

Notice to Mariners

**DEE CONSERVANCY
NOTICE TO MARINERS**

No. 02 – 2017

DEE ESTUARY & CANALISED SECTION

NAVIGATION OF THE DEE RIVER CRAFT AFON DYFRDWY

When navigating the estuary and canalised section of the river between the Port of Mostyn and load-out facility at Broughton, the Dee River Craft *Afon Dyfrdwy* passes through the frequently changing navigable channel between the South Training Wall Light at Kelsterton and Dee No.8 buoy downstream of Flint. The vessel may also deviate from the main channel marked by the Dee No.1 and Dee No.2 buoys and transit directly between the West Bar, Dee No.1A and Dee No.3 buoys, or, alternatively from the Dee No.4 buoy proceed towards the beached *Duke of Lancaster* (Fun Ship), and then along the inshore channel to Mostyn.

Mariners, and in particular those engaged in fishing, are hereby reminded that unlit yellow spherical (special mark) buoys may be laid from time to time on a temporary basis in the above mentioned areas to facilitate safe pilotage of the vessel. The buoys are withdrawn when not required for that purpose.

Mariners should navigate with particular caution in these areas and if in any doubt about the positions of these unlit buoys, they should contact the undersigned for information before navigating within or through these areas.

The operational schedule of *Afon Dyfrdwy* requires the vessel to undertake regular passages between The Port of Mostyn and Broughton, some of which will be conducted during the hours of darkness. Mariners should note that details of the vessel's schedule will be displayed on the Public Notice Boards located at Dock Road Connah's Quay, Greenfield Dock. They are also available on the Dee Conservancy pages of the Natural Resources Wales website.

Mariners are hereby reminded that *Afon Dyfrdwy* may be constrained by her draft in certain parts of the estuary and canalised section of the river and hence be restricted in her ability to deviate from the course she is following. In accordance with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, as amended, vessels of less than 20 metres in length, sailing vessels and vessels engaged in fishing are required not to impede the passage of a vessel that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway.

Mariners are also reminded that due to the shifting nature of the banks in the estuary and entrance to the canalised section of the river, local knowledge is considered essential for safe navigation.

**CAPTAIN S. CAPES
HARBOUR MASTER
04th January 2017.**

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