

QUEENS HARBOUR MASTER PORTSMOUTH

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

No 10/09

Route Survey Operations, Portsmouth And Eastern Solent – 28 March To 1 April  
2009

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Queen's Harbour Master Portsmouth that during the period 28 March to 1 April 2009 the Mine Countermeasures Vessels (MCMVs), HM Ships MIDDLETON and QUORN will be undertaking routine Route Survey Operations in Portsmouth and the Eastern Solent. The operational area being the channel from the vicinity of the Nab Tower to the Spithead area, the approaches to Portsmouth and Portsmouth Harbour as far north as Fountain Lake.
2. The MCMVs may operate at speeds of 2 knots or less and may have remotely operated underwater vehicles in their vicinity controlled via command wires. Additionally, at times the warships may be operating divers from small craft. Operations will be carried out both by day and night.
3. Throughout the Route Survey operations the ships will display the shapes and lights prescribed in the International Rules for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Rule 27(f). That rule establishes a 1,000 metre exclusion zone around the vessel but for the duration of operations in confined waters that area is reduced to 250 metres from the MCMV after VHF agreement, if required.
4. The Queen's Harbour Master Portsmouth directs that no vessel is to close within 250 metres of the MCMVs whilst they are displaying signals in accordance with COLREGS Rule 27(f) without the MCMV's prior approval being sought and gained on VHF Channel 11 or 12, dependent on location at the time.
5. When engaged in diving operations the MCMVs boats will display signals in accordance with COLREGS Rule 27(e) whilst the ship will display signals in accordance with Rule 27(b) and 27(e) or (f) as appropriate.

6. Throughout the period 28 March to 1 April 2009 all mariners may seek further information from QHM Harbour Control on VHF Channel 11 (or VTS on VHF Ch 12) or by telephoning 02392 723694 as appropriate.
7. Cancel this Local Notice To Mariners Thu 2nd Apr 2009 (6 days)

Thu 26th Mar 2009  
Semaphore Tower  
HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

S O Hopper  
Commander Royal Navy  
Queen's Harbour Master

---