



Fleet Safety Manual

7.D.2 - MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION OPERATIONS

1 PURPOSE

- a) To ensure the safe and efficient completion of floating and fixed aids operations by Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Fleet personnel.

2 RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 COMMANDING OFFICER

- a) The Commanding Officer is responsible for ensuring the safe completion of both floating and fixed aid operations by their vessel or work crew.

2.2 MARITIME SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- a) The Maritime Services Directorate is responsible for setting the service standards for marine aids to navigation. These standards are published as *Marine Aids Directive 2.2400*.

3 INSTRUCTION

3.1 GENERAL

- a) All equipment, including any provided by the program, such as cranes, derricks, wires, ropes, chains, chain nippers, pulleys, falls, and fittings involved in the processes (or involved with the fixed aid) shall comply with *Marine Safety Standards* or suitable equivalent such as the *Canadian Standards Association (CSA)*. Such equipment shall be inspected according to the [Canada Shipping Act \(CSA\) 2001- Cargo, Fumigation and Tackle Regulations](#) and shall be recorded. Other equipment shall be inspected periodically, at least prior to use, and the inspection recorded.
- b) An assessment of the inherent risks associated with the task is to be performed and steps shall be taken to mitigate those risks as per procedure 7.A.1.
- c) Personal safety equipment is to be identified and used by all personnel involved in the processes.
- d) Effective communications shall be established and agreed upon before any work takes place.

3.2 RISKS INHERENT IN THE SERVICING OF FLOATING AIDS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- a) The area on deck where the work is carried out shall be kept free from debris and other dangers such as snow, ice, seaweed, mussels, etc. (as much as is reasonably possible).
- b) Buoys to be de-iced to the furthest extent possible before being lifted.
- c) Persons not involved in the processes shall remain clear of the deck area as far as possible during the operation.
- d) Where necessary, lines shall be used to maintain control of buoy/stone.
- e) Where chain nippers are used in the process, they shall have a T4 Certificate of approval rating. The nipper shall have a number marked on it that clearly identifies the appropriate certificate.
- f) The buoy chain shall be checked for degradation as the buoy is being lifted. Where degradation has been identified and the chain replaced, the old chain shall be tagged indicating the location where it was lifted.
- g) All persons shall stay well clear of the flaked chain when buoy is being deployed.
- h) Buoy lugs visually inspected before deployment.
- i) Except in abnormal conditions, the buoy shall not be lifted by the cage.
- j) Most of the small plastic buoys now in service have no internal strength and the lifting lug on the buoy can handle the weight of the buoy and the slack in the chain only.
- k) Buoys when placed on deck or ashore shall be temporarily secured as soon as possible.
- l) Buoys to be lashed for weather.

3.3 IN ADDITION FOR FIXED AIDS SUCH RISKS SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING;

- a) To ensure general safety and work procedures are followed, a supervisor shall be assigned to a shore party, where the shore party is greater than two people.
- b) The site shall be inspected prior to commencement of work, to identify any safety concerns.
- c) No person shall operate a chain saw without having been provided with training on this piece of equipment. (i.e. chain saw course).

3.4 SHORE PARTIES

- a) In many areas of Canada there is a possibility that shore parties may be attacked or threatened by wild animals. In areas where wild animal encounters can be reasonably anticipated, the Commanding Officer should consider equipping one member of the shore party with a firearm that is appropriate to the perceived threat.
 - No other duty shall be assigned to an armed lookout while ashore.

3.5 COMMUNICATIONS

- a) In accordance with section 3.4, the shore party shall be equipped with a radio transceiver and regular communications checks shall be carried out between the vessel and the shore party.

4 DOCUMENTATION

- Marine Aids Directives
- Equipment Installation Instructions
- Tackle Inspection Records
- Training Records

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