#### LAWS OF GUYANA

# RIVER NAVIGATION ACT CHAPTER 50:01

# Act 17 of 1891

Amended by

11 of 1924 18 of 1944 8 of 1948 29 of 1961 6 of 1997 7 of 1998

## **Current Authorised Pages**

 Pages
 Authorised

 (inclusive)
 by L.R.O.

 1
 - 50
 ...
 1/2012

## Index

### of

## **Subsidiary Legislation**

	Page
North Western District Oil Launches Regulations (Reg. 31/12/1905)	8
Demerara River Oil Launches Regulations (Reg. 29/3/1906)	10
River Oil Launches Regulations (Reg. 13/5/1912)	11
River Navigation Regulations (Regs. 8/11/1918, 26/6/1924, 5/12/1928, 34/1945, 23/1947, 11/1950, 3/1956, 19/1960, 27/1960 and 12/1969)	13
River Navigation Regulations (Exemption) Order (O. in C. 18/9/1934)	49
Declaration of Government Station Notice (Nt. 27/11/1925)	50

#### **CHAPTER 50:01**

#### RIVER NAVIGATION ACT

#### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### **SECTION**

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Interpretation.
- 3. Appointment of officer to have charge of navigation of river.
- 4. Appointment of deputy of officer.
- 5. Appointment of subordinate officers.
- 6. Scope of order of appointment.
- 7. Regulations relating to navigation of rivers.
- 8. River navigation improvement work.
- 9. Annual report of officer.
- 10. Appropriation of fees.
- 11. Payment of expenses under the Act.
- 12. Saving of rights of Amerindians.
- 13. Procedure for enforcing attendance of witnesses at inquiry.
- 14. Enforcement.

\_\_\_\_\_

1929 Ed.

c. 128

1953 Ed.

c. 270

17 of 1891

An Act to make provision for the more safe and convenient navigation of the Rivers of Guyana.

[25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 1891]

Short title.

**1.** This Act may be cited as the River Navigation Act.

Interpretation. [18 of 1944

**2.** In this Act—

8 of 1948]

"boat" means any kind of craft used for the navigation of any river or lake in Guyana other than a vessel;

- "officer" means the person appointed to take charge of the navigation of a river or rivers of Guyana, or of any specified part or parts thereof;
- "prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made under this Act:
- "river" includes a creek, and also, unless the contrary is expressly provided, includes all the tributaries of a river;
- "vessel" means any kind of craft used for the navigation of any river or lake in Guyana which has not less than threequarters of its length, measured at the water line, covered with decking.

Appointment of officer to have charge of navigation of river.

- **3.** (1) There shall be a public officer who shall have charge of the navigation of any river or rivers of Guyana or of any specified part or parts thereof.
- (2) Every appointment made under this section shall be published in the Gazette.

Appointment of deputy of officer.

- 4. (1) There shall be a public officer who shall, in respect of any tributary or specified part of a river, be deputy to the officer appointed under section 3.
- (2) The deputy, subject to the general control and direction of the officer, shall have and may exercise all the powers and authorities of the officer on that tributary or specified part.

Appointment of subordinate officers.

**5.** There shall be such subordinate officers and servants as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Scope of order of appointment.

**6.** An instrument appointing an officer may specify the limits within which he is to exercise jurisdiction and the place where his office shall be situated, and may define his functions and powers.

5

Regulations relating to navigation of rivers. [18 of 1944 8 of 1948 6 of 1997]

7. (1) The Minister may make regulations relating to all or any of the following matters:

- the examination, or testing as to (a) competency in the navigation of any river or rivers or of any specified portion thereof, of masters of vessels and of steersmen and bowmen of boats; and the issue to them of certificates of competency;
- (b) the payment of a fee, not exceeding sixty-five dollars, for the certificate; and the suspension or cancellation of a certificate for sufficient cause:
- (c) the registration of the masters, steersmen and bowmen;
- (d) inspection, registration, licensing of vessels and boats and the payment of fees therefor;
- (e) the fixing of the carrying capacity of vessels and boats, in respect of both persons and goods;
- (f) generally, the prevention of accidents in the navigation of any river or rivers or of specified parts thereof, and the proper discipline and control of traffic thereon:
- (g) the conveyance and care of sick persons to hospital or dispensary for treatment and the payment recovery of expenses in connection therewith, and the punishment of any

- person found guilty of misrepresentation, or anyone who aids or abets that person;
- (h) the control of the size, structure, navigation and mooring of timber rafts
- (2) There may be annexed to the breach of any regulation made under this Act such penalty, not exceeding forty-eight thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, as may be prescribed and such penalty may be sued and recovered under the Summary Jurisdiction Act.

River navigation improvement work.

- **8.** (1) The Minister, if he thinks fit, may require an officer to undertake and carry out, and maintain any work for the improvement of the navigation of any river or to take charge of and maintain that work.
- (2) Any work mentioned in the requisition, and any property of any kind in connection therewith, shall be vested in the officer.

Annual report of officer. [18 of 1944] **9.** In the month of January in every year an officer shall make to the National Assembly a report of his proceedings and of the condition of the navigation of the river or rivers in his charge during the preceding year.

Appropriation of fees.

**10.** All sums of money received under or by virtue of this Act shall be paid to the Accountant General for the public use.

Payment of expenses under the Act.

11. All expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of this Act, including the salary and allowances of any officer appointed hereunder, shall be defrayed from moneys provided by Parliament.

Saving of rights of Amerindians.

**12.** Nothing in this Act shall affect boats belonging to Amerindians and used by them solely for their own purposes:

[29 of 1961]

Provided that any regulation made under section 7 for the carrying of lights shall apply to boats belonging to Amerindians when such boats are being used by them upon those portions of the rivers of Guyana below the first falls.

Procedure for enforcing attendance of witnesses at inquiry. c. 10:02 13. The provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act as to summoning and enforcing the attendance of witnesses shall apply in the case of any inquiry held by an officer under any regulations made under this Act as if he were a magistrate and the subject matter of the inquiry were an offence punishable on a summary conviction.

Enforcement. [7 of 1998]

- 14. (1) Notwithstanding any provision in this Act and in any subsidiary legislation made thereunder, it shall be the duty of the Director and the Maritime Administration Department to enforce or cause to be enforced, the provisions thereof and a reference therein to an officer or body shall accordingly be constructed as a reference to the "Director" and the "Maritime Administration Department", respectively.
- (2) In this Act the words "Director" and" Maritime Administration Department" have the same meaning assigned to those words in sections 2 and 4, respectively of the Guyana Shipping Act.

c. 49:01

#### **SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

Reg. 31/12/1905

# NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT OIL LAUNCHES REGULATIONS

made under section 7

Citation.

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the North Western District Oil Launches Regulations.

Interpretation.

**2.** In these Regulations, the words "petroleum" and "volatile petroleum" shall be deemed to have the meanings assigned to them in the proclamation issued by the Governor on the 31st August, 1904, under the authority of the Petroleum Ordinance, 1872.

Application.

1 of 1872

**3.** Except as is hereinafter provided, these Regulations shall apply to every vessel and boat propelled by reciprocating engines, the fuel for which is petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, or by internal combustion engines in which petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol is used, which ply on the Rivers Barima, Barama and Waini in all their parts or tributaries within the limits of Guyana.

Containers of petroleum etc.

4. Petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol carried in any vessel or boat for any of the purposes enumerated in the last preceding regulation must be contained either in the service tank or tanks of such vessel or boat, in unopened tins or drums, or in tins or drums which having been opened are securely stoppered.

Construction of tanks on vessel etc

**5.** The service tank or tanks of any vessel or boat so using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for fuel must

[Subsidiary]

North Western District Oil Launches Regulations

be constructed to the satisfaction of the officer.

Open containers prohibited.

6. Open tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, and tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, which having been opened are not securely stoppered, shall not be carried on any vessel or boat using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for the purposes enumerated in regulation 3:

Provided that petroleum for illuminating purposes may be carried either in unopened tins or drums, in tins or drums which have been opened and are securely stoppered, or in separate glass or earthenware vessels, each of which contains not more than one gallon and is securely stoppered.

Smoking prohibited.

7. Smoking is prohibited in the vicinity of the engines and storage tanks of every vessel or boat using volatile petroleum as fuel.

Nonapplication of Regulation. **8.** These Regulations shall not apply to any vessel or boat using as fuel petroleum which, when tested in the manner laid down in the Regulation proclamation referred to in regulation 2, does not evolve an inflammable vapour at a temperature below 200° Fahrenheit.

River Navigation Regulations. **9.** Nothing in these regulations shall be deemed to exempt any vessel or boat to which they apply from complying with the River Navigation Regulations.

Penalties.

**10.** Any person committing a breach of any of these regulations shall be liable to a fine of seventy-five dollars.

L.R.O. 1/2012

[Subsidiary]

Demerara River Oil Launches Regulations

Reg. 29/3/1906

#### DEMERARA RIVER OIL LAUNCHES REGULATIONS

#### made under section 7

Citation.

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Demerara River Oil Launches Regulations.

Interpretation.

**2.** In these Regulations, the words "petroleum" and "volatile petroleum" shall be deemed to have the meanings assigned to them in the proclamation issued by the Governor on the 10th November, 1905, under the authority of the Petroleum Ordinance, 1872.

Application.

1 of 1872

**3.** Except as hereinafter provided, these Regulations shall apply to every vessel and boat propelled by reciprocating engines the fuel for which is petroleum or alcohol, or by internal combustion engines in which petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol is used, which ply on the Demerara River.

Containers.

4. Petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol carried in any vessel or boat for any of the purposes enumerated in the last preceding regulation, must be contained either in the service tank or tanks of such vessel or boat, or in unopened tins or drums, or in tins or drums which, having been opened, are securely stoppered.

Construction of containers.

**5.** The service tank or tanks of any vessel or boat so using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for fuel, must be constructed to the satisfaction of the officer.

Open containers.

**6.** Open tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, and tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, which having been opened, are not securely stoppered, shall not be carried on any vessel or boat using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for the purposes enumerated in regulation 3:

[Subsidiary]

Demerara River Oil Launches Regulations

Provided that petroleum for illuminating purposes may be carried either in unopened tins or drums, or in tins or drums which have been opened and are securely stoppered or in separate glass or earthenware vessels, each of which contains not more than one gallon and is securely stoppered.

Smoking prohibited.

7. Smoking is prohibited in the vicinity of the engines and storage tanks of every vessel or boat using volatile petroleum as fuel.

Exemption.

**8.** These Regulations shall not apply to any vessel or boat using as fuel petroleum which, when tested in the manner laid down in the proclamation referred to in regulation 2, does not evolve an inflammable vapour at a temperature below 200° Fahrenheit.

Penalty.

**9.** Any person committing a breach of any of these regulations shall be liable to a fine of seventy-five dollars.

Reg. 13/5/1912

#### RIVER OIL LAUNCHES REGULATIONS

made under section 7

Citation.

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the River Oil Launches Regulations.

Interpretation.

**2.** In these Regulations, the words "petroleum" and "volatile petroleum" shall be deemed to have the meanings assigned to them in the proclamation issued by the Governor on the 10th November, 1905, under the authority of the Petroleum Ordinance, 1872.

1 of 1872

Application.

**3.** Except as is hereinafter provided, these regulations shall apply to every vessel and boat propelled by reciprocating engines the fuel for which is petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, or by internal combustion

[Subsidiary]

River Oil Launches Regulations

engines in which petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol is used, which ply on any of the rivers of Guyana in all their parts or tributaries.

Containers.

4. Petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol carried in any vessel or boat for any of the purposes enumerated in the last preceding regulation must be contained either in the service tank or tanks of such vessel or boat, or in unopened tins or drums, or in tins or drums which having been opened are securely stoppered.

Construction of containers.

5. The service tank or tanks of any vessel or boat so using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for fuel must be constructed to the satisfaction of the officer or his deputy for the time being in charge of the navigation of any river under the Act.

Open containers.

**6.** Open tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, and tins or drums containing petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol, which having been opened are not securely stoppered shall not be carried on any vessel or boat using petroleum or volatile petroleum or alcohol for the purposes enumerated in regulation 3:

Provided that petroleum for illuminating purposes may be carried either in unopened tins or drums, or in tins or drums which have been opened and are securely stoppered, or in separate glass, or earthenware vessels, each of which contains not more than one gallon and is securely stoppered.

Smoking prohibited.

**7.** Smoking is prohibited in the vicinity of the engines and storage tanks of every vessel or boat using volatile petroleum as fuel.

Exemption.

**8.** These Regulations shall not apply to any vessel or boat using as fuel petroleum which, when tested in the manner laid down in the proclamation referred to in

River Oil Launches Regulations

regulation 2, does not evolve an inflammable vapour at a temperature below 200° Fahrenheit.

Compliance with River Navigation Regulations. **9.** Nothing in these regulations shall be deemed to exempt any vessel or boat to which they apply from complying with the River Navigation Regulations.

Penalty.

**10.** Any person committing a breach of any of these regulations shall be liable to a fine of seventy-five dollars.

Regulations to be posted on vessels etc. 11. A copy of these Regulations shall be put up in a conspicuous position in every vessel or boat to which these Regulations apply.

RIVER NAVIGATION REGULATIONS

#### ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

#### REGULATION

- 1. Citation.
- 2. Application of regulations.

#### **PARTI**

Powers of Deputy Officers

3. Power to appoint deputy.

#### **PART II**

Inspection and Certificating of Vessels and Boats

- 4. Vessels and boats to be inspected at least once a year.
- 5. Case of boat or vessel being found in bad order.
- 6. Revocation of certificate given by deputy.
- 7. Dimensions of boats to be used.
- 8. Inspection of boats.
- 9. Form and colour of waterlines.

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

#### REGULATION.

- 10. Colour of background and number of certificate of inspection.
- 11. Certificate of inspection.
- 12. Register of certificates of inspection.
- 13. Detention of boat or vessel.
- 14. Power to detain vessel or boat where machinery or steering gear is not in proper working order.
- 15. Definition of an overloaded boat or vessel.
- 16. (1) Concealment of waterlines.
  - (2) Alteration or defacement of certificates.

#### PART III

Passenger Boats and Vessels

- 17. Number of persons to be carried.
- 18. Number of passengers a boat or vessel may be licensed to carry.
- Number of passengers a mechanically propelled vessel may carry.
- 20. Boats carrying farmers not to be deemed passenger boats.
- 21. Passenger boats and vessels to be marked with a large "P."
- 22. Number of certificate of inspection to be marked on passenger boat or vessel.
- 23. Markings to be kept in good order.
- 24. Ballast to be carried by passenger boat.
- 25. Life belts and life buoys to be carried.
- 26. Reef points on sailing boats and vessels.
- 27. Provisions where vessels or boats navigate certain portions of certain rivers and creeks.
- 28. Speed limits for vessels or boats navigating the Demerara River.

#### PART IV

Certificating of Captains, Steersmen and Bowmen to be Employed in

Charge of Boats and Vessels Used on Any Portion of a River Obstructed by Falls or Rapids

#### River Navigation Regulations

#### REGULATION

- 29. Requirements as to control of boat or vessel.
- 30. Prohibition of uncertificated person acting as captain, steersman or bowman.
- 31. (1) Issue of certificate of competency.
  - (2) Examination of captains, steersmen and bowmen for certificates of competency.
- 32. (1) Form of certificate of competency.
  - (4) Issue of emergency certificates
- 33. Register of certificates of competency.
- 34. Captain, steersman and bowman to act as rural constable.
- 35. Suspension of cancellation of certificates.
- 36. Offences by captain, steersman and bowman which constitute a breach of the regulations.

#### PART V

Control of Navigation of Boats and Vessels Used on Any Portion of a River Obstructed by Falls or Rapids

- 37. Offences against the regulations.
- 38. Manning of boat.
- 39. Equipment of boatman.
- 40. Ordinary ropes of boat.
- 41. Life-line of boat.
- 42. Prohibition of "running" certain falls.
- 43. Vessel or boat not to run falls between certain hours.
- 44. (1) Disobeying order of steersman.
  - (2) Definition of person deemed to be employed in a boat.
  - (3) Offence to turn back with boat on break-down of motor.
  - (4) Bowman to pull paddle in open water.
  - (5) Offence to incite persons to disobey order of steersman.
- 45. (1) Reporting at Government Station.
  - (3) Offence to take in additional cargo or persons after reporting at Station.
  - (4) Prohibition against stopping between Bartica and first falls after leaving Station.
  - (5) Offence for steersman or bowman to stop, land or

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

#### REGULATION

return after leaving Bartica.

- 46. (1) Landing at Government Station.
  - (2) Offence to stop or land between first falls and Bartica on downward journey
- 47. Production of certificate.
- 48. Offence to fail to produce certificate.
- 49. Reporting of accident.
- 50. Detention of vessel or boat for contravention of regulations.

#### **PART VI**

Carrying of Lights

- 51. Lights to be carried.
- 52. Moored vessel to exhibit light.

#### PART VII

Rule of the Road

- 53. Vessels to comply with the rule of the road.
- 54. (1) Vessels and boats under way to keep out of the way of open punts.
- (2) Boat when towed astern to have a steersman.
- 55. Steering oars not to project beyond boats.

#### PART VIII

Conveyance of Sick or Injured Persons to Hospital and the Recovery of the Expenses in Connection Therewith

- 56. Captains and steersmen must convey sick or injured person to hospital.
- 57. Conveyance of sick persons.
- 58. Captain or steersman must care sick or injured person.
- 59. Payment for the maintenance of sick or injured person conveyed.
- 60. Offence to refuse to convey and to care sick or injured person

Cap. 50:01

River Navigation

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

#### REGULATION

- 61. Arrival of sick or injured person to be reported.
- 62. Employer liable for expenses of conveying registered labourer.
- 63. Offence to obtain conveyance as sick or injured person by misrepresentation.

#### Miscellaneous Provisions

- 64. Appointment of Government Stations.
- 65. Penalty for breach of regulations.

SCHEDULE- Forms

Reg. 8/11/1918	RIVER NAVIGATION REGULATIONS							
26/6/1924								
5/12/1928	1 1							
34/1945	made under section 7							
23/1947								
11/1950	PRELIMINARY							
3/1956								
19/1960								
19/1969								
Citation	1. These Regulations may be cited as the							

Citation.

These Regulations may be cited as the River Navigation Regulations.

#### Application of Regulations.

2. These Regulations shall (except in so far as may be in any of them otherwise provided) apply to all the rivers of Guyana and to all their tributaries, and to vessels and boats conveying persons or goods up or down the said rivers:

Provided that the Minister may, by order, provide that the requirements of these regulations relating to boats or vessels to be used above the first falls in any river shall not apply to boats or vessels used exclusively in any part of a river above the first falls therein specified in such order and

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

therein declared not to be dangerous.

# PART I POWERS OF DEPUTY OFFICERS

Power to appoint deputy.

**3.** Every deputy of an officer shall, subject to the general control and direction of such officer, have and may exercise all the powers and authorities of the officer on the tributary or specified part of the river in respect of which he is appointed deputy of the officer:

Provided that any certificate issued by any deputy shall have effect as a provisional certificate only, and shall be so marked and the officer may at any time suspend, cancel or modify any such certificate.

# PART II INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATING OF VESSELS AND BOATS

Vessels and boats to be inspected at least once a year. [Reg. 34/1945]

- **4.** (1) The owner of a vessel or boat plying on any river in Guyana shall, once in every year and whenever required so to do by an officer or his deputy, present the vessel or boat with her equipment to the officer or his deputy for the purpose of his making an inspection thereof.
  - (2) This regulation shall not apply to
    - (a) vessels or boats holding a valid certificate of seaworthiness issued by a competent authority outside Guyana;
    - (b) vessels or boats with a valid certificate of seaworthiness issued under regulation 2 of the Coasting and Passenger Trade Regulations, made under the Shipping Casualties (Investigation and Prevention) Act.

c. 49:07

River Navigation Regulations

- (c) vessels or boats under ten tons burden used solely for fishing;
- (d) bateaux, corials and ballahoos not exceeding 20 feet in length and not used for trade or hire; and
- (e) boats belonging to Amerindians and used by them solely for their own purposes.

Case of boat or vessel being found in bad order.

- 5. (1) If, on any such inspection, a boat or vessel is found to be in bad order and unfit from any cause to proceed on a voyage, the officer or his deputy shall within twenty-four hours after such inspection, give to the owner, captain or steersman of such boat or vessel a statement in writing of the particulars of the bad order or unfitness of such boat or vessel, and shall, at the same time, require that the defects and deficiencies specified in such statement be made good before the boat or vessel proceeds on her next voyage.
- (2) If after receipt by the owner, captain or steersman of such statement and requisition, such boat or vessel nevertheless proceeds on a voyage without such defects and deficiencies having been made good, the owner of such boat or vessel shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.
- (3) Any owner, captain or steersman of a boat or vessel who uses or permits to be used any boat or vessel for which a certificate of inspection has not been issued within twelve months of the date of such use, shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

c. 80:01

(4) No licence under the Tax Act shall be issued for any boat or vessel to which these regulations apply until after production to the district commissioner of a certificate from

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

the officer that such boat or vessel has been duly inspected and passed on inspection by the officer or his deputy during the twelve months immediately preceding the date of the application for such licence.

Revocation of certificate given by deputy.

**6.** Any certificate given by the deputy of an officer under the preceding regulations may be revoked by the officer after inspection of the boat or vessel to which the certificate refers.

Dimensions of boats to be used. [Reg. 3/1956 19/1960]

- 7. (1) No boat exceeding 40 feet in length, 7 feet 6 inches in width inside measurement and 3 feet in depth, from inside of keel to top of gunwale shall be used on any river above the first falls therein, provided that boats exceeding these dimensions may be used exclusively in any part of a river above the first falls therein declared not to be dangerous by any order in council made under the proviso to regulation 2.
- (2) No timber raft exceeding 80 (eighty) feet in length and 45 (forty-five) feet in width shall be steered, floated, moored or otherwise used in the Berbice River.
- (3) No timber raft exceeding 80 feet in length and 35 feet in width shall be steered, floated, moored or otherwise used on that portion of the Kaituma River between its mouth and its junction with the Sebai River.

Inspection of boats.

**8.** Every vessel other than a vessel propelled by steam or other machinery, and every boat shall be branded by the officer or his deputy with waterlines in accordance with the following scale:

Where the length of the boat or vessel-

The freeboard shall not be less

River Navigation Regulations

than-

does not exceed 24 feet						6 inches	
exceeds	24	feet	but	does	not	6	1/2
exceed 26 feet					inches		
exceeds	26	feet	but	does	not	7 inche	s
exceed 28 feet							
exceeds	28	feet	but	does	not	7	1/2
exceed 30 feet						inches	
exceeds	30	feet	but	does	not	8 inches	s
exceed 32 feet							
exceeds	32	feet	but	does	not	8	1/2
exceed 34 feet						inches	
exceeds	34	feet	but	does	not	9 inche	s
exceed 36 feet							
exceeds	36	feet	but	does	not	9	1/2
exceed 38 feet					inches		
exceeds	38	feet	but	does	not	10 inch	es
exceed 40 feet							

The length of a boat or vessel shall be the overall length from stern to stern.

Form and colour of waterlines.

**9.** Every such brand shall consist of a straight line not less than twelve inches long and one inch wide, and shall be so placed that the central point of such line shall be exactly midway between the bow and stern of such boat or vessel, on the waterline, upon each side of such boat or vessel, in a horizontal direction. Such lines shall be known as the "Waterlines."

Colour of background and number of certificate of inspection. 10. Every such waterline after being painted white, shall be surrounded on all sides with a border of black colour not less than six inches in width and upon the black ground, above the waterlines the number of the certificate of

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

inspection hereinafter mentioned issued in respect of such boat or vessel shall be painted in white letters not less than two inches in height.

Certificate of inspection.

**11.** On the completion of the inspection and marking of any of such boat or vessel as aforesaid, the officer or his deputy shall, if such boat or vessel is found to be in good order, issue to the owner of such boat or vessel or his agent, a certificate (hereinafter called a certificate of inspection) to the effect that he has inspected such boat or vessel and branded and marked the waterlines of such boat or vessel and such certificate shall also state the length, breadth, name, if any, of such boat or vessel, the number of its licence and also the freeboard required by these regulations, the freeboard being taken to be the perpendicular distance from under a lath placed across the gunwales of the boat or vessel to the upper edge of the central point of the branded waterline. Every such certificate shall be in Form 1 in the Schedule. Such certificate shall hold good until the end of the financial year in which it is issued unless previously revoked for good and sufficient cause by the officer.

Register of certificates of inspection.

**12.** A register of all such certificates of inspection shall be kept by the officer and upon production shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein stated.

Detention of boat or vessel.

13. Any boat or vessel about to proceed or proceeding upon a voyage not being branded and marked as required by these regulations may be detained by any public officer or police constable and no such boat or vessel shall be allowed to proceed upon a voyage after having been branded and marked as aforesaid, if either of the waterlines of such boat or vessel is, in the opinion of such officer or police constable submerged or partially submerged.

Power to detain vessel or boat where **14.** (1) All machinery and steering gear on a vessel or boat shall be maintained in proper working order to the

River Navigation Regulations

machinery or steering gear is not in proper working order. [Reg. 34/1945] satisfaction of the officer, his deputy or any police constable.

(2) Where a vessel or boat is about to proceed, or is proceeding, on a voyage and the machinery or steering gear of the vessel or boat is not, in the opinion of the officer, his deputy or a police constable, in proper working order, the vessel or boat may be detained by the officer, deputy or police constable as the case may be.

Definition of an overloaded boat or vessel. 15. Any boat or vessel as aforesaid about to proceed or proceeding upon a voyage, or returning from a voyage having either of its waterlines submerged or partially submerged, or any boat or vessel which conveys a greater number of persons than it is licensed to carry shall be deemed to be an "overloaded boat" and the steersman or captain in charge thereof shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Concealment of waterlines.

**16.** (1) The waterlines of every such boat or vessel shall always be plainly discernible and shall not be covered or concealed in any manner whatsoever, and in the event of a breach of this regulation the steersman or captain shall be liable.

Alteration or defacement of certificates.

(2) Every person altering, defacing or removing any waterline placed upon a boat or vessel by the officer or his deputy, or wilfully covering or concealing the same or altering or in any way defacing any certificate issued under these Regulations shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

# PART III PASSENGER BOATS AND VESSELS

Number of persons to be carried.

17. Every certificate of inspection shall specify the number of persons any boat or vessel carrying passengers may carry and no boat or vessel shall carry more persons (crew included) than the number specified in such certificate.

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

Number of passengers a boat or vessel may be licenced to carry. 18. Except as hereinafter provided with respect to vessels propelled by machinery the number of passengers a boat or vessel shall be licensed to carry shall be computed as follows: Length x Breadth x Draft  $\div$  25.

Number of passengers a mechanically propelled vessel may carry. 19. (1) No vessel propelled by machinery engaged in carrying passengers within the limits to which these regulations apply, shall carry more than one passenger, together with his personal baggage, propelled for every five square feet of the deck surface of such vessel, and if such vessel has no deck, then for the equivalent area as if a deck existed:

Provided that such surface or area shall not include the space occupied by the machinery, open hatches, skylights, or fuel carried, nor the space occupied by any cargo carried on deck or on its equivalent area.

(2) A certificate of the number of passengers such a vessel is entitled to carry, shall be given by the officer or his deputy, after he shall have measured such vessel, and such certificate shall be framed and placed by the owner or captain of such vessel in a conspicuous place thereon.

Boats carrying farmers deemed not to be passenger boats. **20.** Boats or vessels carrying farmers or their labourers to or from their farms or residences shall not be considered passenger boats or vessels.

Passenger boats and vessels to be marked with a large 'P'. **21.** Every boat or vessel carrying passengers on any river shall have a large P, nine inches in length painted on both bows on the outside.

Number of certificate of inspection to be

**22.** The number of the certificate of inspection issued under regulation 11 and the number of persons the boat or

River Navigation Regulations

marked on passenger boat or vessel. vessel (if a passenger boat or vessel) is licensed to carry shall be legibly printed in black letters not less than three inches high on a white ground or white on a black ground on the outside of both bows of the boat or vessel in respect of which such certificate is issued.

Markings to be kept in good order.

23. All markings of boats or vessels required under these regulations shall be kept freshly painted and legible to the satisfaction of the officer or his deputy.

Ballast to be carried by passenger boat.

**24.** No boat or vessel not decked, which carries passengers shall carry any other than water ballast.

Life belts and life buoys to be carried.

**25.** Every boat or vessel carrying passengers shall carry one life belt for each person such boat or vessel is certified to carry or one life buoy for every such three persons.

Reef points on sailing boats and vessels.

26. Every sailing boat or vessel shall have on its sail or sails reef points to allow of at least one reef being taken in each of such sails.

Provisions where vessels or boats navigate certain portions of certain rivers and creeks. [Reg. 23/1947 27/1960]

- 27. (1) Except as hereinafter provided in this regulation, every vessel or boat when navigating the Demerara River below Watooka Creek, the Essequibo River below Bartica, the Berbice River below Kokerit Creek, the Barima River below Mount Everard, the Kaituma Creek below Port Kaituma or the Aruka Creek below Kumaka shall be in the charge of a person duly licensed under the Harbour Regulations to act as a master of a vessel in a harbour.
- (2) Any person guilty of a breach of this regulation shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars or to imprisonment for two months.
  - (3) This regulation shall not apply
    - (a) to any officer of the Guyana Defence

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

- Force or of the navy of any Commonwealth country; or
- (b) to any naval officer of any foreign power; or
- (c) to any person holding a certificate of competency, issued by any competent authority outside Guyana, for the particular type of vessel or boat being navigated; or
- (d) to fishing vessels or boats under 10 tons burden not propelled by machinery; or
- (e) to vessels or boats not propelled by machinery belonging to and used solely by farmers and not carrying passengers or goods for hire or reward.

Speed limits for vessels or boats navigating the Demerara River. [Reg. 23/1947]

- **28.** (1) Except with the special permission of the Harbour Master, no vessel or boat having an overall length of more than 50 feet shall be navigated
  - (a) in any part of the Demerara River, at a speed exceeding 10 knots; or
  - (b) in that portion of the Demerara River between the lower boundary of Plantation Providence and the upper boundary of Craig (and defined by public notice there erected of the speed restriction under this paragraph), or within such other portions of the said river as may from

River Navigation Regulations

time to time be prescribed by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette, at a speed exceeding 5 knots.

(2) Any person guilty of a breach of this regulation shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars or to imprisonment for two months.

#### PART IV

### CERTIFICATING OF CAPTAINS, STEERSMEN AND BOWMEN TO BE EMPLOYED IN CHARGE OF BOATS AND VESSELS USED ON ANY PORTION OF A RIVER OBSTRUCTED BY FALLS OR RAPIDS

Requirement as to control of boat or vessel. 29. Every boat used on any portion of a river above the first falls therein save as provided in regulation 2 shall have a steersman, and also a bowman, duly qualified and appointed for that purpose, and every vessel shall have a duly certificated captain.

Prohibition of uncertificated person acting as captain, steersman or bowman. **30.** It shall not be lawful for any person except in any case of emergency (the onus of proving which shall lie on him) to act as captain of a vessel or steersman or bowman of a boat, unless he holds a certificate of competency in that behalf from the officer.

Issue of certificate of competency.

**31.** (1) Any person desirous of obtaining a certificate of competency as captain of a vessel or steersman, or bowman of a boat shall make application for that purpose to the officer and on his satisfying the officer that he is over 21 years of age, that he is physically fit, and that he is competent to act as captain of a vessel, or steersman or bowman of a boat, shall be entitled to receive a certificate of competency accordingly on paying for the same the sum of one dollar.

Examination of captains,

(2) The officer may appoint any person or persons

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

steersman and bowmen for certificates of competency. to be an examiner or board of examiners for the purpose of determining the competency of the applicants for certificates as captain of a vessel, or steersman or bowman of a boat and may fix a fee for such examination not exceeding one dollar, to be paid by the applicant.

(3) Provided that no candidate shall sit for examination as a bowman until he shall have satisfied the examiners that he has made 12 round trips over the section of the river in respect of which he desires to be certified as a bowman and no candidate shall sit for examination as a steersman until he shall have satisfied the examiners that he has made 12 round trips as a bowman, and that such trips shall have been made during the states of the river known as high, medium and dry.

Form of certificate of competency. Schedule, Form 2.

- **32.** (1) Every certificate may be in Form 2 in the Schedule.
- (2) A certificate may be either of general application or of a specified local application.
- (3) Every certificate shall be issued and held subject to these regulations and to any other like regulations which may be hereafter enacted.

Issue of emergency certificates. (4) An emergency certificate may be issued by the deputy of such officer at any time in the same manner, and shall have the same force and effect as a certificate issued by the officer:

#### Provided that -

(a) the person to whom such certificate has been issued shall, upon notice being given to him for that purpose by the officer or his deputy, attend

River Navigation Regulations

before the officer for examination; and if such person fails to appear before the officer in accordance with such notice, or upon examination fails to satisfy the officer as to his competency, his certificate shall be cancelled by the officer;

- (b) an emergency certificate under this regulation shall only be issued in cases of urgency, or where certificated captains, steersmen, or bowmen are not available, and, that such certificate shall be valid only for the voyage specified therein.
- (5) No emergency certificate shall be issued to any person who has not served the probationary period set out in regulation 31(3) and no emergency certificate shall be issued for more than one voyage and after issue of such certificate no second emergency certificate shall be issued to the same person to act in the same capacity unless and until he shall have submitted himself to the board for examination and shall have duly passed the same.
- (6) It shall not be lawful for the holder of a certificate to lend, hire, pawn, pledge, sell or otherwise dispose of his certificate to any other person.

Register of certificates of competency.

**33.** The officer shall keep a register of all certificates issued under these regulations and such register, upon production, shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated.

Captain, steersman and bowman to act as rural **34.** (1) Every certificated captain, steersman and bowman shall accept and act in the office of rural constable if he is thereunto appointed by the Commissioner of Police and

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

constable.

upon his appointment to act as he shall receive a badge which shall bear the number of his certificate.

(2) Every certificated captain, steersman or bowman who within two weeks of the receipt of his certificate of competency fails to make written application to the Commissioner of Police for appointment as a rural constable may have his certificate suspended by the officer for such time as he may think fit.

Suspension or cancellation of certificates.

**35.** The officer may suspend for such time as he may think fit, or cancel the certificate of competency of any captain of a vessel or steersman or bowman of a boat who –

- is on account of physical or mental infirmity unable to perform his duties efficiently;
- (b) is guilty of drunkenness or neglect when engaged in the performance of his duties;
- (c) is guilty of a breach of contract or refuses or neglects, except for good cause, to perform the work he has contracted to carry out;
- is guilty of any breach of these regulations, or convicted of a breach of the Mining Regulations or State Lands Regulations for the time being in force;
- (e) refuses or neglects to accept or act in the office of a rural constable under the last preceding regulation;

c. 65:01 c. 62:01

River Navigation Regulations

- (f) allows any vessel or boat of which he is in charge to be overloaded;
- (g) is guilty of reckless conduct whilst in charge of a vessel or boat, thereby endangering the safety of the passengers or crew;
- (h) refuses or neglects to give reasonable care and a Mention to any sick person being conveyed in his boat; or
- (i) conveys in his boat a greater number of persons than it is licensed to carry:

#### Provided that -

- (i) no certificate shall be cancelled, except after due inquiry made by the officer, and unless the captain, steersman or bowman concerned has had an opportunity of being present at the inquiry and of making his defence;
- (ii) any captain, steersman or bowman whose certificate of competency has been so suspended or cancelled shall have the right of appealing against such order to the Minister, whose decision shall be final;
- (iii) the officer may at any

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

time require the holder of a certificate to present himself for reexamination.

Offences by captain, steersman and bowman which constitute a breach of the regulations.

**36.** Every captain of a vessel, or steersman or bowman of a boat who –

- (a) is guilty of drunkenness or neglect when engaged in the performance of his duties;
- (b) allows any vessel or boat of which he is in charge to be overloaded;
- (c) is guilty of reckless conduct whilst in charge of a vessel or boat, thereby endangering the safety of the passengers or crew; or
- (d) refuses or neglects to give reasonable care and attention to any sick person being conveyed in his boat,

shall in addition to the penalty provided in regulation 35 be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

# PART V CONTROL OF NAVIGATION OF BOATS AND VESSELS USED ON ANY PORTION OF A RIVER OBSTRUCTED BY FALLS OR RAPIDS

Offences against the regulations.

37. Every person who -

(a) sends, despatches or allows to be sent on a voyage beyond the first falls in any river any vessel without a

River Navigation Regulations

certificated captain on board, or any boat without a certificated steersman and a certificated bowman on board thereof; or

- (b) employs or allows to be employed any person not having a certificate of competency in that behalf to act as captain of a vessel or as steersman or as bowman of a boat; or
- (c) not having a certificate of competency in that behalf acts as captain of a vessel, or as steersman or as bowman of a boat; or
- (d) sends, despatches or allows to be sent upon a voyage any overloaded boat, or any boat without the ropes or lifeline, or not having waterlines, as required by these regulations,

shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations. It shall be sufficient defence to any complaint for a breach of this regulation for the defendant to show that the case was one of emergency and that the breach was under the circumstances of the particular case unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care and diligence.

Meaning of boat.

- **38.** (1) No certificated captain of a vessel or steersman shall proceed on a voyage in an inefficiently manned vessel or boat, or in any vessel or boat not marked as required by these Regulations.
- (2) Where a boat is not efficiently manned the owner thereof shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

Equipment of boat.

**39.** Every bowman and boatman shall furnish himself with a suitable paddle to the satisfaction of the steersman.

Ordinary ropes of boat.

- **40.** (1) Every vessel or boat shall be furnished with a bow rope, a stern rope, and breast rope, and the captain or steersman shall inspect the same before starting on a voyage, and shall satisfy himself that they are of the requisite length and strength for the purposes of the voyage and size of the vessel or boat.
- (2) If any vessel or boat is not furnished with suitable ropes as herein mentioned, to the satisfaction of the captain or steersman, the owner of the vessel or boat or his agent or the person despatching such boat or vessel shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Life-line of boat.

41. In addition to the ropes already mentioned every vessel and boat shall be furnished with a rope of not less than eight fathoms in length and one and one-half inches in circumference, and such rope shall be kept carefully coiled at all times and placed on the deck of such vessel, or outside and on top of the lading of the boat and shall be used as a heaving line for the purpose of saving life in the event of any person falling overboard or being swept away by the current in hauling up a fall and for no other purpose whatever. If any person uses such rope for any purpose other than the purposes herein mentioned he shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations. Every vessel propelled by steam or other machinery shall also in addition carry not less than two life buoys.

Prohibition of "running" certain falls.

**42.** The officer may, with the approval of the Minister, prohibit the running of such falls and rapids in the several rivers to which these Regulations apply as he may think advisable and shall publish such prohibition in the Gazette and at each Government Station within the districts wherein such falls are situate, and in the event of any captain of any

River Navigation Regulations

vessel or steersman of any boat taking such vessel or boat through either of such prohibited falls or rapids the captain of such vessel and steersman and bowman of such boat shall be severally deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Vessel or boat not to run falls between certain hours.

- **43.** (1) It shall not be lawful for any vessel or boat to run any falls between the hours of 6 p.m. and 5.30 a.m.
- (2) In the event of any vessel or boat running a fall between the said hours the captain of the vessel or the steersman and bowman of the boat shall severally be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Disobeying order of steersman.

44. (1) Any person travelling in any vessel or boat or any bowman, boat-hand or puller or other person employed in any vessel or boat who wilfully disobeys any lawful order of the captain of such vessel or the steersman of such boat shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations:

Provided that it shall not be obligatory for any person travelling in a boat but not employed therein to render service as a boat hand or puller except when required so to do by the steersman in moments of danger of which the steersman shall be sole judge.

Definition of person deemed to be employed in a boat. c. 65:01 c. 62:01

(2) Every person registered to work as a labourer or in any other capacity under any Mining or State Lands Regulations for the time being in force or every holder of a Mining Privilege under any such Mining Regulations, who travels in any vessel or boat or every person who travels in a boat with permission of the owner, captain or steersman granted him on the condition that he renders service as a boat hand or puller in return for his passage or every person who in return for payment engages to render service as a boat hand or puller shall be deemed to be a person employed in such a vessel or boat.

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

Offence to turn back with boat on break-down of motor. (3) Every steersman, bowman, or other person employed in a boat who refuses or fails to proceed with such boat to its destination where the outboard motor refuses to act shall be guilty of an offence against these regulations unless such steersman, bowman or other person as aforesaid is under any subsisting contract with the person employing him entitled to turn back to the starting point on the breakdown of the motor.

Bowman to pull paddle in open water.

(4) Every bowman of a boat when the boat is under way and he is not actually engaged in guiding the boat with the bow-paddle shall pull paddle and give the stroke to the crew.

Offence to incite persons to disobey order of steersman.

(5) Every person who incites any person travelling in or employed in any vessel or boat to disobey the orders of the captain of such vessel or of the steersman of such boat shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Reporting at Government Station.

- **45.** (1) Every captain and steersman shall report himself when about to proceed upon a voyage, or when returning from a voyage, at the Government Station appointed for the purpose and shall exhibit to the officer in charge thereof his own certificate and the certificate (if any such certificate is required by these Regulations) of the bowman and the officer shall make an entry of the same and of the number of the crew and other persons (if any) on board the vessel or boat in a book to be kept for that purpose.
- (2) The production of such book in any court of law and at any inquiry held under these regulations shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein stated.

Offence to take in additional cargo or persons after reporting at (3) No captain or steersman (except in case of necessity the onus of proving which shall be on him) shall, after reporting himself as aforesaid, take into his vessel or boat any additional lading, or any additional person.

River Navigation Regulations

Station

Prohibition against stopping between Bartica and first falls after leaving Station. (4) No captain of a vessel or steersman or bowman of a boat which leaves Bartica for a journey up river shall, except for any unforeseen or unavoidable cause, of which the navigation officer shall be the judge, stop at any point between Bartica and the first falls on each of the rivers without the written permission of the navigation officer first had and obtained except that on the Mazaruni River a boat may tie up or anchor on the upward journey at any point beyond the last settlement while waiting for the tide or daylight to pass the Tutruba Falls.

Offence for steersman or bowman to stop, land or return after leaving Bartica.

- (5) Any captain, steersman or bowman who lands or loiters between Bartica and the first falls or stops and returns or permits members of his crew to stop or return to Bartica or any intermediate point between Bartica and the first falls except as aforesaid shall be guilty of an offence under these Regulations and shall on conviction be liable to a fine of seven hundred and fifty dollars or imprisonment for six months.
- (6) Any boat-hand, member of the crew or passenger so landing, loitering or returning to Bartica shall be liable to a fine of one hundred and fifty dollars or imprisonment for two months.

Landing at Government Station.

**46.** (1) A captain or steersman shall not on approaching a Government Station allow any person to land from his vessel or boat or communicate with the shore by allowing any person to approach or board his vessel or boat until he has reported himself at the Station as required by section 57(a) of the Mining Act.

c. 65:01

Offence to stop or land between first falls and Bartica on (2) On the downward journey a captain or steersman shall not after leaving the foot of the first falls on the Mazaruni or Cuyuni Rivers land, anchor or tie up or allow any person to land or communicate with the shore or allow

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

downward journey.

any person to approach or board his vessel or boat until he has reported himself at the Government Station at Bartica.

Production of certificate.

47. Any public officer or police constable may, at any time, require any person acting as captain of a vessel or steersman of a boat or in any case where under these Regulations a certificated bowman is required as bowman of a boat, to produce for his inspection his certificate of competency, and if such person refuses or neglects to comply with such requisition, such refusal or neglect shall be *prima facie* evidence that such person was not the holder of a certificate.

Offence to fail to produce certificate.

- 48. (1) Every captain, steersman or bowman holding a certificate of competency in that behalf, shall produce his certificate to the officer in charge or his deputy, on being required so to do, and every captain, steersman or bowman failing so to produce his certificate to the officer or his deputy, after having been requested so to do, within a reasonable time, and without lawful excuse, shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.
- (2) Any captain or steersman who refuses or neglects to stop and come alongside when called upon to do so by the officer or his deputy, whilst travelling, shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Reporting of accident.

- **49.** (1) Every captain of a vessel or steersman of a boat shall report to the officer within as short a period thereafter as may be possible, the occurrence of any accident whatever to his vessel or boat or to any person therein, whereby loss of life or of the lading of the vessel or boat or any part thereof, or of the vessel or boat itself has been occasioned.
- (2) In the event of the death or disabling of the captain or steersman the duty aforesaid shall be performed by the bowman in case of a boat, and in the event of his death or

River Navigation Regulations

disablement or in case of a vessel by one of the crew.

- (3) In the event of no report being made under paragraph (2) the owner of the vessel or boat shall make such report.
- (4) If default is made in complying with this regulation the person making default shall be deemed guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

Detention of vessel or boat for contravention of regulations. **50.** The officer or any public officer or police constable may detain any vessel or boat which he may find about to proceed, or contravention proceeding on a voyage in contravention of these Regulations until of regulations, these Regulations are complied with:

Provided that such detention shall not be made in any case where it is not possible, by the exercise of reasonable care and diligence, to comply with these Regulations.

### PART VI CARRYING OF LIGHTS

Lights to be carried. [Reg. 34/1945 23/1947 27/1960 12/1969

- **51.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, and between Lights to sunset and sunrise
  - (a) every vessel propelled by steam or other machinery, when plying on any portion of a river shall, when under way carry –
    - (i) a bright white light on or in front of the awning or funnel where it can best be seen, and at a height above the gunwale of not less than 5 feet; and

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

- (ii) a green light on the starboard side and a red light on the port side; or combined lantern showing a green light and a red light from right ahead to two points abaft beam on starboard and port sides respectively. Such combined lantern shall be carried on or in front of the awning or funnel where it can best be seen, at a height of not less than 3 feet below the bright white light;
- (b) (i) all vessels or boats under sail in any portion of a river shall carry the light specified in subparagraph (a) (ii);
  - (ii) no such vessel or boat shall carry the white light specified in subparagraph (a)(i);
- (c) a vessel or boat when towing or pushing any vessel, boat or raft in any portion of a river shall, in addition to her side lights, carry two bright white lights in a vertical line one above the other not less than 6 feet apart, and the lower white light shall not be less than 3 feet above the side lights;

River Navigation Regulations

- (d) any vessel or boat being towed or pushed in any portion of a river shall carry two all-round red lights, one at the bow and one at the stern;
- (e) when in any portion of a river, open punts, boats, bateaux and ballahoos shall show, where it can be seen, an all-round white light at a height of not less than 3 feet above the gunwale;
- (f) any timber raft being towed, or pushed or travelling on, or moored on or to a bank of –
  - (i) the Demerara River below Watooka Creek; or
  - (ii) the Essequibo River below Bartica; or
  - (iii) the Berbice River below Kokerit Creek; or
  - (iv) the Barima River below Mount Everard; or
  - (v) the Kaituma Creek below Port Kaituma; or
  - (vi) the Aruka Creek below Kumaka or
  - (vii) any portion of any other river,

shall be lighted by red lights in such a manner as to indicate to other craft using the river the extreme limits of the raft.

- (2) Any vessel or boat relying on electricity for its lighting shall have at least one spare all-round white oil lamp.
  - (3) (a) Any vessel or boat under 150 feet in

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

length shall, when at anchor, show a white light where it can best be seen.

(b) Any vessel or boat of 150 feet or more in length shall, when at anchor, carry on the forward part of the vessel or boat one such light and at or near the stern another such light. The light at or near the stern shall not be less than 15 feet lower than the forward light.

Moored vessel to exhibit light. [Reg. 8/11/1918] 52. All punts, sloops, schooners and all other small craft when moored to a stelling or to a vessel which is either moored to a stelling or at anchor in the Harbour of Georgetown shall exhibit a white light on or near the rail amidships on the side farthest from the stelling or vessel. Where two or more such craft are made fast abreast then only the outside one need exhibit the light.

This rule shall be complied with in all weathers from sunset to sunrise.

# PART VII RULE OF THE ROAD

Vessels to comply with the rule of the road.

**53.** Except as is hereinafter provided in regulation 53 every vessel or boat must comply with "The Rule of the Road at Sea."

Vessels and boats under way to keep out of the way of open punts.

**54.** (1) All vessels and boats when under way must keep out of the way of open punts under way:

Provided however that this requirement shall not be construed as giving to any open punt under way the right to obstruct any fairway, gangway or stelling.

Boat when towed astern to

(2) Every boat when towed astern of a steam

River Navigation Regulations

have a steersman.

launch or other boat or vessel, shall have a steersman; such steersman need not hold a certificate of competency but he shall be under the control of the steersman of the towing boat or captain of the towing vessel (as the case may be) as one of his boatmen.

- (3) When two vessels are meeting end on, or nearly end on, the following sound signals must be made
  - (a) one short blast to mean "I require the starboard side of the fairway or mid channel."
  - (b) two short blasts to mean "I require the port side of the fairway or mid channel."

The loaded vessel shall always have the right of way and must make these signals first. If both vessels are loaded, then the vessel which has the tide astern shall have the right of way.

(4)Vessels shall at all times when navigating any river having sharp bends, on approaching same, making the warning signal of one prolonged blast in order to indicate their presence to other craft.

All drifters on hearing the above-mentioned warning or when a steam vessel underway is in sight shall endeavour to keep out of the channel.

- (5) A vessel overtaking another vessel and desiring to pass shall make the following signals when it is safe and practicable to do son
  - (a) one long and one short blast if it is desired to pass on starboard side of

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

the vessel being overtaken;

(b) one long and two short blasts if it is desired to pass on the port side of the vessel being overtaken;

If this signal is answered by the vessel being overtaken, by making the same signal, the overtaking vessel may proceed to pass; the vessel being overtaken shall then reduce speed if it is safe and practicable to do so and keep on the opposite side to that on which the overtaking vessel is passing.

(6) Any vessel or boat propelled by machinery when about to approach a corial or woodskin or other craft with very small freeboard shall slow down to such a speed as not to endanger the safety of the passengers or crew of such corial, woodskin or other craft, and the owner or master of any vessel or boat who fails to comply with the provisions of this paragraph shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars.

Steering oars not project beyond boats.

55. The person in charge of any vessel or boat not under way shall not allow any steering oar or sweep to project beyond such vessel or boat.

# PART VIII CONVEYANCE OF SICK OR INJURED PERSONS TO HOSPITAL AND THE RECOVERY OF THE EXPENSES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Captains and steersmen must convey sick or injured persons to hospital. **56.** (1) Every captain of a vessel or steersman of a boat proceeding up or down the Mazaruni River shall at the request of any sick or injured person or at the request of any person made in behalf of any sick or injured person or on the order of any warden or any officer be bound to convey such

River Navigation Regulations

sick or injured person for treatment to the nearest hospital or dispensary on the route along which such boat is proceeding.

(2) Every such request to convey a sick or injured person when made by any person other than such sick or injured person himself or a warden or an officer shall be in writing and shall be signed by the person making such request.

Conveyance of sick persons.

57. Where any sick or injured person is taken to a hospital or dispensary as provided in the last preceding regulation the captain of the vessel or steersman of the boat conveying him shall not proceed on the voyage until the person in charge of such hospital or dispensary has seen such sick or injured person and such person in charge as aforesaid may direct the captain or steersman to convey such sick or injured person to any other hospital or dispensary on the route along which such vessel or boat may be proceeding at the time.

Captain or steersmen must care sick or injured person.

- 58. (1) Every captain or steersman conveying a sick or injured person shall give him all reasonable care and attention possible and shall in addition when so directed by the person in charge of a hospital or dispensary give him such medical treatment as such person in charge may direct while he is being conveyed to another hospital or dispensary.
- (2) Every captain or steersman who while conveying a sick or injured person treats him inhumanely shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars or to imprisonment for three months.

Payment for the maintenance of sick or injured person conveyed. [Reg. 5/12/1928] **59.** (1) Every captain or steersman who conveys a sick or injured person as hereinbefore provided shall for so doing be entitled to the cost of any food or nourishment supplied to such sick or injured person not exceeding fifty cents for each such person for each day occupied in conveying such person

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

as aforesaid.

(2) The sum to be paid for food or nourishment shall be assessed by the person in charge of the hospital or dispensary to which the sick or injured person is conveyed and such sum shall be payable by the Government on the certificate of such person in charge.

Offence to refuse to convey and to care sick or injured person.

**60.** Every captain or steersman who fails, neglects or refuses to comply with a request to convey a sick or injured person as in these Regulations provided or who whilst conveying any sick or injured person fails, neglects or refuses to give him all reasonable care and attention shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars or to imprisonment for three months.

Arrival of sick or injured to be reported.

**61.** On arrival at any hospital or dispensary of any vessel or boat conveying a sick or injured person the captain or steersman shall immediately on arrival report to the warden or police or person in charge of such dispensary or hospital the arrival of such sick or injured person and the person as aforesaid to whom the arrival of such sick or injured person is reported shall thereupon direct that such sick or injured person be carried to the hospital or dispensary.

Employer liable for expenses of conveying registered labourer. c. 65:01 c. 62:01 c. 98:01

62. Where any person who is conveyed from one place to another as a sick or injured person under these regulations is a labourer who has been registered for service with an employer under any provisions relating to registration contained in any Mining Regulations or State Lands Regulations for the time being in force, or under the Labour Act, the employer of such person shall be liable for the amount payable to a captain or steersman under these regulations in respect of the conveyance of a sick or injured person and where any sum is owing by such employer to such sick labourer the cost of his maintenance while in hospital, and, in the event of his death, his funeral expenses,

River Navigation Regulations

shall be deducted from such sum by such employer and paid over by him to the hospital authorities.

Offence to obtain conveyance as sick or injured person by misrepresentation.

63. Every person who by misrepresentation obtains for himself conveyance as a sick or injured person under these regulations from one place to another, and every person who knowingly aids or abets such person as aforesaid in so doing shall be liable to a fine of three hundred dollars or to imprisonment for three months.

#### Miscellaneous Provisions

Appointment of Government stations.

**64.** The Minister may by notice to be published in the Gazette appoint Government Stations in such places as he may think fit for the purposes of these Regulations, and by like notice direct that all captains or persons in charge of vessels or boats travelling on the rivers shall stop and report themselves to the respective officers in charge of such Stations.

Penalty for breach of regulations.

- **65.** (1) Every person who commits a breach of or fails or neglects or refuses to comply with these Regulations or any of them, for which no penalty is specially provided shall be liable to a fine of seventy-five dollars.
- (2) Every certificated bowman or steersman of a boat or captain of a vessel who has been convicted before any magistrate's court of a breach of these Regulations or for breach of a contract of labour shall in addition to any penalty imposed upon him by such court, be liable to have his certificate of competency as bowman, steersman or captain cancelled or suspended by the officer for such time as the officer may deem fit.

48

River Navigation

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations

#### FORM 1

# CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION reg. 11

# ISSUED UNDER AND SUBJECT TO THE RIVER NAVIGATION REGULATIONS

I hereby certify that I have this day inspected the boat or vessel, particulars of which are herein *mentioned that she is in good order and fit to proceed on a voyage*, and that the freeboard of the said boat or vessel is ............ inches, and that I have caused to be branded the waterlines, as required by the River Navigation Regulations, in my presence.

D	ated this		20			
0	Officer		Charge	of	Navigation	Oi
PARTIC	CULARS OF BO	OAT OR	VESSEL			
Le Bi Fi If ca	ength readth reeboard a Passeng arry	ger boa	at-Number	of p		ed to
	licensed	to ca	rry when 	no	cargo is ca	arried

NOTE. - This certificate is valid until the end of the Financial Year in which it is issued unless previously revoked.

Cap. 50:01

River Navigation

[Subsidiary]

River Navigation Regulations River Navigation Regulations (Exemptions) Order

reg. 32

FORM 2

## CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

#### **GUYANA**

#### THE RIVER NAVIGATION REGULATIONS

This is t	o cert	tify that .	of					
is a com	peter	nt persor	ı to a	ct as a	1			of
boats								
[or as Ca	aptai	n of a ve	ssel]	on				
Dat		isigned)	(	day of	•		20	
		_	-	the	Navigation	of	the	River
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •						
Officer	(S in	igned)	of	·				

## RIVER NAVIGATION REGULATIONS (EXEMPTION) **ORDER**

made under regulation 2 of the River Navigation Regulations

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the River Navigation Regulations (Exemption) Order.

River Navigation exemption.

2. That boats or vessels used exclusively on the Mazaruni River and its tributaries between the top of Turesi Fall and the foot of Tiboko Fall and between the top of Tiboko Fall and the foot of Peaima Fall shall not be subject to the requirements of the River Navigation Regulations.

Tiboko Fall.

**3.** This order does not permit boats or vessels to cross Tiboko Fall except under the conditions prescribed in the 50 Cap. 50:01

River Navigation

[Subsidiary]

Declaration of Government Station Notice

River Navigation Regulations.

Nt. 27/11/1925

## **DECLARATION OF GOVERNMENT STATION** NOTICE

under regulation 64 of the River Navigation Regulations

Government station.

The office of the Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply at Kurupukari, right bank Essequibo River, has been appointed to be a Government Station for the purposes of the River Navigation Regulations, and all captains or persons in charge of vessels or boats travelling on the river aforesaid shall stop and report themselves to the officer in charge of the Station.

L.R.O. 1/2012