

The Consell de Formentera reports that nine citations were issued yesterday as part of a special effort to curb passenger travel in Ses Salines Natural Reserve of Eivissa-Formentera which saw the local fisheries inspection service and Spanish coastal and maritime authorities conduct inspections of ten vessels.

Punitive measures will be sought in nine cases of unauthorised pickup and transport of people. Agents also checked of permits, documentation and skippers' qualifications.

Environment and inspection services chief Antonio J. Sanz said more action would follow in the days ahead, and described the patrols as "key to tackling unlawful, environmentally destructive activity in the reserve".

Consell de Formentera President Alejandra Ferrer praised the efforts of law enforcement and government agencies, whose strategy was the fruit of a one-off coordinating session on Wednesday 4 August which officials hoped would improve order in reserve waters and more broadly across the island.

As President Ferrer explained, "for the second weekend in a row, a special police presence spanning Formentera Local Police, Civil Guard, Balearic Emergency Response Service and the Formentera Departments of Inspections, Environment and Mobility will be on the lookout for crowds, street vending, parties in natural spaces and at homes and other violations of Covid restrictions which risk jeopardising the wellbeing of islanders and visitors", said Alejandra Ferrer.

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