



UNECE



WATERWAY SIGNS AND MARKINGS

CEVN

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.6)

EUROPEAN CODE FOR INLAND WATERWAYS

6 SIXTH REVISED EDITION

MAIN SIGNS	
A - PROHIBITORY SIGNS	
A.1 No entry (general sign)	A.1a A.1b OR A.1c OR A.1d A.1e OR A.1f
A.1.1 Sections closed to use, no entry except for non-motorized small craft	
A.2 No overtaking	
A.3 No overtaking of convoys by convoys	
A.4 No passing or overtaking	
A.4.1 No passing or overtaking of convoys by convoys	
A.5 No berthing on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed (i.e. no anchoring or making fast to the bank)	
A.5.1 No berthing on the stretch of water whose breadth, measured from the sign, is shown in metres on the sign	
A.6 No anchoring or trailing of anchors, cables or chains on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
A.7 No making fast to the bank on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
A.8 No turning	
A.9 Do not create wash likely to cause damage	A.9a A.9b
A.10 No passing outside the area marked (in openings of bridges or weirs)	
A.11 Entry prohibited, but prepare to get under way	A.11a OR A.11b OR A.11c (red light extinguished)
A.12 Motorized craft prohibited	
A.13 Sports or pleasure craft prohibited	
A.14 Water skiing prohibited	
A.15 Sailing vessels prohibited	
A.16 All craft other than motorized vessels or sailing craft prohibited	
A.17 Use of sailboards prohibited	
A.18 End of zone authorized for high speed navigation of small sport and pleasure craft	
A.19 No launching or beaching of vessels	
A.20 Water bikes prohibited	

B - MANDATORY SIGNS	
B.1 Proceed in the direction shown by the arrow	
B.2 a) Move to the side of the fairway on your port side (B.2a) b) Move to the side of the fairway on your starboard side (B.2b)	B.2a B.2b

B.3 a) Keep to the side of the fairway on your port side (B.3a) b) Keep to the side of the fairway on your starboard side (B.3b)	B.3a B.3b
B.4 a) Cross fairway to port (B.4a) b) Cross fairway to starboard (B.4b)	B.4a B.4b
B.5 Stop as prescribed in the Regulations	
B.6 Do not exceed the speed indicated (in km/h)	12
B.7 Give a sound signal	
B.8 Keep a particularly sharp lookout	
B.9 Do not enter or cross the main waterway until certain that this will not oblige vessels proceeding on it to change their course or speed	B.9a B.9b
B.10 Vessels proceeding on the main waterway must, if necessary, change course and speed to allow vessels to leave harbours or tributary waterways	
B.11 a) Obligation to enter into a radiotelephone link (B.11a) b) Obligation to enter into a radiotelephone link on the channel as indicated on the board (B.11b)	B.11a B.11b
B.12 Obligation to use onshore power supply point	

C - RESTRICTIVE SIGNS	
C.1 Depth of water limited	C.1a C.1b
C.2 Headroom limited	C.2a C.2b
C.3 Width of passage or channel limited	C.3a C.3b
C.4 There are restrictions on navigation; see the information plate below the sign	
C.5 The channel lies at a distance from the right (left) bank; the figure shown on the sign indicates the distance in metres, measured from the sign, to which vessels should keep	C.5a C.5b

D - RECOMMENDATORY SIGNS	
D.1 Recommended opening a) In both directions b) Only in the direction indicated (passage in the opposite direction prohibited)	D.1a D.1b OR D.1c D.1d OR D.1e D.1f
D.2 You are recommended to keep within the area indicated (in openings of bridges or weirs)	D.2a OR D.2b
D.3 You are recommended to proceed: In the direction shown by the arrow (D.3a) In the direction from the fixed light towards the isophase light (D.3b)	D.3a D.3b

E - INFORMATIVE SIGNS	
E.1 Entry permitted (general sign)	E.1a E.1b OR E.1c OR E.1d
E.2 Overhead cable crossing	

E.3 Weir	
E.4 a) Ferry-boat not moving independently (E.4a) b) Ferry-boat moving independently (E.4b)	E.4a E.4b
E.5 Berthing (i.e. anchoring or making fast to the bank) permitted on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	P
E.5.1 Berthing permitted on the stretch of water of the breadth measured from, and shown on the board in metres	60
E.5.2 Berthing permitted on the stretch of water of the breadth measured from, and shown on the board in metres	30-60
E.5.3 Maximum number of vessels permitted to berth abreast on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	IV
E.5.4 Berthing area reserved for vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are not required to carry the marking prescribed in article 3.14 on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.5 Berthing area reserved for vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry one blue light or one blue cone under article 3.14, paragraph 1, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.6 Berthing area reserved for vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry two blue lights or two blue cones under article 3.14 paragraph 2, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.7 Berthing area reserved for vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry three blue lights or three blue cones under article 3.14, paragraph 3, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.8 Berthing area reserved for vessels other than vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are not required to carry the marking prescribed in article 3.14 on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.9 Berthing area reserved for vessels other than vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry one blue light or one blue cone under article 3.14, paragraph 1, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.10 Berthing area reserved for vessels other than vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry two blue lights or two blue cones under article 3.14, paragraph 2, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.11 Berthing area reserved for vessels other than vessels intended for navigation by pushing that are required to carry three blue lights or three blue cones under article 3.14, paragraph 3, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.12 Berthing area reserved for all vessels that are not required to carry the marking prescribed in article 3.14, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.13 Berthing area reserved for all vessels that are required to carry one blue light or one blue cone under article 3.14, paragraph 1, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.5.14 Berthing area reserved for all vessels that are required to carry two blue lights or two blue cones under article 3.14, paragraph 2	
E.5.15 Berthing area reserved for all vessels that are required to carry three blue lights or three blue cones under article 3.14, paragraph 3, on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.6 Anchoring or trailing of anchors, cables or chains permitted on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.6.1 Use of spuds permitted	
E.7 Making fast to the bank permitted on the side of the waterway on which the sign is placed	
E.7.1 Berthing area reserved for loading and unloading vehicles. (Maximum duration of berthing permitted may be added on an information plate below the board)	
E.8 Turning area	
E.9 The waterways being approached are considered to be tributaries of this waterway	E.9a E.9b E.9c
E.10 This waterway is considered to be a tributary of the waterway being approached	E.10a E.10b
E.11 End of a prohibition or obligation applying to traffic in one direction only, or end of a restriction	E.11a E.11b
E.12 Advance signals: one or two white lights a) Fixed light(s): Difficulty ahead – stop (if the regulations so require (E.12a, E.12b) b) Isophase light(s): You may proceed (E.12c, E.12d)	E.12a OR E.12b E.12c OR E.12d

E.13 Drinking-water supply	
E.14 Telephone	
E.15 Motorized vessels permitted	
E.16 Sports or pleasure craft permitted	SPORT
E.17 Water skiing permitted	
E.18 Sailing vessels permitted	
E.19 Craft other than motorized vessels or sailing craft permitted	
E.20 Use of sailboards permitted	
E.21 Zone authorized for high speed navigation of small sport and pleasure craft	
E.22 Launching or beaching of small craft permitted	
E.23 Possibility of obtaining nautical information by radio-telephone on the channel indicated	VHF 11
E.24 Water bikes permitted	
E.25 Electrical power supply point	
E.26 Winter harbour	
E.26.1 Maximum number of vessels permitted to berth in winter harbour	XV
E.27 Winter shelter	
E.27.1 Maximum number of vessels permitted to berth in winter shelter Maximum number of vessels permitted to berth abreast Maximum number of rows of vessels which are berthed abreast	I IV

AUXILIARY SIGNS	
A. Panels showing the distance at which the regulation applies or the special feature indicated by the main sign is to be found Note: The panels are placed above the main sign. Examples: a) In 1000 m, stop b) In 1500 m, ferry-boat not moving independently	a) 1 000 b) 1 500
B. Additional luminous signal Luminous white arrow combined with certain lights, with the following meanings: a) With green light Example: Permission to enter the basin to which the arrow is pointing b) With red light Example: No entry to the basin to which the arrow is pointing	
C. Pointers showing the direction of the section to which the main sign applies Note: The pointers need not necessarily be white and may be placed beside or below the main sign a) Berthing permitted b) Berthing prohibited (over a distance of 1000 m)	
D. Panels giving explanations or additional information Note: These panels are placed below the main sign Examples: a) Stop for Customs b) Give one long blast	DOUANE

BUOYAGE AND MARKING OF WATERWAYS	
Buoyage of fairway limits in the waterway Right-hand side of the fairway 1. A Buoy with light 1. B Buoy without light 1. C Float with a topmark 1. D Spar	1.A 1.B 1.C 1.D
Left-hand side of the fairway 2. A Buoy with light 2. B Buoy without light 2. C Float with a topmark 2. D Spar	2.A 2.B 2.C 2.D
Bifurcation of the fairway 3. A Buoy with light 3. B Buoy without light 3. C Float with a topmark 3. D Spar	3.A 3.B 3.C 3.D

A red cylindrical topmark or green conical topmark placed above the bifurcation mark indicates on which side it is preferable to pass (main fairway)	3.E 3.E1 3.F 3.F1
Marks on land indicating the position of the channel in relation to the banks Channel near the right bank 4.A with light 4.B without light	4.A 4.B
Channel near the left bank 5.A with light 5.B without light Example: Use of marks	5.A 5.B
Marking of cross-overs: Right bank 4.C with light 4.D without light Left bank 5.C with light 5.D without light	4.C 4.D 5.C 5.D
Mere indication of cross-over	
Indication of the axis of a long cross-over Two identical signs placed one behind the other on the same bank, the first sign positioned lower than the second one, forming an alignment marking the axis of a long cross-over.	
Buoyage and marking of danger points and obstacles Fixed marks: 4.F right-hand side, 5.F left-hand side, 6.A bifurcation	4.F 5.F 6.A 6.B
Buoys: Right-hand side 1.F1 spar 1.F spar-buoy	1.F1 1.F
Buoys: Left-hand side 2.F1 spar 2.F spar-buoy	2.F1 2.F
Other marking of danger points and obstacles in the waterway A. Passage permitted on the clear side without reducing speed B. Passage permitted on the clear side at reduced speed (avoid creating wash)	By night obstructed side ● One red light Clear side ● Two green lights one above the other By day obstructed side ■ No entry sign A.1 Or ● One red ball Clear side ■ Entry permitted sign E.1 Or ◆ Two green bicones one above the other
Additional marking for navigation by radar Marking of bridge piers (where applicable) 1. Yellow floats with radar reflector (placed upstream and downstream from piers)	8.C 8.C1
2. Pole with radar reflector placed upstream and downstream from bridge piers	8.C2
B. Marking of overhead cables (where applicable) 1. Radar reflectors secured to the overhead cable (giving a radar image of a series of points to identify the overhead cable) 2. Radar reflectors placed on yellow floats arranged in pairs near each bank (each pair giving a radar image of two points side by side to identify the overhead cable)	8.C3 8.C4
Additional buoyage and marking of lakes and broad waterways Marking of danger points, obstacles and special features Description of cardinal marks	
8.D, 8.D1 Isolated danger marks	8.D 8.D1
8.E, 8.E1, 8.E2 Safe-water marks	8.E 8.E1 8.E2
8.G, 8.G1 Marking of new dangers	8.G 8.G1
8.F, 8.F1 Special marks	8.F 8.F1
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