§ 13.1170 What are the rules for operating vessels?

(a) Operating a vessel within ¼ nautical mile of a whale is prohibited, except for a commercial fishing vessel authorized under this subpart that is actively trolling, setting, or pulling long lines, or setting or pulling crab pots.

(b) The operator of a vessel inadvertently positioned within ¼ nautical mile of a whale must immediately slow the vessel to ten knots or less, without shifting into reverse unless impact is likely. The operator must direct or maintain the vessel on as steady a course as possible away from the whale until at least ¼ nautical mile of separation is established. Failure to take such action is prohibited.

(c) The operator of a vessel or seaplane positioned within ½ nautical mile of a whale is prohibited from altering course or speed in a manner that results in decreasing the distance between the whale and the vessel or seaplane.