



NEW ZEALAND MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD IUOW Inc

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"IMO STEERING" WEEKLY

NZ waters: anything but "sheltered"

"I just can't figure how Maritime NZ can seriously call these waters "sheltered"! This is a question of credibility.'

John Conrad, experienced tourism and fishing skipper, and Guild Committee of Management Member

Maritime NZ wants to call Cook Strait and the waters to a uniform 12 miles around the coast of New Zealand "sheltered".

The Qualifications and Operating Limits Review proposals are set to be released for public consultation next Monday (27 Sept), and a Maritime NZ "road show" around the country will follow in October.

Guild members will be out in force at these meetings to express their views on this and other proposals which will, if implemented in their present "draft" form, inevitably lead to the removal of foreign going qualifications on NZ coastal vessels. Guild members, regardless of whether they hold a MFG or NZOM qualification are expressing deep concern at the prospect of large coastal vessels

being under the command of non STCW qualifications. "This would place an intolerable burden on our NZ Offshore Master, Offshore Watchkeeper, and ILM qualified members and expose them to unacceptable risk and nightmarish liability," says Guild President and Centreport pilot, Capt Lew Henderson. "These members play a very important role in the maritime industry but Maritime NZ is trying to feed them to the lions", he said in Wellington today.

John Conrad, experienced tourism and fishing skipper, and Guild Committee of Management member for the past 6 years, is worried that the Qualifications and Operating Limits proposals are designed to use him and his colleagues as 'cannon fodder'. "New Zealand waters, especially Cook and Foveaux Straits, and many other areas around the coast, are recognised as some of the most dangerous waters in the world! I just can't figure how Maritime NZ could seriously call them "sheltered", and I am totally opposed to any move to lower standards in these waters. This is a question of credibility."

Guild meeting and MNZ Road show in your port:

Details of tandem Guild and MNZ meetings in your area are overleaf. Please ensure you are able to attend these two very important meetings.

		Guild Meeting	Then MNZ Presentation
Whangarei	Mon 4 Oct	3.30	5 – 7pm Forum North Centre, Rust Avenue
Auckland	Tue 5 Oct	3.30	5 – 7pm Tamaki Yacht Club, Romfords Room 30 Tamaki Dr, Mission Bay
Tauranga	Wed 6 Oct	3.30	5-7pm MOSC, 1 Salisbury Ave
Napier	Tue 12 Oct	3.30	5-7pm Napier Sailing Club
Wellington	Wed 13 Oct	3.30 Guild Office	5-7pm Tasman Kupe Room, Level 10, Optimisation House 1 Grey St
Taranaki	Thu 14 October	11am	1230-3pm Port Taranaki Centre, Boardroom 2-8 Bayley Rd, Moturoa
Nelson	Tue 19 October	3.30 Rutherford	5-7pm Tasman Bay Cruising Club Akersten St
Greymouth	Wed 20 October	4pm	5-7pm Kingsgate Hotel Brian Boru Room 52 Mawhera Quay
Lyttelton	Thu 21 October	2.30pm	
Milford Sound	Wed 27 Oct	TBA	
Bluff	Thu 28 Oct	TBA	5-7pm Bluff Marine Centre 25 Foreshore Rd
Dunedin	Fri 29 October	TBA	1230-3pm Otago Yacht Club 24 Magnet St
Timaru	Mon 1 November	5pm	Tue 2 Nov 1230-3pm Comfort Hotel, Benvenue 16-22 Evans St