

THE CCNR INTENDS TO REDUCE THE STRETCHES WITH SPECIFIC RISKS ON THE RHINE

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The CCNR would like to inform the profession well in advance of its intention to reduce the number of stretches on the Rhine designated as presenting specific risks. The CCNR wishes to stress that the final decision will be taken at its next plenary session, to be held on 5 December 2024. The plan is for the measure to enter into force on 1 July 2025.

Currently, the stretch of the Rhine from km 335.92 (Iffezheim locks) to km 857.40 (Spyck ferry) is designated as a stretch with specific risks. It measures approximately 520 kilometres. An examination carried out by the competent German authority has concluded that it is no longer necessary to designate this whole stretch as presenting specific risks. This is explained by the fact that nowadays the waterways are well marked. Furthermore, the use of navigation tools and aids – such as Inland ECDIS, superimposed radar images, etc. – means that navigating there is no longer a problem.

The new draft resolution being proposed by the CCNR envisages reducing the stretches with specific risks to two:

- On the Upper Rhine: from km 335.66 (Wintersdorf road bridge) to km 425.00 (Mannheim)
- On the Middle Rhine: from km 498.45 (Mainz/Mainz-Kastel road bridge) to km 592.00 (Koblenz, mouth of the Moselle)

The total length of these two stretches will be around 185 km. The charts below show the planned changes. Thus, if the draft resolution is adopted in December 2024, the specific authorisation requirements for stretches with specific risks, necessary for boatmasters, will only apply to the newly defined stretches.

Further information will be communicated following the adoption of the resolution on 5 December 2024. The delegations involved have indicated that, if the resolution is adopted, they will instruct their monitoring authorities not to sanction the absence of a specific authorisation for stretches with specific risks that will be cancelled in the future, between the adoption and the entry into force. This will affect the boatmasters who will not take the exam for the stretches with specific risks that will be cancelled in the future. In the meantime, and if there are more detailed questions, those affected can contact the competent national authorities and their representatives. The German delegation will also make information available on the website: <https://www.elwis.de/DE/Startseite/Startseite-node.html>.

With this change, the CCNR intends to relax the requirements for the profession where this can be done without compromising safety. This measure will also allow boatmasters easier access to the Rhine navigation, make working conditions more flexible and help to combat the shortage of qualified personnel.

Stretches of the Rhine currently identified as presenting specific risks



Future stretches of the Rhine identified as presenting specific risks



Red addition by the German delegation to the CCNR

Source: Fachstelle für Geodäsie und Geoinformatik, zur Verfügung gestellt gemäß GeoNutzV

ABOUT THE CCNR

The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) is an international organisation that exercises an essential regulatory role in the navigation of the Rhine. It is active in the technical, legal, economic and environmental fields. In all its areas of action, its work is guided by the efficiency of transport on the Rhine, safety, social considerations, and respect for the environment. Many of the CCNR's activities now reach beyond the Rhine and are directly concerned with European navigable waterways more generally. The CCNR works closely with the European Commission as well as with the other river commissions and international organisations.



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