



BEACON RESOLUTION

February 8, 2023

29.00.00 MARKING OF BATHING AREAS ON THE COAST, SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS, SHELLFISHING AREAS, MOORING BUOYS FOR SMALL VESSELS AND OTHER AREAS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE SIGNALS REGULATED BY THE MARITIME MARKING SYSTEM.

Installation type: Various

Geographical Unit: National scope.

Inspection area: National scope.

Regime: All.

BACKGROUND

In point 1 of the Ministerial Resolution of 2 September 1991, the type of beaconing to be implemented in bathing areas was established, in accordance with the content of Royal Decree 1835/1983, on the adoption of the "Maritime Buoyage System" (SBM) of the AISM for the beaconing of the Spanish coasts, and of article 69 of the then General Regulation for the development and execution of Law 22/1988, of 28 July, on Coasts, approved by Royal Decree 1471/1989, of 1 December, replaced by article 73 of Royal Decree 876/2014, of 10 October, which approves the General Regulation on Coasts and repeals the previous one.

On May 12, 1998, Puertos del Estado issued a resolution by its president, following the opinion of the Lighthouse Commission, on the marking of bathing areas on beaches, lakes and inland water surfaces (SM 29.00.00), which establishes the technical characteristics that the corresponding facilities must meet.

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SIGNATOR(1) : FRANCISCO JAVIER MARTÍN SANTO DOMINGO | DATE : 02/17/2023 1:28 PM | NOTES : F

SIGNATOR(2): JOSE ANTONIO LAGO ALBA | DATE: 02/17/2023 6:43 PM | NOTES: CF

SIGNATURE(3): ALVARO RODRÍGUEZ DAPENA | DATE: 02/19/2023 10:38 AM | NOTES: CF





Considering the period of time elapsed since the issuance of the aforementioned Resolution of May 12, 1998, as well as, in view of the experience in its application and the proliferation of new beaconing such as those located in areas of special environmental protection, delimitation of shellfish gathering areas, mooring buoys or other areas where the regulation of maritime traffic is not necessary and that, in addition, the use of signals from the Maritime Buoyage System (SBM) could be counterproductive by interfering with other aids intended to provide service to navigation, it was deemed appropriate to update and supplement its content, for which, after receiving an opinion from the Lighthouse Commission, Puertos del Estado issued Resolution 29.00.00, of July 6, 2021, on *"Buoyage of bathing areas on the coast, special protection areas, shellfish gathering areas, mooring buoys for smaller vessels and other areas that do not require signals regulated by the maritime beaconing system"*.

Subsequently, in its 537th session of December 21, 2022, the Lighthouse Commission deemed it appropriate to update the aforementioned resolution so that it expressly includes the obligation, on the part of those responsible, to maintain, monitor, and control any blind buoy installed, even if it is optional and not considered a maritime signal. Furthermore, the new version includes the obligation to use non-floating ropes or chains in the anchoring trains of this type of blind buoys, so that they do not float and pose a danger to vessel propellers, especially if the buoys are left loose and adrift.

Finally, section 3 of Resolution 29.00.00 of July 6, 2021, refers to the *"Resolution of December 13, 2011, on the Marking of Mooring Buoys Exclusively for Small Vessels."* This reference must be updated, since that 2011 resolution is no longer in force, having been amended by *"Resolution 29.00.00, of February 25, 2022, on the Marking of Anchorages and Anchorage Fields for Small Vessels."*

RESOLUTION

In accordance with article 137 of the Consolidated Text of the Law on State Ports and the Merchant Navy, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 2/2011 of September 5 and prior to the Opinion of the Lighthouse Commission dated December 21, 2022, the Presidency of the Public Agency Puertos del Estado HAS RESOLVED APPROVE the following RESOLUTION:

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1. MARKING OF BATHING AREAS ON THE COAST

1.1 This resolution replaces and renders void any previous resolution in relation to the signals included herein.

1.2 This resolution is established in accordance with the established regulation of the activities carried out in the coastal sections indicated in article 73 of Royal Decree 876/2014, of October 10, which approves the General Coastal Regulations and which contemplates the possibility of

establish adequate markings in bathing areas.

Buoys or buoys will be used to mark the area, and signals will be used to authorize or prohibit certain activities. These signals will not be considered maritime signals as such for all purposes. In order to avoid interfering with any navigational aids that may exist in the area, these buoys will generally be blind.

Regardless of whether they are not considered maritime signals, the person responsible for their installation is required to maintain, monitor, and control these blind buoys. Furthermore, non-floating lines or chains must be used on the anchor lines so that they do not float and pose a hazard to vessel propellers, especially if a buoy becomes loose and drifts.

In cases where, due to the approach to a port or other local circumstances, light or daytime beaconing with maritime signals included in the SBM is necessary, this must be requested from Puertos del Estado to determine whether or not it is appropriate, establishing its technical characteristics and location.

1.2.1 In the coastal sections where the indicated activities are practiced, the outer edge of the bathing areas will be marked at the distance determined, where appropriate, by the Provincial Coastal Service or the Maritime Captainty, for reasons of navigation safety; this marking will be carried out by means of yellow spherical buoys, with a minimum diameter of sixty centimeters (60 cm) and anchored, at most, at a distance of two hundred meters (200 m) between each two consecutive ones. The dimensions of the floats and the anchoring systems will be adapted, in each case, to the conditions of waves, currents, winds, etc. of the area. The minimum visible height of the buoys



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above the waterline will be two-thirds of its diameter.

On the outer edge of the aforementioned sections, the following will also be placed:
Between every two consecutive buoys, signs prohibiting access to all types of vessels or floating vehicles.

1.2.2 Through these sections, passage channels will be opened, with a width varying between twenty-five and fifty meters (25-50 m). These channels must be used by water ski boats or ascending flight traction boats, jet skis, small sailing or rowing boats, hovercraft, and other beach recreational devices.

Their layout, except in exceptional cases, will be perpendicular to the shore and, for their sizing, the type of vessels or floating vehicles that will circulate along them and their maneuverability must be taken into consideration.

The entrance to these transverse passage channels will be marked by means of two buoys that will have a minimum diameter of eighty centimeters (80 cm) and will be, in the conventional sense of the marking, green conical, the starboard one, and red cylindrical, the port one. The visible height of the cone or cylinder will be between three-quarters and one and a half times the diameter of its base.

The sides of the transverse passage channels, in the beach area permanently covered by water, will be marked with yellow spherical buoys, with a minimum diameter of forty centimeters (40 cm), and will be anchored every ten meters (10 m), at most, when the channel borders or crosses a bathing area and every twenty-five meters (25 m), otherwise.

In the beach area, alternately covered and uncovered, due to the action of the tides, yellow spherical buoys with a minimum diameter of twenty centimeters (20 cm) will be placed, and their fixing points to the seabed will be placed every ten meters (10 m), at most.

In all cases, the dimensions of the floats and anchoring systems will be adapted to the conditions of waves, currents, winds, etc. of the area. The minimum visible height of the buoys and buoys, for example,

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above the waterline, it will be two-thirds of its diameter.

In order to increase safety in the bather protection zone, buoys or buoys may be placed between every two buoys.

consecutive, yellow corkscrews with a diameter of no less than ten centimeters (10 cm).

- 1.2.3 On beaches where the aforementioned activities are carried out, the prohibition or authorization signs that are established will be square in shape, sixty centimeters (60 cm) on each side, and will adapt to the models in Annex I.

■ Prohibition signs shall consist of black symbols on a white background, bordered and crossed by a red stripe.

Authorization signs will consist of white symbols on a blue background.

When signs are placed on floating elements, the corresponding pictogram must be tripled, on the faces of a prism whose section is an equilateral triangle or on the surface of a cylinder in which each pictogram covers a sector of 120°.

2. SPECIAL PROTECTION ZONES AND OTHER ZONES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE SIGNALS REGULATED BY THE MARITIME BUOYANCY SYSTEM.

- 2.1 When it is necessary to delimit an area for reasons not related to, among others, the marking of hazards to navigation, channels or access to ports and a significant number of buoys, aligned or not, are used to delimit an area, arranged in a similar way to the markings for bathing areas, described above, the marking will be carried out using yellow buoys or buoys and will not be considered an aid to navigation; however, their installation must be communicated to the Hydrographic Institute of the Navy, the corresponding Maritime Captaincy and the State Ports.

- 2.2 Regardless of whether these buoys or yellow buoys are not considered maritime signals, the person responsible for their installation is obliged to maintain, monitor, and control them. Furthermore, non-floating ropes or chains must be used on the anchoring trains, so that they do not float and pose a hazard to the propellers.



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of the vessels, especially in the event that a buoy is loose and adrift.

2.3 In order not to interfere with other navigational aids, as a general rule, these markings will be blind. Only buoys located at singular points, or at the outermost corners, may use signals included in the SBM when necessary to facilitate general navigation in the area.

2.4 In cases where, due to various circumstances, luminous beaconing is necessary, or daytime beaconing with signals included in the SBM, this beaconing must be requested from Puertos del Estado to determine whether or not it is appropriate, establishing its technical characteristics and location.

3. MOORING BUOYS FOR SMALL VESSELS

These types of buoys (including those used for boat moorings and at diving sites for recreational diving) should not be confused with the signs included in the SBM (Seasonal Marine Biological Service). For this purpose, Resolution 29.00.00 of the President of Puertos del Estado, dated February 25, 2022, on *"Marking of Anchorages and Anchorage Fields for Small Vessels"* will be followed. However, their installation must be reported to the Hydrographic Institute of the Navy, the corresponding Maritime Captaincy, and Puertos del Estado.

Signed as a proposal for *"Resolution 29.00.00 MARKING OF BATHING AREAS ON THE COAST, SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS, SHELLFISHING AREAS, MOORING BUOYS FOR SMALL VESSELS AND OTHER AREAS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE SIGNALS REGULATED BY THE MARITIME MARKING SYSTEM"*

Javier Martín Santo Domingo

José Antonio Lago Alba

Deputy Director of Aids to Navigation

Director of Operations

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In view of the proposed resolution,

I RESOLVE to approve the “Resolution 29.00.00 MARKING OF BATHING AREAS ON THE COAST, SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS, SHELLFISHING AREAS, MOORING BUOYS FOR SMALL VESSELS AND OTHER AREAS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE SIGNALS REGULATED BY THE MARITIME MARKING SYSTEM”, dated February 8, 2023, by the

Presidency of State Ports.

THE PRESIDENT OF STATE PORTS

Álvaro Rodríguez Dapena



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ANNEX I

PICTOGRAMS FOR SIGNALLING BEACH ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	AUTHORIZATION	PROHIBITION
BOAT NAVIGATION BY MOTOR		
NAVIGATION OF ALL BOATS AND ARTIFACTS RECREATIONAL FLOATS		
WATER SKIING PRACTICE		
BOAT NAVIGATION SAILING		
BOAT NAVIGATION ROWING		
USE OF HOVERCRAFTS		
USE OF JET SKIS		
	Pictogram size: 60 x 60	
	COLORS	
SYMBOL	WHITE	BLACK
BACKGROUND	BLUE	WHITE
BORDER AND DIAGONAL (*)	RED

(*) The red diagonal will remain below the corresponding symbol .

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ANNEX II

BEACONING SCHEME

(Rafael Soler)

