

From: "Pacific Anchorages / Ancrages du pacifique (TC)" <TC.PacificAnchorages-Ancragesdupacifique.TC@tc.gc.ca>
Date: August 13, 2018 at 5:08:15 PM PDT
To: "Pacific Anchorages / Ancrages du pacifique (TC)" <TC.PacificAnchorages-Ancragesdupacifique.TC@tc.gc.ca>
Subject: Interim Anchorages Protocol

Hello,

I am writing to notify you of the extension of the Interim Anchorages Protocol for the Southern Gulf Islands for an additional 12 months, effective immediately.

As you know, under the Ocean's Protection Plan, the national Anchorages Initiative is underway and will develop a national framework to guide selection and establishment of anchorages outside the jurisdiction of the ports. The national framework will balance and respond to environmental, economic, social and cultural concerns. The initiative will also develop a best practices guide to be followed by vessels while at anchor in Canadian waters, and consider how best to provide management and oversight of vessels at anchor.

As this work will be on-going over the next two years, Transport Canada, in partnership with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, the Nanaimo Port Authority, the Pacific Pilotage Authority, the Chamber of Shipping of BC and the Shipping Federation of Canada, introduced the Interim Protocol for the use of Southern British Columbia anchorages comprising temporary and voluntary interim procedures in the Pacific region. These procedures, aim to more equitably distribute vessels among the existing anchorages so as not to impact any single community more than others. The procedures also ask vessel operators to voluntarily minimize noise and lights whenever possible, consistent with the safety and security of the vessel, and pursuant to regulatory requirements.

Since it was put into place in February 2018, the protocol has been generating important information to help the department analyse anchorage usage in the region, and to better understand operational implications of managing anchorages outside the jurisdiction of the ports. The protocol is contributing to minimising disturbance to island residents, with targeted information to vessel operators designed to limit noise levels and light usage while at anchor. By implementing the more equitable distribution of vessels to anchorages, the protocol is also reducing the overuse of certain anchorages within the islands.

Fundamental to the Oceans Protection Plan is a commitment to evidence-based decision-making. For this reason, during the next 12 months we will continue to analyse data and feedback to inform potential modifications to the protocol. We will conduct a full review of the data, comments, and other results related to the initial six-month period of the protocol. We are aiming to complete and share this work in the fall. The results will inform work underway on the national Anchorages Initiative.

We acknowledge that there are concerns about the interim protocol, and we take those concerns seriously. We also recognise the importance of on-going communication and dialogue and are working to improve public and stakeholder engagement in the coming months. Please send your comments, questions or concerns to TC.PacificAnchorages-Ancragesdupacifique.TC@tc.gc.ca. Using this address allows us to better manage, track and analyse your feedback.

Regards,

Jeff Pelton - BMS, GCBA

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From: Pacific Anchorages / Ancrages du pacifique (TC) [<mailto:TC.PacificAnchorages-Ancragesdupacifique.TC@tc.gc.ca>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:26 AM

To: Pacific Anchorages / Ancrages du pacifique (TC)

Subject: Interim protocol - Monthly reports

Hello,

I would like to apologise for the delay in getting some of the monthly reports out related to the interim anchorages protocol. We have been working to create consistency between the Transport Canada website, the Pacific region OPP forum and the PDF versions that have been sent out by email previously. Thank you for your patience.

Please see the link below to access monthly reports #2 and #3 on the Transport Canada website. For those of you who subscribe to the Pacific region OPP forum, the reports can be found there as well, along with the data and results of vessel distribution.

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/marine/ports-harbours/interim-protocol-use-southern-bc-anchorages.html>

Monthly reports #4 and #5 are being finalised and we expect them to be published on the website and the Pacific region OPP forum-early next week. I will also share them via e-mail since report #5 is new.

Monthly report-#6 will be prepared once the remaining data is collected and should be available in mid-September. We will also be working on an-analysis of the results of the initial 6 month period of the interim anchorages protocol which will be made available once completed, likely in the fall.

Regards,

Jeff Pelton - BMS, GCBA

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