

## New Zealand Biofouling Management Requirements become effective on 15 May 2018

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Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



### Background

On 15 May 2014 the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) issued the “Craft Risk Management Standard” (CRMS) requirements for biofouling on vessels arriving to New Zealand. These requirements, applicable to all vessels arriving at New Zealand, become effective on **15 May 2018**.

### Requirements

**A vessel must arrive in New Zealand with a “clean hull”.**

For commercial, “short-stay” vessels (i.e. remaining in New Zealand for 20 days or less), the following options apply:

1. Cleaning the vessel hull less than 30 days before arrival in New Zealand or within 24 hours of arrival using an MPI-approved provider; or
2. Doing continual maintenance using best practice.

To follow the latter option, Ship Operators / Managers are required to ensure that their vessels are provided with a Biofouling Management Plan in line with the 2011 Guidelines for the Control and Management of Ships' Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species (IMO Resolution MEPC.207(62)), keep an up-to-date Biofouling Record Book and provide relevant pre-arrival information to MPI (via the Advanced Notice of Arrival and associated documents).

It is however noted that specific performance standards will apply in order to demonstrate that a vessel's hull is “clean”; MPI will assess compliance based on documentation sent prior arrival. Vessels that cannot provide evidence they meet the standard may be subject to a dive inspection.



### Records

The following information must be available onboard and provided to MPI if requested:

1. Information on the antifouling regime and any marine growth prevention systems used.
2. Biofouling Management Plan and associated Biofouling Record Book showing the hull maintenance and inspection regime and relevant records.
3. The vessel's latest International Anti-fouling System Certificate or International Anti-fouling System Declaration.
4. Date and reporting from the latest hull biofouling inspection (either on land or in-water).

### Recommendations

Ship Operators / Managers are urged to inform their vessels as soon as possible. **Vessels intending to call at a New Zealand port should be provided with a ship-specific Biofouling Management Plan whilst maintaining the Biofouling Record Book up-to-date and submitting the necessary pre-arrival information.**

Ship Operators / Managers of vessels that are already provided with a ship-specific Biofouling Management Plan should update the Plan to also include New Zealand requirements.

AMC over the past years has prepared numerous Biofouling Management Plans for all types of vessels and can assist in the amendments to Plans (as necessary) in order to include the New Zealand requirements on biofouling management.

### References / Further Guidance

[Craft Risk Management Standard for Biofouling](#)  
[Craft Risk Management Standard FAQ](#)  
[Commercial Vessel CMRS Fact Sheet](#)  
[CMRS Guidance Document](#)

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