

## **Near Miss Details for Contract Vessel F/V CHASIN.**

**ON THE NIGHT OF 4/20/2009 AT APPROXIMATELY 23:00, THE CHARTERED FISHING VESSEL CHASINA WAS OPERATING A MID-WATER TRAWL IN POSSESSION SOUND WHEN THE WASHINGTON STATE FERRY CATHLAMET APPROACHED FROM ASTERN AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. THE TOWING VESSEL CHASINA WAS OPERATING OUTSIDE THE FERRY ZONE AND HAD ITS FISHING LIGHTS ON. THE DECK WAS LIT TO INDICATE THAT THE VESSEL WAS A FISHING VESSEL WITH A TOW BEHIND IT. THE FERRY PASSED WITHIN 100 YARDS OF THE CHASINA AND LIKELY RAN OVER THE NET WHICH EXTENDED BEHIND THE VESSEL FOR APPROXIMATELY 1100 FEET. FORTUNATLEY, THE TOW WAS A MID-WATER TRAWL WHICH PASSED UNDER THE KEEL OF THE FERRY. GIVEN THE SIZE DIFFERENCE OF THE TWO VESSELS, THIS COULD HAVE EASILY BECOME A FATAL ACCIDENT IF THE TRAWL HAD BEEN A SURFACE TRAWL.**

**RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS COULD BE TO PROVIDE RE-EDUCATION TO FERRY CAPTAINS ON WHAT VARIOUS LIGHT COMBINATIONS INDICATE. FERRIES SHOULD ALSO USE THE RADIO TO WARN OTHER VESSELS THAT MAY BE IN THEIR WAY. THE PERSONNEL ON THE CHASINA COULD ALSO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO VESSELS APPROACHING FROM ASTERN.**

**THE NWFSC CONTACTED THE US COAST GUARD TO REPORT THE INCIDENT ON THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009. THE COAST GUARD STATED THAT THE INCIDENT WAS NOT A REQUIRED NOTIFICATION BECAUSE NO ONE WAS INJURED, BUT REQUESTED THAT WE VOLUNTARILY SUBMIT A CG-2692 SO THAT THE NEAR-ACCIDENT IS PROPERLY RECORDED. ADDITIONALLY, THE NWFSC CONTACTED THE WSF SAFETY OFFICE ON APRIL, 23, 2009 TO REPORT THE INCIDENT. THE WSF PORT CAPTAIN IS INVESTIGATING.**

**SUBSEQUENT INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS INDICATE THAT THERE WERE NO BRIDGE TO BRIDGE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE FERRY AND THE CHASINA BEFORE THE NEAR COLLISION. CHASINA PERSONNEL DID NOT TRY TO CALL THE FERRY ON THE EMERGENCY CHANNEL PRIOR TO THE NEAR MISS. PERSONNEL ON THE CHASINA DID NOT SEE THE FERRY UNTIL IT PASSED THEM.**

**THE CHASINA STAFF DID NOT CONTACT THE COAST GUARD ON CHANNEL 16 AFTER THE NEAR MISS TO REPORT THE INCIDENT.**