

**Subject: COVID-19 - Boating**

**Date:** 2 April 2020 at 4:36:38 pm AEDT



**Transport  
for NSW**

## Maritime Update

Dear Maritime partner,

We have been working with key stakeholders to understand how the updated Government COVID-19 restrictions apply to the boating sector.

*From 31 March 2020 NSW Government Public health directions have been updated requiring people to stay at home unless they have a **'reasonable excuse'**.*

*However, as there is on land, there are exceptions that apply on water.*

*If you go out social distancing rules always apply – at the boat ramp and on your boat.*

*You should only be on your boat alone, or with no more than one other person; or with family who ordinarily live in the same household as you.*

A **'reasonable excuse'** to use your boat could be to:

- exercise (e.g. kayaking/sailing/paddling etc);
- fish;
- get to and from work, where the work cannot reasonably be performed from home;
- get groceries; and
- provide assistance, care or support to an immediate member of the person's family.

***Unless you have an essential need to be out - stay ashore.***

*If you do need to go out, stick to your local waters, and do not gather with more than 2 people unless with members of the same household.*

***It is important to remember that the self-isolation rules apply at all times.***

***Packing up your boat for a road trip and a half day fishing expedition is also not in the spirit of the restrictions.***

*Skippers are always responsible, generally this is applied to safety equipment, keeping proper look out and proceeding at a safe speed.*

*For the latest information on coronavirus and current restrictions, members of the community are encouraged to check the NSW Government website (<http://nsw.gov.au>) for regular updates.*

I hope this provides some clarity for you and your customers. Transport for NSW remains focused on keeping you and the customer safe as a key priority.

Kind regards,

**Alex Barrell**

A/Executive Director

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