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**Date: 11 September 2013**

Dear Consultee,

**CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT MARINE GUIDANCE NOTE: Procedure for carrying out a Roll or Heel test to assess stability for fishing vessel owners and skippers.**

This MGN has been produced as a result of the need for owners and skippers of small fishing vessels (most appropriately those under 15m LOA) to make an assessment of the state of stability of their vessels. Although both tests do not provide accurate or absolute data, it will help owners and skippers assess whether or not their vessel is tender or stiff in a particular condition (i.e. laden or unladen).

The aim of this MGN is to empower fishermen to perform their own roll / heel tests. Is it clear in this regard and does it provide enough information to fishermen to enable them to have a go?

The consultation will conclude on 11 November 2013. All comments should be sent by email, letter or fax to:

Oliver Vardy  
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Comments provided in response to this consultation and MCA responses will be published with the consultation itself in the Closed Consultations section of the website.

## **Freedom of Information Act**

*Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).*

*If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.*

*The Department will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances; this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.*

## **Consultation Criteria**

This consultation has been conducted in accordance with the [Cabinet Office Consultation Principles Guidance](#).

## **Feedback**

If you have any comments regarding the conduct of this consultation please contact the Consultation Co-ordinator at [consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk). We are continually trying to improve the way in which we conduct consultations and appreciate your views, so we would also be grateful if you could complete and return the attached feedback form. These should be submitted to the Consultation Co-ordinator and are not affected by the deadline for this consultation.

Yours Sincerely,

Oliver Vardy  
Vessel Standards Branch