

RECREATIONAL BOATING AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

Emma Barton

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European Boating Association

THE EUROPEAN BOATING ASSOCIATION

- EBA is the representative body for all recreational boat users in Europe and was founded in 1982
- EBA membership:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 29 national federations – 18 countries 	Representing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.5 million boat owners - 20 million active participants
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- EBA exists to provide a channel for communication for boat users to be informed and consulted about EU legislation, and to make their views known to the European Institutions.
- The work of the EBA covers Environmental, Technical and Regulatory issues.

18 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Austria	Belgium	Denmark
Finland	France	Germany
Iceland	Ireland	Italy
Netherlands	Norway	Poland
Romania	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland	Turkey	United Kingdom

OBSERVER ORGANISATIONS

National Boating
Federation (USA)
European Boating Industry
European Sailing
Federation
Inland Waterways
International

SECRETARIAT (UK)

General Secretary:
Stuart Carruthers RYA
Regulatory Secretary:
Gus Lewis RYA
Environmental Secretary:
Emma Barton RYA

OUR EXPERIENCE: POLICY

- Observer membership of OSPAR
- Membership of MSFD and WFD Working Groups
- EU Marine Strategy Navigation Group
- Development of the Regulation
- GB Non Native Species Secretariat

A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING



Triglav National Park, 4-5 June 2015

T-PVS/Inf(2015)X

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Meeting of the Group of Experts on Invasive Alien Species

11th meeting
Triglav National Park, 4-5 June 2015

EUROPEAN CODE OF CONDUCT ON RECREATIONAL BOATING AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

- PRELIMINARY DRAFT -
May 2015

Document prepared by
Ms Emma Barton, Environmental Secretary, European Boating Association, on behalf of the Bern Convention

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OUR APPROACH

- Awareness, education, training
 - promoting and spreading the message
 - encouraging everyone to do what they can
- Biosecurity measures
 - On the water
 - After use
 - On land
 - Antifouling

THE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Awareness and aims

This code of conduct is aimed at all those that engage in recreational boating whether individual boaters, voluntary bodies like clubs or marinas centres, recreational boating govt bodies or those that are commercially engaged with recreational boating, for example charter boats or marinas. It is also intended for those Member States and those agencies that may regulate recreational boating activities. The code has the aim to voluntary, self, not a legally binding instrument as in the intention that this code be used as the basis for future legislation.

It was also developed in conjunction with other national and international initiatives on recreational boating and AIS work as the International Maritime Organization's Guidelines for minimising the transfer of invasive aquatic species via ballast water (including the recreational code here Annex 1), work by the ICAO (2014, 2015) and The Green Blue on waterway programme, a partnership agreement between the Dutch Watering Association and the British Union of River Conservation (BUCR, 2012). This is published together with the literature approach taken in the UK using the Check, Clean, Dry process (GOSNELL, 2011), developed by the UK Non-Native Species Secretariat in collaboration with other UK Government Departments and Non-Governmental Organisations. Many of the guidelines in this document are repeated verbatim here as tables to highlight the more general AIS and recreational boating.

2. Awareness, education, research, training and monitoring

The recreational boating sector should:

- Promote awareness of the need to encourage responsible recreational boating through targeted information, education and training within the sector. Particular emphasis should be placed on boatowners, promoting and spreading the message, encouraging boat biosecurity measures, encouraging programme to do what they can, in particular about and about equipment. Action should not only be limited to some locations where AIS get on board, measures should be implemented by marinas, on water, equipment.
- Promote research into developing efficient and practical biosecurity methods and tools for the recreational boating sector.
- Collaborate with relevant agencies in developing awareness, engagement, training and education programmes aimed at reducing recreational boating on an international scale.
- Where relevant, govt agencies and authorities should on page with recreational boaters in programmes on water or on water sites.
- In collaboration with govt agencies and recreational boating associations, monitor the application and implementation of the Code of Conduct and its effects on recreational boating among Member States.

This Code of Conduct should be reviewed periodically, and as appropriate taking into account new developments in AIS and in recreational boating.

3. Biosecurity for Recreational Boating

Following the decision of the Paris-Cape Town Action Dialogue process (2009) as a public waterway initiative in Cape Town in 2010, the United Kingdom (UK) Government Departments and its Agencies together with international Non-Governmental Organisations and representative bodies from all water users in the UK developed similar biosecurity measures to those used in New Zealand. A public initiative for all water users was launched in order to adopt the principle of Check, Clean, Dry (in French: Stop, Nettoyage, Sécher) to reduce public perception, education, awareness raising and training to ensure that these procedures are followed, namely:

All Water Users



When you Check-Clean-Dry your boat and equipment every time you leave the water you are helping to:

- reduce the risk of spreading invasive non-native species
- stop them taking over and damaging the environment, spreading disease and harming wildlife
- minimise their impact on your watersports by preventing them clogging up the water body.

CHECK

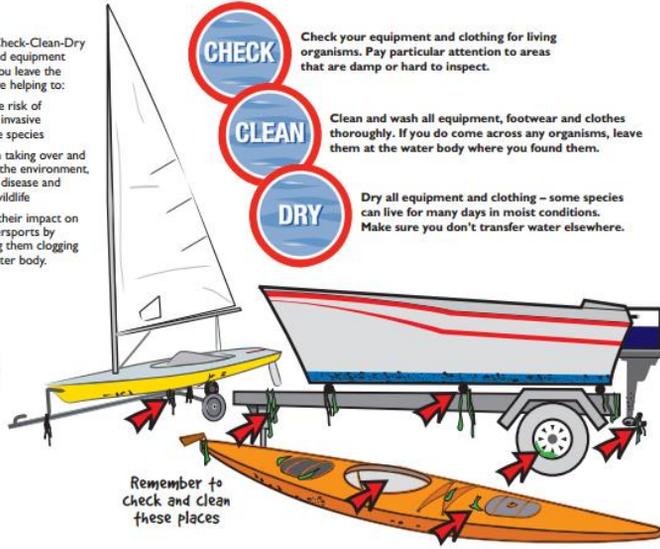
Check your equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN

Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY

Dry all equipment and clothing – some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.



www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry



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LOCATION



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TYPE OF BOAT



BIOSECURITY FOR SMALL BOATS





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BIOSECURITY FOR POWERBOATS



BIOSECURITY FOR LARGE BOATS





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KEY MESSAGES

- Promote and spread the message
- Implement basic biosecurity measures
- Encourage everyone to do what they can, in particular check and clean equipment
- Important not to limit action only to some locations – everyone, everywhere, everytime



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