

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No 41 of 2023

Port of Southampton - Marking of Fishing Gear

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that where marking of fishing gear laid within the limits of the Port of Southampton (as defined in Bye Law No 3 of Southampton Harbour Bye Laws 2003) does not meet the standards laid down in this Notice, the fishing gear may be moved or removed, without notice, to prevent it becoming a hazard to safe navigation.

For clarity, all laid fishing gear must have a surface mark which is clearly visible, consisting of an appropriate buoy, on which is fitted a vertical standing pole with an identifying flag. The identity of the laying vessel (owner of the gear) is to be clearly displayed on the flag, which is to be visible at all times.

As required by Bye Law No 48 of Southampton Harbour Bye Laws 2003, fishing gear is not to be laid "...in such a position as to be likely to become an obstruction or danger to any property including...any vessel or mooring...". The approaches to the River Hamble and the secondary fairways of Calshot Reach and the Thorn Channel in particular, have been reported as becoming hazardous for navigation, due to fishing gear laid in contravention of this Bye Law and, when found, fishing gear may be moved or removed.

**Vessel Traffic Services Centre
Ocean Dock, Atlantic Way
Southampton**

**Steven Masters
Harbour Master**

25th April 2023

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft