

# SOUTH AFRICAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY



## SAFETY SURVEY CHECKLIST: SUPPLEMENTARY COMMERCIAL (WHALE WATCHING)

The various Acts and Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations place the onus on the owner and in some cases the master as well, to ENSURE that the vessel and the crew comply with the requirements of the regulations at all times.

**PURPOSE:** To *Assist and Guide* the Vessel Owner/Owner Representative to prepare the vessel for a Safety survey.

**SAMSA SURVEYORS:** To *ensure* that the Owner, Master and Crew comply with relevant Legislation as well as Industry Safety Standards, they do not act as vessel superintendent and therefore do not release the Owner, Master and Crew from their accountability and responsibility to ensure that the vessel complies with Legislation and Best Industry Practises.

<b>OWNER/OWNERS REPRESENTATIVE DECLARATION:</b>			
Vessel Name	<input type="text"/>	Inspection Date	<input type="text"/>
Official Number	<input type="text"/>	Length (m)	<input type="text"/>
Gross Tons	<input type="text"/>	kW or HP	<input type="text"/>
I, being the <u>responsible person</u> for the abovementioned vessel, have read and completed the checklist, in preparation for the vessel's Safety Survey. I further understand that should the vessel not be ready for survey, the SAMSA SURVEYOR may terminate the survey/audit and that I will be invoiced as per SAMSA Policy.			
Responsible Person (Full Name)	<input type="text"/>	Signature	<input type="text"/>

**MSA Section 223. Surveyor may direct that defects be made good.**—(1) If upon the inspection of a vessel a surveyor finds that the provisions of section 73 or 221 or of the maritime occupational safety regulations *are not being complied with*, or that the vessel is *not equipped* as required by the construction regulations, the lifesaving equipment regulations, the radio regulations, the collision regulations or any other applicable regulations which may have been made or not marked as required by the load line regulations, or that the equipment is not in good condition, or that the deck lines or load lines are *not being properly maintained*, or that the master and crew *cannot demonstrate* the related competency at their place or places of duty, he shall give notice in writing to that effect to the owner or master, pointing out the deficiencies or defects and requiring that they be made good. (2) A copy of every notice so given shall be transmitted by the surveyor to the proper officer at any port at which a clearance for that vessel may be requested, and a clearance shall not be granted, and *the vessel shall be detained*, until a certificate under the hand of a surveyor is produced stating that *the deficiencies or defects have been supplied or made good*.

### **APPLICATION:**

### **WHALE WATCHING SUPPLEMENTARY**

**Marine Notice: 11 of 2008 - SAMSA standards for whale watching vessels  
Additional requirements for vessels engaged in whale watching operations.  
This checklist is to be used in conjunction with the relevant LGSC checklist for your vessel.**

<b>SAFE ACCESS</b>			
<i>SAMSA surveyors have instructions to issue a "prohibition order" requiring that all work on board be halted and access to the vessel be denied until safe access is provided to the satisfaction of the surveyor, this includes enclose space.</i>			
ACCOMMODATION LADDERS AND GANGWAYS	Access equipment must be of good construction, sound material and adequate strength, free from patent defect and properly maintained. Gangways should not be used at an angle of more than 30° from the horizontal, unless designed and constructed for use at greater angles. Gangways should not be fixed to the ship's railings unless designed for such use. If rigged in an open section in the ship's bulwark or railings, any remaining gaps should be adequately fenced.		
<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b>			
MSA	Merchant Shipping Act, No57 of 1951	NSVSR	Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations, 2007

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	REMARKS
1	Surf Launching	<p>.1 <u>Passenger Vessels</u> are <b>NOT</b> permitted to launch through our high energy surf lunch site or through river mouths.</p> <p>.2 The launching of charter vessels (i.e. vessels carrying less than 12 passengers) from beaches or through river mouths where high energy surf is the norm will also <b>not</b> be permitted except where the surf is not high energy and the launch site is strictly controlled. The Principal Officer will use his discretion in permitting the operation and endorsing the certificate with any necessary limitations.</p> <p>.3 Skippers, of charter vessels, who are allowed to launch in this manner must exercise extreme caution due to the limitations of passengers in emergency situations.</p>
2	Vessel Types	<p>.1 All whale watching vessels must be fitted with a GPS receiver (used for reporting to DEA).</p> <p>.2 The construction requirements are contained regulations and summarized in the relevant vessel category checklist.</p> <p>.3 Passenger vessels are limited to operations within 5 nautical miles from the shore and 15 nautical miles from a safe haven.</p>
3	Vessel Marking	<p>The letter W in brackets must be added to the vessel marking.</p> <p>Eg: DTC 1234 D (W)</p>
4	Local General Safety Certificate	<p>The area of operation (concession area) of the whale watching vessel must be included in the relevant space on the LGSC.</p> <p>SAMSA officers must sight the permit before considering appropriate wording.</p> <p>If the area detailed in the permit exceeds the operational area stipulated in the regulations, the latter will apply.</p>