Biofouling Management for Recreational Boating

HOW TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

TRAILERED BOATS

INCLUDES SKI AND WAKE BOATS, FISHING BOATS, SAILING DINGHIES, CANOES, KAYAKS, WINDSURFERS AND SUPS

After every trip:
- Clean and remove weed, biofouling
- Flush and drain engine
- Clean and rinse hull
- Clean, rinse and drain all lockers, bilges, ballast tanks (wake boats)
- Clean all hull and deck fittings

Check, Clean and Dry Equipment:
- Paddles, fishing rods, hollow masts and booms
- Sails, covers
- Wetsuits, spray tops, lifejackets, shoes
- Skis, boards
- Trailers

Fishing boats:
- Bait and live wells
- Nets and tackle

Aim to have containment around these activities to contain Invasive Aquatic Species

LOCAL & COASTAL CRUISING

Pre-season – AVOID

Plan to avoid biofouling
Select anti-fouling system based on:
- Vessel
- Location/local waters
- Expected type of cruising
  - Fast/slow, hard/soft paints
  - Non-toxic anti-fouling system

Preparation
Apply anti-fouling coating according to manufacturers instructions:
- Hull preparation
- Number of paint coats
- Temperature

Records
- Retain records of biofouling management, what product used, when applied

During cruising season – REDUCE

Reduce
Use boat regularly to reduce build up of biofouling.
For longer trips, Clean before you leave:
- Lift and clean – contain and treat any biofouling

End of season – CONTAIN

Contain biofouling at end of season
Select lift-out facility with containment for wash-water

LONG DISTANCE CRUISING

Dreams and plans
- Decide which places you are visiting

Discovery
- Research local biosecurity requirements
- Consider impact of Invasive Aquatic Species on local environment, society and economy
- Determine suitable biofouling prevention and management system

Preparation
- Apply anti-fouling coating and/or install other biofouling prevention system
- Retain documentation of what anti-fouling system used, when applied

Set sail
- Enjoy the journey
- Monitor biofouling level

Clean before you leave
- To prevent transfer of Invasive Aquatic Species

SHORE-BASED CLEANING

Slipways, hoists
- Choose facility with wash water catchment for collection of biofouling waste

Contain and treat
- Scrappings and biofouling waste should be contained, for example by skirting the hull and using a tarpaulin.
- Wash down water should not be allowed to return into the environment unless filtered and treated.
- Treat and dispose of biofouling waste in line with the rules established by the marina or port authority

Contain and treat biofouling

Improve and share knowledge:
- Marina operators
- Public slipway wardens
- Harbour staff
- Management
- Regulators
- Boat owners
- Local clubs/associations

Report any unusual marine species to local authority, regulator

Full report available at:
https://www.glofouling.imo.org/publications-menu