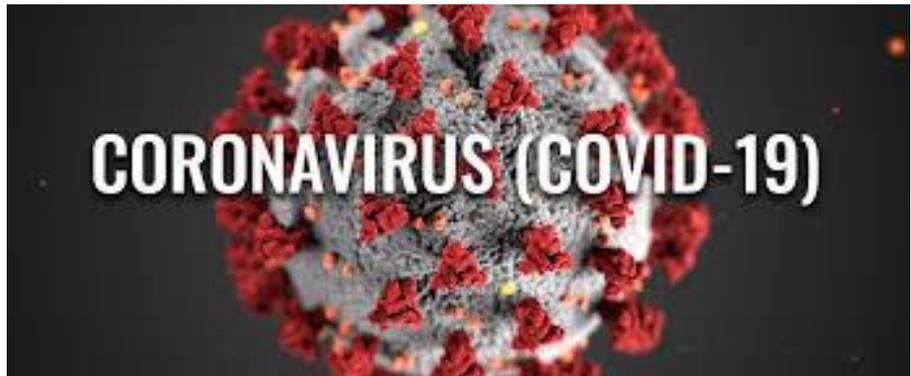


### COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND RECREATIONAL BOATING

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Australia, the Queensland government has introduced many new restrictions on Queensland residents to try and limit the spread of the virus.

These new restrictions are set out in amendments to the *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld) (**Public Health Act**) and they give health and emergency officers more powers to contain the outbreak of COVID-19.

From midnight on Monday 29 March 2020 the amendments to the Public Health Act came into force, which affect everyone in Queensland, including YOU when out on your boat or fishing. Take note as failure to adhere to these new laws can lead to a hefty fine.



Here are some common questions around the restrictions in Queensland waters!

*I am a recreational boater, can I still use my boat in Queensland waters during the COVID-19 restrictions?*

Yes, you can still use your boat in Queensland waters BUT not for recreational purposes, like a day out on the water. You can only use your boat in Queensland waters to fish (as food is essential) or for essential reasons.

*What is an “essential reason”?*

An “essential reason” includes:

- shopping for essentials, like food, fuel and necessities
- medical or health needs
- exercise but in compliance with public gathering requirements
- to go to work or study if you can't do so from home

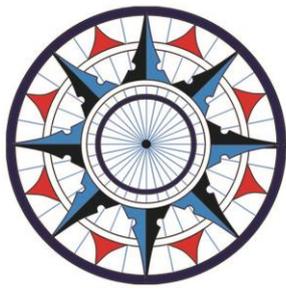
So, you can use your boat but it must be for an essential reason only, like, if you need your boat to get to the shops or fill up with fuel. Remember, once you have completed your “essential reason” you must return home asap!

An essential reason does **not** include a day trip out on the boat even on your own or with members of your immediate household. The Queensland government's advice is clear – if you don't have to go out boating for an “essential reason” don't – stay home!

*Can I go out fishing with my mate who isn't a member of my household?*

No. If you are going to go fishing (as food is an essential reason) you can only go with a member of your immediate household.





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### *Can I go out kayaking/stand-up paddle boarding in Queensland waters?*

Yes, you can do so BUT for exercise purposes only. Remember, as well if you do this you can only do so with members of your immediate household and you must follow the social distancing rules!

### *What happens if I live on a boat?*

If you live on a boat or a houseboat the restrictions still apply to you. You should remain at “home”, which includes when your boat is your home, unless you need to leave for an “essential reason” only. If you also use your boat for travel to and from work, the supermarket or another essential reason, you are able to do so but must return asap to where your boat is usually moored.

### *What happens if I do not adhere to the new restrictions?*

If you are caught out on your boat or fishing for a non-essential reason, you can be fined on the spot by the Police. For individuals, this can mean an on the spot fine of \$1,334.50. You must be aware though that failure to adhere to these new laws could lead to a maximum fine of \$13,345.00 (which is 100 penalty units).



**Written by:**

Claire Strodder

Pacific Maritime Lawyers

Maritime Lawyer

