Procedure to obtain information on fishing operation (VHF Radio Telephone, Website)

1 Information on Operations via International VHF Radio Telephone

Information on operation of fishing boats is provided by international VHF from the Ise-Wan Vessel Traffic Service Center and Nagoya Port Vessel Traffic Service Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification of Information</th>
<th>Timing of Information</th>
<th>Content of Information</th>
<th>Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Fishing Information</td>
<td>Generally 30 minutes before opening of operations (sunrise)</td>
<td>Presence or absence of operations on that day</td>
<td>During the sand lance fishing period</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) Operational Information</td>
<td>When new information is available or roughly once every hour</td>
<td>Summary of operations and main grounds where operation</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Operational Information</td>
<td>Response to the position report</td>
<td>Information on fishing boats on the way to destination</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
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(Note) To find the channel used, call up on Channel 16 and then switch to Channel 13, 14, or 22 as specified as the working frequency.

2 Figure on fishing boats in operation through Website

Figure on the area where fishing boats are in operation can be obtained through Website of the Ise-Wan VTS center; at the URL shown below.

Ise-Wan Vessel Traffic Service Center Website: Pair Trawler Information
URL: http://www5.kaiho.mlit.go.jp/isewan/ikanago/ikanago.gif

Attention to the pair trawlers operating in the Ise Bay!!

In the Ise Bay and the Mikawa Bay, lots of pair trawlers are in operation actively all the year around in the major shipping route, where many merchant ships such as cargo ships go around. A single fishing net as much as 500m in length is stretched in shallow between a pair of fishing boats. If a merchant ship got caught in the fishing net, some marine accidents such as capsizing of fishing boats would be happened.

What to do to avoid further incidents

- Make sure of information on fishing operation from Vessel Traffic Service Center.
- Keep clear while proceeding in the vicinity of the fishing boats.
- Do not pass through the operating area of fishing fleets.
- Careful watch by using binoculars, radar and so on.
  - Confirm speed and course of fishing boats.
  - Confirm trawling line from the stern of fishing boats, and floating buoys in behind.

Produced by the Council for the Safety of Vessels Operating in the Ise Bay and Mikawa Bay Area
## Special Characteristics of Trawlers

### Sand Lance Fishing
- **Appearance and Method of Fishing**: Two trawlers (10-20 tons) pulling a net approximately 500 meters behind, with two floating buoys above the net in the water (front: large, rear: small). It is not easy to find out the buoys, thus great caution is required. Accompanied boat for finding and transportation is positioned around the net.
- **Fishing Season**: Normally from early March to June.
- **Main Fishing Grounds**: Inside and outside the bay; during fishing season cited above.
- **Hours of Operation**: From sunrise, generally to around 11:00 a.m.
- **Notes**: Proceed to left or right of pursued schools, followed by a U-turn.
  - In busy time, upward 300 fishing boats may be operating in the same ground.
  - In sand lance fishing, catches are taken as the rear section of one bag net is replaced by another, so once the the nets are cast, they are not hauled up until finish of that day’s operation.

### Young Sardine Fishing
- **Appearance and Method of Fishing**: A fleet of fishing comprises around 50-100 boats, and in the case of sand lance fishery season in March and April, more than 300 fishing boats consist a fleet. The speed while trawling is approximately 1.5 knot, with stretching a net shallow or mid-level depth (or more deep water depending on the depth of waters).
- **Fishing Season**: Inside bay; Autumn to around December
- **Main Fishing Grounds**: Inside bay; period other than above
- **Hours of Operation**: From sunrise, generally to around 3:00 p.m.
- **Notes**: Fish tend to escape to deeper water, thus when trawling, vessels in many cases proceed from deeper waters to shallower waters (towards the shore).
  - 4-5 times a day (after catch is hauled up, the pair boats move to rear of the fleet and put out the net again.)

### Dragnet Fishing
- **Appearance and Method of Fishing**: Many vessels trawl in the direction of the shore (towards the shallows).
- **Fishing Season**: Year-round
- **Main Fishing Grounds**: Inside bay: From April to around December
- **Hours of Operation**: Outside the bay; period other than above
- **Notes**: Approximately 50-60 fishing vessels may operate in the same waters.
  - After the net is hauled in and the catch taken, the vessel moves to the back of the fleet and resumes fishing.
  - Lateral span is approximately 1 km.

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*T From above water, trawl nets are not visible.*

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[Diagram of trawling operations]