

If you see any unusual marine plants or animals, or boats with heavily fouled hulls, call 0800 800 401.

Help stop the spread of Mediterranean fanworm.

Protect the waters you love

Help stop the spread of Mediterranean fanworm



Mediterranean fanworm (also known as Sabella) hitchhiked its way to New Zealand on ships from Australia. Make sure it doesn't catch a ride on your boat to your favourite Coromandel destination.

If it does it could:

- damage your boat by clogging the motor, pipes or propellers
- increase drag and therefore fuel costs
- impact on your catch by smothering native species like scallops, paua and mussels
- affect your enjoyment of activities like diving by changing the underwater character.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Slip and clean your boat

- Mediterranean fanworm can grow from fragments so it's important that anything scraped off is put in a bin and disposed of at a landfill.
- Pay special attention to underwater gear and fitting parts that stick out or retain water like the keel, intakes and outlets, propellers and shafts, rudders and casings.

ONCE A YEAR, OR BEFORE TRAVELLING TO ANOTHER REGION.

2. Apply antifouling paint

- Apply a good coat to your boat and don't miss those underwater fittings.

3. Report anything unusual

IDENTIFYING FEATURES

- A tube, which is always fixed to a hard surface, usually looks muddy and could be up to 40cm long.
- Long feathery tentacles that look like a single spiral fan and extend out of the top of the tube.
- A white fan banded with pale fawn, orange or brown.

