

Recommended Procedures to Clean Equipment

Remove all visible mud, plants, fish/animals.

Before leaving any body of water, it is important to examine all your equipment, boats, trailers, clothing, boots, buckets etc and:

- Remove any visible plants, fish or animals.
- Remove mud and dirt since it too may contain a hitchhiker mussel.*
- Remove even plant fragments as they may contain a hitchhiker mussel.*
- Do not transport any potential hitchhiker, even back to your home. Remove and leave them at the site you visited.

*The larvae (immature form) of an animal can be so tiny that you cannot see it. However, it can live in mud, dirt, sand, and on plant fragments.

Eliminate water from all equipment before transporting anywhere.

Much of the recreational equipment used in water contains many spots where water can collect and potentially harbor these aquatic hitchhikers. Thus, make sure that you:

- Eliminate all water from every conceivable item before you leave the area you are visiting.
- Remove water from motors, jet drives, live wells, boat hulls, scuba tanks and regulators, boots, waders, bait buckets, seaplane floats, swimming floats.
- Once water is eliminated, follow the cleaning instructions listed below.
- Freeze or **thoroughly** dry, waders, boots, or water shoes used in areas know to be infested with New Zealand Mud Snails.

Clean and dry anything that came in contact with the water or mud.

(boats, trailers, rafts, floats, dive gear, buckets, equipment, dogs, boots, clothing, etc.). Basic procedures include:

- If hot water is not available, **spray** equipment such as boats, motors, trailers, anchors, decoys, floats, nets, **with high-pressure water.**
- **DRY equipment.** If possible, allow for 5 days of drying time before entering new waters.

- Use hot (> 40° C or 104° F) or salt water to clean your equipment. Don't allow water to run into storm drain.
- The following formulations are recommended for cleaning hard-to-treat equipment that cannot be exposed to hot water:
 - Dipping equipment into 100% vinegar for 20 minutes will kill harmful aquatic hitchhiker species.
 - A 1% table salt solution for 24 hours can replace the vinegar dip. This table provides correct mixtures for the 1% salt solution in water:

Gallons of Water	Cups of Salt
5	2/3
10	1 ¼
25	3
50	6 1/4
100	12 2/3

