



MOORINGS

Weston Bay Yacht Club mooring sites in the river Axe are leased from the Crown and lie within an area which is a Triple S I (a Site of Special Scientific Interest).

The club has a duty of care to ensure that its activities do not contravene its lease nor adversely affect the environment.

This duty of care extends to all its members wishing to lay a new or replace an existing mooring.

To this end, prescribed methods and materials for moorings are set out in this document.

Weston Bay Yacht Club allocates positions to its members for their moorings but it does not lay moorings on behalf of its members, the responsibility for laying and maintaining a mooring rests solely with the individual member.

Prior to placing any vessel on a mooring you must provide the club with a copy of an in date certificate of insurance. You must have, as a minimum, third party cover which includes wreck recovery.

Therefore, before laying, or replacing a mooring, members should familiarise themselves, and comply with the information in this document.

Whilst the club do not lay moorings they will always provide advice and assistance.

Mooring Guide:

Stay Safe:

DO NOT GO INTO THE RIVER BOTTOM ALONE.

ALWAYS HAVE SOMEONE WITH YOU OR WATCHING FROM THE BANK IF WORKING FROM A DINGHY OR ON THE MUD IN THE RIVER BOTTOM

ALWAYS, ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET WHEN ON THE RIVER. THERE HAVE BEEN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENTS, AND THERE ARE MANY RISK FACTORS IN PLAY.

Mooring Layout:

Vessels on the river are moored parallel to the bank with a mooring fore and aft.

This is achieved by laying a pair of bank lines, each laid between a river bottom anchor and a river bank ground anchor.

One line is positioned up river and one down river equidistant from the mooring centre line, the distance between the lines should be one and a half times the vessels length, ie: a 30' boats lines would be 45' apart. See illustration 1.

Attached to the bank line is a bridle, riser and mooring buoy. The bridle is best attached to the bank line on loops in the bank line so that the position of the bridle can be adjusted if necessary.

See illustration 2.

The exact configuration and dimensions of all of these elements will be determined by the boat size and river profile at the mooring site.

See chart for the minimum sizes

Preparing the Mooring:

View the area when the tide is out to establish the centre line of the mooring and gauge the required length of bank lines and positions of the bridle attachment loops.

Identify and clear any old tackle which needs removing. If any existing materials are to be re used thoroughly check their condition, especially connections onto any existing sinkers or top anchors.

Mark out the positions for the top anchors and dig trenches parallel to the bank ready to receive them. The trenches should be at least three metres back into the riverbank grassland and 600mm deep. Local conditions may require the anchor trenches to be positioned further back from the edge of the river bank.

Assemble your bank anchors and leading lines, The anchors should be 150 x 150mm square timbers 1.5 metres long . From the centre of each trench excavate narrow trenches down to the edge of the mud bank

Run the leader lines through these trenches to ensure they lie flat on the mud. The eyes of the leaders should exit the bank at the edge of the vegetation ready to receive the bank lines. With bank anchor and leader securely connected, bury and compact the trenches.

Marker flags at the leader line eyes will help in positioning your anchors.

See Illustration 3

Assemble your bank lines, anchors, bridles and mooring buoy. Put a temporary buoy on the end of the bank line.

See Illustration 2

Laying the Mooring:

As early as possible on the flood tide, drop the anchor in the required positions being careful not to tangle or trap the lines. Repeat this step with the second bank line.

As the tide rises, take each bank line and temporarily attach them to the previously positioned leader line eyes..

With the bank lines secured, fasten your guest line between the two mooring buoys.

The line should be floating material, ideally polypropylene and have a minimum of one central pickup buoy, though, because it is floating on the surface the addition of several small floats along its length is recommended to improve viability.

When the tide is out, check the sinker positions. They should be a few metres up from the river bed and in soft mud.

It may be necessary to return to the anchors to reposition them and ensure they are able to get a grip in the mud bank.

Pull up and permanently secure the bank lines so that they lie straight on the mud surface but are not under tension.

Allow several days for the sinkers to settle before moving onto the mooring.

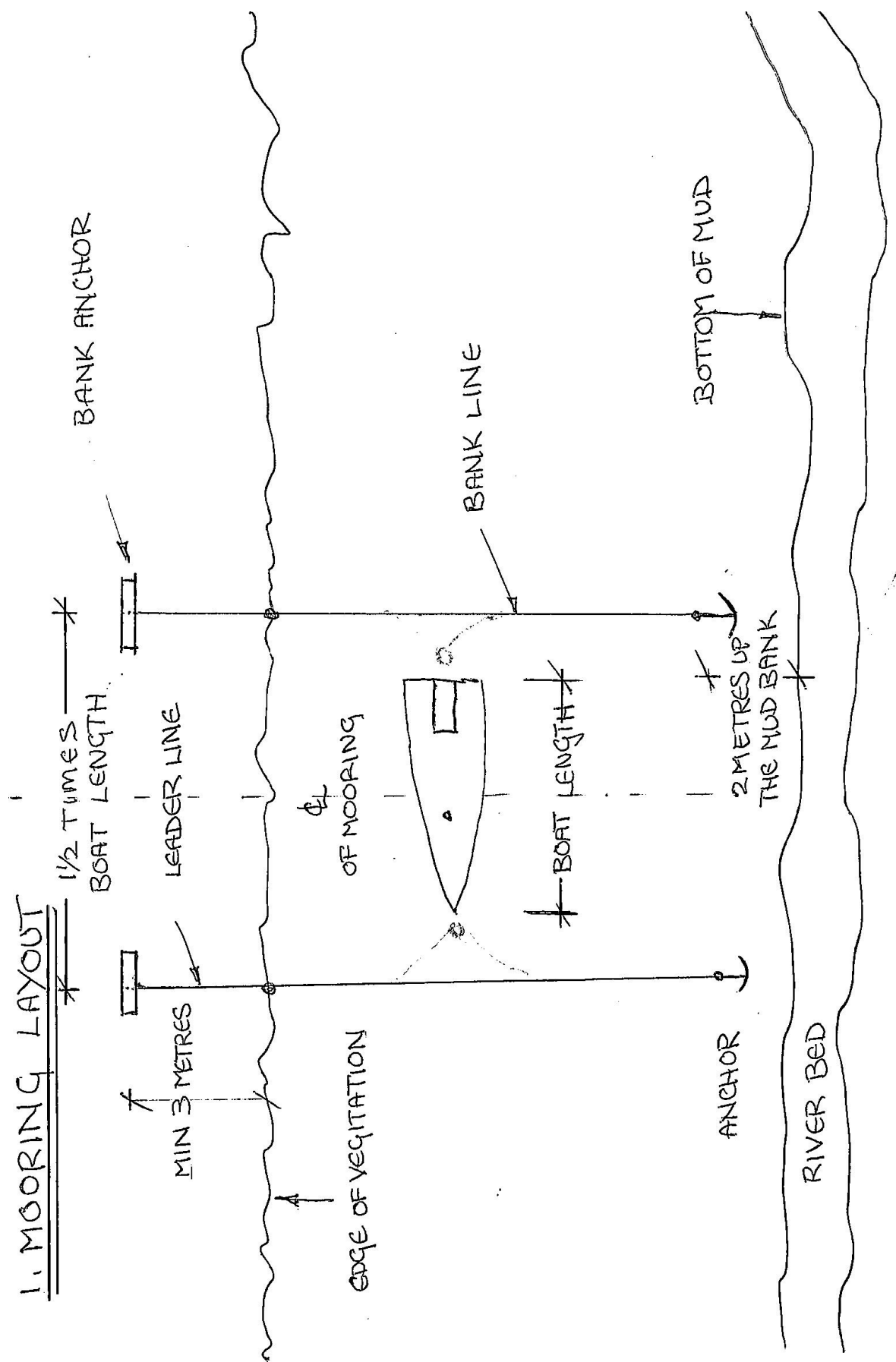
On spring tides check the lines are of adequate length and that the boat is sitting correctly when the tide is out.

Your mooring buoys should be marked with the mooring and licence number.

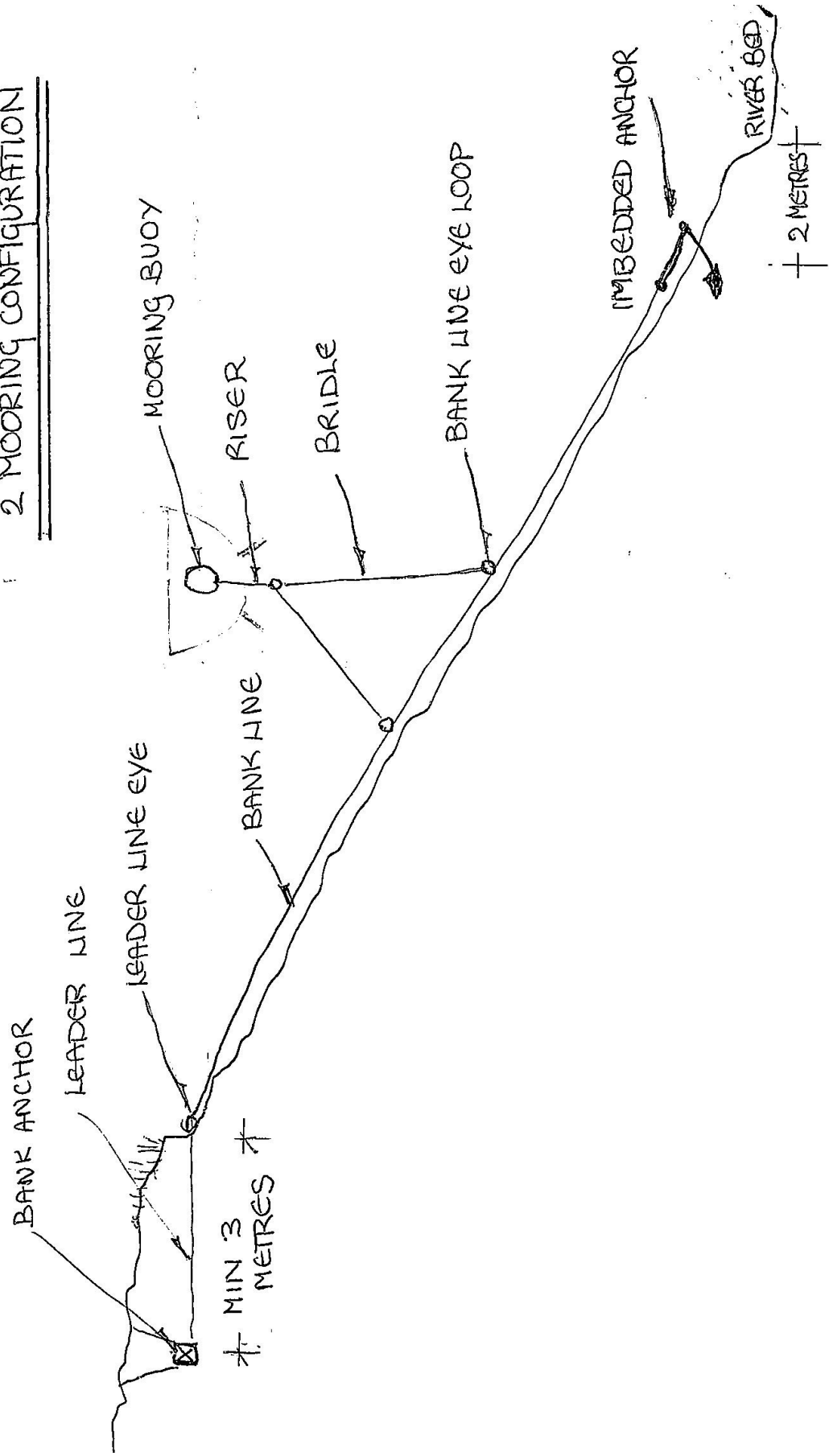
Regularly inspect your mooring for signs of wear, most insurers insist that moorings be inspected at least once a year

Table of Dimensions			
Boat length	Min Anchor Weight	Bank, Bridle and Riser Size	Leader Rope Size
Up to 22'	15 KG	14mm	22mm
Up to 32'	25 Kg	18mm	22mm
Over 32'	35 KG	22mm	22mm
Anchors should be:- Admiralty, Bruce or CQR			
Guest line should be min 12mm Polypropylene			

1. MOORING LAYOUT



2 MOORING CONFIGURATION



3. BANK ANCHOR DETAIL

