



# Aquatic Pests: Treat 'em mean – keep your boat clean



CSIRO  
Northern Pacific seastar  
*Asterias amurensis*



CSIRO  
Wakame (Japanese kelp)  
*Undaria pinnatifida*



## Want to know more?

For more information on aquatic pests please visit the DSE website: [www.dse.vic.gov.au/marinepests](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/marinepests) or call the Customer Service Centre on **136 186**.

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## Six Ds to deter pests: Every action taken reduces the chances of spreading pests

	Areas to target in your boat	Why	Trailable Vessels (yachts, speedboats, tinnies, jetskis)	Moored Vessels	Personal Water Craft (windsurfers, canoes)
<b>1. DISLUDGE</b> all plants and animals and bin them	<b>FOULING SURFACES</b> including hull, hull fittings (propeller, rudder, etc.), water intake pipes, anchor and anchor ropes /chains	To stop pests growing on or in your boat	✓	✓	✓
<b>2. DRAIN</b> water from boat and gear. Try not to let it drain back into the water	<b>DAMP PLACES</b> including water in the bottom of the vessel, gear compartments, anchor wells, buckets	To kill any eggs and small pests in water or damp places	✓	✓	✓
<b>3. DISPOSE</b> of unwanted live bait in a bin	Any species removed from water for bait or bait packing	To kill any pests used as bait or bait packing	✓	✓	✓
<b>4. DOUSE</b> your boat and gear with freshwater. Try not to let it drain back into the water	<b>FOULING SURFACES</b> including hull, hull fittings (propeller, rudder, etc.), water intake pipes, anchor and anchor ropes / chains	To wash away and kill any eggs or small pests	✓	✓	✓
<b>5. DRY</b> your boat and equipment	<b>GEAR</b> including nets, wetsuits, life jackets, fishingrods, tackle boxes, buckets, trailers and towing accessories	To kill any eggs and small pests in water or damp places	✓	✓	✓
<b>6. DON'T FORGET</b> to apply an authorised antifoulant where appropriate (within the antifoulant maximum in-service period and as directed on the can)	<b>HULLS</b> rudders, sea intakes and other underwater appendages	To stop pests growing on your boat	✓	✓	✓

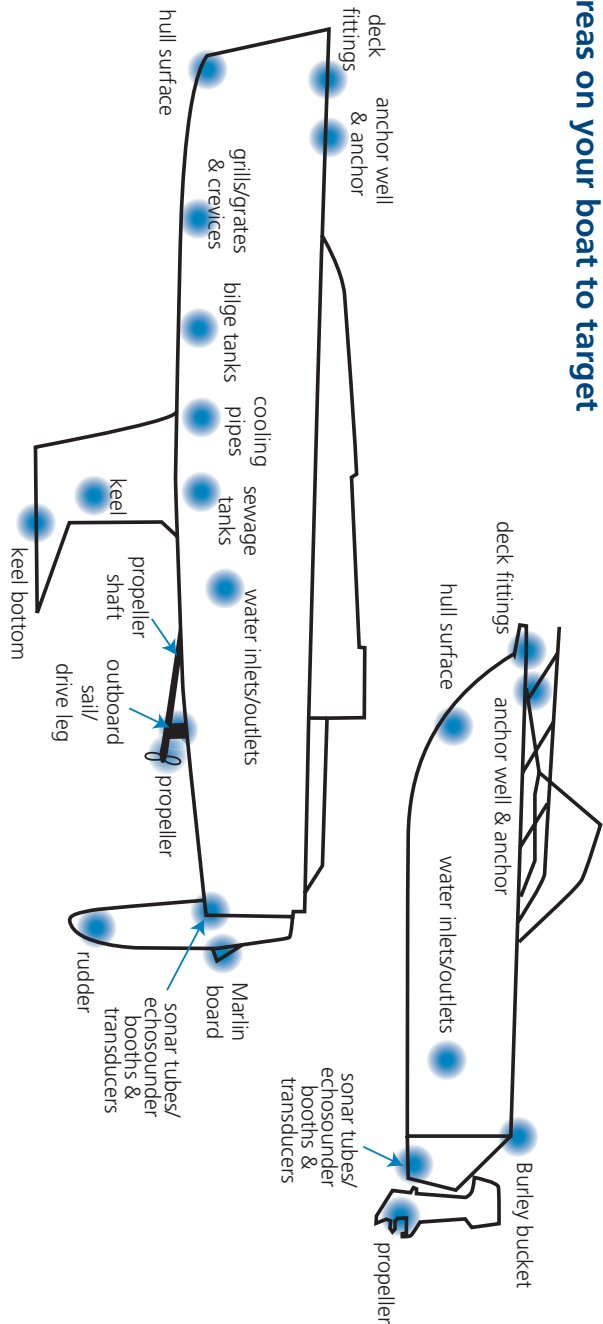
## FREQUENCY:



Every time you take your boat or gear out of the water and especially when moving to different locations. Remember to check water restrictions in your area.

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## Areas on your boat to target



Victoria's inland and marine waters are enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of people every year. Aquatic pests are now a major threat to these environments.

If you are involved in any commercial and recreational activities including fishing, sailing, skiing, kayaking, cruising, canoeing and scuba diving, you could unknowingly be spreading pests.

Commercial shipping and aquaculture industries are now being increasingly controlled to stop pests from spreading. You can help to avoid the need for restrictions on smaller boats and protect our waters by following the 6 Ds to keep your boat and gear clean.



Yachting Victoria

## The problem

Pests are introduced animals or plants that come in all shapes and sizes. They can seriously affect fish habitats, food chains, fish stocks and our recreational activities.

Pests can easily be spread from one area to another by the growing number of boats using our inland and marine waters. Pests can be found as growth on hulls or tangled in gear or equipment. Some small pests or eggs can also lie unseen in water or damp places on your boat and gear.



**Victoria's growing boating activity means that the risk of spreading pests is on the rise.**

## The clean up cost

There are many examples of pests affecting our inland and marine waters. Preventing their spread is important as clean up operations are not always successful and are usually extremely costly.

A single yacht introduced black striped mussels into Darwin Harbour in 1999. Clean up costs to the community included about \$3 million and a closure to the marina to all vessels for four weeks. While this pest was contained, Victoria may not be so lucky.



**You can help to avoid the cost of a clean up and retain access to all waters by keeping your boat and gear clean.**

## The solution

Pests are almost impossible to get rid of once they have arrived, so it is much more effective to stop them spreading in the first place. Anyone using inland or marine waters can help.



**You can help protect our waters by following the 6 Ds to keep your boat and gear clean.**

## The benefits

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