

# WASH

## Attention Power Boat Owners

The Hawkesbury River/Broken Bay Regional office has received a number of complaints regarding **EXCESSIVE WASH** in the areas of Cowan Creek, including Akuna Bay, Cottage Point, Apple Tree Bay and Bobbin Head. Almost every vessel underway creates varying degrees of waves and turbulence as it moves through the water, therefore all boat owners need to be conscious of the wash and waves created by their vessels, particularly when boating in sensitive rivers and creeks.

As an example, a semi-displacement motorcruiser at a speed of 8-10 knots will produce higher levels of wash when compared with the same vessel at 4 knots. In contrast, a small runabout travelling on the plane will create less wash at high speed.

It is the skipper's responsibility to be aware of the wash created by their vessel and to choose a speed and course that will minimise adverse impacts upon other people, structures and fragile foreshores. This applies to all enclosed navigable waters within NSW, even areas that are not signposted as No Wash areas.

***It is also a good practice to occasionally look behind to see if your boat is creating wash that is affecting other boats.***

As a result of this issue, NSW Maritime is conducting a **NO WASH** campaign within this area, focusing on education and compliance issues concerning damaging wash. Additional patrols will be conducted.

Ultimately the impact of wash can be minimised if the skippers apply a healthy dose of care, courtesy and commonsense. Failure to do so could result in an on-the-spot fine of **\$550.00** for causing nuisance, annoyance or danger.

For further details you can contact the NSW Maritime Hawkesbury River/Broken Bay Regional office on 9477 6600.

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[www.maritime.nsw.gov.au](http://www.maritime.nsw.gov.au)