

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Fishing Industry Workers Face High Risk of Injury
November 20, 2008

Select Fishing Industry Injury Descriptions

November to December, 2007

- HAND JAMMED BETWEEN TWO LOBSTER CRATES THAT WERE SLIDING ACROSS DECK OF BOAT
- WHEN VESSEL HIT WAVE, BOAT DROPPED AND CAUSED WORKER TO GO AIRBORNE AND LAND ON ARM, LEG AND HIP
- WHILE SCREWING SHEET METAL TO DECKHEAD WITH DRILL, SCREW DRIVER SLIPPED OFF SCREW AND PENETRATED FINGER
- JAMMED BETWEEN CURB OF BOAT AND ANCHOR
- BLOCK THAT HAULS ROPE BROKE AND A PIECE HIT HEAD
- HURT SHOULDER MARKING AND PACKING 5KG PACKING
- FELL AT WORK ON BOAT
- LOBSTER TRAP FELL OFF TOP OF PILE AND HIT RIGHT HAND
- DUMPING FILLETS, HURT SHOULDER
- SLIPPED AND FELL DOWN ONTO ENGINE, CRACKED TAILBONE

WCB Claims by month, salt water fishing, 2007

	TOTAL
January	46
February	27
March	27
April	36
May	55
June	33
July	39
August	31
September	32
October	32
November	25
December	23
	406

Average Rates by Industry Sector, 2000-2008

Dollars per \$100 of assessable payroll

Assessment Year	Fishing Rate	Processing Rate	Aquaculture Rate
2000	6.48	3.44	2.27
2001	6.53	3.21	2.87
2002	6.29	2.98	3.27
2003	6.48	3.58	3.92
2004	6.31	4.04	4.70
2005	6.69	4.29	5.42
2006	7.19	4.95	4.42
2007	7.22	4.96	4.64
2008	7.29	5.25	4.07
2009	7.48	5.19	4.18

Fishing safety tips: From the Fish Safe Handbook

Published by the Nova Scotia Fisheries Sector Council

1. Loading the Boat

If you load the traps too high, your boat may capsize. Don't stack the traps too high. Stack the traps evenly around the deck, making sure to not clutter the deck with unnecessary traps or gear.

2. Setting the traps

If your foot or hand gets caught in the gear, you can be hauled overboard. Crew members not involved in setting the traps should stay clear of the operation. Wear boots with good treads. Keep an eye on your work and don't be distracted.

3. Hauling back the traps

Stand clear of the hauler unless it is your job to make sure it is functioning properly. Have the emergency shut-off within easy reach of the hauler operator. Keep your hands clear of the running line - never grab the line.

4. Gaffing a buoy

Don't overreach to gaff a buoy - may cause falling overboard or strain.

Source:

Fish Safe Handbook

Nova Scotia Fisheries Sector Council

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