



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

2024 Pacific Ballast Water Group Meeting Presentation

Marine & Aquatic Biosecurity Section

24 April 2024

Drew Cornelius / Sonia Gorgula

Ballast Water Unit / Marine & Aquatic Biosecurity / Animal Division



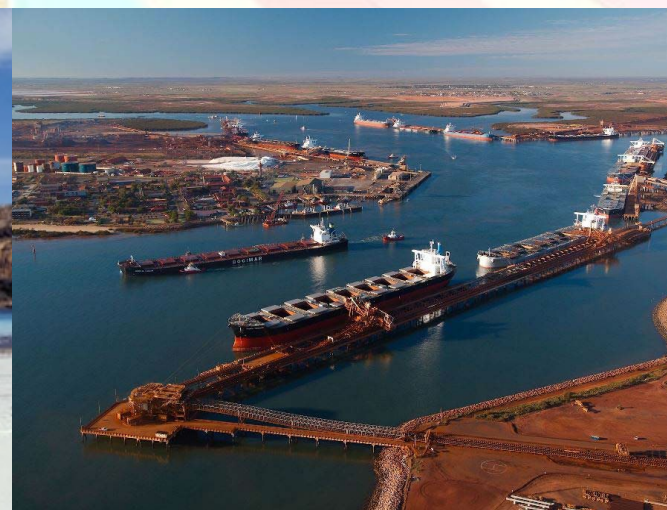
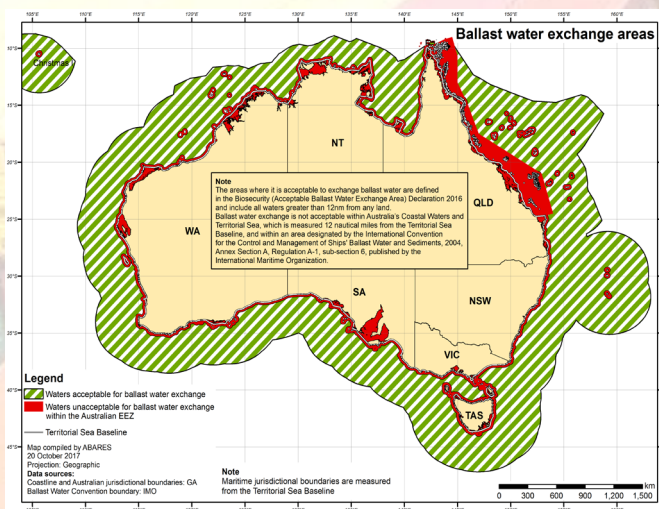
Marine Biosecurity Unit Protecting Australia

A Maritime Nation

- ◆ 3rd largest EEZ – 8.23 million km²
- ◆ 60,000 km of coastline with 12,000 islands
- ◆ 68 ports in Australia
- ◆ 6 maritime boundaries

In 2023

- ◆ Received 16,981 international vessel arrivals and 5,958 unique vessel entries
- ◆ Top two ports of origin: Singapore and Yoesu (Republic of Korea)
- ◆ 68% Bulk Carriers



Marine and Aquatic Biosecurity Section

Chris Starkey
A/g Principal Director – EL2

Sonia Gorgula
Director - EL2

Peter Wilkinson
EL2

Ballast Water Unit

Biofouling & In-water Cleaning

Marty Deveney
EL1

Di Barton
A/g EL1

Drew Cornelius
A/g EL1

Bart Woodham
A/g EL1

Melissa Kinsela
A/g EL1

Alexandra McKenzie
APS6

Angus Falla
A/g APS6

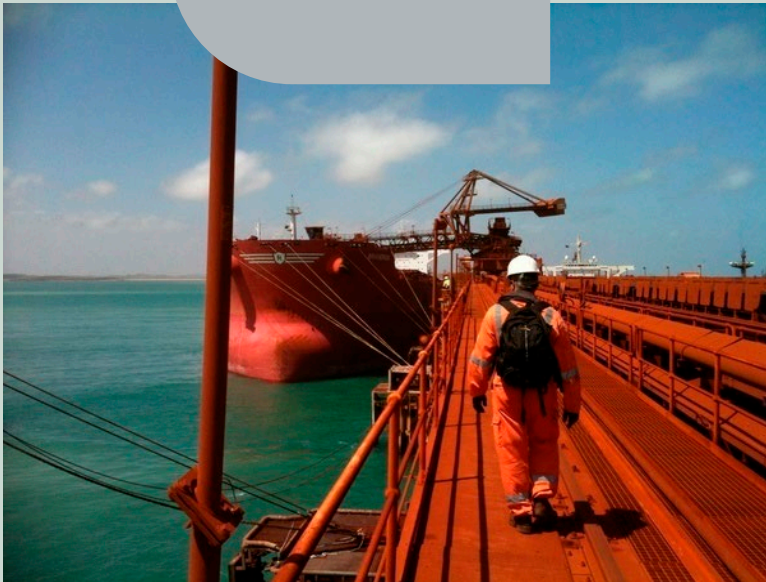
Talitha Kaehne
APS 6

Mae Allen
APS 6



Functions & Responsibilities

Operational
Work



Policy Work



National Advice



Science Priorities

- Facilitate complementary research programs for ballast water management between Australia and other nations
- Assess database of challenging water quality ports
- Continuation of sampling, molecular surveillance, and biosecurity risk assessments/research for Australian ports
- Consider projects to improve understanding of biosecurity risk posed by sediments in ballast water tanks
- Improve understanding of the effects of BWMS bypass on efficacy of BWMS

Policy Priorities

- Revise current policies, requirements and guidelines, following stakeholder and state/territory engagement
- Identify policy gaps, and areas where administrative burden for government and industry can be reduced

Operational Priorities

- Expanding in-house capacity for ballast water inspections and sampling, supported by operational policy
- Implement IMO guidance for challenging water quality
- Interpret the relationship between the Type Approval process and BWMS efficacy
- Auditing of recognised organisations relevant to Flag State responsibilities held by DAFF

BWM Convention Review Priorities

- Ongoing engagement at MEPC and PPR
- Contribute to finalisation of package of priority amendments to the BWM Convention

Australia's Priorities in Asia-Pacific Region

- Engage with neighbours in Asia-Pacific region to facilitate improvements in regional ballast water management and coordinate efforts to prevent and manage the spread of marine pests in the region

Australia's Ballast Water Management Requirements

Ballast Water Management Convention

and the Guidelines for its implementation

2009 EDITION



Biosecurity Act 2015

No. 61, 2015

Compilation No. 3

Compilation date: 18 May 2017
Includes amendments up to: Act No. 34, 2017
Registered: 22 May 2017

Registered: 22 May 2017
Includes amendments up to: Act No. 34, 2017
Compilation date: 18 May 2017

Compilation No. 3

No. 61, 2015

Biosecurity Act 2015



Biosecurity (Ballast Water and Sediment) Determination 2017

I, Daryl Quinlivan, Director of Biosecurity, make the following determination.

Dated 30 August 2017

Daryl Quinlivan
Director of Biosecurity

Director of Biosecurity
Daryl Quinlivan

Dated 30 August 2017

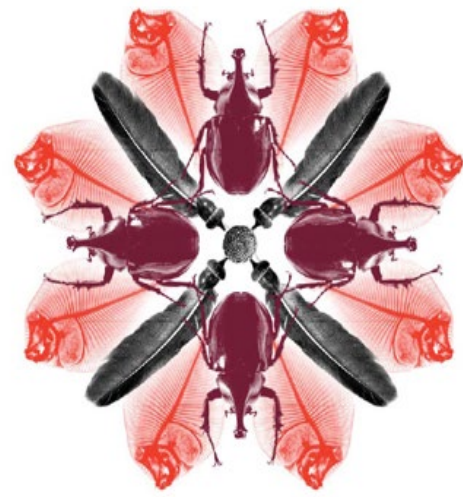
I, Daryl Quinlivan, Director of Biosecurity, make the following determination.

Determination 2017 Biosecurity (Ballast Water and Sediment)

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

Australian Ballast Water Management Requirements

Version 8



Sampling Ballast Water to ensure compliance with Regulation D-2

~30% failure rate in BWMS since DAFF began sampling in 2019

- Ports included: Fremantle, Kwinana, Bunbury, Sydney, Gladstone & Dampier – This year in Newcastle
- Data submitted to the IMO – reports available.
- Previously a data gathering exercise – results were not used for enforcement. This year plan to establish specialised team to meet Australia's obligation to the convention.



The need to upskill

- DAFF are responsible for implementation of the BWM Convention
- Ballast water advisors in each state and territory and a national advisor
- Focal areas:
 - Increasing capacity to undertake detailed inspections to ensure compliance and enforcement of the BWM Convention.
 - Establish more detailed procedures for assessing proper operation and maintenance of BWMS
 - Enhancing communication with ship administration and classification societies; possible RO audits
- Policy focus – reviewing (7+ years since implementation); new policies e.g. CWQ.
- Science – (one) objective: improve consistent performance of BWMS e.g. sampling on uptake and discharge; the effect of BWMS bypass.



Demerit point Overview

Vessel Compliance Scheme (VCS) for Commercial Maritime Vessels



Vessel Compliance Scheme (VCS) for Commercial Maritime Vessels

Understand and consistently follow these rules to achieve better biosecurity compliance

JULY 2016

Qualifying for the VCS

Commercial vessel operators must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the VCS and qualify for reduced intervention:

- a minimum of 3 voyages to Australia in a 12 month period
- below the individual inspection threshold of 10 points for a voyage
- below the collective threshold of 20 points over 3 voyages.

Once on the scheme, vessels will receive reduced physical inspections over a defined voyage cycle.

How the VCS works

The demerit action list below and associated points determines vessel eligibility for the VCS.

During an inspection demerit actions may be accrued. For each negative finding, demerit points will be applied. To stay on the scheme, a vessel must stay under the identified point thresholds.

The application of a demerit action does not replace any other enforcement actions available to the department under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. A master or agent that commits an offence may be liable to penalties in addition to VCS demerits.

Reporting			Sanitation		
Demerit Action	Demerit Points	How You Can Comply	Demerit Action	Demerit Points	How You Can Comply
Failure to report illness on board	10		Inadequate storage of waste – minor	3	
Failure to update illness report	10	Report all instances of illness on board (crew and passengers), as part of pre-arrival reporting. Submit updated reports for any changes to illness on board during the voyage in Australia.	Inadequate storage of waste – major	7	Secure all waste on board in designated areas and waste bins. Waste should not be left unsecured, open and accessible to insects, animals and birds. The severity of any waste related issue will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 1 and 10 demerit points.
Failure to notify the department of medical as a result of illness	10		Inadequate storage of waste – critical	10	
Cruise vessel failing to report percentage of cases of gastro-intestinal illness on board	8	Report all instances of gastro-intestinal illness on board cruise vessels, if greater than 1 per cent of the total number of crew and passengers on board as part of pre-arrival reporting. Submit updated reports for any changes to gastro-intestinal illness information during the voyage in Australia.	Infestation of insects found on board – minor	3	
Failure to report death on board	10	Report all deaths on board	Infestation of insects found on board – major	6	Inspect galleys, superstructures, food storage, deck and cargo areas for any insect activity as part of pre-arrival reporting. Submit updated reports for any changes or evidence of insect activity during the voyage in Australia. The severity of any insect related issue will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 3 and 10 demerit points.
Failure to declare a ship's pet/animal	10	Declare all ships pets and animals (dead or alive) on board including birds and reptiles as part of pre-arrival reporting	Infestation of insects found on board – critical	10	
Undeclared deceased animal's found on board	6		Evidence of rodent infestation – minor	3	Keep a look out for rodent activity and report any evidence (live, dead or rodent droppings) during the voyage in Australia. Maintain good hygiene and sanitation in areas that are likely to attract rodents, for example waste storage, food preparation and storage areas. The severity of any rodent related issue will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 3 and 10 demerit points.
Undeclared hitchhiker animal's found on board	10	Keep a look out for hitchhiker pests. Report any insects or animals (not a pet) on the vessel during the voyage in Australia.	Evidence of rodent infestation – major	5	
Failure to report plants on board	3	Declare all live plants and soil on board as part of pre-arrival reporting or provide the information when sought by a biosecurity officer during the inspection	Evidence of rodent infestation – critical	10	
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report – minor	2		Spillage of food material presenting sanitation risk – minor	3	Maintain good hygiene and sanitation on the vessel and have a system to regularly manage spillage of food material in areas such as galleys, food preparation and waste storage areas. The severity of any sanitation related issues will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 3 and 10 demerit points.
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report – major	7	Accurately report ballast water information in all ballast water reports during a voyage. The severity of any incorrect ballast water reporting issue will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 2 and 10 demerit points	Spillage of food material presenting sanitation risk – major	6	
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report – critical	10		Evidence of seeds, meal or organic material on deck – light contamination	2	
Entry to a non-first point of entry without prior approval	10	Seek prior approval to enter a non-first point of entry. Submit an application to enter a non-first point prior to arrival at a non-first point of entry	Evidence of seeds, meal or organic material on deck – moderate contamination	5	Maintain good hygiene and sanitation on the vessel and have a system to regularly manage spillage of seeds, meal or other organic material that could attract insects, rodents, birds or other animals. The severity of any sanitation related issues will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 2 and 10 demerit points.
Submission of a Pre-Arrival Report less than 12 hours from arrival at port or anchorage	8		Evidence of seeds, meal or organic material on deck – heavy contamination	10	
Failure to submit a Pre-Arrival Report prior to arrival at port or anchorage	10	Submit pre-arrival reporting information 96-120 hours prior to arrival at an Australian port or anchorage	Mosquito risk – low	1	Eliminate any breeding sites for mosquitoes and larvae. Monitor for any water accumulation in either vessel structures or other receptacles which could harbour adult mosquitoes and larvae. Avoid placing receptacles such as buckets, tyres and drums in the open. The severity of issues relating to any mosquito risks will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 1 and 10 demerit points.
Failure to report the previous carrying of high risk cargo on the Pre-Arrival Report	3	Accurately respond to questions in pre-arrival reporting including information on identified high risk cargo that the vessel may have carried as part of previous voyages	Mosquito risk – medium	4	
Failure to report crew changes	7	Report crew disembarking the vessel and not returning to the vessel on its current voyage in Australian waters. Submit updated reports for any changes to crew movements during the voyage in Australia by lodging a service request	Mosquito risk – high	10	
Undeclared biosecurity risk material from crew leaving the vessel	2	Accurately declare biosecurity risk material including personal effects and food that crew members are taking off vessels, prior to departing the vessel. If unsure, contact a biosecurity officer	Failure to clean decks that result in minor issues	4	Thoroughly clean and treat livestock decks in accordance with department requirements. Fodder must be appropriately contained and stored securely. The severity of any livestock sanitation related issue will be determined by a biosecurity officer during the inspection, and may incur between 4 and 10 demerit points.
Documentation			Directions		
Failure to present medical log	1	Maintain all medical logs on board and keep updated at all times	Failure to follow directions on the Biosecurity Status Document (BSD)	10	Follow all directions contained in the latest version of the BSD
Failure to present Biosecurity Status Document (BSD)	4	The latest version of the BSD must be made available to a biosecurity officer on request	Failure to follow conditions on the Ship Sanitation Control Certificate	10	Follow all directions contained in the latest version of the Ship Sanitation Control Certificate
Failure to present Ship Sanitation Certificate	10	The latest version of the Ship Sanitation Certificate as declared must be made available to a biosecurity officer on request	Declared ship's pet/animal not managed as directed	10	Follow all directions for declared pets or animals on board
Failure to present Freedom from AQM Certificate	10	The latest version of the Freedom from AQM Certificate as declared must be made available to a biosecurity officer on request	Incorrect discharge of waste	10	Manage biosecurity waste in accordance with department requirements. Biosecurity waste must be collected, transported and disposed of under an Approved Arrangement or under the supervision of a biosecurity officer
Failure to present approved and valid ballast water documentation	8	Ensure the vessel has a ballast water record system and a valid ballast water certificate available to a biosecurity officer on request	Plants not kept in accordance with the Biosecurity Status Document (BSD)	7	Follow all directions contained in the latest version of the BSD including any specific conditions for plants on board
Failure to demonstrate indications of competence in using and maintaining the treatment system as specified in the Ballast Water Management Plan	7	Demonstrate that the vessel ballast water treatment system has been operated in accordance with the Ballast Water Management Plan and manufacturer's instructions. Demonstrate that the responsible vessel officer's are competent with the operation of the system to a biosecurity officer on request	Unauthorized discharge of ballast water	10	Follow all ballast water information contained in the latest version of the BSD
Failure to present approved Ballast Water Management Plan or ballast water operations not conducted in accordance with the Ballast Water Management Plan	8	Ensure the vessel has an approved Ballast Water Management Plan and that operations are appropriately managed in accordance with the vessel's Ballast Water Management Plan and Australian requirements			
Failure to maintain accurate ballast water records	7	Ensure all ballast water related records on board are kept up to date			
Failure to keep ballast water records on board for 2 years	1	Keep the last 2 years of ballast water records on board and make them available to a biosecurity officer on request			

Any changes in circumstances must be reported to the department as soon as practicable.

The VCS is just one tool to help vessel operators comply with Australia's biosecurity requirements. More information about VCS can be found at: agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/avm/vessels/

Demerit point Overview

Date selection

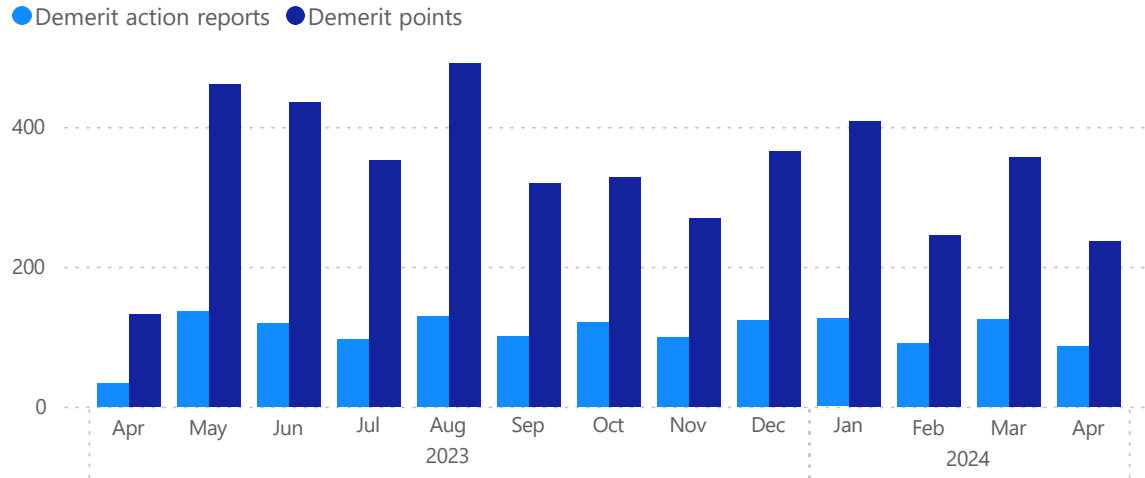
22/04/2023

22/04/2024

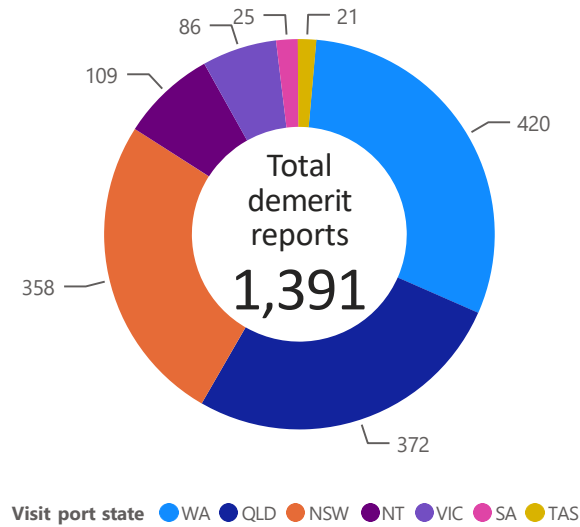
Demerit point breach category and reason

Breach category	Demerit action reports	Demerit points
Ballast	1,391	4,400
Ballast water operations not conducted in accordance with the Ballast Water Management Plan and/or Australian requirements	69	400
Failure to demonstrate indications of competence in using and maintaining the treatment system as specified in the Ballast Water Management Plan	106	606
Failure to keep Ballast Water Records on board for 2 years	216	53
Failure to maintain accurate ballast water records	231	997
Failure to present a valid BWMC	68	440
Failure to present a valid BWMP	168	809
Incorrect disposal of sediment	5	16
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report - Critical	4	30
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report - Major	13	77
Incorrect reporting on Ballast Water Report - Minor	506	922
Unauthorised discharge of ballast water	5	50
Total	1,391	4,400

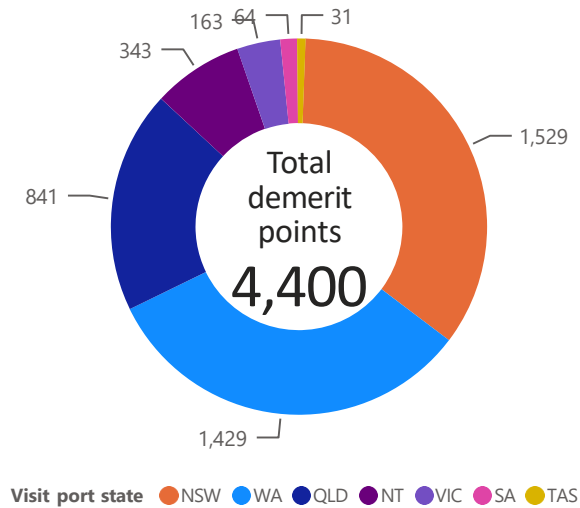
Demerit points and Demerit action reports lodged per month



Demerit action reports by Visit port state



Demerit points by Visit port state



Demerit Point Overview



Demerit reports per location



Date selection

22/04/2023

22/04/2024

Location of demerit reports and points

Visit port state (groups)	Demerit action reports	Demerit points
New South Wales	358	1,529
NEWCASTLE	309	1,444
PORT KEMBLA	21	42
SYDNEY	28	43
Northern Territory	109	343
DARWIN	109	343
Queensland	372	841
BOWEN	17	49
BRISBANE	134	167
CAIRNS	22	50
GLADSTONE	106	338
HAY POINT	37	115
LUCINDA	1	7
MACKAY	8	32
MOURILYAN	1	2
THURSDAY ISLAND	1	1
TOWNSVILLE	22	39
WEIPA	23	41
South Australia	25	64
PORT ADELAIDE	11	26
PORT GILES	1	0
PORT LINCOLN	9	20
WALLAROO	1	2
WHYALLA	3	16
Total	864	2,777

Location of demerit reports and points

Visit port state (groups)	Demerit action reports	Demerit points
Tasmania	21	31
BURNIE	2	1
DEVONPORT	1	0
HOBART	13	28
LAUNCESTON	5	2
Victoria	86	163
GEELONG	32	65
MELBOURNE	41	90
PORTLAND	7	0
WESTERNPORT	6	8
Western Australia	420	1,429
ALBANY	5	16
BROOME	1	0
BUNBURY	21	56
DAMPIER	50	150
ESPERANCE	1	0
FREMANTLE	162	580
GERALDTON	28	44
PORT HEDLAND	133	525
PORT WALCOTT	17	54
USELESS LOOP	1	2
WYNDHAM	1	2
Total	527	1,623

Simplify Ballast Workshop



simplifyballast

IS YOUR TEAM READY TO ENFORCE THE BWM CONVENTION?

At MEPC 80, the IMO encouraged Administrations to enforce the BWM Convention through inspection and testing, but are you ready?

- NEW REGULATORY GUIDELINES
- DIFFERENT BWMS TECHNOLOGIES
- RECORD BOOK ENTRIES
- CHALLENGING WATER ISSUES
- WHEN TO REQUIRE BWE+BWT
- WHEN TO TEST A DISCHARGE

WE CAN HELP

- TRAINING**
We can develop tailored two- and three-day training classes specifically designed to meet the needs of your team and your local rules and guidelines
- CHECKLIST DEVELOPMENT**
Develop meaningful checklists for inspectors on what to look for, what to verify, and how to complete an inspection quickly and efficiently
- DATA ANALYSIS**
Demystify both the ballast water record book and the BWMS alarm and data log to learn how systems are operating and make sure that systems are used every time

CONTACT US

TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING OR CONSULTATION

📞 Mark Riggie
+1.412.295.5772

✉️ mark@simplifyballast.com

www.simplifyballast.com

MAKING BALLAST SIMPLE AGAIN



Ballast Water Sampling & Assurance Team.



Ballast water sampling equipment procurement

The department has invested in the following equipment for ballast water sampling and analysis.

- Turner Ballast Check 2 – Fluorometer
- ATP (adenosine triphosphate) testing equipment
- HACH (Chlorine test kit) for testing Total Residual Oxidants pumped from BWMS which use active substances



Questions?

Contact marinepests@agriculture.gov.au

