

## Cleaning on arrival in New Zealand

Cleaning before arrival is the preferred and most effective way to meet the requirements. However, ensuring you have an arrangement for your vessel to be cleaned within 24 hours of arrival is acceptable. You must be able to produce evidence of this arrangement on arrival. The work must be carried out at a facility approved for cleaning international vessels by the Ministry for Primary Industries. Further information is on the MPI website.

## What will happen on arrival

Upon arrival, MPI Quarantine Officers will meet your vessel and review your pre-arrival information (e.g. Advance Notice of Arrival, Masters Declaration). The Officer will ask questions about your biofouling maintenance history, and may ask to see records of biofouling management or hull cleaning. Vessels which cannot produce these records, and are assessed as having a high risk of biofouling, may undergo a dive inspection at the owner's cost.

## What happens if biofouling is found

If biofouling is found on your vessel, the associated risk must be removed from the water within 24 hours. This may mean your vessel will be hauled-out and cleaned. This may cause significant delays to your journey, so it is recommended you arrive with a clean hull or have a booking to enter an approved facility as soon as you arrive.

Any cleaning or treatment costs must be met by the vessel owner.

**If none of these options are available, the vessel may be directed to leave New Zealand within 24 hours.**

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When cleaning or treatment has been carried out to the satisfaction of MPI, your vessel will be issued a biosecurity clearance and you can continue your journey in New Zealand.

## Other good reasons to keep clean

Biofouling can negatively affect your vessel's fuel efficiency, speed and result in increased costs to remove the fouling. Biofouling can cause a powerboat to use up to 30 percent more fuel and slows down sailboats because of increased drag. Leaving fouling on your vessel for too long can also damage the paint and cause deterioration of the hull. Hull fouling is greater on boats that remain stationary in the water for long periods of time.



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June 2018

New Zealand Government

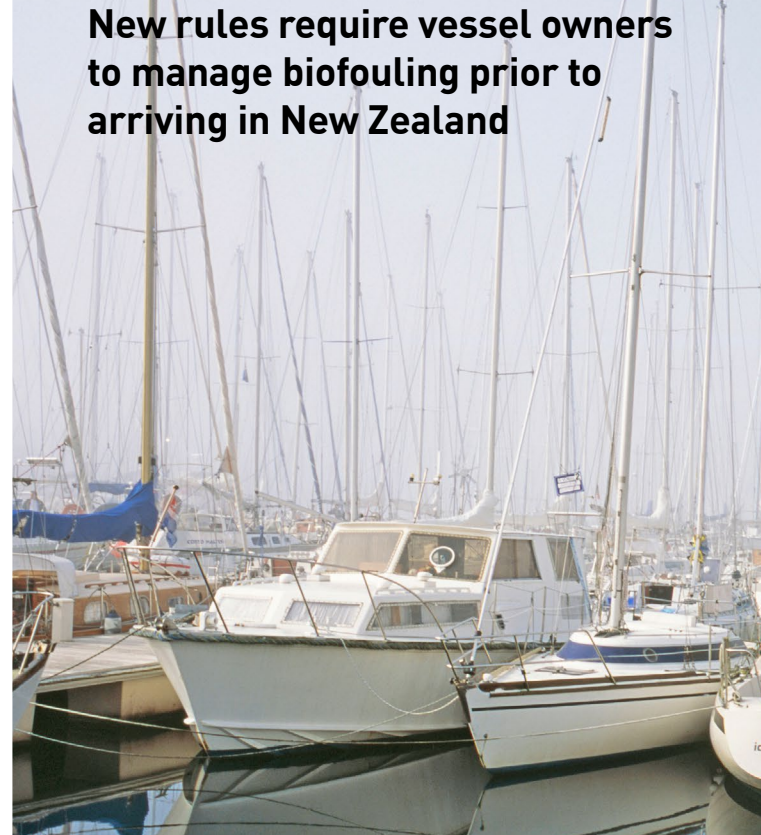
# Biosecurity New Zealand

Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa

GUIDANCE FOR RECREATIONAL VESSELS

## New Zealand's new biofouling requirements

**New rules require vessel owners  
to manage biofouling prior to  
arriving in New Zealand**



Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



# Under the Craft Risk Management Standard, all vessels must arrive in New Zealand with a clean hull

## Why we are taking action

Once established in New Zealand, foreign marine species can have severe economic and environmental impacts on the marine environment. They can damage the very things that make New Zealand an appealing cruising destination such as pristine beaches, unique diving and abundant fish life. Introduced marine species most commonly arrive in New Zealand waters on international vessels as biofouling (the growth on the hull and underwater fittings).

## What will be required

Most yachts and recreational vessels coming into New Zealand will fall into a category called “long-stay vessels”. These vessels are those coming to New Zealand for 21 days or more and/or visiting places other than registered places of first arrival (where Quarantine Inspectors are based to receive and inspect arriving vessels).

Long-stay vessels must be able to show MPI they are free of any fouling except a slime layer and goose barnacles. Therefore, the best way for long-stay vessels to meet the requirements is by thoroughly cleaning the vessel's hull and niche areas prior to departing for New Zealand, and keeping records showing this has been done.



The only fouling a long-stay vessel may have is a slime layer (A) and gooseneck barnacles (B). Any other species, such as the acorn barnacle (C), or bryozoans (D), are not allowed. The images on the right show a slime layer (E) which would meet the new requirements, and moderate (F) extensive (G) and very heavy (H) levels of fouling which would not meet the new requirements.

(Images: John A Lewis, ES Link Services Pty Ltd).

## How to meet the requirements

If you're the operator of a yacht or recreational vessel coming to New Zealand, you can meet New Zealand's rules on biofouling by making sure you:

- clean your vessel's hull within 30 days of your arrival in New Zealand, and keep records showing this has been done. Pay attention to fittings and areas not protected by antifouling, and other submerged areas that protrude or form a recess into the hull as these can harbour pest species.
- regularly clean and antifoul your vessel's hull and niche areas, e.g. rudder, hull fittings, areas that protrude or recess into the hull. Ensure they are kept free of biofouling and that your antifouling paint is in good condition and working effectively.

## Managing marine growth in internal seawater systems

Internal seawater systems are known to be a high-risk area for biofouling and may contain large numbers of foreign marine species. These systems should be regularly monitored to ensure biofouling growth does not accumulate. If the vessel has been stationary for a long time; you are moving to a new location; or you are slipping your vessel for maintenance, you should treat or flush these internal systems with fresh water or use an approved chemical treatment as a preventative measure to keep the system clean.

## Keep records

Keep a record of your biofouling maintenance (e.g. the date, location and facility that carried out the last dry docking/haul-out and antifouling; receipts from marinas, haul-out facilities and paint suppliers; a current antifouling coating certificate; results of a recent in-water inspection) or evidence that the vessel has been cleaned or treated less than 30 days before arrival to New Zealand.