



# The Coast Guard's Role In The Development of Artificial Reefs

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# Artificial Reefs

During the application phase for an Artificial Reef, the Coast Guard is involved in two parts:

1. Risk evaluation during the review of Army Corp of Engineers permits
2. Oversight of marking requirements



# **Coast Guard's Authority to Review of Army Corp of Engineers Permits**

## **Port & Waterways Safety Act – 33 U.S.C. 1221**

- Provides the CG's statutory basis to ensure the safety of navigation on waterways.

## **Memorandum of Agreement with the ACOE**

- Established a formal process whereby the CG will provide input into the Corp's process for issuing permits related to fixed or floating structures.





# Coast Guard's Review of Army Corp of Engineers Permits

- Evaluate the Risk of any structure or work that may effect navigation.
- Make use of input from Harbor Safety Committees, Industry Groups, past accidents and investigations.
- Evaluate the impact of obstructions to navigation and assist in determining way to mitigate risks to navigation.

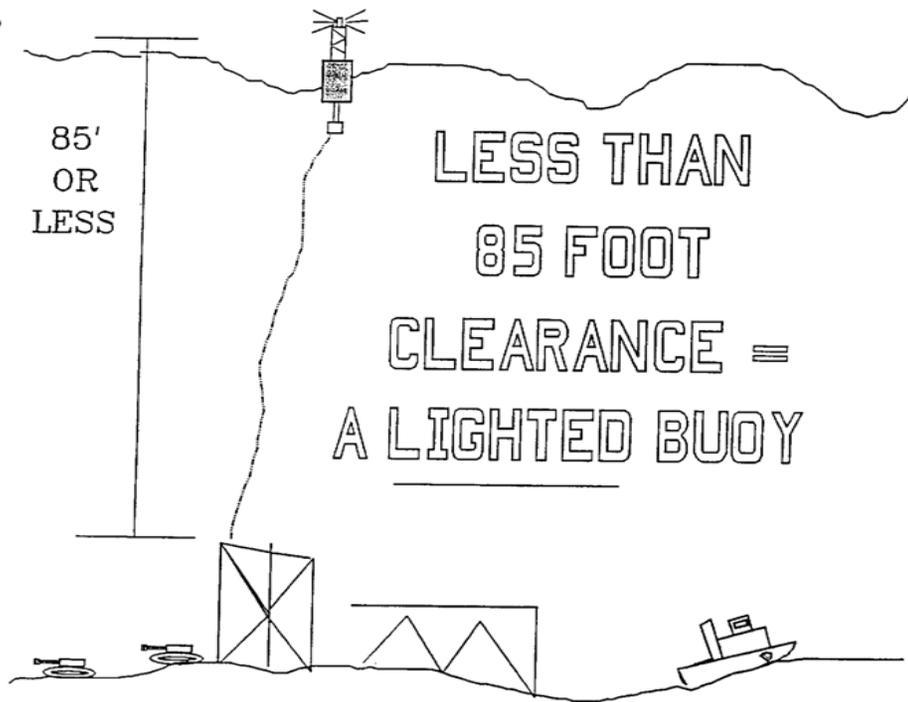


# Coast Guard Policy

for

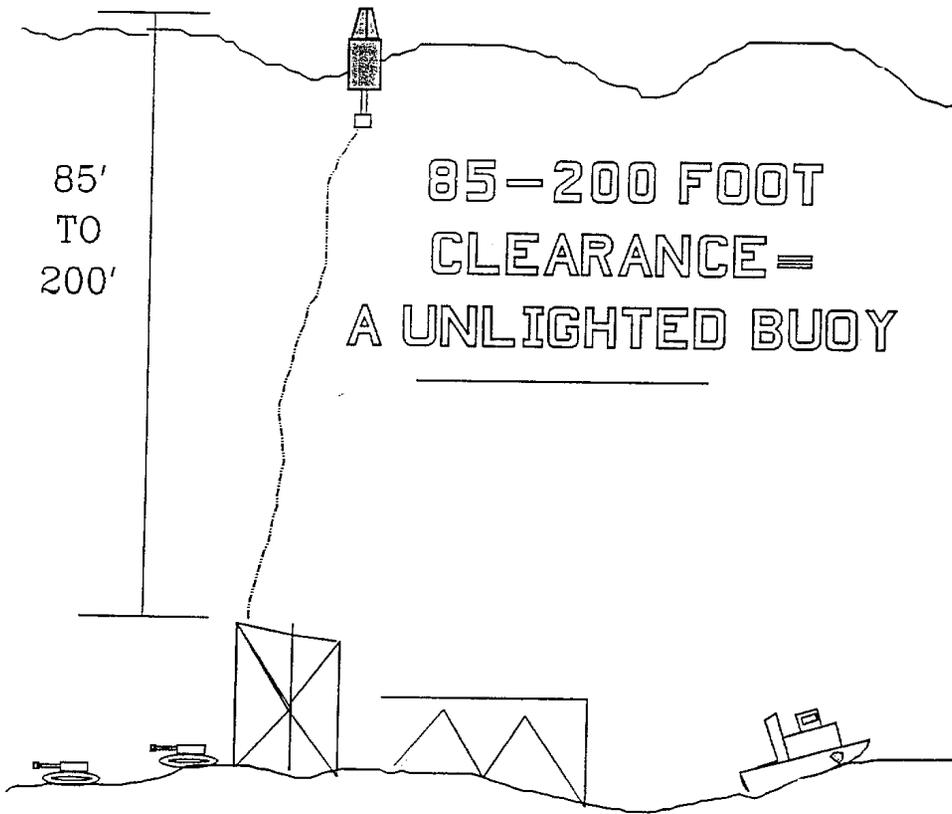
## Marking of Artificial Fishing Reefs

1. The general rules relating to the marking of obstructions to navigation are found in 33 CFR Part 64.
2. The intent of this policy is to define effective and practical methods of marking for the safety of surface navigation and protection of commercial fishing gear.
3. This policy is meant to only cover routine situations.  
**Each Reef is site specific.**



**Yellow \* Special Purpose Buoy(s)** with a flashing 6 second white light that has a visibility of 3 miles on a clear night.

(\***Red** or **Green** lateral buoy if within 500 yards to a channel, fairway or anchorage.)



**Yellow** Collision

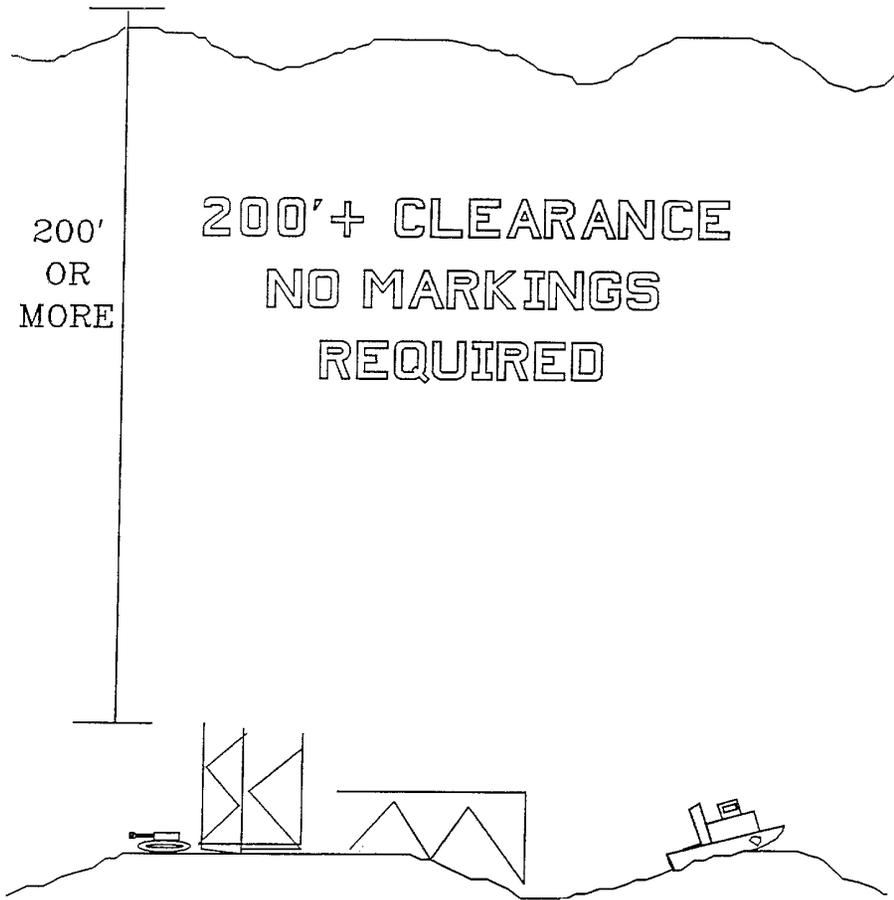
Resilient (Non-Metallic)

Unlighted Buoy.

**and**

**Red** or **Green** lateral buoy  
if within 500 yards to a  
channel, fairway or  
anchorage.

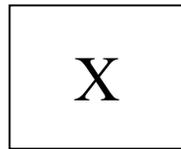






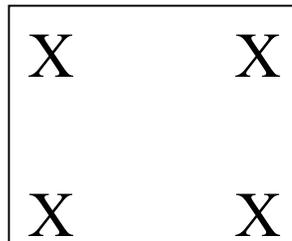
# Number of Buoys Required

1000 yards or less



LESS THAN  $\frac{1}{2}$  NM-One buoy positioned in center of Reef.

1000-2000 yards

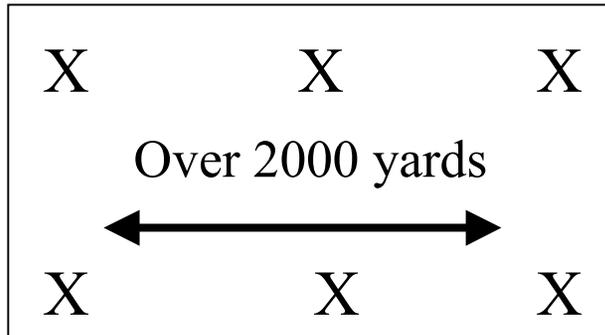


$\frac{1}{2}$  TO 1 NM-One buoy in each corner of the Reef

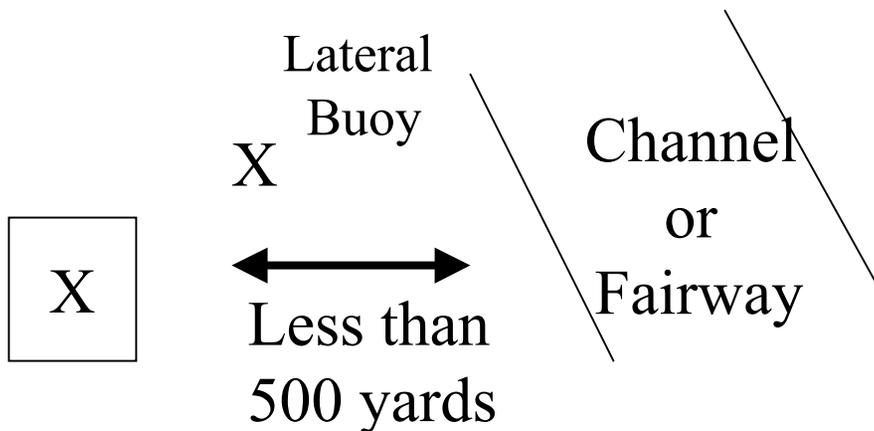




# Number of Buoys Required



OVER 1 NM-ONE BUOY SET IN EACH corner of the Reef and additional buoys positioned on the Reefs perimeter at 1 NM intervals (or as directed by the Coast Guard).



WITHIN 500 YARDS TO A CHANNEL, FAIRWAY OR ANCHORAGE- In addition to the above requirements a lateral aid (red or green) with a quick flashing light. Placed between the Reef's edge and the channel.





# Lighted Buoy Waivers

Waivers MAY be granted for LIGHTED buoy requirement provided:

- a. The Reef has over 50 ft of water clearance.
- b. The Reef is over 2 NM from any fairway, channel or anchorage.
- c. There is no history of deep draft traffic in the area.
- d. The entire Reef complex is adequately marked with unlighted buoys.

**THESE WAIVERS ARE NOT TO BE DEEMED  
AUTOMATIC!!!!**



## Complete Buoy Waivers

Waivers MAY be granted for ANY buoy requirement provided:

- a. The Reef has over 85 ft of water clearance.
- b. The Reef is over 2 NM from any fairway, channel or anchorage.
- c. There is no history of deep draft traffic in the area.
- d. The Reef is included in updated NOS navigational charts.

**THESE WAIVERS ARE NOT TO BE DEEMED  
AUTOMATIC!!!!**



# Questions?

**CDR Jerry Torok** (504) 589-4860: Waterways Management & Safety, Risk Analysis, Navigation & Shipping

**Mr. Guy Tetreau** (504) 589-4686: Harbor Safety Committees (Gulf Safety Committee) & Marine Transportation System

**Mr. Richard Harrison** (504)589-2238: Private Aids to Navigation – Marking of Reefs & Waivers