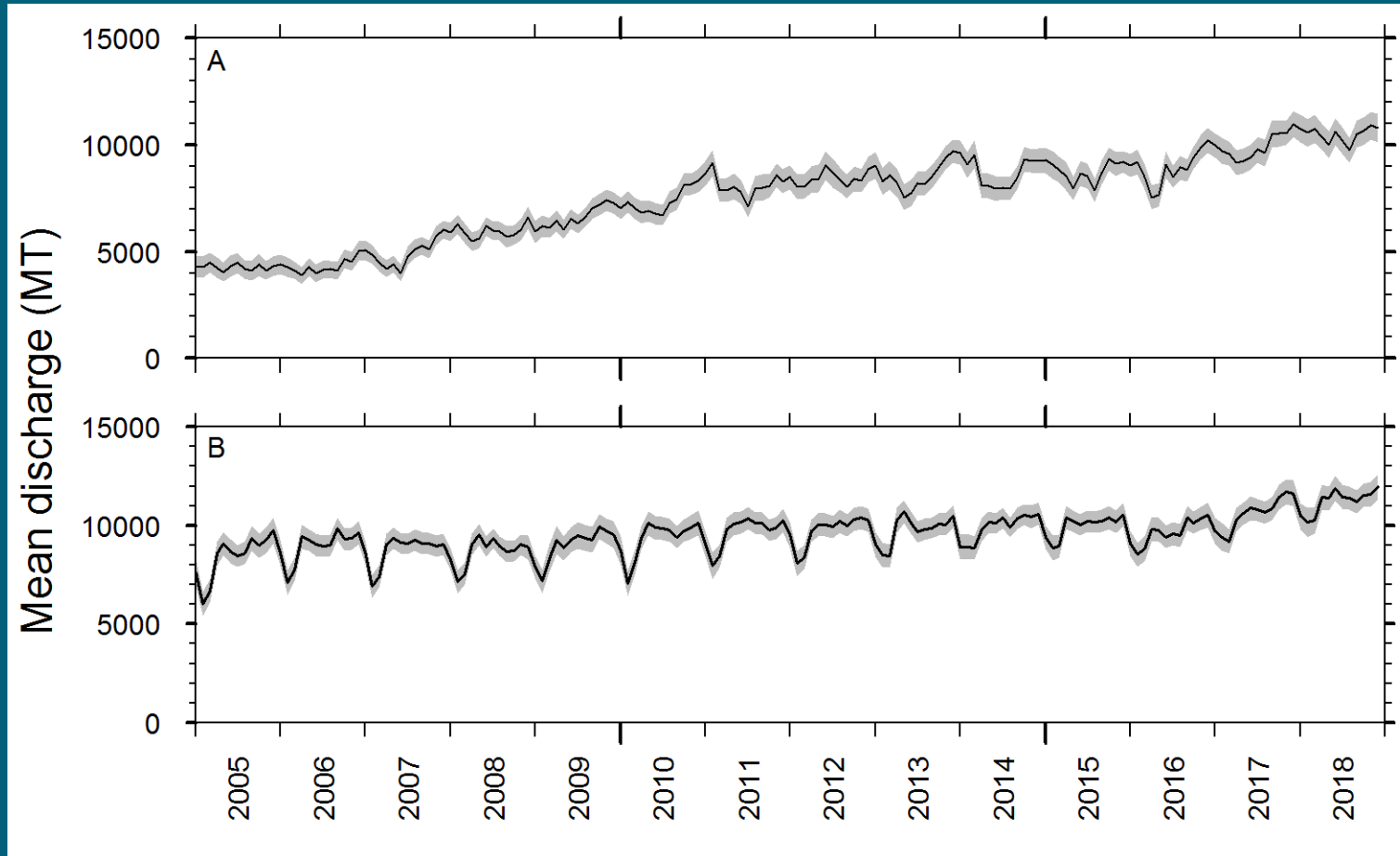
The percentage of vessels with installed BWMS is increasing



Installation of USCG Approved BWMS is Increasing



Total Volume of BW Discharged to US Waters Increasing



Extensions to Vessel Compliance Date

- Coast Guard has issued about 11,600 active extensions, with most expiring by the end of 2023.
- VIDA does not include a statutory mandate to continue to grant extensions.
- Coast Guard will re-evaluate need for extensions when promulgating VIDA regulations.



Extensions: Current Policy

NVIC 01-18/March 2018/General

- Only if applicant can document that compliance with the BWM requirements is not possible.
- Not granted to vessels that plan to install an AMS. A vessel with an installed AMS is not eligible for an extension*.
- Requests at least 12 months prior to a vessel's compliance date.
 - Coast Guard asks that requests not be submitted more than 18 months in advance.
- No longer than the minimum time needed for the vessel to comply.
 - Generally: ≤ 12 months from the vessel's original compliance date.
 - May not coincide with next scheduled drydock date.
- Transfer automatically upon changes in vessel name or ownership.



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

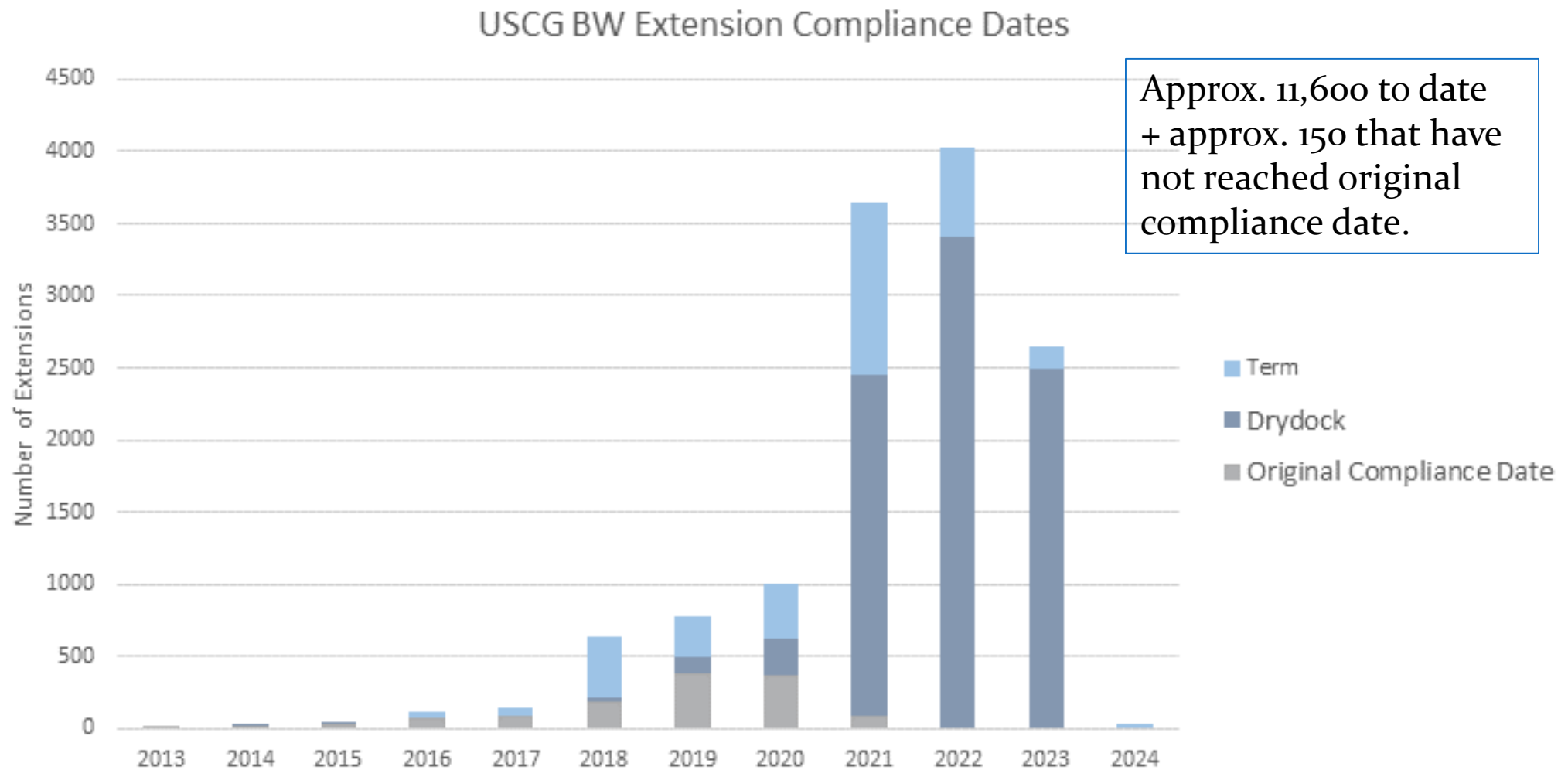
Extensions: Current Policy

MSIB 14-20/April 2020/Covid-19 Adjustments

- Compliance dates extended up to 12 months upon request.
- No supporting documentation needed.
- Need to identify vessels.
- Not an interim extension - additional time to accommodate operational or regulatory schedules should not be expected.
- Conversion of an AMS to a Coast Guard type approved system not completed due to the pandemic:
 - extension may be requested to continue operating the AMS under 33 CFR 151.2026(c) until the conversion can be accomplished.
 - extension longer than 12 months: provide details and third-party verification(s) that previously made plans not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Extensions to Date



Alternate Management Systems

No. Models = 56

Year	Accepted*	New Manufacturers
2013	29	26
2014	32	16
2015	14	5
2016	21	5
2017	13	2
2018	6	0
2019	8	0
2020 (TD)	1	0



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

* Includes new and revised

Research and Development

- **Compliance Assessment Methods and Tools (Naval Research Lab)**
 - **Validation Protocols (Coordination with Marad and ACT)**
 - ✓ ICES TIMES Vol. 63, 2020 (available under publications at www.ices.dk)
 - ✓ ISO (Standard No. 3725 draft)
 - **Evaluation of commercially available compliance assessment tools**
 - ✓ Delayed by Covid-19 pandemic
 - ✓ Earlier assessments: <http://www.act-us.info/evaluations.php>
- **Focal Port Sentinel Site Surveys (Smithsonian Env. Res. Center)**
 - **Standard surveys provide for comparisons over time**
 - ✓ **Organisms in ballast water:** Pre-Management / BWE / BWMS
 - ✓ **New invasive species (Plankton and Benthos)**
 - Ches. Bay; Tampa Bay; San Francisco Bay; (Beginning - Great Lakes)



Outreach to stakeholders



Maritime Commons Blog: <https://mariners.coastguard.blog/>

- MSC Type approval announcement
- OES Policy Letters
- OES-Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIB)
- Commentary
- Rule-making activity



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Thank You

Any Questions?

Operating & Environmental Standards (OES)
environmental_standards@uscg.mil
<http://www.dco.uscg.mil/OES>

Marine Safety Center (MSC)
msc@uscg.mil
<http://www.dco.uscg.mil/MSC/Ballast-Water/>

Commercial Vessel Compliance (CVC)
cgcvc@uscg.mil
<http://www.dco.uscg.mil/CVC>



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

VIDA

Vessel Incidental Discharge Act

Coast Guard Responsibilities

1. **Coordination with EPA on establishment of discharge standards**
2. **Implementation of EPA Discharge Standards**
 - a. **Implementation, Compliance and Enforcement Requirements**
 - b. **VIDA: No less stringent than current VGP parts 3, 4 and 5 regarding ensuring, monitoring and enforcing compliance.**
 - c. **Need to conduct economic and environmental analyses (e.g., NEPA)**
 - d. **Drafting on basis of EPA NPRM; refine after Final**



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

VIDA (Cont.)

3. **Viability Policy Letter**
 - a. **VIDA: Describe methods, if any, for enumerating “viable” organisms on the basis of best available science**
 - b. **Draft published: 31 July, 2019**
 - a. **Public Comment: 38 submissions; ~280 comments**
 - c. **Final currently in prep.**
 - a. **EPA review (in progress)**
 - b. **Significant policy: requires same administrative procedures as a new regulation**
 - c. **Describes process for evaluation of methods on the basis of Best Available Science**



VIDA (Cont.)

4. Report to Congress - Annual

a. Nationwide Status and Trends relating to:

1. Ballast water delivery, management and compliance;
2. Invasions of aquatic nuisance species from ballast water.

b. In Cooperation with:

1. The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF);
2. The Smithsonian Institution (SERC).

c. Status:

1. USCG/SERC Draft in CG review;
2. Submit to ANSTF.



VIDA (Cont.)

5. Reporting and Enforcement Data Work Group

- a. Develop process for sharing reporting and enforcement data with States;
- b. Currently focused on ballast water;
- c. First conference call Dec 4, 2019; subsequent calls quarterly;
- d. Identified State representatives through outreach to Governors;
- e. Completed:
 - 1. State Access to Automatic Identification System (AIS);
 - 2. State access to ballast water management reports submitted to NBIC;
- f. In-progress: Discussion of federal-state coordination on enforcement of federal requirements.



VIDA (Cont.)

6. Intergovernmental Response Framework

- a. In consultation with EPA, and in coordination with the inter-agency ANS Task Force;
- b. Establish framework for Federal, inter-governmental response to ANS risks from vessel discharges;
- c. Focus on setting up the appropriate inter-agency arrangements and communications for a coordinated response to introductions of ANS;
- d. In coordination with parallel EPA-led effort to establish a risk-assessment and response framework;
- e. Action on this directive pends establishment of regulations.

