

Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP)

Summary of Environmental Management Plan for Vessels using Port of Airlie

Waste

Improper waste disposal causes environmental contamination. Many wastes are toxic to marine plants and animals. Turtles, fish, birds and other animals can be entangled in or swallow plastic bags, fishing tackle and other litter, causing painful death to these animals.

- Sewage (treated or untreated) and other wastewater MUST NOT be discharged in the marina basin or within enclosed waters (it is illegal)
- You can reduce wastewater from on-board dishwashing by wiping dishes with paper towel before washing
- Reuse plastic bags and containers where possible
- Do not leave litter above decks (where it can blow away)
- Don't throw any waste overboard including cigarette butts
- General waste and recycling bins are available at the Marina / Retail car park
- Recyclables are: plastic (not plastic bags), glass, metal (not oil contaminated), paper and cardboard
- Let the marina office know if bins are full
- Oils and oil contaminated waste cannot go in waste bins – take to Cannonvale Transfer Station, Carlo Drive.
- More information on waste disposal: <http://www.whitsunday.qld.gov.au/waste>

Fuel and oil

Fuel and oil are toxic to marine organisms and hence, must not be released to water, either deliberately or accidentally. Note that it is also illegal to discharge any pollutants from a vessel.

- Never wash fuel or oil from your boat into the water. Use absorbent cloths to wipe up spills. Place used cloths in a strong plastic bag and seal.
- If carrying out repairs, plan the activity so that there is no risk of oil or fuel spill. Have absorbent materials and strong plastic bags available in case there is a spill.
- Consider installing fuel-air separators on air vents or tank stems of inboard fuel tanks to reduce the amount of fuel spilled onto the surface water during fuelling of boats
- Avoid refuelling from jerry cans if at all possible. If you must refuel from jerry can:
 - Close any deck or bilge drains so that spilt material is fully contained,
 - Plan ahead and supervise closely,
 - Do not overfill,
 - Have absorbent material and heavy duty plastic bags available for clean-up of any spills (please do not use the marina spill kits for this purpose).
- Dispose of any contaminated wastes from clean up at Cannonvale Transfer Station.
- Oil/fuel spill response kits are available on each marina arm
- If a spill of oil or diesel occurs, or if you see floating oil or diesel:
 - Contact marina office on 0749 480 643,
 - Consider whether emergency services are required (000),
 - Do whatever you can to stop the spill without risking your safety,
 - Shut off ignition sources and warn neighbouring vessels,
 - There are instructions in spill kit,
 - Use absorbent material in the spill kit to wipe up any spill on the dock,
 - For spills to water, drop floating absorbent material onto the spill,
 - Do not let floating material drift away – use a rake or broom to control and collect it,
 - Place all oil contaminated material in a strong plastic bag and seal it,
 - Take some photos if you can, to help with the incident investigation.

**Protect the
environment
so you can
continue to enjoy it**

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Bilge Water

Bilge water discharges from vessels may contain hydrocarbons (oils and fuel). Note that it is illegal to discharge oily bilge water.

- Engine bilge drainage systems must be fitted with a filter.
- Other bilge water must only be discharged if free of diesel, oil and other pollutants (if your bilge water has become contaminated, you will have to filter it to remove the hydrocarbons).
- Clean bilges regularly with an absorbent cloth to remove oil.

Energy and Water Conservation

Minimising energy and water consumption reduces impacts on the environment.

- Be conscious of how much power and water you are using.
- Fix any dripping taps or connections.
- Turn off lights and other electrical appliances when you are not using them.
- Turn off TVs, radios, lights, air-conditioning when you leave your vessel.

Hull Cleaning and Antifoulants

Hull scrapings and some antifoulants can be toxic to marine organisms. Scraping hulls into the marine environment can also introduce or spread marine pest species.

- Heavily fouled vessels will not be allowed in the marina
- Hull cleaning is not allowed in the marina
- If you clean your hull at another location minimise impacts (see <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/visit-the-reef/responsible-reef-practices/boating-and-yachting>)
- Avoid using organotin or other toxicant based antifoulants
- See also <http://www.marinepests.gov.au/recreational-boating/Pages/default.aspx> and http://www.marinepests.gov.au/national-system/Documents/biofouling_guidelines_rec.pdf

Recreational Boating

The Whitsundays are a beautiful place for all types of recreational boating, however recreational boating can degrade this environment. Releases of sewage, oils/fuel, litter and other waste can all harm water quality, even if in small quantities. Anchors damage seagrass beds and corals, as do boat movements in shallow waters. Fast moving vessels may injure turtles and dugong.

- Avoid driving your boat across shallow seagrass and coral areas so propellers and keels do not damage these important habitats.
- Do not anchor on seagrass beds or coral reefs. Use moorings if provided, or anchor over sandy or muddy areas.
- Try not to scare feeding birds. Migratory birds are very hungry and need to replenish their energy stocks.
- Travel slowly over seagrass areas where dugong and turtle are most likely to be feeding. See also http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/caring-for-wildlife/what-you-can-do.html#recreational_fishers.
- Know the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zones and make sure your activities comply (including recreational fishing). See http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/28116/Map10-GDA94.pdf for zones.
- Adhere to fishing regulations. See <https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/rules-regulations> and <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/visit-the-reef/responsible-reef-practices/fishing>.
- Take all rubbish and litter away with you.
- If you see litter in the water or on beaches, try to collect it.
- If you see dead or injured marine animals, contact the RSPCA Qld 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625). Do not handle the animal unless it is further injuring itself (and it is safe for you to approach it).

I have read the above Environmental Management plan summary (OEMP) for all vessels using Port of Airlie Marina and acknowledge and understand my responsibilities under the OEMP.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

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