



European Boating Association
Europäischer Sportschiffahrtsverband
Ass. Européenne de Navigation de Plaisance

RECREATIONAL BOATING AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

Emma Barton

Executive Secretary, Environment
European Boating Association



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EUROPEAN BOATING ASSOCIATION

- EBA is the representative body for all recreational boat users in Europe and was founded in 1982
- EBA represents mutually agreed common interests and develops recreational boating activities in Europe
- The work of the EBA covers Environmental, Technical and Regulatory issues.



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EUROPEAN BOATING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- Association of Recreational Boat Users Organisations
- Currently representing:
 - 28 organisations
 - from 18 European States
 - with over 1,5 million recreational boaters as members





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EUROPEAN BOATING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- National water sports organisations involved with:
 - All elements of watersport
 - Racing including top sport
 - Recreational boating
 - Education & Training
 - National representation
 - Support of boat clubs



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OUR EXPERIENCE: POLICY

- Membership of IMO, UNECE, OSPAR, HELCOM & Barcelona Convention
- Membership of MSFD and WFD Working Groups
- EU Marine Strategy Navigation Group
- Development of the EU Regulation – WGIAS



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EUROPEAN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING



Strasbourg, 17 August 2016
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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

36th meeting
Strasbourg, 15-18 November 2016

EUROPEAN CODE OF CONDUCT ON RECREATIONAL BOATING AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

- FINAL DRAFT -
August 2016

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

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LOCATION



Zebra
Mussel



Killer
Shrimp



Australian
Summer-
stonecrop



CHINESE MITTEN CRAB



CARPET SEA SQUIRT



WIREWEED



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TYPE OF BOAT



BIOSECURITY FOR SMALL BOATS



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.

Just a few organisms to be on the lookout for



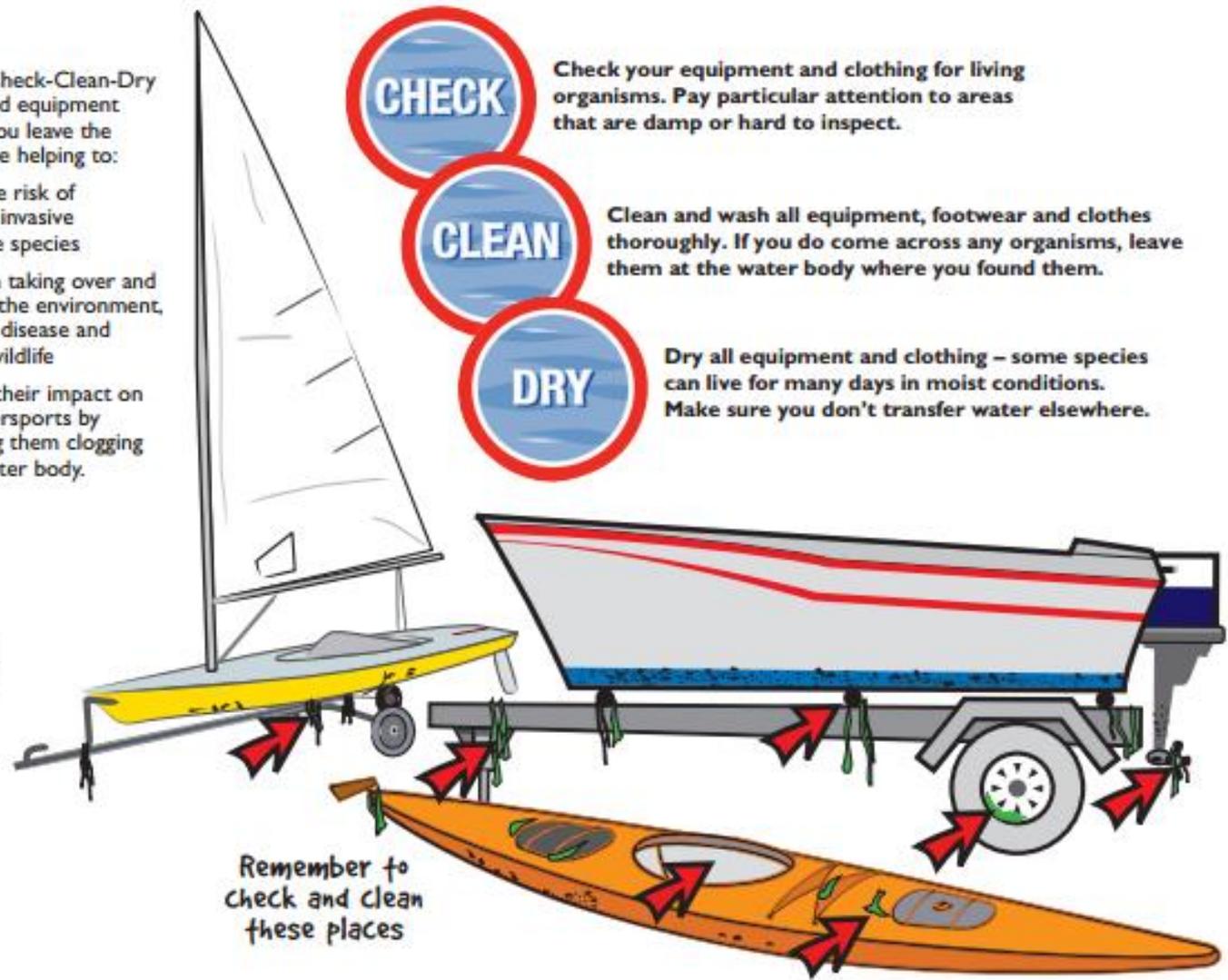
Check your equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.



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



Remember to check and clean these places

www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry





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BIOSECURITY FOR POWERBOATS



BIOSECURITY FOR LARGE BOATS



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 and in-water cleaning

2. THE CODE OF CONDUCT

2.1 Audience and aims

This code of conduct is voluntary guidance aimed at all those that engage in recreational boating whether individual boaters, clubs or training centres, recreational boating governing bodies or those that are commercially engaged with recreational boating, for example charter boats or marinas. It is applicable to water management authorities and other bodies involved in managing ports or waterways. It is also intended for those Member States and their agencies that may regulate recreational boating activities. However this code is voluntary only and is not a legally binding instrument nor is it the intention that this code be used as the basis for future legislation. Its aim is to be compatible with other national and international initiatives on recreational boating and IAS such as the IMO's 'Guidance for minimizing the transfer of invasive aquatic species as biofouling (hull fouling) for recreational craft' (IMO, 2012 - see Annex 1). It incorporates that advice, particularly on use of antifouling, and then expands the IMO guidelines to cover more detailed advice on smaller craft particularly those which are used predominantly in freshwater.

The code of conduct uses the experience gathered by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA, 2015) and The Green Blue environment programme, a partnership project between the RYA and British Marine (TGB, 2015). This is pulled together with the biosecurity approach taken in the UK using the Check, Clean, Dry protocols (GBNNS, 2015) developed by the GB Non Native Species Secretariat in collaboration with other UK Government Departments and stakeholders. Much of the guidance in these initiatives are repeated verbatim here or tailored to highlight issues around IAS and recreational boating.

2.2 Awareness, education, training, research and monitoring

The recreational boating sector should:

- Promote awareness of the code to encourage responsible recreational boating through targeted information, education and training within the sector. Particular emphasis should be placed on biosecurity, promoting and spreading the message, implementing basic biosecurity measures, encouraging everyone to do what they can, in particular to check and clean equipment. Action should not only be limited to locations where aquatic IAS are an issue, measures should be implemented by everyone, everywhere, ~~everytime~~.
- Promote research into developing effective and practical biosecurity methods and tools for the recreational boating sector. Collaborate with relevant experts in developing awareness, engagement, training and education programmes aimed at informing recreational boating on IAS.
- Ensure that where relevant, government agencies and authorities engage with recreational boaters in programmes to prevent, early detect, eradicate or manage specific IAS on waters used by the sector.
- In collaboration with government 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 IAS as it impacts recreational boating. Knowledge is still evolving, and new, practical and effective biosecurity techniques developed in partnership with the recreational boating sector should be supported where possible and included in future revisions.

2.3 Biosecurity for recreational boating

An appropriate anti-fouling coating system and good maintenance are the best way of preventing biofouling accumulation, which therefore minimises the risk of introduction and spread of aquatic IAS. However, this approach may not be appropriate for small trailered craft, particularly those used predominantly in freshwater.

KEY MESSAGES

- Promote and spread the message on why to take action
- Implement basic biosecurity measures
- Encourage everyone to do what they can, in particular check and clean equipment
- Don't limit action only to some locations – everyone, everywhere, everytime





NEXT STEPS

- Communicate
- Know your audience
- Prioritise key pathways
- Build knowledge & understanding
- Coordinate across policy areas



STOP THE SPREAD OF ALIEN SPECIES!

- ✓ WASH DOWN BOAT, TRAILER AND TYRES
- ✓ FLUSH ENGINE WITH CLEAN WATER AND DRAIN
- ✓ CLEAN AND DRY EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Check Clean Dry for Inland Sailing Clubs



Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) can cause damage to equipment, infrastructure and habitats which is why it is important for all inland sailing clubs to adopt Check Clean Dry to minimise the introduction and spread of species between different freshwater sailing venues.

This leaflet is designed to help clubs to consider what they need to put in place to carry out Check Clean Dry for all types of boat movement; all boats leaving the club's site; visiting boats from other parts of the UK and overseas; and club members' boats that leave to use another sailing venue then return to the club.

Key Principles of Check Clean Dry

Check Clean Dry is a three step approach to stop the spread of INNS. It should be used for boats, sails, trailers and trolleys, and all clothing that has come into contact with the water including wetsuits, spray tops, buoyancy aids, gloves and footwear. It should also be used for any equipment (pontoons, buoys and ropes) that is moved between different water bodies. Boats, sails, trailers, trolleys and equipment should be washed down thoroughly with clean water at maximum pressure with a hose. All visible plant and animal material should be removed and put in the bin.

Clothing and footwear should be rinsed in clean water on site. In addition, visitors and members should be encouraged to submerge their kit in hand-hot water for 15 minutes (either on site or at home) as research has shown this method will destroy eight of the UK's worst aquatic invasive species.

Clubs should also remind visitors and members of the importance of leaving equipment and clothing to dry for as long as possible before being used in a different water body as some invasive species can survive in damp conditions for more than two weeks. The most thorough and systematic way to minimise the risk of spreading INNS is to wash all boats and equipment before leaving a club's site regardless of whether a site is known to have INNS present.



Departing Boats

All boats, sails, trolleys, trailers and equipment retrieved from the water should be washed down and fully drained before being allowed to leave the site. Ideally this should be supervised by the club and boats should confirm that it has been done on exiting the club's site. Run-off/waste water from washing down can be discharged back into the water body.

Visiting Boats

Visitors should be asked to confirm on arrival that their boat, sails, trailer and equipment have been through Check Clean Dry after the last use. If they cannot confirm this, they should be directed to a designated area where the boat, sails, trailer and equipment should be checked and washed. Run-off/waste water should not be allowed to enter the water body or any surface water drains. It can be directed into the foul sewer.

Returning Boats

Club members who leave the club's site with their boat to use a different water body and then return should take individual responsibility for ensuring their boats, sails, trailers and equipment have gone through Check Clean Dry. If they have not done this they should enter a designated area to wash their boat, sails, trailer and equipment before moving into the dinghy park or launching their boat. Run-off/waste water from washing down should not be allowed to enter the water body or any surface water drains. It can be directed into the foul sewer.



Image Credit: Steve Mitchell

The requirement for members to take responsibility for managing their own Check Clean Dry process should be included in the club rules.

RIBs/Safety Boats

All RIBs/Safety Boats should follow the same Check Clean Dry approach depending on whether they are departing, visiting or returning to a club's site. In addition, engines should be flushed with clean tap water using appropriate equipment, flush muffs or in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

The water should be allowed to drain completely from the engine in a vertical down position. Where visiting or returning boats cannot confirm that this has been done, provision needs to be made for engines to be flushed prior to launching in a designated area away from surface water drains or the main water body.

If RIBs/Safety Boats are on the water but not in use and stationary for any period of time, drivers should be asked to raise the prop out of the water to minimize the risk of INNS entering the engine.

Image Credit: GBRNGA, David Ashby



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www.eba.eu.com

emma.barton@rya.org.uk