

**STEVESTON HARBOUR AUTHORITY
OPERATIONS DIRECTIVE # 21
BERTHAGE**

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines on the criteria for berthing vessels in Steveston Harbour.

B. APPLICATION

This directive applies to all Steveston Harbour Authority staff members and all harbour users.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. **BERTHAGE AREA:** Area(s) within the harbour designated for tying up vessels.
2. **COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL (CFV):** Any currently licensed vessel (holding one or more valid and active DFO commercial fishing licenses) that is properly equipped for harvesting or packing and actively involved in the commercial fishing industry.
3. **PLEASURE CRAFT (P/C) / UNLICENSED / NON-CFV:** Any vessel that does not meet the criteria for C. 2. above.
4. **RESERVED BERTHAGE:** Any slip or tie up location which has been reserved for the sole use of an identified vessel for a period of 12 consecutive months.
5. **TRANSIENT VESSEL:** Any vessel that primarily berths at an alternate harbour but may berth at Steveston Harbour on a short term, irregular or seasonal basis.
6. **HOMEPORT VESSEL:** Any vessel which utilizes the berthing facilities of Steveston Harbour for the majority of a calendar year.

II. POLICY

A. BERTHAGE AREAS

1. CFV Reserved:
 - a. Nelson Pond: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and X floats.
 - b. Atagi: A, B, C and D floats.
 - c. Britannia: A, B, C and D floats.
 - d. Paramount Areas C, D and E.
 - e. 3rd Avenue Pier: south side of A float, all of B float and portions of C float.
 - f. No. 1 Road Pier: south face.
2. CFV Transient:
 - a. 3rd Avenue pier: north side of A float, portions of C float and all of D and F floats. * **Note** * 3rd Avenue pier C, D and F floats are only for vessels 14.0 m in length or longer.
3. Non – CFV Reserved:
 - a. Nelson Pond: K, L, M and N floats.

* **Note** * although Non – CFV vessels may be issued “reserved” slips, as per the SHA Berthage and Storage Agreement all Non – CFV vessels have 24 hours to vacate their spot (“reserved” or otherwise) should a CFV vessel need the berth for any reason.
4. Non – CFV Transient:
 - a. 3rd Avenue pier: north side of A float (for a maximum of seven (7) consecutive days unless otherwise authorized by the SHA).
 - b. Public Sales Float: **one** slip on the far east finger of the public sales float is available for vessels to berth on a temporary basis (no more than five (5) consecutive days). Arrangements to book this slip must be made through the SHA main office (604-272-5539).

B. GENERAL BERTHAGE CRITERIA

1. All vessel owners must sign a Steveston Harbour Authority “Berthage and Vessel Storage Agreement” as a condition of occupancy. All vessel owners are bound to the terms and conditions of the SHA Berthage and Storage Agreement upon use of SHA facilities, regardless of whether this agreement has been signed.
2. All vessels must be completely seaworthy as determined by the Steveston Harbour Authority.
3. All vessel names, registration numbers and CFV plates (if applicable) must be clearly displayed on the exterior of each vessel.
4. All vessel owners / operators wishing to berth their vessel at Steveston Harbour do so at their own risk. Steveston Harbour Authority does not assume any responsibility for loss or damage to vessels and / or property while utilizing Steveston Harbour facilities.
5. All vessel owners / operators must report to the office within 24 hours of the arrival of their vessel to ensure all proper contact information is up to date.
6. All owners / operators of vessels in the harbour must comply with all harbour regulations, rules, and directives as well as all Federal, Provincial and Municipal legislation.
7. The Steveston Harbour Authority reserves the right to relocate any vessel without notice if necessary to ensure the efficient operation of the harbour and to make best use of available berthage space.

C. RESERVED BERTHAGE CRITERIA

1. Reserved berthage will only be granted to active commercial fishing vessels or pleasure craft with current SHA accounts that pay one (1) year in advance. Notwithstanding the above, in accordance with the SHA Berthage and Storage Agreement, any pleasure craft must be prepared to vacate their spot within 24 hours if a commercial fishing vessel requires the space.
2. On the berthage anniversary date, the incumbent in each spot has the first right of refusal to renew the berthage for the coming year with the concurrence of the Steveston Harbour Authority.

3. All fees associated with the each vessel must be paid in full within thirty days of the anniversary date in order for a vessel to retain its reserved slip. Failure to remit payment in full by the deadline may result in the Steveston Harbour Authority reassigning the slip to another vessel at its discretion.

D. ASSIGNMENT OF BERTHAGE

1. In accordance with the mandate set out in the SHA's head lease, priority will always be given to CFV vessels. Non – CFV vessels will be accommodated when and where possible with the understanding that Non – CFV vessels have 24 hours to vacate their berth should a CFV vessel require the spot for any reason.
2. Berthage will be assigned by the SHA based each vessel's specific characteristics including length, beam, hull type, draft, and operating equipment.
3. Reserved berthage slips will only be assigned to vessels that pay one year in advance. Vessels that are granted reserved berthage will have a vessel nameplate supplied and fastened to their reserved slip by the SHA. Vessel owners may not remove, relocate or alter this nameplate in any way.
4. Vessels that do not pay one year in advance must find berthage wherever they can in accordance with section 2. A. above.
5. Vessels without reserved spots must not berth in any slip with a reserved nameplate on the dock and may be required to raft to another vessel.

E. RATES

Berthage rates are in accordance with the current Steveston Harbour Authority Rates Directive #6.

Approved by the Board of Directors on December 10, 2014.

Board Chairman
Steveston Harbour Authority

General Manager
Steveston Harbour Authority