



PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

## NOTICE TO MARINERS N° 23 of 2023

Our Ref: TM/PYD/155/89 V

26 June 2023



Transport Malta

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Malta

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### Vessels Towing Fish Cages

The Ports and Yachting Directorate, Transport Malta, notifies mariners navigating in the Sicilian Channel and South of Malta that a considerable number of vessels are towing fish cages within the Territorial Waters (12 nm) drifting from the Northeast to the Southeast of the Maltese coast and vice versa.

During the month of April, cages are shifted on the hard for maintenance purposes.

During the months April / May, cages are fitted with nets and are towed to OTW.

The towing of the fish cages is mainly carried out between June and July. There could also be fish cages waiting to be towed in, just inside and outside the Maltese Territorial Waters.

The towing vessels, in line with the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, are deemed vessels restricted in the ability to maneuver (RAM), displaying the appropriate day and night signals and are to be treated accordingly.

Mariners are warned to keep a sharp lookout and to maintain a minimum of 1 nautical mile off each towing vessel when sighted.

Charts Affected: BA 194, 2123, 2124