

FREE

please take
a copy

BOAT OWNERS GUIDE

caring for our coastal waters

Practical ways to reduce your boats running costs
while looking after our coastal waters.



Conservation
Council SA



**Conservation Council SA
Reef Watch Program**

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www www.reefwatch.asn.au

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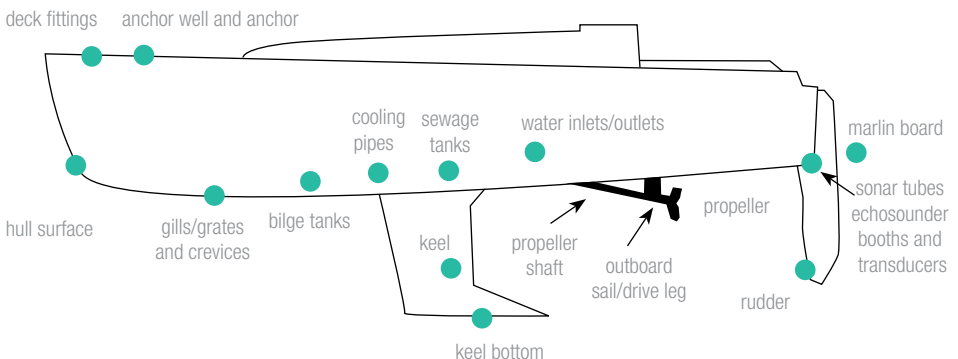
KEEPING YOUR BOAT CLEAN.

THE BENEFITS TO YOU AND OUR COASTAL WATERS.

Boats have the potential to spread marine pests from one place to the next. When cleaning down your boat after a day out on the water remember the **six D's**...

- 1. Dislodge** all plants and animals and bin them
- 2. Drain** water from the boat and gear
- 3. Dispose** of unwanted bait in the bin
- 4. Douse** your boat and gear with freshwater
- 5. Dry** your boat and equipment for at least 48hrs
- 6. Don't forget** to apply an authorised antifoulant

Your boat should be washed down away from water ways to stop spread of pests. Places to check for marine pests when cleaning your moored boat.

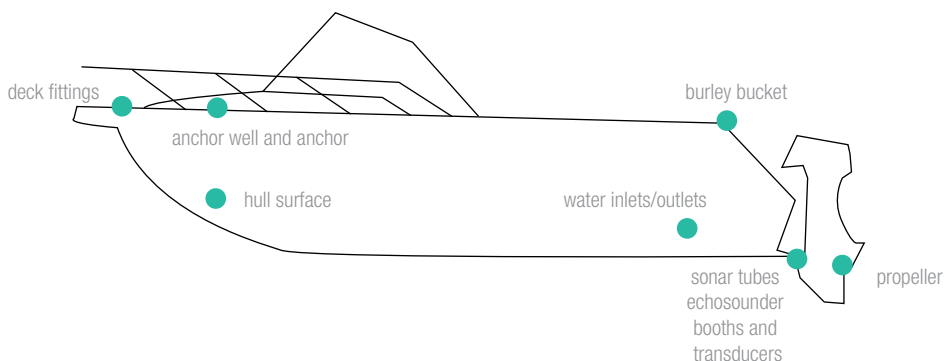


THE BENEFITS OF BOAT MAINTENANCE.

- Extend the life of your boat and gear
- Reduce boat running costs
- Use less fuel
- Reduce maintenance costs
- Keep boating industries free from cleaning regulations
- Protect the health of our marine waters for future generations
- Protect our enjoyment of activities like fishing, swimming and diving

Refer to the EPA Code of Practice for Vessel and Facility Management (marine and inland waters) for more information regarding best practice environmental management for boating maintenance.

Places to check for marine pests when cleaning down your trailer boat.



MARINE PESTS.

Recreational fishers and boaters enjoy the marine environment and its environs. They catch, observe and interact with dozens of different marine species. They are often the people who first see problems such as introduced feral species. That's why, if you are a recreational boater, we want you to be able to identify and report on the species pictured in this booklet and on the Feral or In Peril identification slates.

In South Australia, the seaweed known as *Caulerpa taxifolia* has been a high profile pest, first found in West Lakes and now established in the Port River system. South Australia also has a number of other well established feral marine species such as the European fan worm, European shore crab and European sea squirt. However, there are some feral marine species that are present in Australia that have not yet reached SA, such as the northern Pacific sea star (*Asterias amurensis*) and Japanese Kelp (*Undaria pinnatifida*).

Keep an eye out for European fan worm *Sabella spallanzanii* on pontoons & hulls!



FREE
CARDS

For a free copy of
**Feral or In Peril identification
cards** Send an email to...

feralperil@conservation.sa.org.au

Further information

www.reefwatch.asn.au and

www.marinepests.gov.au

REPORT A MARINE PEST, & WIN A \$100 TACKLE VOUCHER!



Report your sighting at www.reefwatch.asn.au/fpreport to be in the running for a monthly drawn prize of a **\$100 tackle/bait voucher**

(competition finishes March 2011).

1. Refer to Reef Watch *Feral or In Peril* identification slates and the website www.marinepests.gov.au for information to work out if you have found a marine pest that hasn't been already found in that area. **If you have found a new outbreak of a pest species contact Fishwatch on 1800 065 522** If you have found a pest species that is already recorded in that area or you are not sure if it is a pest species then report your finding at the following website, www.reefwatch.asn.au/fpreport or email: feralperil@conservationsa.org.au

2. Provide information to allow pest to be relocated. Give as much detail as possible including: Location e.g. latitude & longitude, shore marks or navigation beacons Position e.g. on sand, south side of reef, 5 metres deep
3. If not in a protected area & you are certain it is a pest then collect a sample Collect one or two samples of the suspect organism. Place these in a plastic bag with a little seawater and freeze as soon as possible.
4. If you are in a protected area do not remove the organism, instead take a photo if possible.

If in any doubt – leave the organism untouched.

WHAT FISH IS THAT?

Little is known about our native Australian marine species and thus, few are protected. For example, the harlequin fish is an easily recognised fish but so little is known about it that we don't even know whether it is a sex changing fish, or whether it is a site-attached fish as are many reef fish. To assist scientists in learning more about our marine species, the natives listed here as 'in peril' need more information to understand more about them. If you see them, please report the location, habitat, their size and the depth, if diving.

FOR MORE DETAIL AND LISTING OF ALL SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN PICK UP A FREE COPY OF FERAL OR IN PERIL IDENTIFICATION CARDS FROM ANY GOOD TACKLE SHOP OR EMAIL US AT...

feralperil@conservationsa.org.au

Harlequin fish grows to 76cm



© Simon Bryars



REPORT A SIGHTING, & WIN A \$100 TACKLE VOUCHER!

\$100
VOUCHER

Report your sighting at www.reefwatch.asn.au/fpreport to be in the running for a monthly drawn prize of a **\$100 tackle/bait voucher**

(competition finishes March 2011).

Western blue devil grows to 36cm



© Simon Bryars

Blue morwong grows to 70cm



© SA Angler Magazine

The taking of **Western blue groper** in Spencer Gulf, Gulf St Vincent and Backstairs Passage is **prohibited at all times.**

Western blue groper grows to 1.75m



© Simon Bryars



MARINE LITTER.

KEEP IT IN THE BOAT!

POLLUTION AFFECTS THE HEALTH OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SPOILS OUR EXPERIENCE OF THE OUTDOORS.

Protecting the environment means:

- Taking all rubbish away from fishing sites including: discarded fishing line, hooks, plastic bags, bottles, six-pack holders and all other packaging
- Disposing of all items correctly to avoid potential hazards to fauna
- Appropriately disposing of pest species such as *Caulerpa taxifolia*
- Not leaving unused bait to foul rock platforms, river banks or beaches
- Not flushing rubbish, chemicals or other waste into stormwater systems
- Participating where possible in environmental programs such as Clean up Australia Day and Reef Watch

IF YOU SEE ANOTHER BOAT USER DUMPING RUBBISH, TAKE NOTE.

Record the registration details of the boat, the time and date, the details of the incident and take a photograph if you can. Contact the Department of Transport Energy and Infrastructure on (08) 8248 3505 or EPA on (08) 8204 2004

REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE TO FISHWATCH. Phone 1800 065 522

© Chris Jordan





IF POSSIBLE DON'T DUMP IT..PUMP IT! GREY AND BLACK WATER DISPOSAL.

Grey water is water that has been used in the kitchen, showers, sinks and laundry. Black water is the drainage and other wastes from any form of toilet or urinal. If either type of wastewater is discharged into aquatic environments it can damage ecosystems, create algal blooms and pose significant human health risks.

Why pump it rather than dump it?

Unless you can treat your wastewater on board, you should contain it on your vessel until it can be disposed of properly on land. Look out for marinas that provide wastewater pump-out stations and other services to help you protect the environment. However, you can legally release wastewater into the ocean if you follow all of the rules below.

You can release black water into the ocean if:

- your boat is moving
- your boat is at least three nautical miles from land, an aquaculture lease or any people in the water
- it has been put through a macerator before it is released and it has not been treated with a formaldehyde-based treatment

You can only release grey water if:

- your boat is at least 1 nautical mile from land or any people in the water
- your boat is at least 3 nautical miles from an aquaculture lease
- it doesn't have anything visibly floating in it

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

By reporting problems to the relevant authorities, we help ensure that our waters are pollutant free and discourage practices that destroy fish habitat.

Reporting environmental damage includes:

- Reporting any fuel or oil spills
- Reporting all fish kills
- Reporting all stranded or dead aquatic animals and protected species
- Reporting any signs of pollution or run-off that may impact on the aquatic environment
- Reporting any unusual vegetation or stream damage, e.g. algal blooms, habitat destruction etc
- Reporting sightings of marine pest species such as *Caulerpa taxifolia* (if pest has not already been reported in the area found)

BEACH LAUNCHING.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR.

USE ONLY ESTABLISHED ROADS AND TRACKS AND STAY CLOSE TO WATERLINE

Using designated/approved roads and walking tracks includes:

1. Only driving on beaches where it is permitted
2. Avoiding straying from established roads and tracks
3. Treating all natural areas with respect
4. Driving vehicle as close to waterline as possible



© Christopher Zamore and Glenn Ehmke

HOODED PLOVERS NEED YOUR HELP!

Hooded Plovers can be seen at a number of the regions' sandy beaches. They nest directly on the sand between the high-water mark and the base of the sand dunes during spring and summer, which is also the busiest time of year on our beaches. If you see Hooded Plovers on the beach or want further information please contact the Department for Environment and Natural Resources on **(08) 8204 1910**



TAKE CARE WHEN BOATING.

AVOID DAMAGE TO WILDLIFE & HABITAT

THINK ABOUT WHAT IS UNDER YOUR BOAT!
ANCHOR ON SAND TO AVOID REEF AND SEAGRASS

BOATING INCREASES THE RANGE OF FISHING POSSIBILITIES BUT UNSKILLED AND THOUGHTLESS USE OF BOATS CAN LEAD TO ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

Taking care when boating includes:

1. Showing care when boating and anchoring, particularly around reef or seagrass areas
2. Avoiding disturbance to wildlife by excessive noise or harassment
3. Stay alert when boating to avoid collisions with wildlife
4. Refuelling on land wherever possible and not discharging wastes, oil or sewage into the water
5. Taking care with your boating speed to minimise erosion of riverbanks and shorelines from wave action
6. Avoiding modification of or disturbance to fish habitat while boating and fishing

WHALE & DOLPHIN ZONES.

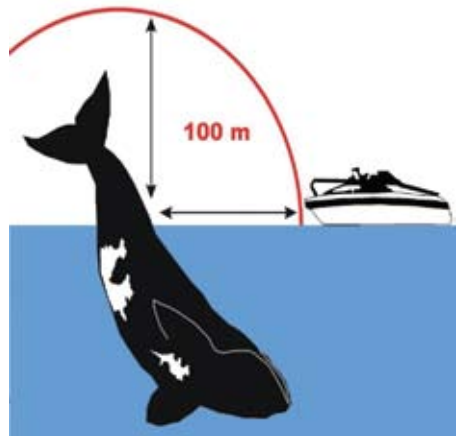
A PERSON WHO IS IN CONTROL OF A BOAT MUST NOT MOVE IT CLOSER THAN 100 METRES TO A WHALE AND 50 METRES TO A DOLPHIN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATERS.

A person who is in control of a vessel that is within 300 metres of a whale.

- must not approach the whale head on or tail on
- must not move the vessel between the whale and another whale that is within 300 metres of the vessel
- must not drop an anchor from the vessel
- if the whale is moving towards the vessel - must not use, or continue using, the vessel to enable persons on the vessel to observe the whale or swim near it unless he or she either maintains the vessel's position or moves it away from the whale
- must not drive the vessel at a speed exceeding 5 knots if the vessel is within 300 metres of a whale

THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR SOMEONE CONVICTED OF BREACHING THIS REGULATION IS \$100,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS.

THE REGULATIONS ARE IMPORTANT FOR BOTH ANIMAL WELFARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY.



FURTHER INFORMATION.

National Marine Pest information www.marinepests.gov.au

Boat biofouling www.marinepests.gov.au/recreational-boating/managing-biofouling

Pest and disease www.padil.gov.au

Biosecurity www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/aquatic

Whale watching www.victor.sa.gov.au

Birds Australia, Beach Nesting Birds www.birdsaustralia.com.au

Holdfast Bay Council www.holdfast.sa.gov.au

PIRSA Fisheries www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishing

Grey and black water discharge www.epa.sa.gov.au/vfm

The South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Whales and Dolphins Regulations

Depart. for Environment and Natural Resources www.environment.sa.gov.au

Marine debris Gulf St Vincent www.amlrnm.sa.gov.au

Conservation Council SA www.conservation.sa.gov.au

RecFish Australia www.recfish.com.au

Conservation Council Reef Watch Program www.reefwatch.asn.au

Reef Watch Feral or in Peril Program www.reefwatch.asn.au/feralInPeril

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Government of South Australia
Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges
Natural Resources Management Board
Biosecurity SA
Department of Environment and Natural Resources



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COUNTRY



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www.reefwatch.asn.au

