

CHAPTER 143.

SURVEY OF BOATS.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

SECTION.

1. Short title.
 2. Interpretation.
 3. (1) Power of Governor in Council to apply Ordinance.
(2) Appointment of surveyors.
 4. (1) Survey of boats.
(2) Application for survey.
 5. (1) Time within which survey must be made.
(2) Penalty for neglect or refusal to have boat surveyed.
 6. (1) Certificate of suitability and carrying capacity.
(2) Form and duration of certificate of suitability.
Fees.
 7. Power of surveyor to cancel certificate of suitability.
 8. (1) Marking of load-line.
(4) Penalty for tampering with load line.
 9. Penalty for carrying passengers, cattle and/or cargo without a certificate.
 10. Penalty for overcrowding and overloading.
 11. Power of surveyor to replace a lost certificate.
 12. Certificate of suitability to be produced on demand.
 13. Penalty for improper use of a certificate.
 14. (1) Register of boats to be kept.
(2) Register to be open to public inspection and to be *prima facie* evidence of ownership.
 15. Power of Governor in Council to make rules.
-

CHAPTER 143.

SURVEY OF BOATS.

An Ordinance to Prevent the Overcrowding and Overloading of Boats not exceeding Fifteen Tons burden engaged in carrying Passengers, Cattle or Cargo in the Rivers and along the Coasts of Sierra Leone, and to Prohibit the Use for those Purposes of any such Boat which is Manifestly Unsafe.

36 of 1932.
6 of 1940.

[28TH DECEMBER, 1932.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Survey of Boats Ordinance. Short title.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires— Interpretation.
“ boat ” means any vessel not exceeding fifteen tons burden however propelled and not licensed under the Ports and Inland Waters Ordinance. Cap. 138.

3. (1) This Ordinance shall apply to such areas of the Colony and Protectorate as the Governor in Council may from time to time by Order prescribe. Power of Governor in Council to apply Ordinance.

(2) Every such Order shall appoint one or more officers (hereinafter referred to as surveyors) to examine boats within the area it prescribes. Appointment of surveyors.

4. (1) Every boat used or intended to be used for carrying passengers, cattle or cargo within a prescribed area shall be examined by a surveyor once at least in every year. Survey of boats.

(2) The owner of every such boat shall apply to a surveyor to examine his boat, and shall bring his boat to such place and at such time as the surveyor may reasonably require for the purpose. Application for survey.

5. (1) The following periods shall be allowed to boat owners within which to comply with the provisions of section 4— Time within which survey must be made.

(a) in the case of boats which have been previously used for the conveyance of passengers, cattle or cargo in a prescribed area, two months from the application of this Ordinance thereto and thenceforward two months from the commencement of each succeeding year;

(b) in the case of boats not previously so used, one month from the commencement of such user and thenceforward two months from the commencement of each succeeding year.

Penalty for neglect or refusal to have boat surveyed.

(2) Every boat owner who neglects or refuses to apply for an examination of his boat and bring the same to be examined as aforesaid within the period provided for his case in subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding three months. It shall also be lawful for the convicting court to make an order for the seizure of the boat in question and its detention until it has been examined by a surveyor.

Certificate of suitability and carrying capacity.

6. (1) A surveyor shall examine every boat brought to him or detained for that purpose as aforesaid. If satisfied that a boat is reasonably safe and suitable for carrying passengers and cargo, he shall issue a numbered certificate to that effect setting forth—

(a) the number of passengers (including crew) the boat may carry;

(b) whether or not it is suitable for carrying cattle, and if so how many cattle together with their attendants (including crew); and

(c) the vertical distance of the centre of the load line, as defined in section 8 (1) (b), from the top of the boat's gunwale amidships.

Form and duration of certificate of suitability.

Fees.

(2) Such certificate shall be in the form set out in the schedule, and shall remain in force until the 1st day of March in the year following the year of issue or the day of issue of a new certificate, whichever shall prove to be the earlier date. A fee of five shillings, which shall form part of the general revenue of Sierra Leone, shall be paid for every such certificate.

Power of surveyor to cancel certificate of suitability.

7. Notwithstanding anything in this Ordinance contained a surveyor may at any time cancel a certificate of suitability if, in his opinion, the boat in respect of which it was given has ceased to be reasonably safe and suitable for carrying passengers or cattle as therein mentioned.

Marking of load-line.

8. (1) As soon as a certificate of suitability is issued the surveyor shall, before the boat leaves the place of examination—

(a) mark the number to be registered under section 14 (1) in conspicuous figures of at least four inches in length on