

## **Overview of proposed amendments to**

### **Part 24: Diving, Fishing and Other Marine Operations**

#### **Fishing Operations**

##### **Section 24.93, Requirements for sensors and alarms**

##### **Requirements for Specific Fishing Operations**

##### **Section 24.104, Drums**

##### **Section 24.105, Pin rollers**

In reviewing a recent worker death attributed to overexposure to carbon monoxide, the WorkSafeBC's Lessons Learned Committee determined that carbon monoxide exposure has played a role in several fishing vessel worker fatalities in the past decade. An amendment to section 24.93 is proposed requiring the installation of carbon monoxide sensors on fishing vessels to safeguard worker health and safety.

In addition, the Lessons Learned Committee received the report of a worker injury on a herring gillnet vessel related to the use of a drum-operated gillnet. Drum operated gillnet vessels are a recent addition to herring fishery. Currently, requirements around the safe operation of drum-operated gillnets only exist for salmon gillnet vessels. It is proposed that sections 24.104 and 24.105 be amended to apply requirements regarding drum operated gillnets to both salmon and herring gillnetting vessels.

## PART 24: DIVING, FISHING AND OTHER MARINE OPERATIONS

### FISHING OPERATIONS

#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Requirements for sensors and alarms**     **24.93**
- (1) An owner of a fishing vessel must ensure that a heat sensor, connected to an alarm system, is installed
    - (a) above the galley stove or near the stove pipe, and
    - (b) in proximity to the engine exhaust.
  - (2) The owner must ensure that a water level sensor, connected to an alarm system, is installed
    - (a) in the machinery space bilges, and
    - (b) in the shaft log or lazarette.
  - (3) The owner must ensure that main engines are fitted with low oil pressure and high temperature sensors connected to an alarm system.
  - (4) The owner must ensure that a sensor and alarm system is installed if the Board considers this necessary to detect leaks of potentially explosive fuel used in engines or appliances.
  - (5) The owner must ensure that an audible marine grade carbon monoxide sensor, connected to an alarm system where practicable, is installed in crew quarters.**
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#### Explanatory Note

Existing section 24.93 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* requires that fishing vessels must have sensors and alarm systems to monitor a variety of possible risks such as galley stove and engine exhaust heat, water levels in machinery space bilges and lazarettes, low oil pressure or high temperatures related to the main vessel engine, and if required by the Workers' Compensation Board, to detect leaks of potentially explosive fuel used in engines or appliances.

In addition to the risks currently identified in section 24.93, workers on fishing vessels are also subject to a risk of overexposure to carbon monoxide. Such overexposure can affect a worker's cognitive function and lead to unsafe worker behaviour or could result in the death of a sleeping worker.

It is proposed that new subsection 24.93 (5) be added requiring the owner of a fishing vessel to install a marine grade carbon monoxide sensor in crew quarters to protect workers from overexposure to carbon monoxide.

## PART 24: DIVING, FISHING AND OTHER MARINE OPERATIONS

### REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC FISHING OPERATIONS

#### GILLNETTING

##### Salmon

<b>Drums</b>	<b>24.104</b>	The owner of a gillnet vessel must ensure that drums are fitted with <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>an effective ratchet device for picking up under heavy strain,</li><li>an effective brake to maintain control when setting out the net, and</li><li>a hold-to-run control.</li></ol>
<b>Pin rollers</b>	<b>24.105</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>The owner must ensure that pin rollers are of a design to prevent their inadvertent lifting.</li><li>The master must ensure that pin rollers are maintained to prevent their inadvertent lifting.</li></ol>
<b>Herring</b>		
<b>Work areas</b>	<b>24.106</b>	Work areas on herring skiffs and punts must be arranged to prevent contact with moving equipment such as beaters and live rollers.

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#### Explanatory Note

Salmon gillnetting vessels use a net retrieval style whereby a drum, mounted in either the stern or bow of the vessel, is operated to set and retrieve the gillnet. The *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* (“*OHSR*”) establishes drum and associated pin roller requirements to protect worker safety. In particular, it is required that the drum be operated with “hold-to-run” control to protect workers against becoming entangled in the net being wound in by the drum. If a worker became entangled in the net, the worker would be pulled away from the controls and the drum would cease to operate.

Although in recent years the herring fishery has adopted drum operated gillnetting, the *OHSR* does not currently provide drum and associated pin roller requirements for herring gillnetting vessels. As a result, some herring gillnetting vessels are using drum operated gillnets with controls that are not spring operated. This allows an operator to engage the drum and then move away from the controls and work close to the drum risking entanglement.

It is proposed that the *OHSR* be amended to make the current requirements regarding drums and pin rollers applicable to both herring and salmon gillnet vessels by deleting the heading “salmon”.