

Circular From: The NorthStandard Club**Date: 27 April 2024**

China: Correspondents' advice on maritime-related risks

China MSA and other Chinese authorities regularly issue alerts and circulars on hazards pertaining to shipping and related operations. Our correspondents and contacts in China continue to provide valuable advice through their circulars on these issues, which are compiled here for ease of access. Correspondents' advice is categorised as 'Navigational Circulars', 'Pollution prevention and environmental circulars' and 'Inspections and monitoring circulars' – scroll down to the relevant section to find the latest advice in each.

NAVIGATIONAL CIRCULARS

Oasis P&I Circular 2404: Local government issued a guide to ship owners for bunkering at the five anchorages of Zhoushan port, China

Zhoushan port authorities have issued a guide for receiving bonded bunkers at Zhoushan port recently, advising of coordinates, navigational requirement, anchoring requirements, meteorological restrictions, and other useful information of the five main bunkering anchorages.

A summary is provided by Oasis P&I and can be [read here](#)

Shanghai P&I Services Circular SPI240401: Notice issued by Shandong MSA with respect to the recommended route for fishing vessels in the densely navigated area in southeast of Shidao, China.

Shandong Maritime Safety Administration recently issued recommended route for fishing vessels in the densely navigated area in southeast of Shidao, Shandong Province of China along with the navigation guidelines for the vessels in this area.

[Read the circular here](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2024]03: The Government of the People's Republic of China Announces the Baselines of the Territorial Sea Adjacent to the North Part of the Beibu Gulf.

Club correspondent Huatai Marine has issued its circular PNI [2024] 03 which advises of the new baselines as of 1 March 2024.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2024]02: Jiangsu and Shanghai MSA Jointly Published the Public Routes and Anchorages along the Coast of Nantong.

Club correspondent Huatai Marine has issued its circular PNI [2024] 02 which updates the public routes and anchorages along the coast of Nantong.

Explanations and specific geographical coordinates of the navigation the routes of the public routes, main channels and anchorages are published in the circular which can be accessed through the below links.

Huatai Marine suggestions for navigating the coast of Nantong are as follows:

- The announcement and adoption of public routes and main channels along the coast of Nantong provide strong guarantees for ships safely entering and leaving Nantong seaports. It is recommended that when ships navigating in these waters should, as far as possible, give priority to the use of public routes and channels published by the MSA.
- The public routes entering and leaving Nantong seaports intersect with the north-south customary route (inner route), and a large number of merchant ships converged in this water area, forming crossing, head-on and other situations. Therefore ships should strictly comply with COLREGS in order to avoid the occurrence of collision accidents when navigating in the public routes in these waters.
- It is worth noting that there are a large number of fishing boats operating in these waters, thus ships should proactively take reasonable measures to pass and clear all fishing boats, including their fishing gear and nets.
- Due to the influence of natural conditions and surrounding environment, there are numerous shoals in the water area off Nantong seaports. When a ship is navigating in the vicinity of the shoals, particularly in the channel adjacent to the shoals, special attention should be paid to prevent the occurrence of grounding accidents.

[English – Read Here >](#)

[Chinese – Read Here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2024]01: An Update on the Distribution of Major Fishery Farms along the Coast of China.

An update on the fishery farms located in the waters off Tianjin Port and Yantai Port.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Oasis P&I Circular 2313: MSA offices in the Bohai Rim jointly published 27 main public routes within the Bohai Sea and sea area to the east.

Oasis P&I report that the MSA offices of Tianjin, Liaoning, Hebei and Shandong jointly published 27 navigation routes within the Bohai Sea and sea area to the east effective from 18 December 2023. This area has been frequent locations of collision incidents and fish farm claims in recent years.

[English – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]11: The Reference Routes for Common Navigation Methods between Lianyungang-Ganyu-Lanshan

Routes for common navigation methods in Haizhou Bay jointly published by Lianyungang and Shandong MSA.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]09: An Update on the Distribution of Major Fishery Farms along the Coast of China

Outlines the distribution of major fishery farms along the coast of China, near Rizhao/Lanshan Port and Dalian Port.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Oasis P&I Circular 2310: China MSA issues alert on areas of high risk of collision with fishing vessels

Oasis P&I has issued a circular which identifies 38 ‘high risk water areas’ along the Chinese coast where China MSA advise that vessels should “strengthen proper lookout and maintain careful navigation to avoid collision with fishing boats”.

[English – Read here >](#)

Oasis P&I Circular 2308: Shandong MSA issues alert on Bohai Sea and Yellow Sea fishing vessel collision risk

Oasis P&I has issued a circular which identifies ‘high risk water areas’ in the Bohai Sea and Yellow Sea where collision incidents between vessels and fishing boats are more frequent.

English – [Read Oasis Circular 2308 here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]06: Chinese Coastal Waters – 2023 Summer Ban will be Lifted

The lifting of the 2023 summer fishing ban in China is expected to result in increased fishing vessel traffic in coastal waters and the associated risk of collision. Huatai outlines which areas are affected and the dates of lifting of the fishing ban.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]07: Wusong MSA Issued “Notice on Further Strengthening the Safety Self-inspection of Ships Planning to Enter the Yangtze Estuary Deepwater Channel”

Effective 15 August 2023, vessels planning to enter the Yangtze estuary deepwater channel – also referred to as the ‘North Channel’ – are to conduct self-inspection of critical equipment such as the main propulsion machinery, rudder system, main power supply, and emergency power supply.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Shanghai P&I Services Circular SPI230701: Guidance issued by Yangshan MSA regarding Safety Precautions for foreign ships navigating within Yangshan VTS area of Shanghai port

Guidance on the precautions for the safe navigation of foreign ships within waters under the jurisdiction of the Yangshan MSA.

Read the Shanghai P&I Services [circular here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]05: Zhoushan MSA issued “Notice on Publishing the Recommended Navigation Methods for Ships in the Yuxingnao Waters of Zhoushan”

The Yuxingnao waters, located on the west side of Yushan Island, is an area with high maritime traffic density. The new navigational requirements have been introduced to improve traffic flow and reduce the risk of collisions.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Shanghai P&I Services Circular SPI230401: Shandong MSA published the revised Rules for Supervision and Administration of Vessel Traffic Management System at Rizhao port, China

The revisions, which will take effect on 1 May 2023, apply to vessels and facilities that are navigating, berthing, and operating within the Vessel Traffic Management System area of the Rizhao Maritime Safety Administration, which comprises the VTS service areas of Rizhao and Lanshan.

Shanghai P&I Services has issued a circular detailing the reporting and routing requirements, which can be [read here >](#)

Shanghai P&I Services Circular SPI230201: Announcement issued by Guangxi MSA to optimize and adjust shipping routes along the coast of Beibu Gulf, China

Guangxi MSA has introduced new navigation requirements to optimise shipping routes and prevent collisions in the Beibu Gulf. The new arrangements, which took effect on 10 March 2023, create five main shipping routes and sixteen branch routes.

Shanghai P&I Services has issued a circular detailing the changes and the new routes, [which can be read here >](#)

POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCULARS

Oasis P&I Circular 2402: Major changes brought by the amended Marine Environmental Protection Law of PRC effective from 1 January 2024

The amended Marine Environment Protection Law of came into effect on 1 January 2024. It provides an institutional upgrading and strengthening of all aspects of the prevention and control of pollution from vessels into the sea.

[English read here >](#)

Shanghai P&I Services Circular SPI231101: Implementation of Amendments to Maritime Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China

Significant changes related to the prevention and control of ship pollution under the new Maritime Environmental Protection Law that have been summarised for easy reference.

[English – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]05: Regulations of Shanghai Municipality on the Prevention and Control of Ship Pollution and Regulations of Jiangsu Province on the Prevention and Control of Ship Pollution in the Yangtze River Came into Effect on 1st March 2023

To prevent and control pollution from ships in the Yangtze River, the Shanghai Municipality and Jiangsu Province have enforced new regulations which came into effect from 1st March 2023.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING CIRCULARS

Huatai Circular PNI[2024]04: Notice of the Maritime Safety Administration of the People's Republic of China on the Special Action to Prevent Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Failures on Ships

Special inspection action initiated by China MSA to prevent ship mechanical and electrical equipment failures are the ships that entering the Chinese ports (including seaports and river ports). The special action will start from 7 April 2024 and end on 31 October 2024.

[English – Read here](#)

[Chinese – Read here](#)

Oasis P&I Services Circular 2403: China MSA announces a special campaign on prevention of vessel mechanical and electrical failures in Chinese waters

Following the tightened control by Shanghai MSA and Shandong MSA on main engine failures last year, China MSA issued a notice recently announcing a nationwide campaign focusing on prevention of vessel mechanical and electrical failures in Chinese waters from 7 April to 31 October 2024.

[English – read here](#)

Oasis P&I Services Circular 2312: China MSA amended rules of intensified monitoring and inspection on the listed vessels

China MSA has published new rules of intensified monitoring and inspection of targeted ('listed') vessels which will come into effect as of 01 Dec 2023.

[English – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]10: Maritime Safety Administration of the People's Republic of China Issued “the Provisions on the Supervision and Administration of Vessels under Special Follow-up”

China MSA has published new provisions on inspection of targeted ('listed') vessels which will come into effect as of 01 Dec 2023.

[English – Read here >](#)

[Chinese – Read here >](#)

Huatai Circular PNI[2023]08: Properly Fly The Port State Flag

Huatai Marine advise that they have recently dealt with a number of cases where vessels have been penalised by the Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) for failing to fly, improperly flying, or flying a damaged or defiled national flag of the People's Republic of China.

In their circular PNI [2023] 08, Huatai Marine outline the legislation pertaining to the flying of the Chinese national flag, [which can be read here >](#)

Source of Information:

The NorthStandard Club