

FISH SAFE NEWSLETTER

August 2019

Beachline Safety Workshop



Beachline Safety Workshop participants practicing their knots. Practice, practice, practice!

At the end of June, we held our annual Beachline Safety Workshop at the Gulf of Georgia Net Loft in Steveston. The workshop was a huge success with 12 participants in attendance, some coming all the way from the Vancouver Island to partake in the hands-on training.

The workshop becomes more successful with each passing year as it gains more exposure and participants are benefiting from it as it becomes top of mind before they head out to fish.

[Click here](#) to check out Ralph Wilson in action completing one of the many exercises!

Herring Drills Days

We sent one of our Safety Advisors out just before the start of herring season to French Creek, Deep Bay, and Comox in March to conduct immersion suit drills with the fleet. It was a fantastic couple of days as our Advisor managed to reach out and work with over 150 fishermen. There were great conversations with the fishermen about safety, risk assessments, and PFDs options. On top of that, copies of the Seine Roe Herring Best Practices were distributed.



Ian Kerr, one of the winners of the immersion suit drills race during Herring Drills Days.

Job Board

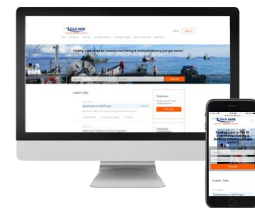
Have you checked out the Fish Safe Job Board yet? It was created for the smaller, independent fishermen out there although operators large and small are welcome to post job opportunities.

Are you a job seeker looking for a work? Why not post your professional profile on the job board and have employers find you?

Or are you an employer looking for workers? Post your job opportunities here!

Best of all - it's absolutely free to use!

jobs.fishsafebc.com



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Fish Safe Advisor, Cheryl Lawson, assisting Cam Wilson on the Morning Tide II complete the Transport Canada's Orange Decal Program in March in Powell River.

Transport Canada's Orange Decal Program

In the beginning of January, Fish Safe started including assistance with completing Transport Canada's Orange Decal compliance checklist into our Safest Catch program. The Transport Canada Orange Decal program is a voluntary program in which vessel owners and operators under 15 gross tons complete a checklist about the vessel's safety equipment to ensure that they meet regulatory requirements.

As of today, Fish Safe has directly impacted 74 vessels that have requested our assistance through group workshops and one-on-one visits on board their vessels. Our Safety Advisors have been sent all along the coast from Powell River to Prince Rupert to help clarify questions on the compliance checklist and provide guidance and feedback.

Upcoming Safety Meeting— September 18, 2019

A special meeting is planned for **Wednesday September 18 at Fish Safe at 9 am** and if you're an active BC commercial fisherman, we'd love for you to come! Lunch is provided for free to all who **RSVP in advance**.

Now, more than ever, commercial fishermen need to speak up about what they're seeing out on the water in terms of safety – their concerns and needs as well as the opportunities and solutions they see!

This meeting provides an open, honest and respectful forum for communicating with industry regulators – representatives from Transport Canada, WorkSafeBC, Transportation Safety Board and DFO will be in attendance to gain feedback directly from you, the fisherman.

RSVPs can be provided by email at fishsafe@fishsafebc.com or by calling us at 604-261-9700.

The Safest Catch Program

The Safest Catch program continues to be our main focus and much like the fishing industry, we are continually evolving it so that it stays relevant.

Since January, we have conducted 50 vessel visits. From those 50 visits, we have issued 84 MED-A3 certificates and awarded 9 Safest Catch decals.

Congratulations to the following vessels for receiving their decals this year!

- Geemia Joye
- Janatlee
- Constellation
- Amanda Reid
- Easy Come
- Alpha Bay
- Legacy
- Lindsay Marie
- Ocean Achiever



Dan Hanna was awarded the Safest Catch decal on the FV Easy Come in May. Crew members, Terry Fitzgerald & Darl Whaley, successfully completed their MED-A3 training that same day.



Orange Decal Workshop held for the Central Coast Commercial Fisheries Association in February.

PICFI

Fish Safe was welcomed back in May to partake in the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) program by providing essential safety training to First Nations communities. New to this year's program and course offerings was the Transport Canada Orange Decal Program assistance. We had a lot of interest and assisted via workshops to streamline the process.

Other program and course offerings included Fish Safe's Stability Education course, Small Vessel Operators Proficiency (SVOP), Marine Emergency Duties A3 (MED-A3), and Restricted Operators Certificate-Maritime (ROC-M) courses. From January to June, these courses were delivered in Haida Gwaii, Bella Bella, Sechelt, Duncan, Campbell River, Port Hardy, Zeballos, Ucluelet, Alert Bay, and Harrison Mills.



Mapping and chartwork exercise during the Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) course held for Cowichan Tribes in February.



Program Manager, Ryan Ford, facilitating the Dive Practices Workshop in Nanaimo.

Dive Best Practices Workshop

Members of the BC seafood harvesting dive industry met with Fish Safe in Nanaimo in June to begin developing a Best Practices document. There was good representation from both the SCUBA and surface-supply dive harvesting sides of the industry as well as the educational side with Kelly Korol from [DiveSafe](#) and Cory Beaudry from the [BC College of Diving](#) attending.

A constructive, free flowing discussion based upon the knowledge and experience of the group lead to the development of a basic framework focused on vessel preparation, crew orientation, pre-dive preparation, dive operations, emergency procedures and documentation.

The group was challenged by Fish Safe's facilitating program manager to move beyond a rehashing of known, existing regulations to brainstorm on the grounds safety best practices individuals have learned and practiced throughout their careers – especially those that have the potential to be transferred to newer, less experienced workers within the industry.

Subsequent to the meeting, a summary of suggested items was created and circulated not only to those that attended but to the broader group of dive harvesters who had wanted to attend but due to circumstances could not.

A window of opportunity now exists for all participants to review the suggested best practices and to provide feedback in order to move the process along to an eventual publication of the best practices, hopefully sometime during the fall season.

If you are involved in the dive harvest industry and would like to be included in this process of developing best practices, please contact our program manager, Ryan Ford, at ryan@fishsafebc.com to express your interest.



Photo credits: @MaxwellHohn

Coming down the pipeline...

Knots and Lines Pilot Workshop

John Krgovich has been hard at work putting together a one day “Knots and Lines” Workshop at the request of the Tsawwassen First Nations Band. A lot of discussion over the last couple of weeks has determined that creating a workshop that explains the different types of knots and lines, when to use them, and most importantly, demonstrating how to tie them would be extremely beneficial to new fishermen entering the industry as well as a good refresher for others. The pilot workshop is scheduled for the end of August.

2018-2019 Annual Report

The full Fish Safe 2018-2019 Annual Report will be released in the upcoming weeks. Keep your eyes out on our website, e-blast, and social media platforms for the link!

Fish Safe Fall/Winter Courses

September is just around the corner and our Fall/Winter courses have been set. Fish Safe offers the following training:

- [Marine Emergency Duties A3 \(MED-A3\)](#)
- [Stability Education](#)
- [Small Vessel Operator Proficiency \(SVOP\)](#)
- [Restricted Operator Certificate - Maritime \(ROC-M\)](#)

We are ready to start accepting registrations—head on over to our website to register or call us at 604-261-9700.



In the News!

[HookMarine—Innovative Seawise Stability Monitor Launched to Enhance Fishing Safety](#)

[Re-FISH— Improving & Empowering Bangladesh Fishing Communities](#)

[Speaking of Safety—New PFD regulations improve crewmember safety on fishing vessels](#)

[Vancouver Sun—David MacKay: Strait to the source, a fisherman's view of BC herring fishery](#)



Program Coordinator, John Krgovich, facilitating the Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) course in Richmond. This hands-on exercise is part of the Collision Regulations or “Rules of the Road” section of the curriculum.