

W.C.U.M.S.S.
Organization and Policy Guide

401.1 Policy on Boat Use

401.1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish basic policy governing the use of boats operated from and by users and staff of the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (here in after referred to as BMSC) under WCUMSS's auspices. The intent of this policy is to optimize safety and efficient use of BMSC facilities in all boat operations.

401.1.2

Foreshore personnel or his/her designate directs and gives prior permission for all boat operations. For the purposes of these regulations, WCUMSS's auspices shall include any boat operations by BMSC users (students, instructors, researchers, authorized visitors and field trip groups), and employees.

401.1.3

The Director has the authority to amend these regulations as needed, prior to approval by Management Council.

401.1.4

WCUMSS's auspices recognize the following classes of boats:

BMSC rowboats

BMSC powerboats

Researcher boats

Private boats

Graduate student kayaks and canoes

Alta and Barkley Star

401.1.5

Repair costs to boats and equipment resulting from the blatant disregard of BMSC boat policies and instruction may be charged to the user at the discretion of Foreshore personnel, and the Director.

401.2 Boat Use Rules

401.2.1 BMSC Rowboats

401.2.1.1 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset.

401.2.1.2 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.

401.2.1.3 Restricted to Bamfield and Grappler Inlets.

- 401.2.1.4 Four persons maximum.
- 401.2.1.5 M.O.T. approved lifevests must be worn and zipped up during use.
- 401.2.1.6 Bailer, whistle and buoyant heaving line must be present.
- 401.2.1.7 Must be signed out on blackboard.
- 401.2.1.8 Overdue boats will be allowed one half-hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.
- 401.2.1.9 May be used for recreational activities only, excluding swimming, diving and fishing.
- 401.2.1.10 May not be used for research.
- 401.2.1.11 Beaching is not allowed.

401.2.2 BMSC Power boats

- 401.2.2.1 Prior to boat use, all persons must adhere to Transport Canada's Regulations applicable to vessel type and number of passengers ie: possess a valid Pleasure Craft Operators Certificate (PCOC) for COPE use, Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) certificate including Marine Emergency Duties (MED) training for use of Raider and Herring skiffs. All persons must adhere to the policies outlined in this document as well as receive a boat check out and safety briefing from BMSC Foreshore personnel. All persons must demonstrate competence in boat-handling and motor operation/trouble-shooting to the satisfaction of Foreshore personnel or his/her designate.
- 401.2.2.2 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset unless prior permission is granted and legal lights are available.
- 401.2.2.3 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.
- 401.2.2.4 Use outside the Inlets after hours requires that prior permission be granted, except for scheduled BMSC Public Education Program excursions.
- 401.2.2.5 Use outside the BMSC boundary area, indicated on the sail plans, requires that prior permission be granted.
- 401.2.2.6 Maximum number of persons on boats:

14 ft. Cope - 4 ppl.	18 ft. Raider - 7 ppl.
16 ft. Cope - 6 ppl.	24 ft. Herring Skiff - 12 ppl.

The herring skiffs may have 12 passengers + 1 driver. These maximum numbers may be reduced by weather conditions and/or other weight in the boat.
- 401.2.2.7 Two persons minimum in a boat outside the Inlets unless two boats driving together.
- 401.2.2.8 Transport Canada approved lifevests must be worn and fully zipped up during use.
- 401.2.2.9 Emergency stop cords must be worn.

- 401.2.2.10 Must not exceed 7 knots in the Inlets.
 - 401.2.2.11 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations. It is the operator's responsibility to ensure that the required equipment is on board.
 - 401.2.2.12 A VHF radio must be taken on all trips outside the Inlets and the weather and sea conditions checked prior to departure.
 - 401.2.2.13 A safety kit (see appendix A) with first aid equipment, whistle, compass, watertight flashlight, buoyant heaving line and flares etc. must be taken on all trips. These safety kits are standard equipment on boats 6m and over and stay onboard at all times. This equipment is to be used in emergency situations only.
 - 401.2.2.14 Must be signed out using the sail plans provided and signed in upon return. The BMSC must be notified by VHF radio of any changes in timings or routes.
 - 401.2.2.15 Overdue boats will be allowed one half hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.
 - 401.2.2.16 Only to be used for teaching and research purposes unless prior permission for other use is granted. However, recreational diving and fishing are not allowed.
 - 401.2.2.17 Beaching is not allowed along shores exposed to incoming swells and high waves, especially from Brady's Beach to Tapaltos Bay.
 - 401.2.2.18 Boat availability is not guaranteed unless within 30 min. of reservation time.
- 401.2.3 Researcher Boats
- 401.2.3.1 Only for use by researchers, instructors, graduate students, and research assistants associated with the respective university unless prior permission is granted.
 - 401.2.3.2 All rules for BMSC power boats will apply to university boats with the following exceptions:
 - 401.2.3.2.1 Prior permission required between sunset and sunrise.
 - 401.2.3.2.2 Maximum number of persons on board will follow the capacity plate description.
 - 401.2.3.2.3 Two persons minimum in a boat outside the Inlets unless prior permission has been granted. General or per trip permission for one person will only be considered for use within the BMSC boundary area between sunrise and sunset, if the operator is experienced, and the boat is capable and equipped for rowing.
 - 401.2.3.2.4 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations.

401.2.3.2.5 Requests for use outside of the scope of these regulations can be submitted in writing and are subject to the Director's approval.

401.2.4 Private Boats (including staff owned vessels)

- 401.2.4.1 Not required to follow WCUMSS boat use rules unless moored at BMSC floats overnight and used for teaching or research related to BMSC. In such cases, the rules governing Researcher boats will apply.
- 401.2.4.2 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations.
- 401.2.4.3 Encouraged to use BMSC sign out and sign in procedures.

401.2.5 Graduate Student Kayaks and Canoes

- 401.2.5.1 The grad student in charge or his/her designate, where required, grants prior permission. Users must demonstrate to the grad student in charge their competence in handling a kayak prior to permission being granted.
- 401.2.5.2 General or per trip permission must be obtained prior to use.
- 401.2.5.3 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset .
- 401.2.5.4 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.
- 401.2.5.5 May be taken overnight as long as 401.2.5.3 is followed and an after hours check-in person is used for the initial trip.
- 401.2.5.6 Use outside the BMSC boundary area, indicated on the sail plans it at your own risk.
- 401.2.5.7 Minimum two kayaks must be used outside the Inlets unless prior permission is granted.
- 401.2.5.8 Three persons maximum in a canoe with a minimum of two persons outside the Inlets.
- 401.2.5.9 Transport Canada approved life vests must be worn and fully zipped up during use.
- 401.2.5.10 Must be signed out using sail plans when outside the Inlets. Blackboard can be used when inside the Inlets.
- 401.2.5.11 Overdue kayaks will be allowed one half hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.

401.2.6 Alta and Barkley Star

The research vessels Alta and Barkley Star are large vessels intended for conducting open ocean fieldwork and are only operated by authorized and qualified BMSC personnel. These vessels are equipped to deal with adverse weather and sea conditions and for night operations. Their use is under the direction and discretion of Foreshore personnel

401.2.7

Permission to use boats may be denied if weather and sea conditions are unfavorable or if distance from the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre is excessive. This will partly be demonstrated by the use of a RED sign, which restricts all boat use to the Inlets unless prior permission is granted. The open powerboats covered by WCUMSS's auspices are powered by outboard engines and not intended for work in adverse conditions or at great distances from the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre.

402.2.8

Anyone contravening this policy may be denied permission to use the boating facilities. A warning will be given for the first infraction, subsequent infractions may result in suspension, at the discretion of the Director or the Director's designate.

402.3 Search Charges

The full cost of searches conducted because of the failure to comply with this policy shall be charged to the operator. In these circumstances these charges shall include personnel time (and overtime if required) at approved BMSC rates, boat rental costs, gas, and replacement value of any equipment used or lost.

Effective July 1, 1973.

Approved by Management Council April 19, 1973. MC 21.4.3.

Amended May 28, 1973. (Minute MC 22.4.2.6)

Policy number system introduced February 1975.

Amended December 8, 1978. (Minute MC 52.5.6.2)

Approved by Management Council October 3, 1980. MC 59.6.31b.

Amended July 1992.

Amended June 18, 1996.

Approved by Management Council June 22, 1996. MC 103.8.5.1.

Amended January 15, 2009.

Amended April 20, 2010

Appendix

A

Required Boating Safety Equipment

Safety Buckets must be on board vessel when in operation.

Type of Vessel	14ft, 16ft Cope	Sgl. Skiff, Twin Skiff, Raider
Vessel Total Length	<6.0m	6 – 8m
Transport Canada approved life jacket	X	X
Two oars with oarlocks OR two paddles OR an anchor with not less than 15m of cable, rope or chain	X	X
Bailer or manual bilge pump	X	X
location of safety bucket containing listed items	to be signed out from dive shed. Confirm contents prior to trip.	on board vessel not to be removed. Confirm contents prior to trip.
Class B 1 Fire Extinguisher	X	X
Buoyant Heaving Line not less than 15m in length, with rescue quoit	X	X *
610mm or 762mm life buoy attached to 15m buoyant line		X *
Watertight Flashlight	X	X
Pyrotechnics	3 type A, B or C	6 type A, B or C
First Aid Kit	X	X
Sound Signalling Device or Appliance i.e. whistle, air horn etc	X	X
Navigation Lights	X	X
Compass	X	X
Reboarding Device if freeboard > 0.5m		X

* Vessels between 6m and 8m may use either a buoyant heaving line or a life buoy

Source: Canada Shipping Act, Small Vessel Regulations, CRC, Vol.XVII, c. 1487
January 04 2009