

RULES FOR CETACEAN'S OBSERVATION

(According to the Decree of Law 9/2006 of 6th of January)

- 1- The cetacean's observation has to be done in such a way that it does not disturb the animals during the approximation of the vessels, the observation and during the removal of the vessels.
- 2- The production of noise that disturb or attract the animals should be avoided.
- 3- It is forbidden to:
 - a) Pursue the cetaceans, considering as such any attempt of approaching that result in avoidance behaviors or any other signs of disturbance;
 - b) Bring on the separation of individuals of a group of cetaceans;
 - c) Feed the cetaceans;
 - d) Touch the cetaceans;
 - e) The presence of scuba-divers as well as the use of any sub aquatic motorized equipment.

Vessel's Approaching Rules

- 1- Vessels are considered in cetacean's active approaching from the point they are far less 300m, except when the cetaceans approach themselves the vessel. On that case, the vessel shall maintain its direction and speed, or alternatively, be hold for a minimum period of 10min.
- 2- During the vessels approaching we should:
 - a) Monitor the approaching of other cetaceans and their movements;
 - b) Maintain a parallel direction on the rearguard, of the cetaceans, in such a way that cetaceans have 180° free field in front, defined by the direction of their movement
 - c) Avoid sudden vessel's changes of direction;
 - d) Never exceed cetacean's travel speed.
- 3- During vessel's approaching it is forbidden:
 - a) An active approaching far less than 30m of any cetacean;
 - b) To approach cetaceans and/or groups of cetaceans whose proximity to the coast, for example, in bays, limit their movements;
 - c) The use of reverse, except on emergencies;
 - d) The active cetacean's approach by swimmers.

Observation rules

- 1- Each vessel can spend a maximum of 30min in the cetacean's active approaching area;
- 2- In the case of the cetaceans' voluntary approach the vessel within 30m, the observation is conducted at a speed not exceeding 3 knots, as long as this does not jeopardize the safety of the vessel at its passengers;
- 3- Vessels should leave the approaching area, through the cetaceans' rearguard when the maximum of 30min is completed or if the animals show any signs of disturbance;
- 4- In case of presence of over one vessel at the approaching area perimeter, the following rules should be observed:
 - a) It is forbidden the permanence of over 3 vessels in a 100m radius around the closest cetacean or group of cetaceans;

b) Vessels should move parallel to each other, positioning itself in a sector of 60° to the rearguard of the cetaceans.