



bmsc

**BAMFIELD MARINE
SCIENCES CENTRE**

Boat Policy



**W.C.U.M.S.S.
Organization and Policy Guide**

401.1 Policy on Boat Use

401.1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish basic policy governing the use of boats operated from and by users and staff of the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (here in after referred to as BMSC) under WCUMSS's auspices. The intent of this policy is to optimize safety and efficient use of BMSC facilities in all boat operations.

401.1.2

Foreshore personnel or his/her designate directs and gives prior permission for all boat operations. For the purposes of these regulations, WCUMSS's auspices shall include any boat operations by BMSC users (students, instructors, researchers, authorized visitors and field trip groups), and employees.

401.1.3

The Director has the authority to amend these regulations as needed, prior to approval by Management Council.

401.1.4

WCUMSS's auspices recognize the following classes of boats:

- BMSC rowboats
- BMSC powerboats
- Researcher boats
- Private boats
- Graduate student kayaks and canoes
- Alta and Barkley Star

401.1.5

Repair costs to boats and equipment resulting from the blatant disregard of BMSC boat policies and instruction may be charged to the user at the discretion of foreshore personnel, and the Director.

401.2 Boat Use Rules

401.2.1 BMSC Rowboats

- 401.2.1.1 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset.
- 401.2.1.2 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.
- 401.2.1.3 Restricted to Bamfield and Grappler Inlets.
- 401.2.1.4 Four persons maximum.
- 401.2.1.5 Transport Canada approved PFDs must be worn and zipped up during use.
- 401.2.1.6 Bailer, whistle and buoyant heaving line must be present.
- 401.2.1.7 Must be signed out via rowboat sign out sheet.
- 401.2.1.8 Overdue boats will be allowed one half-hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.
- 401.2.1.9 May be used for recreational activities only, excluding swimming, diving and fishing.
- 401.2.1.10 May not be used for research.
- 401.2.1.11 Beaching is not allowed.
- 401.2.1.12 Not to be used in fog or low visibility conditions.

401.2.2 BMSC Power boats

- 401.2.2.1 Prior to boat use, all persons must adhere to Transport Canada's Regulations applicable to vessel type and number of passengers ie: possess a valid Pleasure Craft Operators Certificate (PCOC) and current first aid certificate for COPE use, Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) certificate including Marine Emergency Duties (MED) training and a VHF Radio Operators ticket for use of Raider and Herring skiffs. All persons must adhere to the policies outlined in this document as well as receive a boat check out and safety briefing from BMSC Foreshore personnel. All persons must demonstrate competence in boat-handling and motor operation/trouble-shooting to the satisfaction of Foreshore personnel or his/her designate.
- 401.2.2.2 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset unless prior permission is granted and legal lights are available.
- 401.2.2.3 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.

- 401.2.2.4 Use outside the Inlets after hours requires that prior permission be granted, except for scheduled BMSC Public Education Program excursions.
- 401.2.2.5 Use outside the BMSC boundary area, indicated on the sail plans, requires that prior permission be granted.
- 401.2.2.6 Maximum number of persons on boats:
 14 ft. Cope - 4 ppl. 18 ft. Raider - 5 ppl.
 16 ft. Cope - 5 ppl. 24 ft. Herring Skiff - 12 ppl.+1
- The herring skiffs may have 12 passengers + 1 driver. These maximum numbers may be reduced by weather conditions and/or other weight in the boat.
- 401.2.2.7 Two persons minimum in a boat outside the Inlets unless two boats driving together.
- 401.2.2.8 Transport Canada approved PFD's must be worn and fully zipped up during use.
- 401.2.2.9 Emergency stop cords must be worn.
- 401.2.2.10 Must not exceed 7 knots in the Inlets.
- 401.2.2.11 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations. It is the operator's responsibility to ensure that the required equipment is on board.
- 401.2.2.12 A VHF radio must be taken on all trips outside the Inlets and the weather and sea conditions checked prior to departure.
- 401.2.2.13 A safety kit (see appendix A) with first aid equipment, whistle, compass, watertight flashlight, buoyant heaving line and flares etc. must be taken on all trips. These safety kits are standard equipment on boats 6m and over and stay onboard at all times. This equipment is to be used in emergency situations only.
- 401.2.2.14 Must be signed out using the sail plans provided and signed in upon return. The BMSC must be notified by VHF radio of any changes in timings or routes.
- 401.2.2.15 Overdue boats will be allowed one half hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.
- 401.2.2.16 Only to be used for teaching and research purposes unless prior permission for other use is granted. However, recreational diving and fishing are not allowed.
- 401.2.2.17 Beaching is not allowed along shores exposed to incoming swells and high waves, especially from Brady's Beach to Tapaltos Bay.
- 401.2.2.18 Boat availability is not guaranteed unless within 30 minutes of reservation time.

401.2.3 Researcher Boats

- 401.2.3.1 Only for use by researchers, instructors, graduate students, and research assistants associated with the respective university unless prior permission is granted.
- 401.2.3.2 All rules for BMSC power boats will apply to university boats with the following exceptions:
 - 401.2.3.2.1 Prior permission required between sunset and sunrise.
 - 401.2.3.2.2 Maximum number of persons on board will follow the capacity plate description.
 - 401.2.3.2.3 Two persons minimum in a boat outside the Inlets unless prior permission has been granted. General or per trip permission for one person will only be considered for use within the BMSC boundary area between sunrise and sunset, if the operator is experienced, and the boat is capable and equipped for rowing.
 - 401.2.3.2.4 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations.
 - 401.2.3.2.5 Requests for use outside of the scope of these regulations can be submitted in writing and are subject to the Director's approval.

401.2.4 Private Boats (including staff owned vessels)

- 401.2.4.1 Not required to follow WCUMSS boat use rules unless moored at BMSC floats overnight and used for teaching or research related to BMSC. In such cases, the rules governing Researcher boats will apply.
- 401.2.4.2 Must comply with Transport Canada regulations.
- 401.2.4.3 Encouraged to use BMSC sign out and sign in procedures.

401.2.5 Graduate Student Kayaks and Canoes

Please read full Graduate Student Kayaks Policy in Appendix B

- 401.2.5.1 The grad student in charge or his/her designate, where required, grants prior permission. Users must demonstrate to the grad student in charge their competence in handling a kayak prior to permission being granted.
- 401.2.5.2 General or per trip permission must be obtained prior to use.
- 401.2.5.3 Only to be used between sunrise and sunset.
- 401.2.5.4 Use on holidays, weekends, and between 1630 and 0830 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.
- 401.2.5.5 May be taken overnight as long as 401.2.5.3 is followed and an after hours check-in person is used for the initial trip.
- 401.2.5.6 Use outside the BMSC boundary area, indicated on the sail plans is at your own risk.
- 401.2.5.7 Minimum two kayaks must be used outside the Inlets unless prior permission is granted.
- 401.2.5.8 Three persons maximum in a canoe with a minimum of two persons outside the Inlets.
- 401.2.5.9 Transport Canada approved PFD's must be worn and fully zipped up during use.
- 401.2.5.10 Must be signed out using sail plans when outside the Inlets. Blackboard can be used when inside the Inlets.
- 401.2.5.11 Overdue kayaks will be allowed one half hour before search and rescue procedures are initiated.
- 401.2.5.12 Not to be used in fog or low visibility conditions.

401.2.6 Alta and Barkley Star

The research vessels Alta and Barkley Star are large vessels intended for conducting open ocean fieldwork and are only operated by authorized and qualified BMSC personnel. These vessels are equipped to deal with adverse weather and sea conditions and for night operations. Their use is under the direction and discretion of Foreshore personnel.

401.2.7

Permission to use boats may be denied if weather and sea conditions are unfavorable or if distance from the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre is excessive. This will partly be demonstrated by the use of a RED sign, which restricts all boat use to the Inlets unless prior permission is granted.

The open powerboats covered by WCUMSS's auspices are powered by outboard engines and not intended for work in adverse

conditions or at great distances from the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre.

402.2.8

Anyone contravening this policy may be denied permission to use the boating facilities. A warning will be given for the first infraction, subsequent infractions may result in suspension, at the discretion of the Director or the Director's designate.

402.3 Search Charges

The full cost of searches conducted because of the failure to comply with this policy shall be charged to the operator. In these circumstances these charges shall include personnel time (and overtime if required) at approved BMSC rates, boat rental costs, gas, and replacement value of any equipment used or lost.



Effective July 1, 1973.
Approved by Management Council April 19, 1973. MC 21.4.3.
Amended May 28, 1973. (Minute MC 22.4.2.6)
Policy number system introduced February 1975.
Amended December 8, 1978. (Minute MC 52.5.6.2)
Approved by Management Council October 3, 1980. MC 59.6.31b.
Amended July 1992.
Amended June 18, 1996.
Approved by Management Council June 22, 1996. MC 103.8.5.1.
Amended January 15, 2009.
Amended April 20, 2010
Amended April 9, 2014
Amended May 26, 2014

Appendix

A

Required Boating Safety Equipment

Safety Buckets must be on board vessel when in operation.

Type of Vessel	14ft, 16ft Cope	Sgl. Skiff, Twin Skiff, Raider
Vessel Total Length	<6.0m	6 – 8m
Transport Canada approved life jacket	X	X
Two oars with oarlocks OR two paddles OR an anchor with not less than 15m of cable, rope or chain	X	X
Bailer or manual bilge pump	X	X
location of safety bucket containing listed items	to be signed out from dive shed. Confirm contents prior to trip.	on board vessel not to be removed. Confirm contents prior to trip.
Class B 1 Fire Extinguisher	X	X
Buoyant Heaving Line not less than 15m in length, with rescue quoit	X	X *
610mm or 762mm life buoy attached to 15m buoyant line		X *
Watertight Flashlight	X	X
Pyrotechnics	3 type A, B or C	6 type A, B or C
First Aid Kit	X	X
Sound Signalling Device or Appliance i.e. whistle, air horn etc	X	X
Navigation Lights	X	X
Compass	X	X
Reboarding Device if freeboard > 0.5m		X

* Vessels between 6m and 8m may use either a buoyant heaving line or a life buoy

Source: Canada Shipping Act, Small Vessel Regulations, CRC, Vol.XVII, c. 1487
January 04 2009

B

Graduate Student Kayak Policy

Regulations

This document was created by the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (BMSC) Graduate Student Association (GSA)

The BMSC GSA owns three sea Kayaks. The use of these kayaks is limited to graduate students, BMSC staff, researchers, technicians, and fall program students. These individuals may invite a guest. Guests must be accompanied by a grad student (or any other authorized user) at all times and must have completed a checkout beforehand. Due to high wear-and-tear in the past, we unfortunately cannot allow undergraduate students of the summer program to use the kayaks. Summer students can only use a kayak as a guest of a grad student and must be accompanied by an aforementioned authorized user.

Completion of a checkout includes a “wet-exit” is mandatory prior to taking out a kayak. To arrange a time for a checkout, contact the GSA kayak rep.

All users must be familiar and comply with the W.C.U.M.S.S. boat safety policy (available on BMSC website: www.bamfieldmsc.com, library and at the foreshore sign-out) section 401.2.5 Graduate Student Kayaks.

Kayaks when used inside the inlets are to be signed out via a BMSC Sail Plan.
Kayaks when used outside the inlets (follow cope policies):

- Kayaks must be signed out using a sail plan.
- A radio must be taken.
- A PFD and whistle must be worn
- A minimum of two kayaks must travel together.

Use on holidays, weekends, and between 16:30 and 08:30 weekdays must have an after hours check-in person.

The Grad kayaks are only to be used between sunrise and sunset unless prior permission is granted and a light is worn.

Please be aware of and respect prior reservations (check reservation sheet on locker door.)

Equipment List (as required by Canadian Coast Guard)

Each kayak must carry all items listed, with no exceptions:

- PFD with a whistle attached
- Spray skirt
- Paddle and a spare paddle
- Kayak goodie bag containing
 - Float
 - Manual bailer pump
 - Buoyant heaving line

All equipment must be rinsed with fresh water and properly hung to dry, then put away in the upstairs dive shed grad locker after each use.

The kayak, especially the pedals inside the kayak, should also be rinsed with fresh water (hose on south dock) before storage.

If any equipment is missing, damaged or lost, please contact GSA kayak rep.

Fees are as follows:

User	Period	Fee
Graduate Student	Unrestricted	No fee*
Researcher, technicians,	8 months to a year	\$65
BMSC staff,	4 months	\$45
Fall program students	6 weeks or less	\$35

All fees are due to GSA kayak rep at time of kayak checkout.

*Although access to the use of kayaks is free for graduate students, grad users will be expected to help out with maintenance of kayaks and other grad activities.