

MEMBER ALERT



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TURKEY: ISTANBUL STRAIT ANCHORAGE AREAS

In an effort to reduce congestion at the southern entrance of the Istanbul Strait anchorage area, the Directorate General of Maritime Affairs have taken steps to increase navigation, safety and environmental protection while also facilitating fishing activities in the region. These steps are summarized as follows:

1. Vessels waiting in drift in the Sea of Marmara are directed to proceed to one of the following nearby port areas: Ambarli Anchorage Areas 2, 3 and 4, and if necessary, to Yalova Anchorage Areas 1 and 2.
2. Any fuel and water barges must stay in Waiting/Anchorage Area 7— found within Istanbul A and B Regional Anchorage Areas— and refrain from waiting or anchoring outside of that designated area.
3. There are no restrictions on fishing activities between any anchorage areas where there are no fishing bans (e.g., between Istanbul C and G Region Anchorage Areas). Fishing boats are allowed to continue their activities provided that they comply with applicable rules and warnings related to navigational aids in those areas.
4. Vessels that are anchored outside of the designated anchorage areas as specified will be warned and directed to proceed to the anchorage areas. Any vessel that fails to comply with these requirements will be subject to legal action.

Relevant references and diagrams for the above are found in the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure Directorate General of Coastal Safety's, [User's Guide of Turkish Straits Vessel Traffic Service](#) and as seen in the [diagrams as attached](#).

Your Managers recommend that Members take note of this information and be guided accordingly. We thank Club correspondent Vitsan Mumessillik ve Musalvirlik, A.S. for their assistance on this topic and for providing the information upon which this Alert has been based.