Maritime safety in the context of fisheries management

Presentation at the CSMOPM safety meeting
February 5, 2025

Mise à l'eau des cages , Pointe-Basse

DFO's marine safety mandat

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is responsible for safety at sea in the areas of fisheries management regulations, policies, plans and processes, in accordance with the Fisheries Act and related regulations.

Objectives

- Systematically engage with industry through species advisory committees to identify safety issues related to fisheries management.

Identify and discuss risks

- The captain is responsible for safety on board
- When and how can a fishery management measure influence the captain's ability to make a safe decision?
- How can risks be reduced?
- Who can take action?

Risk factors LFA 22

- Management regime
  - Competitive
- Date d'ouverture
  - Scheduled for May 4
- Opening protocol
  - 20 knots forecast the day before
  - All harbors have a safe pass
- Trap launching

Risk factors LFA 22

- Fishing harbor conditions
- Marking
- Mandatory presence on the water
  - NARW
- Fishing schedule
- Use of fishing boats
  - Fishing boat hire vs. breakage

Minutes of the Lobster Fishing Area 22 Advisory Committee Meeting
March 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Room Plaisance of the Hôtels Accents
Safety at sea

Cédric presents the roles of the various stakeholders involved in safety at sea, and discusses safety issues related to fisheries management per se, i.e. how DFO management measures can have an impact on safety at sea. Following this presentation, the rules surrounding the replacement of a boat that has broken down are raised. The current rules do not seem to be appropriate when more than three days are required to repair the main boat. This point will be discussed at next fall's IFMP renewal workshop.

Gilles Hubert of Transport Canada shares a number of the issues identified, as well as various ways of improving dock safety. In conclusion, he recommends that fishermen visit their local Transport Canada office before making any modifications to their fishing boats.

 Action: Schedule an agenda item at the next IFMP workshop to discuss the rules surrounding boat leasing/replacement.