

Rule 3 – Definitions

For the purpose of these Rules, except where the context otherwise requires:

(a) The word 'vessel includes every description of water craft, including non- displacement craft, WIG craft and seaplanes, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water'.

(b) The term 'power-driven vessel' means any vessel **propelled by machinery**.

(c) The term 'sailing vessel' means any vessel under sail **provided that propelling machinery, if fitted, is not being used**.

(d) The term 'vessel engaged in fishing' means any **vessel fishing with nets, lines, trawls or other fishing apparatus which restrict manoeuvrability, but does not include a vessel fishing with trolling lines or other fishing apparatus which do not restrict manoeuvrability**.

(e) The word 'seaplane' includes any **aircraft designed to manoeuvre on the water**.

(f) The term 'vessel not under command' means a vessel which **through some exceptional circumstance is unable to manoeuvre as required by these Rules and is therefore unable to keep out of the way** of another vessel.

(g) The term 'vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre' means a vessel which from the **nature of her work** is **restricted in her ability to manoeuvre as required by these Rules and therefore is unable to keep out of the way of another vessel**. The term 'vessels restricted in their ability to manoeuvre' shall include but not be limited to;

(i) a vessel engaged in laying, servicing or picking up a navigation mark, submarine cable or pipeline;

(ii) a vessel engaged in dredging, surveying or underwater operations;

(iii) a vessel engaged in replenishment or transferring persons, provisions or cargo while underway;

(iv) a vessel engaged in the launching or recovery of aircraft;

(v) a vessel engaged in mineclearance operations;

(vi) a vessel engaged in a towing operation such as severely restricts the towing vessel and her tow in their ability to deviate from their course.

(h) The term 'vessel constrained by her draught' means a **power-driven vessel which because of her draught in relation to the available depth and width of navigable water**, is severely restricted in her ability to deviate from the course she is following.

(i) The word 'underway' means that a vessel **is not at anchor, or made fast to the shore, or aground**.

(j) The words 'length' and 'breadth' of a vessel mean her length overall and greatest breadth.

(k) Vessels shall be deemed to be in sight of one another only when **one can be observed visually from the other**.

(l) The term 'restricted visibility' means any condition in **which visibility is restricted by fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rainstorms, sandstorms or any other similar causes**.

(m) The term 'Wing-In-Ground (WIG) craft' means a **multimodal craft which, in its main operational mode, flies in close proximity to the surface** by utilizing surface- effect action.