

The Formentera Office of Environment (*Conselleria de Medi Ambient, CMAF*) is pleased to report that yesterday the Governing Board approved a list including assessment of the applications for ecological moorings at Estany des Peix. After evaluation and ranking of all the applications submitted, publication of the list will be followed by a period of seven working days during which time individuals may submit required documentation and comments. The list appears in today's publication of the [government commission minutes section](#) on the Consell de Formentera website.

A total of 489 applications were submitted for 285 moorings, the number of moorings authorised in Ses Salines Natural Reserve. Sixty-two applications were rejected due to non-compliance with the terms as stated in the regulations governing mooring and the legal regime for mooring equipment. Of the applications reviewed, 139 are classed as preferential because applicants submitted proof that they anchored in Estany des Peix before 5 July 2002, when the Natural Resources Management Plan (Pla d'Ordenació dels Recursos Naturals) took effect.

Antoni Tur, councillor of environment, remarked that "for many years Formentera residents have campaigned to preserve Estany des Peix, and this must be done by ordering and regulating. The current situation of overcrowded anchored boats and unlawful and non-regulated activities that have been carried out there for many years presented a risk to the environment".

Traditional use and priority ranking

Regulations approved by the Consell de Formentera assembly, which took effect 9 March, prioritise watercraft whose use is part of established tradition. Priority is also given to small-sized boats and those with minimal engine power, as well as those whose anchorage at Estany des Peix is long standing. Additional points go to subsidised traditional boats, retired users and large families.

Once again, Councillor Tur apologised for the inconvenience that works have caused to Estany des Peix users, and he thanked them for "their understanding, patience and collaboration" over the course of the project. "We are working to protect our natural environment and to provide solutions for recreational boating on Formentera." Councillor Tur also highlighted "the tremendous work of CMAF's technical and administrative personnel in developing this ambitious and unprecedented project in the Balearic Islands."

Meanwhile, efforts are under way to finalise the technical solution agreed with the administration of Ses Salines Nature Reserve to site the last ecological moorings to complete the sustainable anchoring project.

Questions? Contact the CMAF by phone at 971321210 and by email at mediambient@conselldeformentera.cat

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Consell de Formentera*