

MEMBER ALERT



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AUGUST 11, 2023

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC): LIFTING OF THE SUMMER FISHING BAN

Beginning on August 16, 2023, the current fishing ban in Chinese coastal waters is due to be gradually lifted that may significantly increase the risk of collision between commercial vessels and fishing boats. The bans will end as follows:

- East China Sea and South China Sea area between 26°30'N and 12°N on August 16, 2023;
- Bohai Sea and Yellow Sea area to the north of 35°N on September 1, 2023; and
- Yellow Sea and East China Sea area between 35°N and 26°30'N on September 16, 2023.



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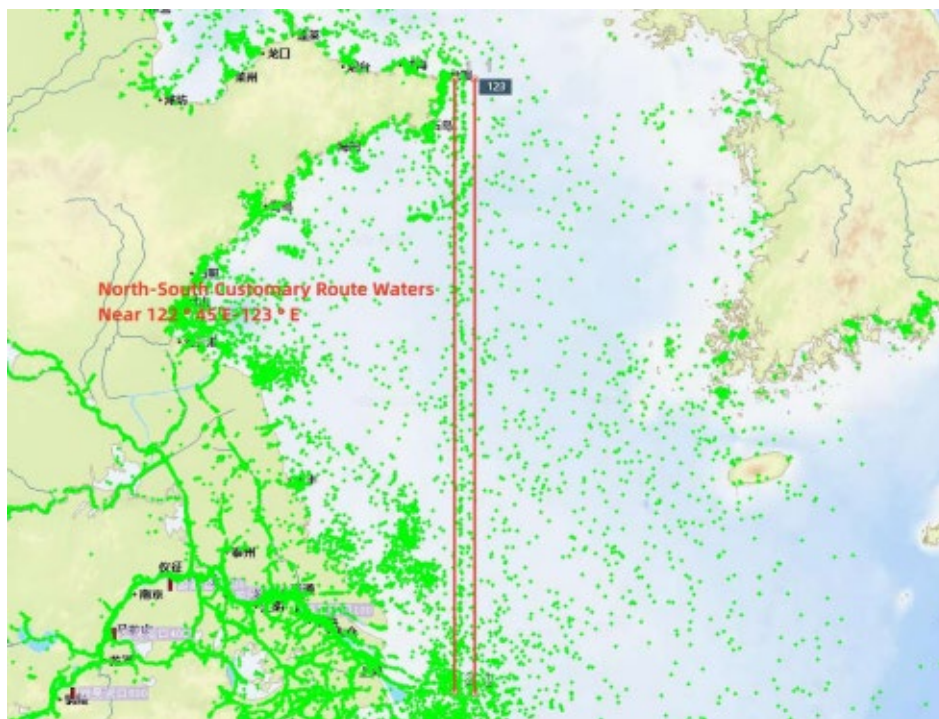
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Recommendations

Members should:

1. remember that there is also an increased risk of contact with fishing nets that may be deployed below the surface. Keeping as far of a distance as possible from any fishing boats is the best practice;
2. recognize and take account of fishing boats not keeping clear of commercial vessels in accordance with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG) 1972. To avoid collision, navigational officers should also consider reducing speed, stopping engines and altering course as may be necessary;
3. inform their Masters that if officers, while on navigational watch, have any concerns regarding potential or actual actions taken by fishing boats, that they should contact them through the VHF 16 channel to coordinate any collision avoidance action. If there is no response or it is unclear what the intentions of the fishing boats are to be, the navigational watch should give five (5) short and rapid flashes by the Aldis lamp or use a continuous sound signal to attract the attention of those targeted fishing boats; and
4. be aware that the waters found between $122^{\circ}45'E$ and $123^{\circ}E$ is a region known to have high incidents of collisions between commercial vessels and fishing boats. Navigation crews should remain particularly vigilant while navigating those waters.



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For further details, please refer to the attached circulars in [English](#) and [Mandarin](#).

Your Managers recommend that Members take note of this information and be guided accordingly and thank Club correspondent Huatai Insurance Agency & Consulting Services, Ltd. for their assistance in providing this update.