



Oregon State Marine Board  
PO Box 14145  
435 Commercial St NE, #400  
Salem OR 97309-5065  
(503) 378-2610  
FAX (503) 378-4597

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Waterway Marker Application

### IMPORTANT:

- *Markers can only be placed where allowed by law, or to alert individuals to specific hazards.*
- *Form must be completed, approved and signed by all parties prior to installation of waterway markers.*

### Instructions

Waterway markers used to convey information to boat operators, such as warnings of dangers or obstructions to navigation or other information of an official nature which will contribute to the health, safety, and well-being of boaters. Regulatory markers such as "Slow-No Wake" and "No Boats" may ONLY be placed in locations consistent with state law. Waterway markers cannot in themselves be an impediment to navigation. By applying to place your own marker, you accept the cost, liability and responsibility to maintain the marker as per these instructions and state law. Markers that are inconsistent with state law, create hazard, or are determined to be unnecessary for any reason will not be permitted. Permits for buoy placement within 200' of another similar buoy will typically not be permitted.

#### Step 1: Complete the following elements of the application

Section (1) – (12): the statement of purpose that includes:

- Names of the entities who will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the marker(s)
- The need for the marker(s) or problem you are trying to address with the marker(s)

Section (13): the list or table describing the details of each marker:

- Marker type (sign or buoy)
- Marker size, shape, and material
- Message (including symbol and wording)

Section (14): a scale drawing or detailed map of the area including labels showing the approximate placement of the marker(s) listed in Section (13).

#### Step 2: Submit the completed and signed application

- Please allow 30 days for this application to be processed by the Marine Board.
- Do not purchase or place markers until the permit is granted; only purchase markers that meet Marine Board specifications.
- The Marine Board will request comment from marine law enforcement and other waterway management agencies (US Army Corps of Engineers, the Oregon Department of State Lands, the US Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, etc.) on placement of the waterway marker(s) as proposed. The other agencies may suggest restrictions on the timing of placement, the location, or the design of proposed marker(s).
- Once granted, the waterway marker(s) must be placed as specified in the permit approval letter.

The person or public body whose name is on this permit is responsible for maintaining the marker(s) and accepts all responsibility thereof. Permits for improperly placed, damaged or hazardous buoys will be revoked and buoys removed.

Send completed applications to:

**Randy Sigman, Waterways Coordinator**  
[randy.sigman@boat.oregon.gov](mailto:randy.sigman@boat.oregon.gov)  
Oregon State Marine Board  
PO Box 14145  
Salem, OR 97301



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<b>1. Date:</b>	<b>2. Waterway Name:</b>
<b>3. Applicant Name:</b>	<b>4. County:</b>
<b>5. Agency (if applicable):</b>	
<b>6. Address:</b>	
<b>7. Phone:</b>	<b>8. Fax:</b>
<b>9. E-mail:</b>	
<b>10. Type and quantity of waterway marker(s) requested:</b> _____ Buoys    _____ Signs	
<b>Department of State Lands Waterway Structures Registration Number (if applicable):</b> _____	
<b>11. Describe the problem you are trying to address:</b>	
<b>12. Applicant Agreement</b> <i>(initial each line)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree to obtain waterway markers that meet state <i>Waterway Marker Standards</i> _____</li> <li>• I agree to place markers only in locations approved in the permit _____</li> <li>• I agree to maintain markers in serviceable condition as described in the <i>Waterway Marker Standards</i> _____</li> <li>• I understand that markers may only be used consistent with federal and state laws and that improperly placed markers or markers that create hazards will be removed _____</li> </ul>	
Signature: _____ Date: _____	



**13. Marker List** (see the Waterway Marker Standards on page 5 for information)

Reference #	Marker Type	Size	Location	Mounting	Anchoring System	Symbol	Proposed Wording
<p>Each marker must have a unique reference number.</p> <p>This must match number on section (14) diagram.</p>	<p>Calm Water Buoy</p> <p>Fast Water Buoy</p> <p>Mooring Buoy</p> <p>Plastic Sign</p> <p>Aluminum Sign</p>	<p>Please provide the dimensions of signs and/or buoys.</p> <p>Please provide buoy make and model number if applicable.</p>	<p>Shore</p> <p>Water</p>	<p>Buoy</p> <p>Bridge</p> <p>Dock</p> <p>Double Pile</p> <p>Single Pile</p>	<p>Please describe fasteners for signs.</p> <p>Please describe anchor size, shape, weight, and associated hardware for buoy anchoring.</p>	<p>diamond </p> <p>rectangle </p> <p>circle </p> <p>crossed diamond </p>	<p><b>Hazard/Danger:</b>            Hazard Ahead            Danger Rocks            Shallow Water            Caution Swimmers            Caution Docks</p> <p><b>Exclusion Zones:</b>            No Boats            Keep Out            Swim Area</p> <p><b>Control Areas:</b>            Slow No Wake            No Motor Boats            Electric Only            No PWCs            No Jet Pumps</p> <p><b>Informational:</b>            Other Information (specify)</p>



**14. Attach a scale drawing or detailed map clearly showing placement of the proposed waterway marker(s) labeled using the reference number(s) from section (13).**



### Waterway Marker Standards

#### Colors and Shapes

Regulatory markers shall contain the symbols and messages as follows:



A diamond shape of international orange with a cross of the same color within it against a white center shall be used to indicate a water zone where vessels may not enter. Any words or well-known abbreviations must be in black letters above and/or below the shape on white background.

**Common messages include:** Exclusion Zone, No Entry, Swim Area, and No Boats.



A circle of international orange with white center shall be used to indicate water zone within which a control or restriction is imposed upon operation of vessels and/or use of the zoned area. The nature of the control shall be indicated by words, numerals, or well-known abbreviations in black letters inside the circular shape, or above and/or below it.

**Common messages include:** Slow No Wake, Speed Restrictions, and Motor Type Restrictions.

Informational markers shall contain the symbols and messages as follows:



A diamond shape of international orange with white center shall be used to indicate danger from natural or man-made hazard. The nature of the hazard may be indicated by words or well-known abbreviations in black letters inside the diamond shape, or above and/or below it on white background.

**Common messages include:** Danger, Rocks, and Low Water.



A rectangular shape of international orange with white center may be used to convey other information of an official nature which will contribute to the health, safety, and well-being of boaters using the state's waters. The message will be presented within the shape in black letters.

**Common messages include:** Marina Entrance, Wildlife Refuge, Services, and other General Information.

#### Buoys

Buoys must be white with bands of international orange placed completely around the buoy circumference. One band shall be at the top of the buoy body, with a second band placed just above the water line of the buoy so that both orange bands are clearly visible to approaching vessels. The display area of the buoy body between the two bands shall be white. The symbols and messages described above must be placed in the display area.

- Must be a commercial available design approved by the Marine Board;
- Must be self-righting;
- Must have a durable hard plastic shell;
- Must have internal foam floatation and a ballast system.

Calm water buoys must conform to the following minimum dimensions:

- The minimum height above the waterline must be 34 inches;
- The minimum diameter must be 8 inches.

**Examples:** CAL 410, Rolyan B961R

Fast water buoys must conform to the following minimum dimensions:

- The minimum height above the waterline must be 36 inches;
- The minimum body diameter must be 10 inches;
- The minimum float collar base diameter must be 21inches

**Examples:** CAL 427 River, Rolyan B1428 SW



### Signs

Signs must be rectangular in shape, no smaller than 24” in height and 18” in width; with a white background and have the symbols and messages placed in the center of the display area. Signs shall be made of materials which will retain, despite weather and other exposure, the characteristics essential to their basic significance, such as color, shape, legibility, and position.

Acceptable materials include: 0.080” aluminum minimum; fluted twin wall corrugated plastic sheet; or other materials as approved by request to the Marine Board.

### Waterway Marker Placement Conditions

After obtaining the requested waterway marker permit, the applicant must install, inspect, maintain, and remove the permitted marker(s) at their own expense and as directed by the Marine Board.

1. All markers must comply with the characteristics and standards prescribed by the Marine Board and all permits issued are subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Placement of these markers must be as requested in the application. Any deviation will require the applicant to apply to have the permit amended.
  - b. The applicant must attach the Marine Board issued permit number on the buoy marker(s) top.
  - c. All markers must be maintained in proper condition at all times. A discrepancy exists whenever a marker is not as described in the approved application or is destroyed, damaged, moved, or is otherwise unserviceable.
  - d. Authorization by the Marine Board for the placement of a marker does not authorize any invasion of private rights, nor grant any exclusive privileges, nor does it preclude the necessity of complying with any other federal, state or local laws or regulations.

### Transfer of Ownership of Waterway Markers

When any waterway marker(s) authorized under permit by the Marine Board, or the facility with which the marker(s) are associated, is sold or transferred, the Marine Board must be notified within 30 days.

### Discontinuance and Removal of Waterway Markers

1. Any permitted waterway marker may be discontinued and removed by the permittee. Upon completion of the removal of the marker, the permittee shall notify the Marine Board in writing within 30 days.
2. The Marine Board or any peace officer charged with the enforcement of OAR Chapter 250 may remove, or cause the removal of, any marker found in violation of OAR Chapter 250, or that does not conform to the permit authorizing the placement of the marker, if the violation is not corrected within 30 days following notification of the permittee of the violation. Waterway markers that create an unreasonable hazard to navigation may be removed immediately.
3. Non-conforming or non-permitted waterway markers removed from the waterway remain the property of the owner. Reoccurring removals of non-conforming or non-permitted markers may result in permanent seizure and will be disposed of in accordance with ORS 98.245.
4. The permittee may appeal the decision to remove non-conforming or non-permitted waterway markers to the Board. Requests for Board review must be in writing within 30 days of the removal action. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Board regarding the issuance or denial of a waterway marker permit is entitled to judicial review of the decision in accordance with the procedure for contested cases provided by ORS Chapter 183.