

MAIDENHEAD WATERWAYS RESTORATION GROUP.

CRAFT DIMENSIONS JULY 15th 2008.

SMALL CRAFT SUITABLE FOR MWRG

Dinghies, canoes, punts, small rowing boats, dories, Thames Rowing Skiffs and other unpowered small craft plus a small number of open powered launches up to 30 feet (9.1metres) in length with a draught of no more than 12.5 inches (320mm).

The majority of these craft are likely to be:-

General GRP rowing dinghies around 10 to 16 feet (4.9m) in length and canoes.

Some longer rowing dinghies up to 30 feet (9.1m) in length similar to the "Three men in a boat" skiffs may also use the Waterway.

Most of the open powered launches, including electric launches, which are popular on the River Thames, are kept on moorings at the ends of gardens and/or are trailed to the river. Most will be between 14 feet and 25 feet (7.6 metres) in length and, if practicable, would need to lower canopies or covers to fit within an air height of 4 feet 3 inches (1.3metres)

N.B. The majority of Small Craft that could visit the Waterway in the early stages would be un-powered or powered by outboard motors that can be raised up to operate in 12inches (320mm) of water. The open powered launches over 20ft in length with inboard engines are likely to have a draught of more than 12.5 inches (320mm) varying from 20 inches (510mm) to around 24 inches (610mm)

SMALL CRAFT CRITERIA

- A maximum length of 30ft (9.1metres)
- and maximum beam of 7 ft (2.15metres)
- A maximum air height of 4ft 3ins (1.3 metres)
- A maximum draught of 12.5 inches (320mm) (See **NB** above).

MEDIUM SIZED CRAFT SUITABLE FOR MWRG

This group would include all the craft described as SMALL CRAFT (above) plus:-

- A wider range of Open Powered launches with an increased length up to slipper launches of 40ft (12.1m) in length and with increased draught of up to 36 inches (915mm). The majority of these boats would be between 15 and 26 ft (7.9m) in length. (Picture set D).
- Medium-sized steel and GRP river cruisers where the cabin height can be reduced to 6 feet 3 inches 1.9 M by lowering the windscreen, mast etc. This air height restriction could include a proportion of canal boats up to 40ft (12.1m) long, plus a significant number of smaller glass fibre cruisers up to 27/30 feet (9.1m) in length. (Picture set E).

MEDIUM SIZED CRAFT CRITERIA

- A maximum length of 40 feet (12.1 metres)
and maximum beam of 10 feet (3.048 metres)
- A maximum air height of 6 feet 3inches (1.9 metres)
- A maximum draught of 36 inches (915mm)

LARGER CRAFT SUITABLE FOR MWRG

This group would include all the craft described as SMALL CRAFT and MEDIUM CRAFT (above) plus:-

- Larger GRP and wider beam River Cruisers up to 35 feet (10.7m) long with the ability to lower windscreens etc to reduce overall air height to 6feet 3 inches (1.9m) and 10 feet beam. (Picture set F)
N.B Osney Bridge near Oxford has a published clearance of 7 feet 6 inches (2.25metres) Quite a number of cruisers navigate through, or are based above, this bridge.
- Longer steel narrow boats and wide beam boats up to 60ft in length 6ft 3 in (1.9m) height and 10 ft beam. (Picture set G)

LARGER CRAFT CRITERIA

- A maximum length of 60 feet (18.3 metres) and a maximum beam of 10 feet (3.048 metres)
- A maximum air height of 6 feet 3 inches (1.9 metres)
An increase to 2.25 metres could be considered at a later date.
- A maximum draught of 36 inches (915 mm)

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF CRAFT LIKELY TO ACCESS THE RE-OPENED WATERWAY

These are initial estimates based on the Environment Agency Licence figures for boats based on the River Thames and for Visiting Boats.

A new Waterway would attract Small Craft based in the area and trail-able boats from other parts of the River Thames, plus other UK and some overseas Waterways.

The Medium Craft would mainly be based on the River Thames.

The Larger Craft would include narrow boats visiting the River Thames from other parts of the UK.

SMALL CRAFT

Un-powered boats	2 to 300 per annum
Powered boats up to 12.5inches (320mm) draught	1 to 200 per annum
ESTIMATED TOTAL SMALL CRAFT	300+ per annum.

MEDIUM CRAFT

Additional powered craft up to 40 feet (12.1m)	350 + per annum
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LARGER CRAFT

Additional powered craft up to 60 feet (18.3m)	150 per annum
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