



OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN PLAN DE PROTECTION DES OCÉANS

May 24, 2019

Cowichan Bay Ship Watch Society
British Columbia

Attention: Peter Holmes, President

Letter transmitted by e-mail to cbsws820@gmail.com – no paper copy to follow

Dear Mr. Holmes:

RE: EXTENSION OF PACIFIC REGION ANCHORAGES INTERIM PROTOCOL

On behalf of Transport Canada, I am writing to invite your comments and feedback regarding the proposed extension of the *Interim Protocol for the Use of Southern British Columbia Anchorages*, which is set to expire at the end of July 2019.

As you are aware, in February 2018, Transport Canada and its industry partners implemented an *Interim Protocol* to serve as a voluntary and temporary set of procedures for the assignment and use of the thirty-three anchorage sites along the South Coast of B.C. outside Canada Port Authority boundaries. The intent of these measures was to more evenly balance the use of anchorage sites among all locations, and to raise awareness among industry and the shipping community about the need to reduce noise and light when anchored near residential communities.

Through the implementation of the *Interim Protocol*, Transport Canada has gained a better understanding of the impacts of anchoring. The feedback that Transport Canada has received through correspondence or at Dialogue Forums has provided a helpful starting point to pursue engagement with island communities and First Nations.





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At this time, we are interested in your views on the following questions:

1. Do you have any concerns about the extension of the *Interim Protocol*?
2. Is there specific information you think should be considered in the *Interim Protocol*?
3. From your perspective, are there any additional considerations that could help in revising the *Interim Protocol*?

Before we make final decisions on the future of the Protocol, we want to hear from you, and so ask that you provide any written comments to Vija Poruks at our regional office, at vija.poruks@tc.gc.ca, no later than July 5, 2019.

We realize that the time frame for response is short, and thank you in advance for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely yours,

Trevor J. Heryet, Executive Director
Oceans Protection Plan
Transport Canada, Pacific Region / Government of Canada