

If you can't call for help no one can rescue you

Take two forms of communication.

NCC Navigation Safety Bylaw (218) Clause 2.28: Every person in charge of a vessel must carry two forms of communication and one must be waterproof. Exception - non-powered vessels less than six metres in length need to carry one form of distress signal (such as a flare, phone in a waterproof bag or a whistle).



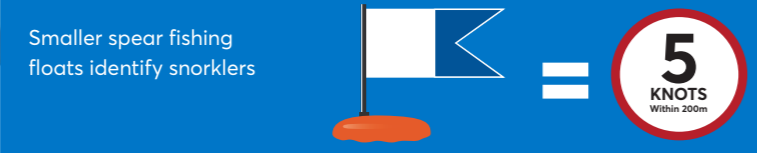
Diver down?

If you are diving from a boat, or are the skipper of a boat with a diver down, you must ensure that Flag A is displayed high enough that it can be clearly identified by other boats from a distance of at least 200 metres (Clause 2.20 (B)). Failure to comply can put the diver and/or the skipper at risk of injury.



See a float – slow your boat
If you see this flag you must slow down to 5 knots within 200 metres (the length of 2 football fields)

Code Flag A - Min size, 600 x 600mm



Smaller spear fishing floats identify snorkelers

It takes 3 to ski

Any vessel (including a jet ski) towing a person on a wakeboard, biscuit, skis or anything else must have an observer (over 10 years old) watching the person being towed (Clause 2.11). Always travel in and out of a water-ski lane on your starboard (right) side.



Tāhunanui beach recreation areas



Might is right



There is a Moving Prohibited Zone and Total Exclusion Zone around any vessel of 3,000 GRT or more (the bigger size fishing vessels and up). This means big ships have exclusive rights to the cut and smaller vessels should not enter the cut when big ships are there (Clause 2.3).



Quick reference guide for staying safe on the water

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Contact the Harbour Master: **0800 NNHarbour (0800 664 272)**
harbourmaster@ncc.govt.nz

For more information about the Navigation Safety Bylaw go to nelson.govt.nz/bylaw-218-navigation-safety



Nelson Marine VHF Radio Channels



Mobile phone use:

- Emergency** Call 111 and ask for the Police
- Coastguard** 03 548 8300 (non-urgent) breakdowns etc.
- Coastguard App** Coastguard NZ
- Use VHF** Channel 12 only to communicate with Nelson Harbour Radio

How to make a distress call

Use only if you are in imminent danger and need immediate help!
Activate the distress beacon if you have one.

Switch radio to full power; follow these instructions:

- VHF Ch 16
- MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY
- This is YOUR VESSEL NAME (THREE TIMES)
- Call sign OF THE VESSEL (ONCE)
- MAYDAY VESSEL NAME AND CALL SIGN
- Vessel's location
- Nature of distress and assistance required
- Any other information e.g. number of persons on board, description of vessel, life-raft or dinghy carried
- OVER
- Allow a short time for a reply. If no reply, repeat the distress call, working through all the distress frequencies on the radio. If contact is made with a shore station, tell them if you have activated your beacon.

Don't leave shore without one

NCC Navigation Safety Clause 2.7 requires that the person in charge of a recreational vessel that is six metres or less in length **must ensure everyone on board wears a properly secured and appropriately sized lifejacket**. All other vessels are required to carry lifejackets of appropriate sizes for everybody on board your boat.



Have one for everyone and wear them.

Slow down

Speed must not exceed 5 knots when within:

- 50 metres of another vessel, raft or person in the water;
- 200 metres of shore or structure (2 football fields), or the inshore side of any row of buoys marking that distance from shore;
- 200 metres of any vessel or raft flying Flag A (diving flag).

Exception – there is a speed uplift zone in the transit lane. However, you must still maintain a safe speed at all times.



Can you be seen?

Navigation lights must be shown from sunset to sunrise, and during limited visibility conditions.



Boats of less than 7 metres length and not capable of more than 7 knots, including kayaks and paddle craft, need only display an all-round white light.



Powerboats, underway, less than 12 metres in length may show an all-round white light (instead of a masthead light and stern light) and sidelights.

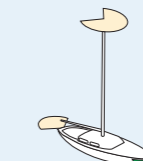


Powerboats greater than 12 metres, need to display a masthead light, sidelights and a stern light.

Every boat at anchor must show only a white light that is visible from all directions between sunset and sunrise.



Sailing boats, underway (not using power) must show sidelights and a stern light. These may be combined into a tri-colour lantern at the top of the mast on vessels less than 20 metres in length.



Sailing boats under auxiliary motor power are considered to be powerboats and must display sidelights, a stern light and a masthead light.

Vessel Registration

Vessels six metres or more in length must be **identified and registered** (unless the identification is a Yachting NZ or affiliated club registration or the vessel's trailer registration number). You can register for free on the Nelson City Council website.



Vessels less than six metres in length need to have the owner's name and contact details marked somewhere on the vessel (Clause 2.26).

