

Weymouth Bay Information

Personal and boat safety

Welcome

Visitors to Weymouth can enjoy a wide variety of activities. Weymouth Harbour Authority would like to encourage responsible use of the bay and to offer the following advice.

Check list

- Weather and sea condition
 - Check weather forecast and sea conditions before you go to sea
 - Check tide times and currents
- Make a passage plan
- Take life jackets for everyone on board, fitted with a location light
- Take the following emergency equipment:
 - VHF radio
 - First aid kit
 - Spare fuel
 - Some simple tools
- Inform someone ashore of your plans
- Personal items to take
 - Food and drink
 - Spare warm clothes
 - Sun cream
- Wear a kill cord if available
- Think about taking some extra equipment such as a fire extinguisher, radar reflector, bailer, oars, anchor, horn and towline
- See Notice to Mariners

Traffic lights

• Town Bridge

- These traffic lights are to be obeyed by all vessels regardless of size



• South Pier traffic signals

- Large vessels use powerful thrusters and feathering propellers, causing turbulence, this can be a hazard to small craft. All craft are advised that it is both illegal and dangerous to proceed against traffic signals.



Flashing Red

All vessels await instruction.



Fixed Red

A vessel is **LEAVING** or about to leave the pier heads area. No vessel may obstruct these movements.



Fixed Green

A vessel is **APPROACHING** the pier heads area. No vessel should enter this area from the West.



Red, Red, Green

Port **CLOSED**. Entrance foul. No vessel may enter the pier heads area.



Green, White, Green

A vessel may proceed only when it has received orders to do so.

Most importantly have an enjoyable and safe time

Contact Information

Telephone numbers:

- **Weymouth Harbour** 01305 838423
VHF Channel 12
- **Coast Guard** 01305 760439
- **Police** 01305 222222
- **Emergency** 999

Rules and regulations

Watersports participants

Please observe the recreational zones indicated on the chart overleaf

You may be prosecuted if you do not do so. Keep a good lookout, especially for swimmers.

Watersports permits

A permit is required to conduct any form of powered aquaplaning in Weymouth Bay. This includes Personal Water Craft (Jet Ski's), waterskiing, wakeboarding and the towing of donuts, etc. A separate permit scheme operates within Portland Harbour.

Ski boats

Boats must have at least a driver and one other person as a designated lookout for the skier.

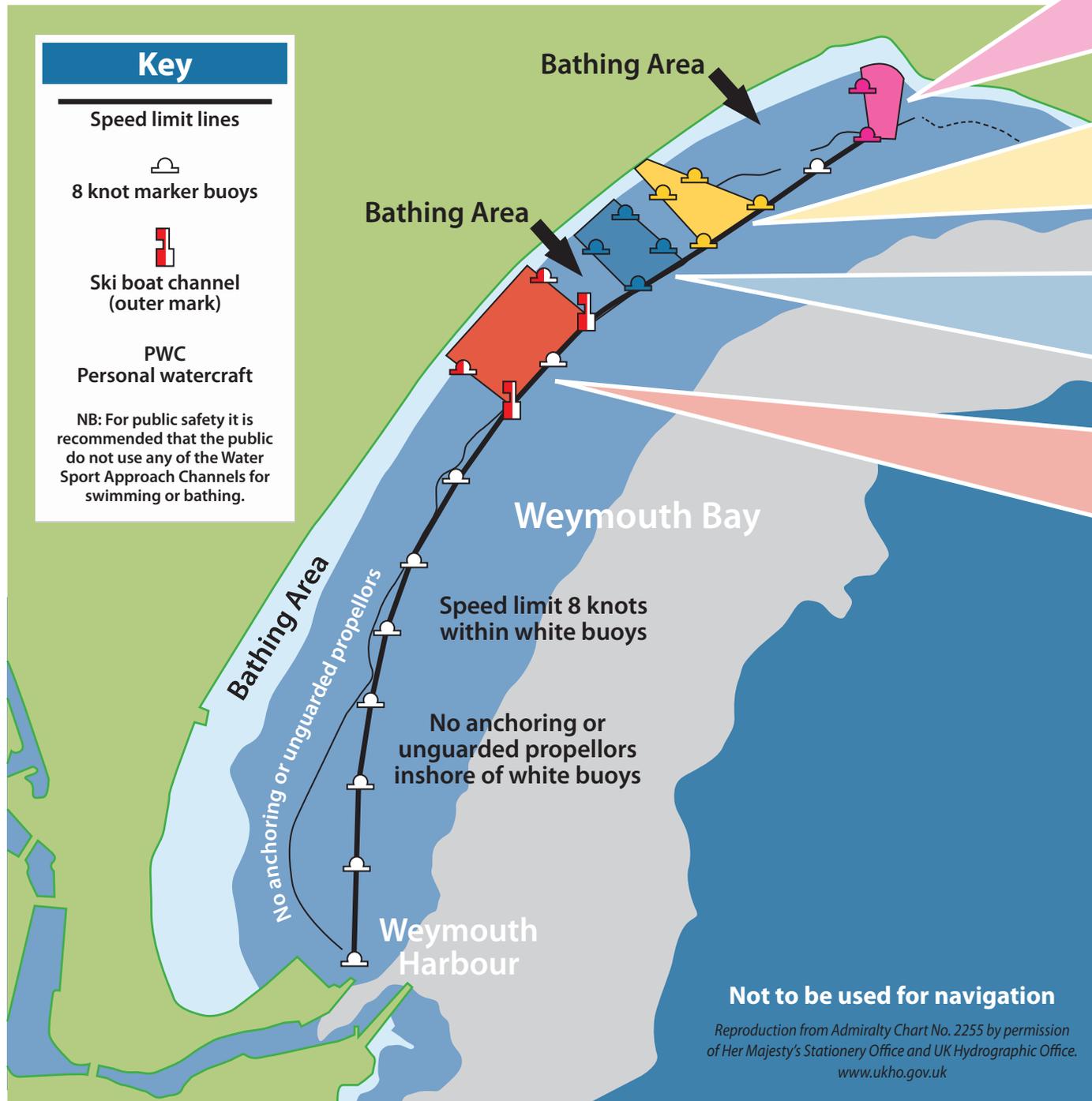
Speed limit

Within the inner and outer harbours, the speed limit is "Dead Slow". Do not cause wash or wake. Look well astern to check the effect of your wake!

Rowing ferries

Small rowing ferries frequently cross the harbour. Keep a good lookout at slow speed and give them a wide berth.

Weymouth Bay Watersports Zones



PWC Lane

Entry/exit lane ONLY, designated for PWC. Please note that there is a 5mph limit at the shore end of the zone.

Sailboard Approach

This channel is for sailboard only. No other vessels should enter this lane at any time.

Anchoing Zone

This zone is dedicated for anchoring vessels. When proceeding to this zone, please keep to the 8 knot limit.

Ski Boat Approach

This channel is only for vessels to gain access to the beach to pick up water skiers. Water skiing activities should be kept seaward side of the white 8 knot buoys.

Weymouth Bay Safety Instructions

- All power driven vessels with unguarded propellers should keep to seaward of the white buoys across Weymouth Bay except in the above zones.
- Do not enter and/or attempt to anchor in the bathing areas shown on the map. Propellers and anchors could seriously injure bathers, therefore, common sense and good seamanship dictate that navigation and mooring in bathing areas should always be avoided.
- The water-skiing channel, marked by red and white buoys, is only suitable for water-ski craft to gain access to the beach. Once passengers and water skiers have been collected from the beach all water ski activities should take place seaward of the white buoys.
- Harbour byelaws require water ski boats to have at least two people in the boat whilst engaged in skiing, thus allowing one person to act as lookout astern.
- The jetski channel (marked by red buoys) must only be used to gain access to the beach. After launching, all jetski activities should take place seaward of the white buoys.