

## Mooring Audit

### Maintaining your vessel and mooring apparatus

Transport for NSW, Maritime manages over 23,000 moorings throughout NSW made up of private and commercial licences.

Each year, when mooring apparatus fails vessels come adrift and damage other vessels, maritime infrastructure and the environment.

Unseaworthy or poorly maintained vessels can sink at their mooring, leaking contaminants into the waterways and posing a danger to navigation.

---

## Protecting our waterways

NSW Maritime conducts state-wide audits of moorings each year. The audits are designed to:

- safeguard the marine environment
- increase mooring compliance and improve water safety and access
- eliminate “mooring minders” by removing derelict vessels to free up moorings for those on wait lists
- reduce salvage costs

## How the audit process works

1. Before an audit is conducted, a notification letter is sent to the mooring licence holder advising him/her of the planned mooring audit. The audit will be conducted approximately 21 days from the date on the notification letter.
2. The notification letter explains what you need to do to make your vessel and mooring apparatus compliant with your mooring licence conditions.
3. An experienced Boating Safety Officer (BSO) will conduct the audit.
4. Following the audit, the results will be sent to you advising whether your mooring and vessel are compliant with your licence conditions. If you are compliant then no further action is required.

## Mooring Audit Information Sheet

5. However, if the audit finds that either the mooring apparatus or your vessel is not compliant with your licence conditions, the letter will outline the defects and what you need to do to fix them.

As the mooring licence holder you will be given 21 business days to repair the defects. If you decide not to proceed with the rectification works you have the option to remove your vessel and give up the mooring.

### Proof of service

**You will need to provide us with receipts of work completed by a qualified contractor or a statutory declaration signed by either the contractor who did the service work or the owner of the mooring licence that the service was carried out.**

### Plan of action

If you need more time to arrange the repair works due to contractors and slipways being unavailable or personal circumstances eg illness, or being overseas, please contact the Boating Safety Officer to develop a 'plan of action' for the repairs. Your BSO will track the progress of the agreed repairs as per the agreed action plan.

As the mooring licence holder you have to begin repairs within 14 days of agreeing to the plan of action. You are responsible for ensuring that the works are completed in accordance with the action plan.

When the repair works are completed, the mooring licence holder needs to provide 'proof of service' from either the qualified contractor who did the work or provide a statutory declaration that the works were completed.

### If works not carried out

If you refuse all reasonable requests to carry out repair works on your mooring or vessel and your vessel has been identified as unseaworthy, NSW Maritime will issue you a fine for non-compliance and a notice to remove your vessel.

This notice gives NSW Maritime the authority to take the vessel into custody (if it is valued at less than \$10,000) where it may be dismantled and recycled. At the same time your mooring licence will be cancelled and the mooring reallocated.

### Contact us

If you have any questions please contact:

Maritime Information Line: 13 12 36

Email: [psaudit@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:psaudit@rms.nsw.gov.au)

Website: <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/moorings/mooring-audits/index.html>