



## Local Notice to Mariners

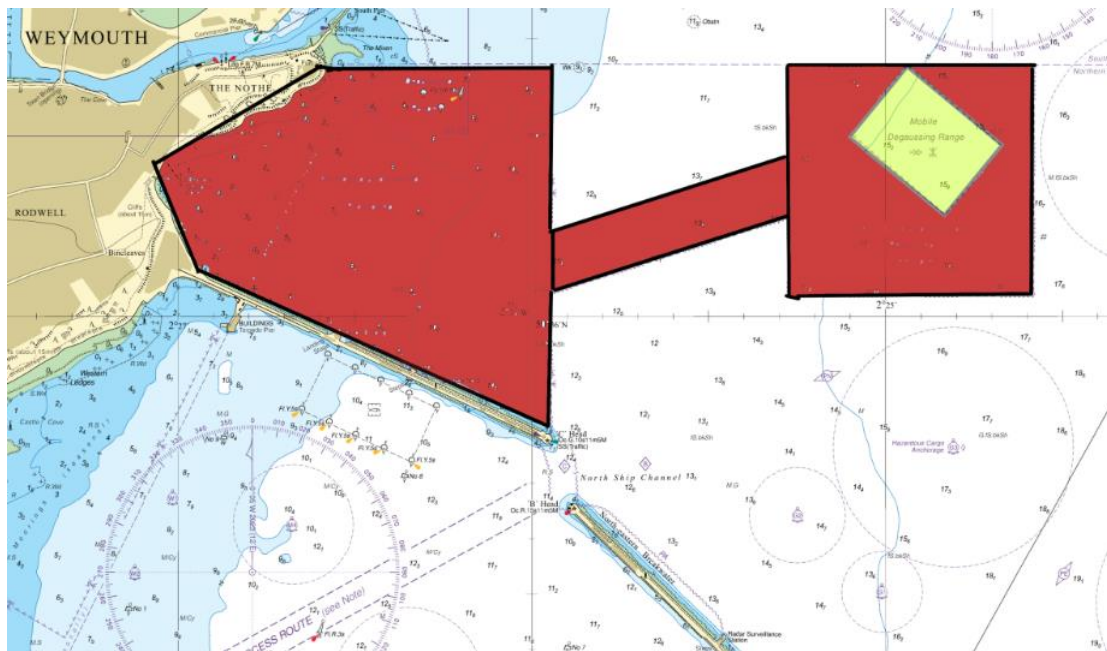
No 12/2024(T)

### SONAR / AUV TRIALS

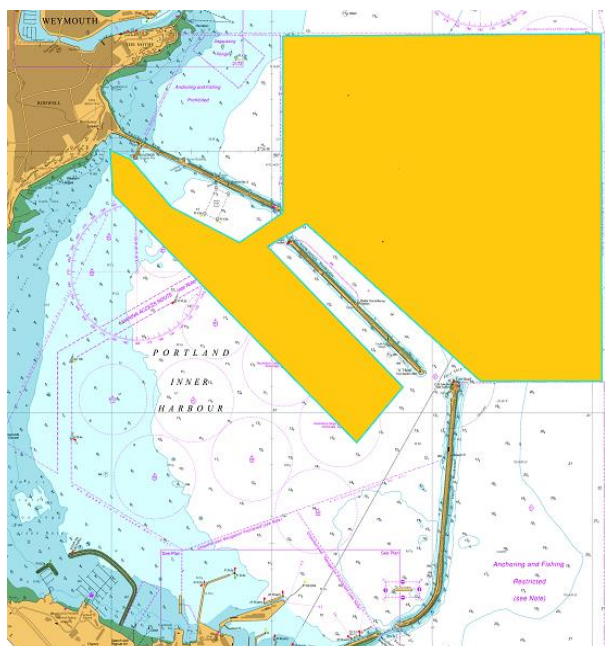
Trial Dates	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 to 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Trial Times	Daylight Hours
Trial Location	Portland Inner & Outer Harbour and Weymouth Bay
Trials Vessel	RNMB HAZARD, RNMB HALCYON
Support Vessels	Bincleaves RHIB (Normally)
VHF Channel	68

ATLAS ELEKTRONIK UK (AEUK) will be conducting Sonar /AUV Trials from the 29<sup>th</sup> of April to the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024. The trials will involve towing sensors in the areas highlighted on the chart extract below and beyond Harbour limits.

A seabed sensor will be deployed in the vicinity of the Mobile Degaussing Range as highlighted in green below. Fishing is prohibited in the area highlighted in red.



The full area of operation within Port Limits is shown on the chart below.



During the trials period, the designated trials vessel(s), complete with various length tows (to a maximum length of 200m), will be transiting to, and operating within, the areas highlighted in yellow, this includes the transit of North Ship Channel. Operations in the Inner Harbour will be restricted to a 50m tow. The 200m tow will only be fitted in the Inner Harbour before transiting to the Outer Harbour to commence operations.

Restricted in Ability to Manoeuvre Shapes will be displayed on the towing platform.

A Safety Vessel, usually "BINCLEAVES RIB", will be present at all times when towing operations are occurring within Portland Harbour Limits and Weymouth Bay.

Trials vessels, with and without tow, will be ranged over the seabed sensor.

AUV operations will also be undertaken over the seabed sensor.

At key times, during operations involving the platforms, the SAFETY VESSEL will transmit SÉCURITÉ warnings on Channel 74.

Mariners are requested to give all vessels a wide berth during operations.

*This Notice is issued under the powers vested by the Portland Harbour Revision Order 1997.*

Captain M Shipley  
General Manager (Marine)  
17<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Owners, Agents, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.**