



Marine Notice No.04 of 2021

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

Incident Involving the Fire and Total Loss of a Fishing Vessel less than 15m in length

The Department of Transport wishes to bring to the attention of all Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Small Fishing Vessel Code of Practice Surveyors, Skippers and Fishers a recent report published by the Marine Casualty Investigation Board into the marine casualty involving the fishing vessel “FV Kayleigh” off Sheepshead, Co. Cork on 4th March 2020. The full report may be obtained from the website of the Marine Casualty Investigation Board at www.mcib.ie.

In response to one of the report’s recommendations, the purpose of this Marine Notice is to remind all Fishing Vessel Owners, Operators, Skippers, and crew of fishing vessels of less than 15 m Length overall of the following:

- [Marine Notice 49 of 2019](#) - Fishing Vessel Safety Information – this Marine Notice highlights safety advice and requirements contained in previous Marine Notices as well as previous MCIB recommendations for the Code of Practice for Fishing Vessels less than 15m length overall (CoP) to be amended to include mandatory requirements for fishing vessels to be fitted with smoke/fire detection systems in engine rooms.
- The contents of Section 8.9.2 of the CoP requires that the skipper of a fishing vessel not less than 12 metres in length ensures that the crew of the vessel are instructed, trained and drilled in the use of the lifesaving and fire-fighting equipment on the vessel and that each member of the crew is aware of the location on the vessel of such equipment.
- The firefighting training requirements for crews onboard fishing vessels as set out in Section 8 of the CoP and under [S.I. No. 587 of 2001](#) – Fishing Vessel Basic Safety Training Regulations 2001; and to attend the related refresher training on a five year basis.

In addition, the Department reminds all Fishing Vessel Owners, Operators, Skippers and crew of fishing vessels of the following:

- [Marine Notice 18 of 2020](#) - Incident Involving the Fire and Total Loss of a Fishing vessel 15-24m in length.

Note: While Marine Notice 18 of 2020 primarily concerns fishing vessels in the 15-24m category, the Annex to that Marine Notice sets out the Department's recommended guidelines on testing and inspections for fire detection and alarm systems on fishing vessels and these guidelines may be of benefit to all fishing vessel owners and operators.

It is the responsibility of the owner of a fishing vessel to ensure that at all times the vessel is maintained and operated in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Fishing Vessels less than 15m in length overall (CoP).

The Department is currently undertaking a review of the CoP and it intends to publish an updated version this year. A further, separate communication will issue from the Department in this regard in due course.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

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