

Note.—The Pilots referred to in this Notice are the Pilots licensed by the London Trinity House and no others.

II. RIVERS THAMES AND MEDWAY, &c.—TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

1. All traffic into and out of the River Thames must pass through the Edinburgh Channels, or through the Black Deep south of the Knock John and Knob Light-Buoys, and through the Oaze Deep until further notice.

No vessels are to remain under way in the above-mentioned Channels between a line drawn from London Stone to No. 3 Sea Reach Light-Buoy and thence to Canvey Point on the west, and the Sunk Head Buoy or a line joining the positions of the South Long Sand and East Shingles Buoys, on the east, from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.

Vessels at anchor within these limits must not exhibit any lights from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.

No merchant or other private vessel is to be at anchor in the Black Deep, and the Main Channel of the Thames, to the Southward of a line joining a position in lat. $51^{\circ} 39' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 23' E.$, D3 Buoy, a position in lat. $51^{\circ} 33' 08'' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 13' 03'' E.$, Knob Light-Buoy, a position in lat. $51^{\circ} 31' 45\frac{3}{4}'' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 04' 48'' E.$, South Shoebury Light-Buoy, a position in lat. $51^{\circ} 29' 15'' N.$, long. $0^{\circ} 49' 45'' E.$, and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Sea Reach Buoys, except when obliged to anchor on account of fog.

No vessel is to anchor in the Black Deep between the parallel of lat. $51^{\circ} 39' N.$, and the Sunk Light-Vessel, without special orders, except such South-bound vessels as are unable to proceed further south owing to darkness or thick weather; vessels anchoring under such circumstances are only to anchor to the westward of a line joining positions in lat. $51^{\circ} 45' 00'' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 30' 15\frac{3}{4}'' E.$, lat. $51^{\circ} 42' 00'' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 27' 30'' E.$, and lat. $51^{\circ} 39' N.$, long. $1^{\circ} 23' E.$, and well clear of the fairway.

All other Channels are closed to navigation.

The Nore Examination Anchorage is reserved for vessels under examination before entry into the Medway, and also for vessels on Government service which have left the Medway and are awaiting orders as to route, &c.

All vessels at anchor at night in the Rivers Thames and Medway or in the Thames Estuary are to have a look-out placed and are to be prepared to exhibit a white light immediately should they be in danger of being run down.

2. Coasting vessels are not to be under way nor exhibit any lights in the East Swin or Wallet between sunset and sunrise.

3. No merchant vessel is to be in the following area in the approaches to the River Thames, from one hour after sunset to half-an-hour before sunrise:—

The area is bounded on the north by the parallel of lat. $51^{\circ} 33' N.$

The area is bounded on the east by the meridian of long. $1^{\circ} 35' E.$

The area is bounded on the south by the parallel of lat. $51^{\circ} 16' N.$

The area is bounded on the west by the parallel of long. $1^{\circ} 24' E.$

Any merchant vessel contravening the foregoing regulation will run the gravest risk of being sunk.

4. The use of the Swin and Wallet Channels by sailing barges and small trading vessels engaged in coastwise traffic along the Essex coast

is permitted, subject to compliance with the following restrictions:—

(i) Each vessel must obtain from the Customs a special clearance card, which is to be kept available for inspection by the Patrol Officers, on demand.

(ii) A red ensign is to be displayed while navigating the Middle Deep and Swin Channel.

(iii) No vessel may be under way after dark, except as provided for hereinafter.

(iv) When at anchor in the Wallet, Ray Sand, and Whitaker Channels, or in the Rivers Colne, Blackwater, and Crouch, all lights are to be screened so that they will not show outboard.

(v) No vessel may anchor in the River Crouch in the area bounded by lines drawn in a 0° (*N. $1\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ E. Mag.*) and a 180° (*S. $1\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W. Mag.*) direction, through Burnham Coastguard Station and Holliwell point; or in the River Blackwater in the areas bounded by a line drawn in a 0° (*N. $1\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ E. Mag.*) and a 180° (*S. $1\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W. Mag.*) direction, through Ramsey Stone to the opposite shore, and a line drawn through the Tollesbury and Mersea Oyster Fishery Company's Beacon on Thurslet Spit and the same Company's Beacon on the south side of the river.

(vi) To enable vessels to save their tides they will be permitted to navigate the Rivers Colne, Blackwater, and Crouch at night above the following places:—

River Roach above Quay Reach.

River Crouch above Burnham Coastguard Station.

River Blackwater above Ramsey Island Stone.

River Colne above Brightlingsea Creek.

They are to anchor immediately, should they be ordered to do so by the Naval or Military Authorities.

(vii) Vessels are to carry out all instructions received from the Naval Officers in command of vessels patrolling these Channels and Rivers.

(viii) No vessels are to enter or pass through the defended area in the Middle Deep and Swin Channels until they have been boarded and examined by the vessels stationed there for that purpose. Permission is given, subject to preliminary boarding and examination, for sailing vessels, if they so desire, to pass to the eastward of the Maplin Lighthouse, but under no circumstances may they pass to the eastward of any of the conical buoys in the defended area.

(Note.—*The Examination Officers will board South-bound vessels in the vicinity of the Whitaker Spit. Those leaving the Thames and Medway will be boarded near the Mouse Light-Vessel.*)

The Boarding Officers will give Masters of vessels instructions as to the course they are to steer when passing through the defended area.

(ix) Vessels reaching the entrance to the defended area within one hour of sunset will not be allowed to pass through till daylight.

5. All vessels, other than those of British Nationality or those of the Allied Nations, are prohibited from entering the Medway and Swale rivers.

All Neutral Aliens are prohibited from entering the Medway and Swale rivers in British vessels, and this applies to Aliens carried in British ships or barges as passengers or