



# JAPAN P&I NEWS

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To the Members

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

The drift-net fishing season will start from 20 April 2021 throughout the Seto Inland Sea in Japan. Licensed 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 the Pilots' Association.

Yours faithfully,

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

Attachment: The guidance for safe navigation issued by the Licensed Inlandsea Pilots' Association (free translation)

**= Free Translation =**

I.S.P. Tech No.21-018

8 April, 2021

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. T. Sueoka  
President of Licensed Inlandsea Pilots' Association

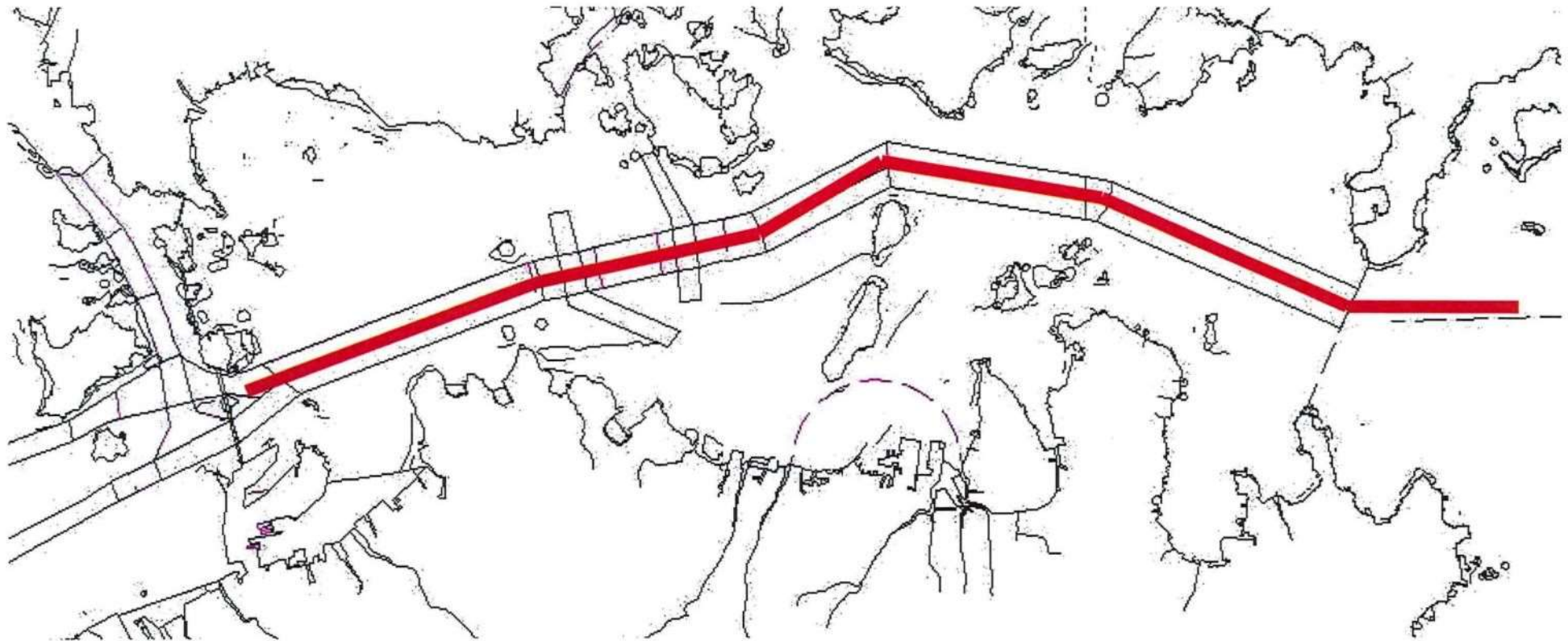
**The Safety Measures during the Drift-net Fishing Season in 2021**


	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	20 April to 30 November	After Sunset on Tuesdays until Sunrise on Wednesdays	<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>(4) “In autumn” means a period from 1st September to 30 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: 20 April to 20 July 1 October to 30 November</p> <p>The fishing operation of a catch of pomfret: 1 June to 31 October</p>
[ Bisan Seto ]	and Mizushima Traffic Route Crossing Position		After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	
	<Between the east and the port of Mishima-Kawanoe>	20 April to 30 November (due to the restriction of	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 Nada after sunrise and arrive at outside of the ports by 18:00 hours.</p> <p>① Vessels should pass ES line 20</p>

[ Hiuchi Nada ]		fishing operation by Kagawa Pref. and Okayama Pref.)		minutes after departing Kurushima Strait Traffic Route.
	<Between the west and the port of Mishima-Kawanoe>	20 April to 30 November  1 October to 31 December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	② Vessels should pass No.7 Light Buoy of Bingo Nada 20 minutes after departing Bisan Seto North Traffic Route. 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 Nada after sunrise on the following day by adjusting the pilot boarding time. 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 Nabeiso because of vessels encountering fishing nets even before 18:00 hours.
	<Between the east and the port of Niihama>	20 April to 31 December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	(2) Departing the ports Vessels departing the ports should do so by 16:00 hours. 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. 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 even before 18:00 hours.
	<Between the west and the port of Niihama>	20 April to 31 August  1 October to 31 December	After Sunset on Saturdays until Sunrise on Sundays	(3) “From autumn to winter ” means a period from 1 September to 31 December in this Safety Measures.
	the port of Mitajiri-Nakanoseki	1 September to 31 December		When entering the port of Mitajiri- Nakanoseki, 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  
夜間「流し網」に対する進路警戒船配備区間

= Free Translation =



 播磨灘第1号灯浮標～水島航路交差部  
Between No.1 Buoy of the Harima Nada and  
Mizushima Traffic Route Crossing Position

進路警戒船の配備が必要となる海域。  
休漁日を除く18時(秋季は17時)以降  
から日出まで進路警戒船を配備する。

The vessels should tender boats for  
precaution be deployed this area  
from 1800LT(1700LT in autumn) until Sunrise  
excluding suspension days

資料