

HAZARD



WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
BOARD
OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA

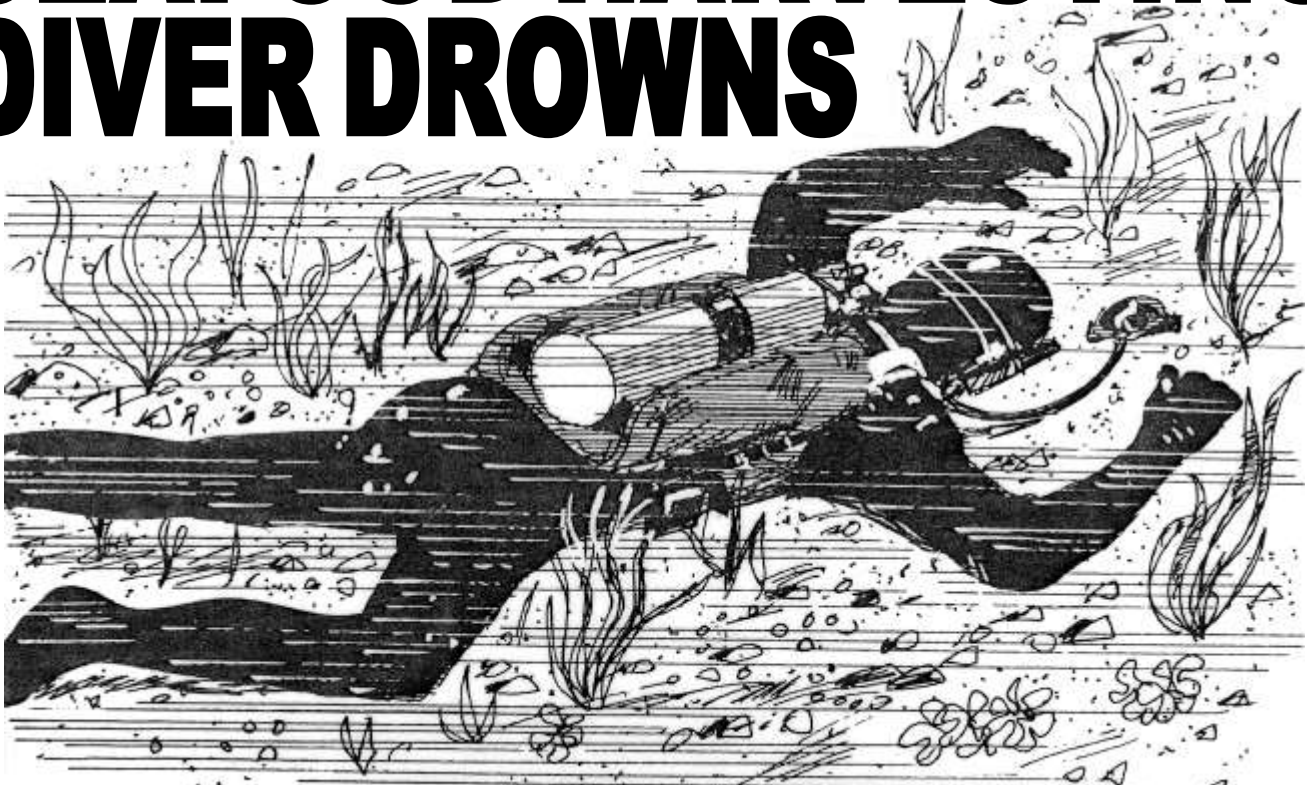
ALERT

ALERT

ALERT

POSTER # 0988

SEAFOOD HARVESTING DIVER DROWNS



A diver collecting Sea Cucumbers in about 35 feet of water ran out of air and drowned. This diver was working alone and after running low on air, returned to the surface. However, instead of changing his tank, he returned to the bottom to retrieve a bag of Sea Cucumbers.

Some of the contributing causes of this accident were:

- Re-entering the water with a nearly depleted air supply.
- No standby diver or diving supervisor at the dive site.
- Not wearing diving fins.
- No lifeline or other form of diver communications.
- Inadequate training and experience in this industry.
- No qualified first-aid attendant at site.
- No emergency/evacuation procedures.

This accident may have been prevented had the people involved in this operation followed Part 24 of the WCB's Occupational Health & Safety Regulation.