

THE MARINA MAILER

A quarterly communication from Nelson Marina

Issue 4 / Summer 2015



Marina Safety Message from the Harbour Master

"Most boaties are responsible and take the safety message seriously", says Dave Duncan, Nelson Harbour Master. He says this makes his role, which includes ensuring the safety of people on water and enforcing maritime by-laws, "much easier".

The key message Dave wants to reinforce is that safety is a priority and he urges boaties to give gear a thorough check before heading out on the water. Although there has been a pleasing increase in the number of people carrying life jackets, Dave has seen instances where safety equipment, such as flares or lifejackets, have expired or deteriorated after being in storage.

Dave says it is important to carry two types of communication in case help is required, and this should include a Marine VHF radio. A cell phone lets you talk to one person, whereas a VHF lets you talk to many people. However, you need to know how to use a VHF. Dave recommends that at least one person on the boat should hold a VHF Operator Certificate, which is available through Coastguard Boating Education (phone 0800 408090 to book).

While you can use a VHF radio for emergency calls without an operating certificate, the training will help make sure your call gets through, get you a radio call-sign so you are easily identified, and enable you to access more services via VHF.

Joining the Coastguard as a local member and registering your boat will also mean much easier responses in emergencies. In event of a marine emergency, either dial 111 and ask for the Police, or call for help on the VHF radio, Channel 16.

Dave comments that recent spring weather was very windy and he was occasionally been surprised to see people heading out in winds over 25 knots. He urges people to listen to weather warnings and if in doubt wait until weather improves.

Up-to-date weather forecasts are available on the Coastguard's 'Nowcasting' service on Channel 22 on Marine VHF radio.

Dave reminds berth-holders that there is a huge drive on biosecurity in the Port area, which takes in the Marina. This summer boats in the Marina will be audited by divers and any boat with significant growth may be towed to the hard stand and taken out of the water for cleaning at the owners' expense. Don't let this inconvenience spoil your holiday.

If you are unsure of local rules, or where the areas are that you should be avoiding, check the Navigation Safety Bylaw 2012.

This can be found at:

nelson.govt.nz/assets/Our-council/Downloads/bylaws/Bylaw-218-Navigation-Safety-2012.pdf

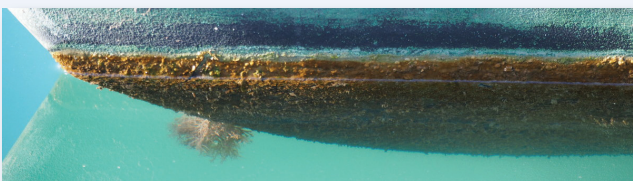
Your help needed

Clean boats help halt the spread of marine pests. This summer, Top of the South Biosecurity is running a campaign that asks 'is your boat clean'? 'Clean' means no harmful organisms hanging off keels or infesting zinc blocks or trim tabs. The best way of doing this is to stay up to date with antifouling and general maintenance.

Recreational boats were the biggest carrier of marine pests into and around our region in recent years. They have been implicated in introducing the clubbed tunicate and the Mediterranean fanworm to Picton, Waikawa and Nelson. Recently, the tunicate has been found in Duncan Bay.

An information pack and survey will be left on your boat in the near future. Please complete this survey and return it to the Marina Office, or post it back using the pre-paid envelope. Every survey returned puts you into a draw for a free lift and clean.

For more information see <http://www.marinebiosecurity.co.nz/>



Boating Skills Get the most out of your boat this summer

A good way to increase your skill level is the courses provided by Coastguard Boating Education (phone 0800 408090).

The Day Skipper is an introductory 15-hour course suitable for yachts, launches, powerboats, personal water craft (such as jet skis), sea kayaks, and waka. Coastguard also offers a 6-hour Maritime VHF Operator Certificate, which is the minimum requirement for users of Marine VHF Radio. As well as attending classes, you can complete these courses online or by home study.

More detailed is a 30-hour Boatmaster course, which is for boaties with existing knowledge and experience. This course applies to yachts, launches and powerboats. For more information about any of these courses, contact Coastguard Boating Education on 0800408090 or (Ph. 548 8300 or Email. enquiries@coastguardnelson.co.nz)



Holiday Notice

Our best wishes for a happy and safe holiday and a fantastic boating season. Note that the Marina Office will be closed on Christmas Day, 25 December 2015.

If an emergency haul-out or assistance is required, please phone 021 546 914. The additional costs involved in an urgent call-out are considerable, so be sure your needs are a real emergency before ringing!



Marina Matters Hardstand

Providing hardstand facilities at the Marina has been an unresolved issue for many years. This is soon to change with Nelson City Council entering into a conditional sale and purchase agreement to acquire 3065 m2 of land at Akersten Street. The area, currently operated by a private business, comprises the existing hardstand facility, as well as a wharf, jetty and other infrastructure associated with operating a hardstand.

The agreement is still conditional and subject to due diligence, which will be completed by 30 June 2016. If finalised, the purchase will secure boaties' access to hardstand facilities.

Meanwhile, it is business-as-usual for people wanting to work on their boats. Nelson Hardstand Ltd is the private company who maintain the haul-out facility and travelift; if you want to make a booking, ring Pete on 021 546 914.



Marina Noticeboard

- **The Marina Management Committee** met in November. This body has two representatives from each of Nelmac, Nelson City Council and the Nelson Marina Berth-holders' Association. The Harbourmaster is also a member.
- The Marina is close to capacity, with **96% occupancy**. This figure rises to **99%** if small 8m berths are excluded from calculations, and there is a waiting list for boats over 12m.
- Recently you may have talked to **SLR Consulting**, who were commissioned to develop a Marina Strategy for the next 10 years. Talking with berth-holders is part of the process to identify the Marina's role in the community and within Nelson City Council, as well as exploring development and management options. Recommendations from the strategy development work will be put to Council early in 2016.
- Tenders for dredging Nelson Marina exceeded the budget, so work has been deferred until autumn 2016 to allow time to review the future dredging needs of the Marina, based on the Marina Strategy Study findings. In the meantime, Council is working with the preferred tender party to dredge urgent areas first. Boat owners who have concerns about their berth depth are encouraged to contact the **Marina Office**, who may be able to relocate boats to a more suitable berth.
- No cost-effective and environmentally acceptable technology is currently available to manage biofouling on marine infrastructure, including boats. This could be about to change as researchers develop new technologies. This summer **Cawthron Institute** is using the Nelson Marina to test the efficacy of bubble curtains in sustainably preventing the accumulation of biofouling on pontoons. This project has been endorsed by the NZ Marina Owners Association.
- Pedestrian ramps & pontoons now have **non-skid** matting.
- Yachts, waka-ama, small sailing vessels, kayaks and power boats all use the **Akersten Street** boat ramp. The Harbour Master has been down at the ramp on recent Saturday and Sunday mornings talking to people as they launch boats, and is keen to reinforce the need for good behaviour so that everyone has an enjoyable and safe summer.



Your Nelson Marina People



Bruce Thompson

Marina Supervisor
Nelmac Facilities
Management
e: bthompson@nelmac.co.nz



Paul Jonkers

Assistant Marina Supervisor
Nelmac Facilities
Management
e: marina@nelmac.co.nz



Todd Blair

Assistant Marina Supervisor
Nelmac Facilities
Management
e: marina@nelmac.co.nz