

BIOSECURITY ACT 2015

Biosecurity Regulation 2017



Biosecurity and recreational fishing

Aquatic pests and diseases pose a threat to the health of our waterways and native fish. Everyone has a responsibility in protecting these highly valued native species and habitats so we can continue to enjoy our recreational fishing well into the future.

As a recreational fisher you have a responsibility to reduce the risk of the spread of aquatic pests and diseases. Practicing good biosecurity can help reduce the threat to NSW waterways.

This factsheet provides some guidance for recreational fishers on how to meet their biosecurity duty and play their part in protecting our waterways. More detailed information is available in the Biosecurity Regulation 2017, the Biosecurity Order – Permitted Activities and other documents at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact

For more information about the Act, visit our website or contact us:

W www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact

E biosecuritylegislation@dpi.nsw.gov.au

General biosecurity duty

When you are using the NSW waterways for fishing or other activities, you have a responsibility for managing biosecurity risks that you know about, or could reasonably be expected to know about. There are simple things you can do to reduce the biosecurity risk. For more information on your general biosecurity duty go to <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/biosecurity-legislation/general-biosecurity-duty>

What can you do to help?

“Make clean part of your routine” - thorough cleaning of vehicles, boats, boat trailers and equipment when moving between waterways can significantly reduce the risk of transporting aquatic pests and diseases.

When arriving at a waterway:

- Check your equipment is clean and remove any visible debris before entering the water

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- Avoid boating, swimming and diving near known populations of introduced aquatic pests (such as *Caulerpa taxifolia*)
- Be aware of local conditions and possible restrictions by paying attention to and following all signs and warnings
- Be aware of Biosecurity zones, movement controls and fishing closures. www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/aquatic

While on the water:

- Don't use prawns or other seafood meant for human consumption as bait
- Dispose of wastes (including human seafood waste purchased from seafood retailers) in a rubbish bin away from the water

When departing a waterway:

- Use fresh, clean water to flush outboard motors, trailers, vehicles and equipment
- Ensure that all visible debris and biological material is removed – dispose of all waste

collected during cleaning in a rubbish bin

- Pay particular attention to areas where biological material tends to accumulate such as wheel arches, boots and fishing tackle (see Boat inspection and cleaning figure)
- Drain all water from trailer-boats prior to leaving a location - ensure waste water does not return to any other waterway
- To the best extent possible, all washed items should be allowed to completely air dry before being used at a new location

Report anything unusual

Take photos and report sightings of suspected aquatic pests or diseases to the NSW DPI Aquatic Biosecurity 24 hour phone hotline: (02) 4916 3877 or email aquatic.pests@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Boat inspection and cleaning (Image: BIA Vic.)

