

Collision between PV 111648 and PV 120318 on 11.4.2004

1. The Incident

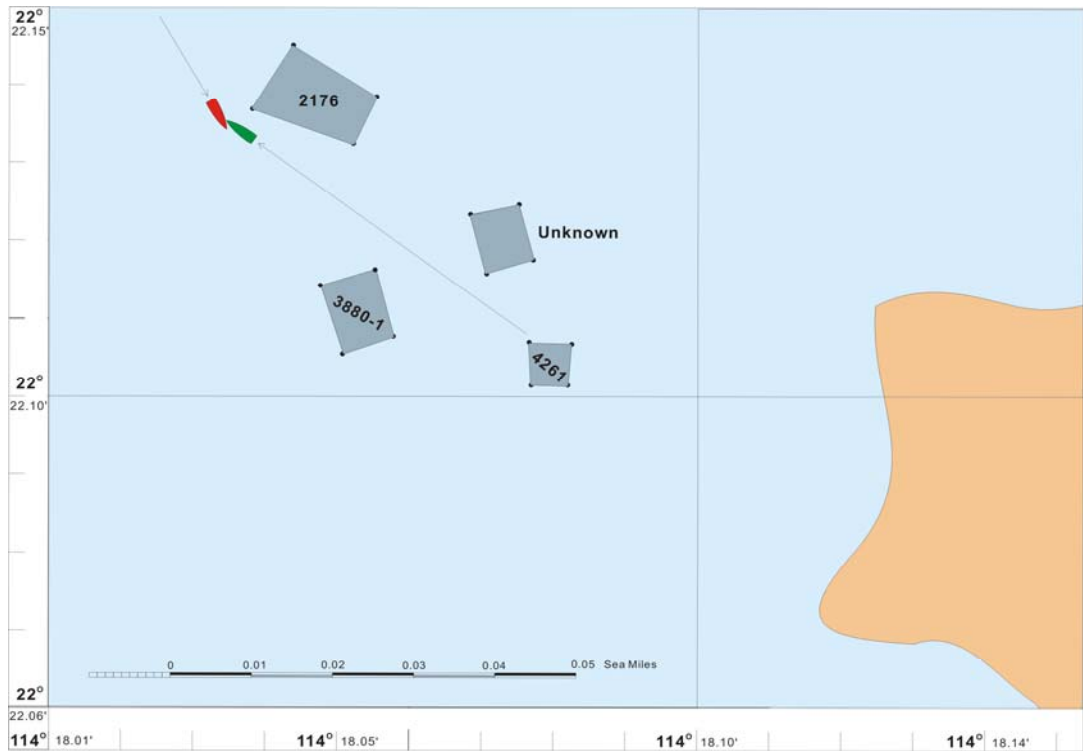
- 1.1 At about 2200 on 11 April 2004, the locally licensed pleasure vessel No. 111648, while underway, collided with the locally licensed pleasure vessel No. 120318 outside the Kai Lung Wan Fish Culture Zone of Sai Kung.
- 1.2 The weather conditions were fine and the visibility was about 14 km. PV120318 sustained considerable damages to its port side shell and superstructures. One person on board PV120318 was killed and other two suffered minor injuries. PV111648 sustained minor damages to its bow.

2. Findings

- 2.1 The investigation established that the accident was caused by the failure of the masters of both vessels to detect the presence of the other vessel in sufficient time to avert the collision.
- 2.2 The master of PV111648 had failed to make a full appraisal of the situation before speeding up his vessel upon departure from fish raft No. 4261. Therefore he was not in compliance to Rule 5 of COLREGs.
- 2.3 The lights of the fish rafts Nos. 3880-1 and 2176 probably masked the navigational lights of PV111648 affecting the master of PV120318 to realize the existence of PV111648 at first instance.
- 2.4 There might have been other factors, such as the activities of the persons on fish raft No. 3880-1, and the carriage of persons on board PV111648, distracting the attention of the concerned masters.

3. Lessons

- 3.1 The owners and masters of PV111648 and PV120318 should be reminded on the importance to maintain a proper lookout whilst their vessels are underway in the waters of Hong Kong. Particular care should be taken in navigating in FCZ where look-out might be affected by background lights and superstructure on fish rafts.



The probable tracks of PV111648 and PV120318