

# PROTECT TASMANIA FROM AQUATIC PESTS AND DISEASES

## Declaration for Boaters, Fishers, Divers and Recreational Aquatic Equipment Users Travelling to Tasmania

Please assist Biosecurity Tasmania to identify items that may need treatment upon arrival in Tasmania. If you have a boat and/or aquatic equipment that are not clean and dry you may be required to wash them on arrival in Tasmania.

### Why is this necessary?

There are three prominent pests or diseases that have been identified as a risk to Tasmanian marine and freshwater environments.

### Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG)

A viral disease affecting abalone, AVG was reported in Victoria in January 2006. The disease has affected a number of abalone farms and devastated wild abalone stocks in the western part of Victoria. The spread of the disease is predominantly spread through transfer of mucus and organic materials from one area to another.

Tasmania's wild abalone fishery is the largest of its kind in the world and any incursion of this virus would result in great environmental and economic loss.

### Caulerpa taxifolia

Caulerpa has been widely used as a decorative plant in the marine aquarium trade, the invasive nature of Caulerpa has raised concerns as this fast growing seaweed can invade cool temperate waters and has the potential to grow rapidly in Tasmania as Caulerpa can tolerate low temperatures and can survive out of water in moist conditions for up to 10 days.

Caulerpa has been found at depths ranging from less than 1 m to 12 m, it is likely to have been introduced from a marine aquarium release and spread among estuaries by fishing and boating activities. Small fragments can get caught up in fishing gear, diving equipment and boats then can grow into new plants and create large colonies.

### Didymo (Rock Snot)

Didymo is freshwater algae not present in Tasmania, but recently discovered in New Zealand. It can spread quickly; it forms massive blooms in waterways or lake edges and can have a significant impact on the insect life that many species of fish rely on for food. It also affects water quality and can pose a risk to waders and swimmers by making riverbeds slippery.

### What can YOU Do?

**Check** – Check that your equipment is clear of any organic matter

**Clean** – Clean your equipment thoroughly prior to arriving into Tasmania

**Dry** – Where possible dry your equipment prior to arriving into Tasmania

## DECLARATION BY IMPORTER OR AGENT

*I declare the information provided on this form to be true and correct in every respect to the best of my knowledge.*

Name of Importer / Agent ..... Signature.....

Contact details - fixed line: (.....)..... Mobile.....

Vehicle Registration:..... State:..... Boat Trailer Registration: (if applicable) .....

### Equipment to clean and dry:

- Boats**

Including hulls, decks, deck equipment, bilge, holding tanks and wet wells

- Diving equipment**

Including wetsuits, fins, masks, weight vests, hookah gear and other abalone harvesting equipment (catch bags, ab Irons and knives etc)

- Fishing gear**

Including rods, reels, waders and bait

- Aquatic recreation gear**

Including surf boards, kayaks, canoes, jet skis, biscuits and skies

- Fish bins and catch bags**

- Gum boots and wet weather pants etc.**

### Have you got or done the following things with your boating, fishing, diving or aquatic equipment before leaving Victoria?

Checklist:	YES	NO	N/A
Do you have any bait?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Checked for and removed any fouling or organic matter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Washed and cleaned everything?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dried everything before packing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is your vehicle free from organic matter and contamination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Has your boating, fishing or aquatic equipment been used within the last two weeks:			
In freshwater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
In salt water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

#### If you have a boat;

- Are the bungs out to allow the bilge to drain?  YES  NO  N/A
- Is the bilge free of organic matter?  YES  NO  N/A
- Are holding tanks or wet wells clean and dry?  YES  NO  N/A

#### Office use only:

Officer:			<b>Comments:</b>
Date:			Boat <input type="checkbox"/> - Boating Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> - Fishing Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> - Sporting Goods <input type="checkbox"/>
Inspected OK	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> - Unit must be treated	Other <input type="checkbox"/> - Please specify.....
Reason for Treatment and Type:	..... Wash <input type="checkbox"/> - Disinfect <input type="checkbox"/> - Other <input type="checkbox"/>		

#### Privacy statement

The personal information requested in this form is being collected to identify those items of equipment that may need cleaning or treatment upon arrival in Tasmania. DPIPWE will use your personal information for the primary purpose for which it is collected and it will not be disclosed to other agencies or organisations unless the disclosure is required or authorised by law. If you fail to provide the information requested you may be required by a Biosecurity Inspector to clean your boat and gear in Tasmania. Your personal information will be managed in accordance with the Personal Information Protection Act 2004 and may be accessed by the person to whom it relates. You may be charged a fee for this service.