

SUMMARY

During the laying of salmon fishing nets with slow speed astern, there was water ingress in the open steering pulpit boat via self-draining holes or over the transom. The sinking sequence went quickly and both crewmembers ended up in the water. One person died and the other swam ashore and raised the alarm. A major rescue operation was put in after the alarm to the SOS center about 1 hour after the accident. Afterwards it has been found that the net was caught in the propeller and weighed on the stern with water ingress and a fast sinking as a result. None of the occupants were wearing life jackets. The deceased was not able to swim.

The accident was caused by the increased risk of water ingress, as a result of the vessel's relatively low float position at the stern, was not considered sufficiently in connection with the laying of the fishing nets and the fixing of these when they got caught in the boat's propeller.

The low float position at the stern has mainly been due to the boat's outboard motor was too heavy in relation to the boat type.

The lack of opportunities to alarm, as well as flotation devices and that the deceased was not able to swim are factors that contributed to the accident tragic end.

Recommendations

The Swedish Transport Agency is recommended to:

- Investigate whether a requirement of swimming ability should be introduced to professional practice at sea. (*RS2014: 04 R1*)