

DECISION OF THE CABINET OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
AZERBAIJAN

On confirmation of the Statute “On use of water bodies for recreational and sport purposes”

With the aim of fulfilling the paragraph № 6 of the clause № 3 of the Edict № 685 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On implementing the Water Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan approved by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated December 26, 1997” dated March 13, 1998, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan **hereby resolves as follows:**

1. To approve the Statute “On use of water bodies for recreational and sport purposes (hereby attached).
2. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Acting Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan A.RASIZADEH

Baku city, October 22, 1998
№ 216

Confirmed by the Decision № 216
of the Cabinet of Ministers of the
Republic of Azerbaijan dated
October 22, 1998

STATUTE

“On use of water bodies for recreational and sport purposes”

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS [11](#)

1.1. The Statute “On use of water bodies for recreational and sport purposes” (hereinafter referred to as Statute) was set up in accordance with “Water Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan”, and Decree № 685 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On implementing the Water Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan approved by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated December 26, 1997” dated March 13, 1998.

1.2. Water bodies of the Republic of Azerbaijan, fitting leisure and sport contain the followings:

Subsurface horizon, fresh, mineral and thermal water sources artificially drawn from water basins and water deposits;

Natural fresh, mineral and thermal water sources (springs);
Surface water flows and water areas;
Glaciers and snow mantles;
Caspian Sea section of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

1.3. This statute specifies the rules of use of general-use water bodies, as well as water bodies wholly or partly given to use for recreational and sport purposes.

1.4. This statute involves all natural persons and legal entities utilizing water bodies for leisure and sport purposes.

1.5. Each citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan reserves the right to use the water bodies indicated in the clause № 1.2. of this statute, for individual leisure and sport purposes, and shall keep the following rules:

Shall observe certain personal safety rules;

Shall not pollute water bodies and their coasts with domestic and other wastes;

Shall obey fire safety rules; and

Shall not use tools and means prohibited under certain regulations while fishing.

1.6. The rules of giving water bodies to use, and rights and obligations of users of water and water bodies shall be determined under certain articles of the Water Code.

1.7. In the event water bodies are given to use of natural persons and legal entities for recreational and sport purposes, the requirements of bodies conserving the nature, implementing the state sanitary control, protecting fish reserves, regulating navigation, as well as the rules of human guidance in water, effective use of water and water conservation shall be observed.

1.8. In the event of the selection of recreational and sport zones and places located in water bodies, the following basic requirements shall be maintained:

Compliance of area of water body and water quality with state standards;

Existence of certain facilities necessary for reaching water bodies comfortably and safely, or accessibility of re-establishment of such facilities;

Availability of highways having an access to areas equipped with recreational and sport zones and places;

Remoteness of recreational and sport zones and places from ports and port facilities, sluices, hydroelectric power plants, points of discharge of contaminated wastes into water bodies, livestock farms and herds as well.

2. RULES OF USE OF WATER BODIES FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

2.1. Resorts (rest houses, campings, tourist institutions, children's health camps and etc.) are allowed in areas of fresh, mineral and thermal water sources drawn naturally and artificially, as well as in grounds under water flows, water areas and coastal strips of the Caspian Sea for the purpose of meeting the recreational needs of the population of the Republic of Azerbaijan. These areas are divided into the following zones:

Recreational zone in which natural recreational resources, equipments built for use of them, rest, tourism and cultural institutions, and amusement, public catering, trade and public service institutions are located;

Zone in which dwelling houses of local people and those of the institutions mentioned above, and public buildings are located;

Zone in which centralized economic and technical services are located.

2.2. Establishment and operation of recreational places are conducted in conformity with the legislation.

2.3. Capacity of recreational places is determined based on the capacity of recreational reserves and beaches and other areas useful for construction.

2.4. Utilization of natural and artificial water sources is regulated under the Law “On bowels of the earth”, and other normative-legal acts relating to this sphere.

Requirements of the use of water sources consist of the followings:

2.4.1. Experimentations on water output, water level dynamics and hydrochemical composition of water shall be carried out in exploited artificial sources (bore-holes) by users not less than once a month, along with consistent laboratory experimentations on control over the conformity of the quality of fresh waters with the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan.^[2]

2.4.2. Opening of gushing bore-holes, water taps shall be equipped with regulatory and other installations, and manometers.

2.4.3. Prevention of exhaustion of subsoil waters, interception of contamination of them with industrial and domestic wastes shall be provided by users, fixed regime of exploitation of them shall be observed for this purpose, and water conservation zone shall be established around headwaters (bore-hole, spring).

2.4.4. Bore-holes unsuitable for exploitation and unexploited bore-holes shall be buffered (filled with cement or alabaster), and isolation of subsoil water horizons shall be restored.

2.4.5. Hydrological regime-exploitation stations, services or areas shall be set up in resort areas in order to provide the right exploitation and conservation of hydromineral reserves (natural and artificial water sources), and regularly oversee the regime of them, and they shall fulfill the following duties:

Implementation of constant hydrometeorological, hydrogeological and hydrochemical experimentations with the purpose to control the regime of fresh, mineral and thermal water sources, water areas, contiguous water flows located in resort areas, as well as Caspian Sea waters;

Performance of systematic sanitary-chemical and bacteriological experimentations in outlets of exploited water sources and utilization point of them;

Control over the proper use of water deposits and maintenance of fixed utilization regime within the reserves and exploitation regime approved by the State Reserves Commission for Minerals;

Maintenance of technical condition of catchment and other installations used in exploitation of hydromineral reserves on regularly required level;

Control over the maintenance of regime of natural resort factors determined by special guidance division of resort areas, and taking of the measures on their protection;

Control over the implementation of hydrogeological, balneotechnical and other works by various organizations at special guidance division, and directed at the research and utilization of hydromineral reserves, and acceptance of outcomes;

Research of annual and perennial regime in exploitation of hydromineral reserves.

2.5. Water flows, water areas and Caspian Sea waters shall be used for the following recreational purposes:

Arrangement of beaches;

Organization of boat and ship voyages;

Amateur fishing.

2.6. Requirements of arrangement, maintenance and utilization of beaches involve the followings:

2.6.1. At beaches allotted (selected) for public use:

Condition of plots of lands under littoral strip and adjacent plots of lands shall conform to the sanitary-epidemiological requirements, and shall not be exposed to pollution or swamp;

Depth of bottom of water bodies shall not exceed 1.75 m moving off coast and gradually decreasing, and it shall not bear protuberances or hollows hazardous for swimmers, underwater stones and rocks, sunken branched trees, rakes and slushes and other strange bodies;

Bottom of water bodies in sectors allotted for children's swimming shall be lesser slanting, and shall not exceed 0.70 m with the total depth of 0.4-0.5 m;

Bottom of water bodies shall be free from low-temperature groundwater sources, and speed of water flows shall not surpass 0.5 m/sec.

2.6.2. In the event of estimation of overall beach area, no less than 5 sq m and 8 sq m area per capita in the sea and water flows and water areas respectively shall be considered. In children's beaches, an area of no less than 4 sq m per child shall be allocated.

2.6.3. Borders of beach zone shall be marked with distinct signal fins or stationary signs located at a distance of no more than 50 m.

2.6.4. Beach shall be equipped with green post with a height of 8-10 m, and in case of any water accident, a red signal air balloon with a diameter of 1 m shall be hoisted to its head.

2.6.5. Plot of land under coastal strip of beach shall be well planned, enclosed or its borders shall be marked with appropriate signs. In potentially dangerous areas, prohibitory signs of swimming shall be placed.

2.6.6. Bottom of swimming zone shall be periodically cleaned by users of water bodies no less than once a month, and tested by divers when required.

2.6.7. Plot of land under coastal strip of beach shall be allotted to the following activity zones:

Rest zones (little squares for taking an air-bath and sun-bath, awning penthouses, umbrella and etc.) - 40-60 %;

Sport zone (playgrounds, boating stations, diving tower and etc.) - 10 %;
Service zone (cloakroom, hire station, dressing rooms, shower cabins, lavatories, kiosks, public catering institutions and etc.) - 5-8 %;
Greeneries - 10-40 %;
Children's sector - playing equipments for children under 8 (sand receptacles, merry-go-rounds and etc.) - 5-7 %;
Pedestrian paths and precincts - 3-5 %.

2.6.8. Beach shall be supplied with fresh water meeting the requirements of the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan. ^[3]

2.6.9. Number of dressing rooms and shower cabins, fresh water fountains, WCs and litter-bins shall conform to the existing norms and rules of construction.

2.6.10. Beach shall be equipped with radio and telephone, provided with emergency aid and hydrometeorological service stations, and protected.

2.6.11. Rescue station with watchtower shall operate at beaches, and regular watch of professional rescuers shall be organized there.

2.6.12. Notice boards shall be installed in distinct areas of beach, which shall reflect the followings:

- Excerpts from current rules;
- Work hours of beach;
- Data on prevention of water accidents;
- Rules of swimming and movement manner;
- Information on water and air direction;
- Schematic depiction of land and water parts of beach;
- List of telephone numbers of rescue station, police department and emergency aid station in vicinity.

2.6.13. Children under 13 are allowed to use beach only under the supervision of parents or adults.

2.6.14. The followings are prohibited at beach:

- swim in areas not allotted for swimming;
- swim beyond marked borders of swimming zone;
- swim (move away) more than 20 m from shore in water flows;
- Approach by swimming to various types of vessels, boats, rafts, barges, bridges and landing stages, other technical installations;
- Climb over technical installations, warning signs, fins and beacons;
- Dive over bridges, rafts, ferries, launches, boats and other installations and facilities;
- Use floating materials other than especially determined facilities (air waistcoats and mattresses, rescue circles and waists);
- Overstep water flows and water areas useful for navigation;
- Drink alcohol, walk and swim at beach drunkenly;
- Behave rudely in water;
- Litter beach area and water bottom with various articles (glass and can jars, plastic objects and food wastes and etc.);
- Engage in fishing in beach zone;

Spend the night at beach, or stay at beach upon receiving an alert on tempest approach, as well as intensification of wind speed up to 5 degrees, while a wave of up to 3 degrees.

2.6.15. Means of water transport e.g. boats, watercrafts and etc. (excluding rescue floats) are not allowed to enter beach area.

2.7. Requirements with respect to boat and ship voyages are as follows:

2.7.1. Bridges and landing stages of particular purpose shall be used for boat and ship voyages.

2.7.2. Rules of installation, maintenance and utilization of bridges and landing stages shall be regulated under the normative-legal acts existing in this sphere.

2.7.3. Motor boats and oars, launches, sailing boats shall be stopped an hour before dusk, and floating boats and ships shall be brought back.

2.7.4. Boats are not allowed to be hired for the followings:

Children under 7;

Adolescents under 16 beyond parental supervision;

Drunken persons; and

In case a wave is more than 3 degrees, while a wind velocity exceed 5 degrees.

2.7.5. In case sheep steerer lacks driving license, swimming voucher and ship ID card attached to driving license, motor and sailing boats cruises are not allowed.

2.7.6. Motor boats shall annually pass a technical examination, and technical act on operability of motor boats shall be submitted to their owners.

2.7.7. Any organizations or persons giving permission to the exploitation of watercrafts and insuring safety of ship voyages, as well as charged persons in ships bear responsibility for such events. Data on each ship voyage shall be recorded in especial journal at ship stations.

2.7.8. While on voyage, oars shall give way to sailing and motor boats and other transport ships, and shall beforehand stand aside.

2.7.9. In use of watercrafts, the followings are prohibited:

Move under fog or other unsuitable meteorological condition;

Swim under wind speed of more than 5 degrees, while a wave of more than 3 degrees;

Move through canals and fairways of Baku bay, as well as in regions not allowed for swimming;

Travel with ship in disrepair, or in case of lack of string used to tie ship by abutting, and troughs used for discharging water and rescue facilities, is prohibited;

Move away to a distance of more than 1 km;

Approach self-propelled and towed technical and transport vessels, block their ways or swim in parallel with them;

Outnumber passengers determined for the abovementioned vessels and overload them;

Set sail in cruise boats;

Enter beach aquatories, approach or moor to floating signs regulating navigation condition;

Move near or moor to passenger bridges, landing stages, moor walls, piers, sluices and ferry bridges, swim in a high speed by them, stay under or by transport bridges;

Deal with load or passenger conveyance.

2.7.10. Persons traveling with watercrafts are prohibited to do the followings:

Use motor boats in fishing;

Dive from boats and watercrafts, rock them;

Pass form one watercraft to another;

Sit on boards of boats or watercrafts;

Use and steer watercrafts drunkenly.

2.7.11. Watercrafts and sailing boats are allowed to leave for tourist outing along the Kura river only if they hold route and cruiser's manual respectively.

Route and cruiser's manuals are provided by tourist and navigation clubs and sections only to steerer when dilettante navigator certificate and technical act on good condition of ship are submitted.

2.7.12. Local executive bodies allocate areas for special purpose bridges or their installation in Caspian littoral islands, as well as in water flows and water areas of the Republic (upon agreement with fish protection bodies), by way of providing constant terminal of watercrafts.

Arrangement of watercraft stations is prohibited in Gum, Chilov, Khara-Zira, Yashma, Pirallahi islands, Neft Dashlary (Oil Stones) and marine oil extraction areas, as well as in "Kuragzi" prohibition zone.

2.8. Amateur fishing for recreational purposes is regulated under the Law "On fishing" and normative-legal acts existing in this sphere, and conducted by fish protection bodies in fixed water bodies and several parts of them.

Amateur fishing is carried out in water bodies under especial use, municipal or personal possession with the permission of users and proprietors of those water bodies.

3. RULES OF USE OF WATER BODIES FOR SPORT PURPOSES

3.1. Water bodies including water flows, water areas and Caspian Sea waters shall be used for sport purposes as follows:

Establishment, maintenance and utilization of water sport installations;

Arrangement of water sport competitions; and

Arrangement of sport fishing competitions.

3.2. Water sport installations (yacht clubs, water sport stations, bases and etc.) shall be set up in compliance with the permission of local executive bodies, nature protection bodies and Ministry of Emergency Situations. Rules of installation, maintenance and use of the abovementioned facilities shall be regulated under the normative-legal acts existing in this sphere.

3.3. At any sport organization irrespective of its subordination, carrying out training and coaching processes on water sports, a head of that organization bears responsibility for the fulfillment of existing rules, and his/her responsibility shall be decided based on the legislation.

3.4. Requirements on the use of water sport installations are as follows:

3.4.1. Bridges of water sport installations shall meet the requirements of mooring and lay-by of floating devices.

3.4.2. Each water sport installation shall be equipped with first aid station.

3.4.3. Each water sport installation shall be provided with rescue station in which constant watch of professional rescuers is arranged. Rescue station shall be equipped with rescue floatation devices, equipments and inventory according to a list agreed with the Ministry of Emergency Situations.^[4]

3.4.4. At a water sport bridge, rescue circles marked with “throw to drowning man” shall be hung on boards placed at a distance of no more than 25 m.

3.4.5. A green post with a height of 8-10 m shall be installed at a water sport bridge, and in case a water accident occurs, red air balloon with a diameter of 1 m shall be hoisted to its top in order to transmit an alert signal to a rescue station in vicinity.

3.4.6. The following data boards shall be set up in distinct places of water sport installations:

Excerpt from current decisions;

List of rules of internal discipline and measures against fire accident;

Water and air temperature, wind speed and direction;

List of telephone numbers of rescue station in vicinity, police department, firefighters brigade and treatment institution;

Sketch reflecting borders of water sport installation area, directions of floatation devices during trainings, and regions prohibited to swim.

3.4.7. Only those persons passed medical examination and left for engaging in water sports, are allowed to get training in water sport installations and partake at competitions.

Children under 16 (except those going in for sports in child and teenager sport schools) are not allowed to get training in sport ships.

3.4.8. Persons getting training in sport ships shall be able to swim otherwise shall not be allowed to enter trainings and get training in swimming sections.

3.4.9. Trainers and instructors shall pass trial examination proving rescue ability.

3.5. Requirements of arrangement and implementation of water sport competitions and training assemblies are as follows:

3.5.1. Only those motor, sailing ships and oars accordingly registered, passed technical examination, and holding proper technical act, ship ID card and board number, are permitted to trainings and competitions.

3.5.2. Each ships shall be reflected on both boards with number sign and name of ship (if available), and number of persons allowed to ship travel in distinct place on the aft inside. Likewise, sailing ships shall be marked on both sails with insignia showing a ship class. Letters and figures here shall be in a height of 150 mm.

3.5.3. Steerer of motor and sailing ship shall hold a driving license.

3.5.4. Heads of water sport installations shall carry out the followings in an arrangement of sport competitions and training assemblies:

Set up action plan regarding an organization of safety during sport competitions and training assembly;

Notify local rescue services on an event;

Give certain instructions to persons responsible for an arrangement of event;

Organize doctor supervision within the period of training and competition.

3.5.5. Chiefs of water sport installations or persons responsible for an arrangement of training assembly and competitions, shall provide event participants with information and instructions with respect to safety insurance, prophylaxis on an injury, first aid, local condition, water basin characteristics, rowing routes and so on.

Those not passed certain instructions are not allowed to enter an event.

3.5.6. In the event of any injuries incurred by participants during sport competitions and training assemblies, a commission consisted of a head of sport installation, doctor and representative of an organization arranging event, shall draw an act on such an accident. In case an injury is serious, an act shall be submitted to the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan, with its copy to local youth and sport administration within 24 hours. ^[5]

3.5.7. Safety of rowing competitions shall be insured by especial rescue team equipped with motor boats, as well as local police unit members.

3.5.8. Trainers involved in trainings are responsible for implementation of rescue works in academic rowing boats and motor boats during trainings. Therefore, they shall know peculiarity of these types of sport, and take prophylactic measures as well.

3.5.9. Sportsmen shall beforehand be instructed on artificial and natural obstacles, prohibition zones, as well as existing devices in coastal zone.

3.5.10. Prior to beginning trainings, trainers shall personally verify whole sport facilities, boats and oars.

3.5.11. Prior to starting trainings, trainers shall take notes regarding route in registry. Sportsmen are not allowed to get into water without trainers.

3.5.12. Young sportsmen shall be instructed on rules of behaviour in advance in case boats capsize during rowing trainings. In the event of any capsizal they shall hold any part of boat, and swim towards a coast.

In case of occurrence of any capsizal under windy air condition, trainer shall approach a capsized boat from downwind. But in case wind blows towards coast they shall approach a boat from leeward.

In case waves are high, nose of lifeboat moored to capsized boat shall be directed windward. Trainer and rescue team members shall throw rescue circle or other rescue device to a person by capsized boat. Hence, he/she shall be taken in tow, and take personal boat from back side. Under cold weather condition, sportsman shall be dried with towel, and delivered to base by wrapping in case dry clothing lacks.

3.5.13. Trainers shall be able to practice first aid techniques (heart massage, artificial respiration and etc.).

3.5.14. Sportsmen not passed next medical examination shall not be allowed to training process by trainers.

Sportsmen incurred an injury in previous trainings and contests shall not be allowed to further trainings without a permission of doctor.

3.5.15. Boats used for preventing accidents shall hold certain constructions and equipments enabling a free leaving.

3.5.16. In case any boat wants to pass by another, the latter shall not impede it. Any boat that wants to pass by another shall do it in side of a contest distance.

3.5.17. In the event of emergence of any obstacle (gale, blizzard, wave, darkness, strange object on route or any ship) endangering an arrangement of competition or training, such a competition or training shall be discontinued.

3.5.18. The followings are prohibited in trainings and competitions:

Accommodate persons in a number of more than that determined with a ship class;

Get in a ship, or participate at trainings or competitions drunkenly;

Block self-propelled ships with sport ships;

Enter prohibited regions with floatation devices;

Utilize sport ships for swimming purposes;

Use motor sport ships in fish catching;

Steer motor or sailing ship without a driving license.

3.6. Fishing rules (clause № 2.8. of the existing statute) shall be observed in arrangement and implementation of sport fishing competitions.

3.7. Glaciers and snow mantles as parts of water bodies shall be used for alpinism and sport tourism in accordance with the fixed rules of mountaineering and safety as follows.

3.7.1. Those intending to climb and transcend glaciers and snow mantles shall beforehand get training at alpinism and sport tourism sections, and get appropriate sport degrees. Children under 16, and those not allowed to trainings by doctor may not partook at trainings.

3.7.2. Preparation of new alpinists shall be conducted based on a single program, and those alpinists shall master the following bases of mountaineering technique enabling training tours and climbing 1st degree difficult peaks:

Dealing with mountaineer's rope, safety belt and carbine, making a knot, and practicing safety methods;

Moving through rocks individually;

Moving through rocks in group;

Moving through thick-grassed and graveled slopes;

Traversing mountainous rivers;

Carrying disaster victims (injured);

Pitching a camp while on travel; and

Knowing rules of rendering first aid.

3.7.3. In the following four stages of trainings, III, II and I degree athletes are trained. In these stages sportsmen improve the habits, and master the following mountaineering techniques:

Moving through snow cover and firn;

Moving through glaciers;

Arranging high mountain tours and summit climbing;

Practicing techniques of safety and self-protection; and

Communicating with a radio under mountainous condition.

3.7.4. Alpinist routes shall be carried out from camps set up at the foot of glaciers and snow mantles, and professional instructors shall spearhead alpinist groups on travel.

3.7.5. A rescue service composed of high-level sportsmen and instructors with its chief shall be set up in alpinist camps.

3.7.6. Alpinist routes may comprise free and artificial climbing parts.

Hook, cleat and other subordinate devices shall be used only for safety purposes, but not as additional facilities in free climbing.

Difficulty levels of free climbing are as follows: I-easy; II-medium; III-hard; IV-very hard; V-special hard; VI—hardest.

Four additional difficulty levels are practiced in assessment of artificial climbing.

3.7.7. Prior to starting a route the following information shall be obtained:

Difficulty level of route;

Protection level of route – existence of open areas, parts incurred strong wind and etc.;

Fatigue and intensity level of route;

State of rock, snow covered and glaciated relief – danger of occurrence of fractional and disintegrated cliffs, stone, snow and ice slides and etc.;

Ascent of snow covered slopes, glacial displacements and glacial walls;

Tactical, directional and etc. difficulties;

Difficulty or possibility level of going back after passing certain places;

Climatic danger – sharp change of weather condition and etc.;

Length and total height of route and its hardest parts;

Term of passing route and its hardest parts;

Points of pitching a camp;

List of required means and facilities; and

Determination of easiest ways of returning from route.

3.7.8. Rules of nature protection shall be observed in alpinist camps, and while routing.

4. RULES OF PROTECTION OF WATER BODIES

4.1. Protection of water bodies used for recreational and sport purposes embraces protection of physical and chemical features of hydromineral reserves, prevention of their pollution and untimely exhaustion, protection of water flows, water areas, as well as Caspian Sea coasts and coastal aquatory, and establishment of relevant sanitary condition for utilization of water bodies.

4.2. Rules of protection of water bodies in their use for recreational and sport purposes shall be regulated based on certain normative-legal acts.

4.3. Special guidance divisions shall be specified for rest areas in which adverse activities i.e. contamination of soil, water and air, and affliction on forests and greeneries are prohibited.

In case several rest areas utilize water fields and sources, neighboring beaches, and other natural establishments, single sanitary protection division may be fixed for them.

Borders and regime of special protection divisions shall be defined by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan based on the presentation of the Ministry of Health and Trade Union Confederation of the Republic of Azerbaijan by agreeing with local executive bodies, while in addition with geological control body for subsoil waters.

4.4. Special protection divisions are divided into three protection zones:

4.4.1. First zone (serious regime zone) includes areas of natural and artificial water sources, mineral lakes, harbors, beaches, as well as coastal waters of the Caspian Sea and beach adjacent plots of land with a width of no less than 100 m.

Implementation of all types of works directed at the use of natural resources for leisure purposes, constant or temporary living of persons not connected with the activity of rest area, as well as other activities possibly inflicting on natural establishments are prohibited in the area of first zone

The following works are allowed in the area of first zone:

Filed and soil works concerning exploitation of natural establishments;

Construction of special purpose installations (catchment, over catchment buildings, pumping stations, conduits, water tanks, water drinking galleries (porches), refreshment bars, piers);

Taking of measures of bank protection, as well as against displacement and erosion processes; and

Construction of communication facilities and park buildings.

4.4.2. Second zone (restriction zone) includes areas of water sources, mineral lakes, ports, sources of surface and ground waters flowing towards areas of movement zones of mineral and fresh waters making water sources close to the earth's surface, natural and artificial reservoirs of mineral waters, rest areas and areas intended for building of them, parks, forest parks and greeneries, and aims the prevention of their pollution, exhaustion of hydromineral resources, change of their chemical composition, and deterioration of the condition of natural resources.

The followings are prohibited in the area of second zone:

Construction of establishments and buildings not connected directly with enhancement and renovation of rest areas, mining and other works;

Existence of absorption wells, irrigation and subsoil filtration fields, cemeteries, and burial of dead body;

Pasturing and herding of cattle;

Application of poisonous chemical drugs for the purpose of struggle against weed, plant pests and diseases;

Hewing of greeneries (except sanitary and upkeep cut-offs);

Any other activity causing impairment and amount decrease of natural resources.

Easily disintegrated poisonous chemical drugs that have no adverse effect on people, can be used by agreeing with sanitary epidemiological service station provided such works are conducted by especial organization, for the purpose of prevention of mass spreading of pests and maladies that require the implementation of hazardous and quarantine measures in parks, forest parks and other greeneries.

4.4.3. Third zone (watch zone – its borders coincide with especial protection division) includes all feeding and emergence area of hydromineral resources, greeneries covering rest area, as well as areas having possible adverse effect on hydrogeological regime of water fields, sanitary and landscape-climatic condition of rest areas as a result of uncontrolled utilization.

All types of activities and works that have no adverse effect on natural establishments and sanitary condition of rest areas are allowed in the area of this zone.

4.5. Sanitary protection of water pipes and water sources located in especial protection division of rest areas shall be carried out in accordance with the legislative acts in force.

4.6. Utilization of hydromineral resources, construction of catchments, output, level, chemical composition and regular watch of physical features of mineral and thermal waters shall be conducted by organizations managing rest areas, natural persons and legal entities.

4.7. Protection of water flows, water areas and Caspian Sea waters from pollution is determined based on the compliance of their utilization with hygienic requirements and health insurance of rested.

4.8. Areas of water flows and water areas used for recreational and sport purposes intend the following water protection requirements.

4.8.1. Water composition and characteristics of water flows shall conform to normatives of point located 1 km above the utilization place (along stream), while in water areas, they shall be in compliance with normatives of points at a distance of 1 km from utilization place to both sides.

4.8.2. Hygienic requirements of water composition and characteristics of water flows and water areas used for recreational and sport purposes shall be in conformity with the normatives indicated in appendix № 1 of this statute.

4.8.3. In case several pollutants having the same adverse effect enter water body (taking into consideration the amount of waste admixtures discharged from headwaters in surroundings) aggregate of correlation between fluidity of several substances in water and their admissible turbidity level shall not exceed unity;

4.8.4. Conditions of transfer of polluted waste waters from rest areas and sport installations to water bodies shall be agreed with Azerbaijan Melioration and Water Economy OJSC, ^[6] and the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan as follows: ^[7]

Waste waters can be transferred to water bodies only after being filtered through local water purifiers;

Waste waters bearing oil and oil products are not allowed to be transferred to water bodies;

Levels of purification, rendering harmless and disinfection of waste waters discharged in entrance and exit of water purifiers shall be regularly determined as a result of their analysis;

Transfer of waste waters to water flows can only be conducted beyond lower border of utilization places along flow;

Transfer of waste waters to water areas can only be carried out beyond both borders of utilization places (at a distance from border of no less than 200 m;

Systematic analyses on composition and characters of water bodies shall be carried out at stations waste waters are transferred to water bodies.

4.8.5. In case inimical indices in water bodies exceed admissible turbidity level, control bodies reserves the right to prohibit the transfer of waste waters to water bodies.

4.9. Caspian sea aquatories used for recreational and sport purposes make the following water protection requirements:

4.9.1. Coastal length of utilization region shall be determined based on the area of current and prospective improvement zone of recreational or sport body; In addition, width of water body from coast to open sea shall not be less than 2 km.

4.9.2. In case sea water is used in coast for treatment purposes, sanitary protection zone of permeable installations shall be defined commensurate with the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan; In this case borders of zone shall be determined at a distance of no less than 200 m from headwaters at all directions. [\[8\]](#)

4.9.3. Borders of water protection zone shall be placed at a distance of no less than 10 km at a direction from borders of water utilization region to coast and open sea. Bacteriological and chemical pollution level of sea water at fixed boundaries shall not surpass specified normative indices.

4.9.4. Discharge of all types of purified and unpurified waste waters is prohibited at boundaries of water utilization region.

Contamination of sea waters with water transport and sea oil extraction bodies is prohibited in the aquatory located between borders of coastal strip of water utilization region and regional waters of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

4.9.5. Under exceptional circumstances, discharge of purified and rendered harmless waste waters into coastal sea waters is allowed under the permission of sanitary-epidemiological service, and bodies protecting the nature and fish reserves, and by observing existing rules and normatives.

4.9.6. Hygienic requirements of water composition and characteristics in sea water bodies used for recreational and sport purposes shall be in compliance with the normatives indicated in appendix № 2 of this statute.

4.9.7. Measures including water protection in water utilization regions agreed with nature conservation body and sanitary-epidemiological service station, as well as carrying out renovation works in areas of beaches and seaside rest areas, removal of surface waters from boundaries of water utilization region and etc. based on the requirements and normatives of the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan, shall be carried out in order to prevent the deterioration of composition and characteristics of sea water caused by surface waters discharged from coastal settlements. [\[9\]](#)

4.9.8. Water composition and characteristics in outfalls of rivers flowing into the sea in water utilization region shall meet the requirements indicated in the clause № 4.8. of this statute.

Citizens and responsible persons violating this statute bear responsibility in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Statute on rules of use of water
bodies for recreational and
sport purposes
APPENDIX № 1

**HYGIENIC REQUIREMENTS
on water composition and characteristics in water flows and water areas used
for recreational and sport purposes**

Features and composition of water bodies	For bathing of population, sport and leisure, as well as for water areas located within settlement
1	2
Subordinate substances	Amount of subordinate substances shall not exceed 0.75 mg/l. Water bodies bearing more than 30 mg/l natural minerals are allowed to increase by 5%. Subordinate substances with subsidence speed of more than 0.4 mm/sec in water flows, and more than 0.2 mm/sec in water areas, are prohibited to be discharged into water bodies.
Floating admixtures (matters)	Floating substances (thin dirty membranes and strata, petroleum and oil tinges and stains, various additives and other admixtures) shall not exist on surface of water bodies.
Smells, tastes	Strange smells and tastes directly detected in water shall not surpass 2 degrees (human sense limit). Flesh of caught fish shall not pass smell and taste from water.
Color	Shall not be revealed in water column of 10 cm.
Temperature	Water temperature as a result of discharge of polluted wastes during summer months shall not increase more than 3 ⁰ C with respect to average monthly temperature of hottest month within past decade.
Hydrogen index (pH)	Shall not exceed 6.5-8.5.
Mineral composition	“Tastes” are normalized based on their indices.
Solved oxygen	Shall not be less than 4 mg/l in specimen taken until 12 during any time of year.
Biochemical oxygen demand	Shall not exceed 6.0 mg/l in case water temperature is adopted 20 ⁰ C.

Chemical oxygen demand	Shall not outnumber 30.0 mg/l.
Pathogens	Water shall not bear pathogens.
Quantity of coliphages	Shall not be more than 100 at 1l.
Quantity of lactose positive bacteria related to <u>taeniae coli</u>	Shall not be more than 5000 at 1l.
Living worm eggs (aşkarıda tükbaş, toxocara, fasiol), nopkospheres of teniid and healthy top membranes of uncomplicated pathogenic <u>taeniae coli</u> (sista)	Shall not exist.
Chemical substances	Shall not exceed admissible turbidity level and admissible approximate levels.

Statute on rules of use of water
bodies for recreational and sport
purposes
APPENDIX № 2

**HYGIENIC REQUIREMENTS
on water composition and characteristics in sea water bodies used for
recreational and sport purposes**

Indices of sea water composition and characteristics	General requirements on sea water composition and characteristics and normative indices	
	Water use region	Sanitary guidance zone
	1	3
Floating admixtures	Floating substances (thin dirty membranes and strata, petroleum and oil tinges and stains, various additives and other admixtures) uncommon for sea water shall not exist on surface of water bodies and 30 cm upper water layer. In regular seasonal reproduction and accumulation of algae, regional clearance measures shall be taken.	Extraordinary floating substances and other admixtures shall not exist on water surface.
Smells, tastes	Strange smells uncommon for	Strange smells

	sea water shall not exceed 2 degrees (human sense limit), odd taste shall not exist in sea foods.	uncommon for sea water and strange taste for sea foods shall not exist.
Limpidity	Shall not be less than 30 cm based on Snellen chart. Water limpidity level shall not be limited under circumstances of abatement of pureness under impact of local hydrophysical, topographical-hydrological and other natural-climatic factors.	There is no limitation.
Color	Shall be revealed in 10 cm sea water column.	There is no limitation.
Biochemical oxygen demand	Shall not exceed 3.0 mg/l in case water temperature is taken 20 °C.	There is no limitation.
Pathogens	Shall not be found in water.	There is no limitation.
Quantity of lactose positive bacteria related to taeniae coli	Shall not be more than 1000 at 11.	Shall be regulated under requirements of discharge of wastes: quantity of free chlorine shall not be less than 1.5 mg/l, while koli-index no more than 1000.
Quantity of Staphylococcus	Shall not be more than 100 at 11.	Shall be regulated under requirements of discharge of wastes.
Quantity of enterokokk and taeniae coli bacteria in <u>headwaters</u> of floatation pools	Shall not be more than 50 and 100 respectively at 11.	Shall be regulated under requirements of discharge of wastes.
Deleterious substances	Shall not exceed admissible turbidity level and admissible approximate limits.	Shall not exceed admissible turbidity level and admissible approximate level.