

# Discharge Rules for vessels in the Canterbury Coastal Marine Area

## Discharge of untreated sewage

The discharge of untreated sewage into the coastal marine area is a prohibited activity from a ship where it occurs:

- Within any of the following bays : Te Oka Bay, Peraki Bay, Flea Bay, Ōtanerito Bay, Le Bons Bay, Okains Bay, Little Akaloa Bay, Pigeon Bay and Port Levy
- Harbours of Banks Peninsula enclosed by lines across their headlands
- Within 1000 metres of the shore.

If you have to discharge sewage outside these areas, you must be more than:

- 500 metres from a marine farm
- 500 metres from a customary fishing reserve (mātaitai)
- 200 metres from a marine reserve.

**Advice note:** Sewage means drainage and other wastes from any form of toilet, urinal, or toilet scupper; drainage from washbasins, washtubs, and scuppers located in any dispensary, sick bay, or other medical premises; drainage from spaces containing living animals.

## Discharge of treated sewage

If your vessel is fitted with a sewage treatment system. The discharge limits must meet the Resource Management (Marine Pollution) Regulations 1998.

If your vessel can treat sewage to an A grade level, you must be more than:

- 100 metres from a marine farm
- If your vessel can treat sewage to a B grade level, you must be more than
- 500 metres from a marine farm
- 500 metres from a customary fishing reserve (mātaitai).

**Advice note:** The Grade A sewage and Grade B Sewage treatment systems requirements can be found in Schedules of the Resource Management (Marine Pollution) Regulations 1998. For more information, check the Ministry for the Environment's guide to Sewage Systems for Recreational Boats.

## How to manage sewage on your boat to keep our bays clean

To avoid discharging untreated sewage:

- Use toilets on shore before you depart
- Take a portable toilet and empty it on shore
- Install an on-board sewage treatment system
- Fit a holding tank
- Use pump out facilities where provided.

## The discharge of garbage is a prohibited activity within the Canterbury waters

**Advice Note:** Garbage is defined as: all kinds of food waste, domestic waste, operational waste, plastic, cargo residue, incinerator ash, cooking oil, fishing gear, and any animal carcass generated during the normal operation of the ship or offshore installation and liable to be disposed of continuously or periodically;

but does not include: any substance that is defined or listed in any Annex to MARPOL other than Annex V; fresh fish or parts of fresh fish generated as a result of fishing activity undertaken during a voyage.

## Discharge of contaminants

The discharge of contaminants is a breach of the Regional Coastal Environment Plan and the Resource Management Act 1991.

Contaminants include such things as bilge waste.

To clean up bilge waste, you can:

- Use an oil/water separator to separate contaminants from the water
- Use absorbents to soak up waste
- Use a vacuum system to pump the waste into containers.

Bilge waste must then be disposed of in an appropriate facility on shore. If the waste is flammable, toxic, corrosive or hazardous in any other way, it must be disposed of at an EcoDrop recycling centre or hazardous waste disposal company.

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