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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL
Government Notifications

L. D. B 1/2012 (II).

THE FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES ACT, No. 2 OF 1996

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Home Affairs and Fisheries under Section 61(1)(h) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No.2 of 1996.

JOSEPH MICHAEL PERERA ,
Minister of Home Affairs and Fisheries.

Colombo .
28th February, 2015.

Regulations

1. These regulations may be cited as the Fishing Gear Marking Regulations No. 1 of 2015.
2. Every owner or operator of a fishing boat shall mark all fishing gear including all types of gill nets, surrounding nets, fish aggregating devices, fish traps, Ja kotu and all types of long lines carried on such boat as specified in the schedule I hereto.
3. (a) The fishing gear shall be marked by using a tag or flag and shall be displayed prominently and such marking shall be permanent.
(b) Every flag, utilized for marking shall not be less than Twenty Five centimeters in height and Thirty Five centimeters in width; when two flags are required for marking, the distance between them shall not be less than ten centimeters and every flag shall be made of waterproof material in fluorescent colours;



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4. Every tag used for marking shall be durable with required water proofing and be able to stay attached to the fishing gear in all sea conditions.

5. The markings on the fishing gear shall be in white colour on a black background or in black colour on a white background in an easily readable or identifiable manner by separate letters in one of the official languages depending on the use of the language in the location and in English Language.

6. The markings shall be designed and placed in such a manner in order to prevent interference with the operation and performance of the fishing gear.

7. Any boat call sign name of the boat, harbour in which the boat is registered, registration number of the boat issued by the Department of Fisheries, the name of the owner and the operator of the boat shall be marked in the flag or tag attached to the fishing gear.

8. The code mentioned for the relevant fishing gear in the Schedule II hereto shall be marked in the flag or tag.

9 (1) The fishing gear shall be marked as follows :

(i) Every tag used for marking shall be four inches in height and six inches in width and all the details specified in regulation 7 shall be printed or embossed on both sides of it;

(ii) every tag or flag shall be printed using florescent colour in black colour on white background or in white colour on black background.

(2) Subject to regulation 5 every tag or flag shall be painted using florescent colour and shall be firmly fixed to fishing gear.

10. The owner or Master of any fishing boat shall inform the Director General of the Fisheries Department with immediate effect of every abandonment or loss of fishing gear.

11. Every effort shall be made by the crew, owner or operator to retrieve lost or abandoned gear, particularly if the gear -

- (a) presents a hazard to the navigation of surface and sub-surface boats
- (b) fouls reefs;
- (c) fouls spawning beds;
- (d) becomes an impediment to fishing; or
- (e) continues to ghost fish

12. In these regulations unless the context otherwise requires –

“fouls reef” means the damages caused to coral reefs by broken or abandoned fishing gear at sea;

“fouls spawning beds” means the damage caused to fish breeding grounds by broken or abandoned fishing gear at sea;

“ghost fishing” means continuous fish catch by broken or abandoned fishing gear at sea.

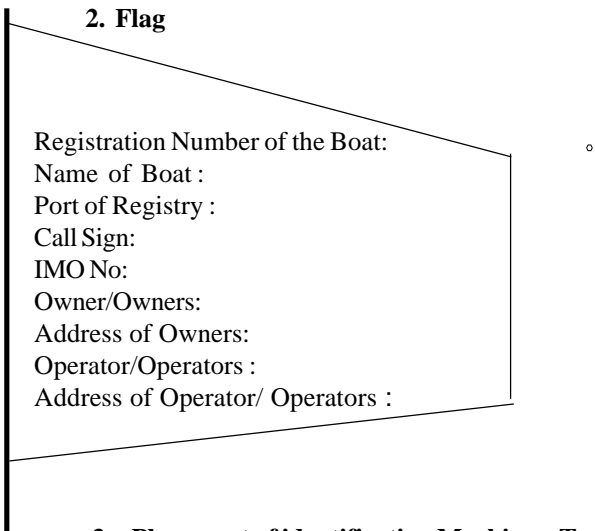
SCHEDULE I

I - Examples of Marking of Fishing Gear

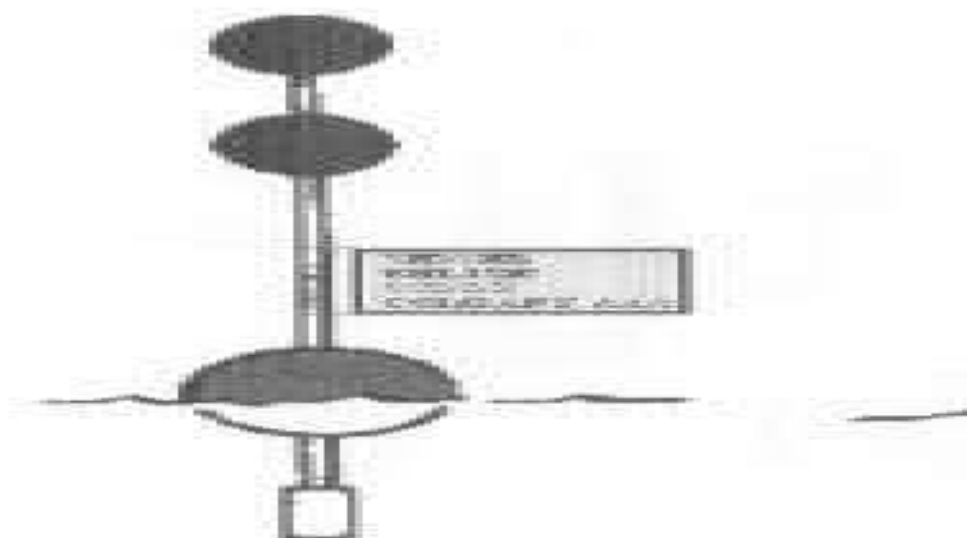
1. Tags

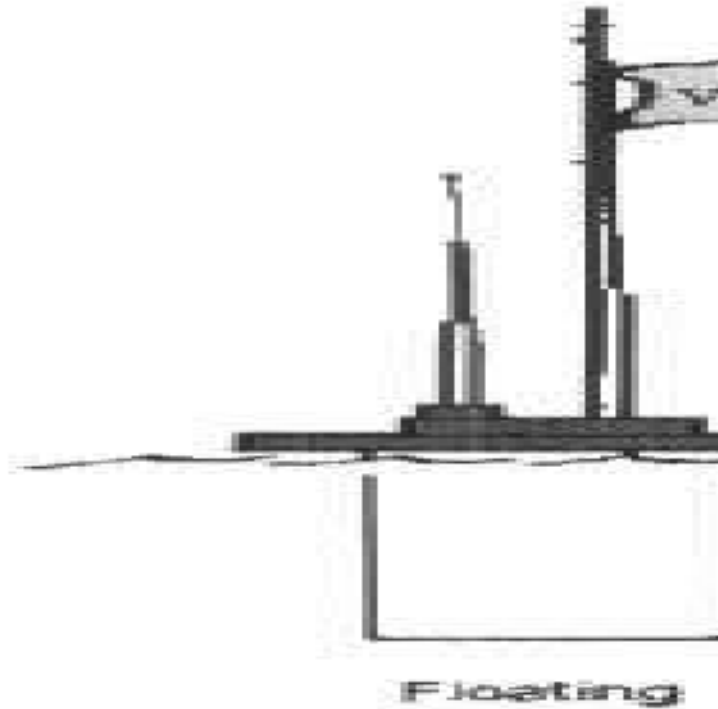
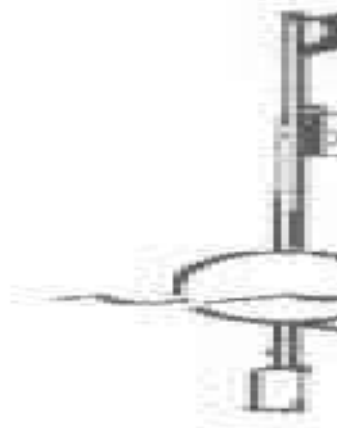
Registration Number of the Boat:
Name of Boat :
Port of Registry :
Call Sign:
IMO No:
Owner/Owners:
Address of Owners:
Operator/Operators :
Address of Operator/ Operators :

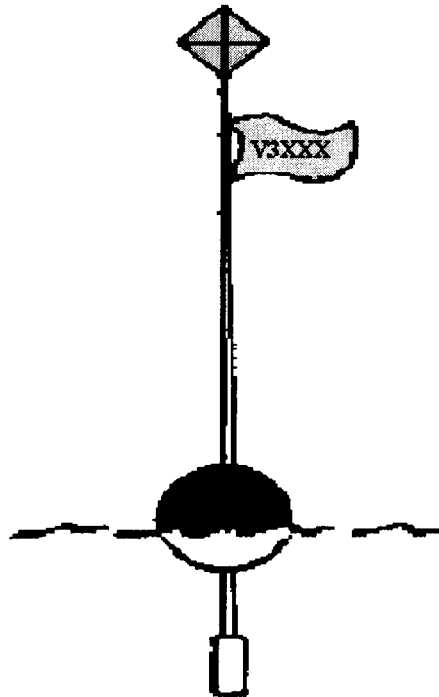
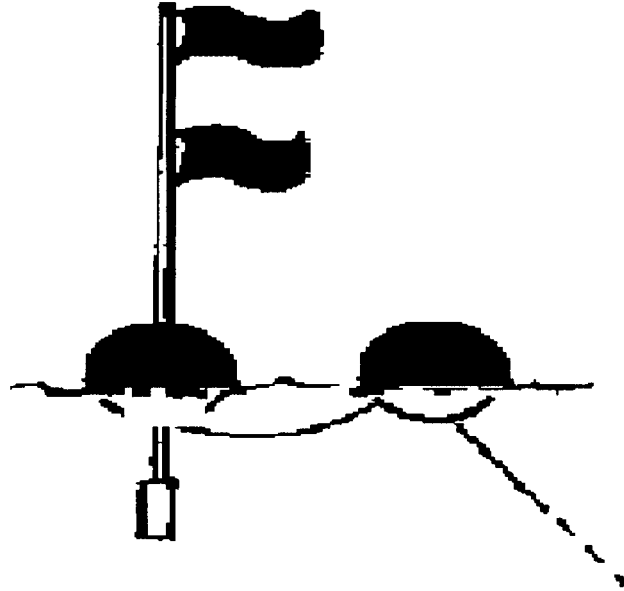
2. Flag



3. Placement of identification Markings, Tags and Flags on buoys and beacons.







SCHEDULE II

Codes for fishing gear/methods : Gillnets and surrounding nets

Drift Gillnet - Large mesh	GNLM	Beach seine	SNBS
Draft Gillnet - Small mesh	GNSW	Ring net	SNRN
Botton - set Gillnet	GNBS	Purse seine	SNPS
Trammel net	GNTR	Wachchhal dela	SNWD
Kuda dela	GNKD		
Haras Dela	GNHD	Maya valai	SNMV
<i>Longliness and Handliness</i>			
Troll line	HLTR	Bottom long line	HLBL
Pole and line	HLPL	Head Line/Rod and line	HLRL
Hand Line	HLHL	Stilt Fishing	HLST
Shark long line	HLSL	Squid Jigs	HLSJ
Tuna long line	HLTL		
<i>Trawls and Drag Nets</i>		<i>Lift nets, Pots and Traps</i>	
Shrimp trawl net	DNST	Lift net from boat	LNBT
Fish trawl	DNBT	Lift net from shore	LNSH
Lagoon seine (Gawana dela)	DNGD	Crab pot	LNCR
Drag net (Kadippuwa)	DNKD	Fish trap	TRFS
Drivein nets (Gok randela/Vidu Valai)	DNGR	Cast net	FGCN
Drag net (Kalapu trawl)	DNL T	Fish kraals/Ja kottu	TRKP
		Cover pot/Karakgediya	TRCP
		Brush pile - Mas Athu	TRBP
		Stake net/Kattu dela	TRKD
<i>Miscellaneous Gear</i>			
Scoop net	MSSC	Harpoon	MSHP
		Spear fishing	MSSF
Diving	MSDV	Pila Athu	MSFF