



# Information for Owners and Operators of Recreational Vessels: The Craft Risk Management Standard (CRMS) for Vessels

## The “Clean Hull” Requirements

All vessels must arrive in New Zealand Territory with a “clean hull”. The definition of a clean hull varies according to a vessel’s itinerary and length of stay. Most recreational vessels will fall into the long-stay category, which are those staying for 29 days or longer, or wanting to visit areas not approved as **Places of First Arrival**. The requirements are stricter for long-stay vessels, and the only biofouling these vessels may have on their hull and niche areas is a slime layer and gooseneck barnacles.

## How vessels can meet the clean hull requirements:

Below are the acceptable measures for ensuring a clean hull:

- » Inspect and if needed, clean the hull less than 30 days prior to arrival to New Zealand Territory. **Recommended for long-stay vessels.**
- » Clean/treat the hull within 24 hours of arrival to

New Zealand Territory. Proof of booking at an MPI approved haul-out facility must be provided to MPI prior to, or on arrival. A list of MPI approved haul-out facility can be found on the [MPI website](#).

- » Maintain a clean hull through best practice maintenance. The International Maritime Organisation website for guidelines on best practice maintenance can be found [here](#). **Note: This option is suitable for short-stay vessels only.**
- » Treat on arrival with an MPI-approved treatment by an approved provider.

If vessels are unable to meet the **CRMS** requirements using the above measures, it can manage biofouling through other measures by developing a Craft Risk Management Plan. For more information email [standards@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:standards@mpi.govt.nz).

### Clean hull thresholds under CRMS:

#### Short-stay vessels



- Visiting for 28 days or less
- Only visiting Ports of First Arrival

E.g. Project vessels, bulk carriers

- ✓ Slime – layer
- ✓ Gooseneck Barnacles
- ✓ Slight fouling of early stage biofoulers e.g. barnacles, tubeworms or bryozoan

#### Long-stay vessels



- Visiting for 29 days or more
- Visiting an area or areas not approved as a Port of First Arrival

E.g. Yachts

- ✓ Slime – layer
- ✓ Gooseneck Barnacles
- ✗ No other fouling is allowed

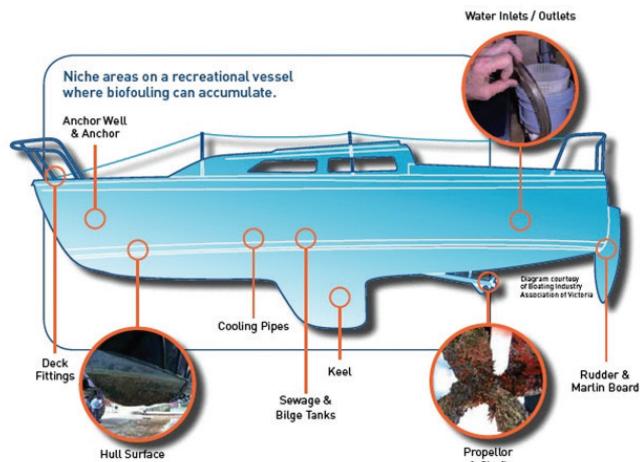
## Considerations for Recreational Vessels

Vessels can meet the long-stay threshold by cleaning all hull and niche areas less than 30 days prior to arrival.

When cleaning your vessel prior to departure for New Zealand, it is important to pay special attention to cleaning niche areas. Niche areas are recessed or protruding portions of the hull and internal pipework where organisms can find shelter and biofouling can accumulate. Common niche areas on recreational vessels are highlighted in the diagram below, and can include, but are not limited to, propellers, keels, rudders, water inlets, and internal pipework.

Vessel owners are also encouraged to antifoul their vessels regularly, with special attention to paint application in niche areas.

## Evidence Requirements



Vessel diagram provided by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Evidence must be made available to MPI providing proof that all hull and niche areas are clean. This may include detailed biofouling record books, anti-fouling documentation, date-stamped photographs from a recent haul out or in-water clean, and receipts or records from any hull maintenance work.

If providing a vessel inspection biofouling report as part of clean hull evidence, it must meet the requirements of Schedule 2 and 3 of the new **CRMS**.

Visit the **MPI website** for more information on how best to comply and evidence requirements.

## What will happen if a vessel is noncompliant?

If a vessel does not meet the “clean hull” threshold for its length of stay and itinerary, it will face action to manage the associated biosecurity risk. This may include restricting itineraries, directions to haul out and clean the vessel, or, if cleaning is not possible, directions to leave New Zealand. Currently, approved options for managing biofouling in New Zealand are limited, as haul out/dry docking is the only approved treatment. This is only available for **smaller vessels**, as large dry docks do not exist in New Zealand.

**Any expenses associated with compulsory cleaning or disruptions to a vessel's schedule must be met by the vessel owner or operator.**

## Why do we require a clean hull?

Harmful marine organisms most commonly arrive in New Zealand through vessel biofouling. These species can pose a significant risk to our marine environment. The **Craft Risk Management Standard for Vessels** manages this risk, and sets out MPI’s minimum requirements of vessels to manage biofouling. Complying with the standard will also minimise entry and arrival delays and costs for the vessel.

## Here to help

Planning a New Zealand arrival should begin as early as possible. For biofouling management advice or information on operating as an MPI approved system, email **standards@mpi.govt.nz**. More information on biofouling management can also be found on the **MPI website**.