

# JAPAN P&I NEWS

No.814-16/04/28

To the Members

Dear Sirs,

## **Measures to assure safe navigation during the peak season of drift-net fishing in the Inland Sea**

The drift-net fishing season started from 20th April throughout Seto Inland Sea in Japan. Therefore, Inland Sea Pilots Association intends to implement safety measures in an effort to assure safe navigation.

We attach herewith a free translation of “Request for Cooperation” letter from Inland Sea Pilots Association. We hope that this information would be useful for vessels navigating the relevant area for the sake of their safe navigation and loss prevention.

Yours faithfully,

### **The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association**

Loss Prevention and Ship Inspection Department

Telephone: +81 3 3662 7229

Fax: +81 3 3662 7400

E-mail: [lossprevention-dpt@piclub.or.jp](mailto:lossprevention-dpt@piclub.or.jp)

Website: <http://www.piclub.or.jp>

**=Free Translation=**

I.S.P. Tech No.16-011

14th April, 2016

The Japanese Shipowners Association  
The Japan Foreign Steam Ship Association

Re: Measures to assure safe navigation during the peak season of drift-net fishing  
in the Inland Sea (Request for Cooperation)

Dear Sirs,

The season of drift-net fishing starts from 20th April. Every year, we have implemented safety measures to assure the safety of vessels under our pilotage and fishing boats alike.

Thanks to the cooperation from the vessels, shipping companies and related organizations, there have not been any serious accidents yet.

As you are aware, the drift-nets over 2,000 meters long are used in certain fishing areas. And especially in the area from Bisan Seto to Hiuchi Nada, there becomes particularly crowded with fishing boats in operation of drift-nets, making it difficult for the vessels to assume safe navigation not only inside but also outside the navigation route.

Therefore, we intend to implement the safety measures described on the attached paper, as was done last year, in an effort to assure safe navigation.

Shipowners are requested to settle any claims for drift-nets lodged by the fishermen utilizing the Shipmaster's statement etc. without involving the pilots, as the pilots could not issue any statements concerning damages for the nets during the period of the safety measures implementation.

We thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation and look forward to serving you better in the future.

Sincerely Yours,

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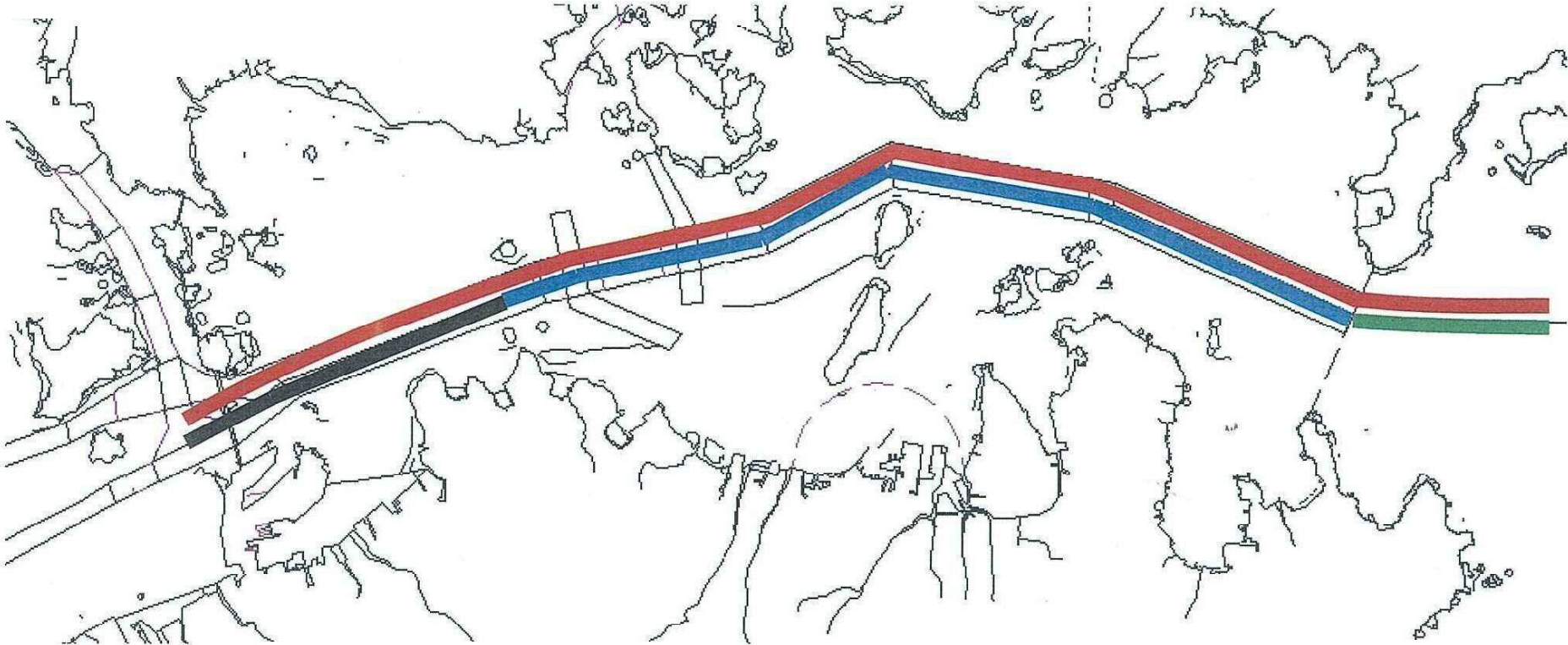
Capt. M.Oizumi  
President of Inland Sea Pilots Association

The Safety Measures during the Drift-net Fishing Season in 2016

	Area of The Safety Measures	Duration and time of the fishing operation	Suspension of fishing operation	Contents of The Safety Measures
[ Harima Nada ]	Between Harima Nada Traffic Route No.1 Light Buoy and Bisan Seto East Traffic Route No.7 Light Buoy	20th April to 30th November	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	<p>(1)The vessels navigating with the pilots on board should pass this area by 18:00 hours (17:00 hours in autumn) to avoid encountering the fishing operation.</p> <p>(2) However, when the vessels are compelled to navigate this area after 18:00 hours (17:00 hours in autumn), the vessels should tender boats for precaution be deployed this area from 18:00 hours (17:00 hours in autumn) to sunrise on the following day.</p> <p>(3) Navigation time Between Bisan Seto East Traffic Route No.7 Light Buoy and Oozuchi Kozuchi Island is around 1 hour 15 minutes.</p> <p>(4) “in autumn” means a period from 1st September to 30th November in this Safety Measures</p> <p>(5) The tender boats for precaution be deployed area and the days of suspension of fishing operation are as per attached sheet.</p> <p>(Reference) The fishing operation of a catch of Spanish mackerel: 20th April to 20th July 1st October to 30th November The fishing operation of a catch of pomfret: 1st June to 31st October</p>
[ Bisan Seto ]	Between Bisan Seto East Traffic Route No.7 Light Buoy and Oozuchi Kozuchi Island		After Sunset on Sundays until Sunrise on Mondays	
	Between Oozuchi Kozuchi Island and Mishima Traffic Route Crossing Position		After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	
[ Huchi Nada ]	<Between the east and the port of Mishima-Kawanoe>	20 <sup>th</sup> April to 30 <sup>th</sup> November	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	<p>(1) Entering the ports Vessels should pass ES line or No.7 Light Buoy of Bingo after sunrise and arrive at outside of the ports by 18:00 hours.</p> <p>1)Vessels should pass ES line 20 mins after departing Kurushima</p>

	<Between the west and the port of Mishima-Kawanoe >	20 <sup>th</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> August  1 <sup>st</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	<p>Traffic Route</p> <p>2)Vessels should pass No.7 Light Buoy of Bingo Nada 20 mins after departing Bisan Seto North Traffic Route</p> <p>a) Vessels expected to reach the outside of the ports after 18:00 hours should pass ES line or No.7 Light Buoy of Bingo after sunrise on the following day by adjusting the pilot boarding time at Wada-Misaki or other boarding point.</p> <p>b) During the period from Autumn to Winter, the vessels entering the port of Mishima-Kawanoe from the West in the evening should take a roundabout route via No. 2 Light Buoy of Bingo Nada to Nabeio because of vessels encountering fishing nets even before 18:00 hours.</p> <p>(2) Departing the ports Vessels departing the ports should do so by 16:00 hours.</p> <p>a) Vessels departing after 16:00 hours should anchor overnight near the quarantine anchorage of the relevant port and start out after sunrise on the following day.</p> <p>b) From autumn to winter, vessels departing the port of Mishima-Kawanoe Westward should take a roundabout route via Nabeiso to No.2 Buoy of Bingo Nada because of vessels encountering fishing nets along the normal route of off Niihama even before 18:00 hours.</p> <p>(3) “from autumn to winter ” means a period from 1st September to 31st December in this Safety Measures</p>
	<Between the east and the port of Niihama>	20 <sup>th</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	
	<Between the west and the port of Niihama>	20 <sup>th</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> August  1 <sup>st</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	
	Mitajiri-Nakanoseki Port	1 <sup>st</sup> September to 31 <sup>st</sup> December		When entering Mitajiri-Nakanoseki port, arrival outside the port should between 06:00 and 17:00 hours.

The tender boats for precaution be deployed area for "Drift-net Fishing, Stownet Fishing" in the night



- Between No.1 Buoy of the Harima Nada and Mishima Traffic Route Crossing Position
 
 → The vessels should tender boats for precaution be deployed this area from Sunset on Mondays until Sunrise on Saturdays
- Between No.1 Buoy of the Harima Nada and No.7 Buoy of the Bisan Seto
 
 } The vessels should tender boats for precaution be deployed this area from Sunset on Sundays until Sunrise on Mondays
- Between Ozuchi Kozuchi Island and Mishima Traffic Route Crossing Position
 
 ( Drift-net Fishing is suspended )
- Between No.7 Buoy of Bisan Seto and Ozuchi Kozuchi Island
 

 → The vessels should tender boats for precaution be deployed this area from Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays  
 ( Drift-net Fishing is suspended )