

## Biosecurity Language to Be Inserted into NPS Contracts & Agreements (As Needed)

**A. Equipment and Imported Materials:** Prior to transport to the island, the Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that their equipment is clean and free of dirt, mud, straw, or other material which could bring weed seeds or other invasive species to the island.

1. All vehicles and equipment (including shovels, wheelbarrows, hand tools, etc.) entering the project area must be clean of plant seeds, mud, and soil and free from oil leaks. Pressure-wash all construction equipment and heavy machinery to thoroughly remove all dirt, plant, and other foreign material prior to loading equipment on park boats or landing craft. Particular attention must be shown to the under carriage, wheels, tracks, and any other surface where soil containing non-native plant seeds or aquatic organisms such as the New Zealand mud snail or zebra mussel may reside.

Arrange for the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) to inspect each piece of equipment, or alert the Biosecurity Manager to do so, before loading on the mainland. Equipment that has not been adequately cleaned will be turned away. Equipment found operating on the project that has not been inspected or has oil leaks will be shut down and subject to citation and removal from the premises.

- a. Corrugated cardboard packing is only allowed if it is factory-sealed and has not been opened prior to transport to the island(s).

**B. Protection from Exotic Animals:** These efforts are critical to prevent the introduction and establishment of non-native plant or animal species into the project area.

1. Drain and flush all pumps, tanks, live wells, buckets and other containers that might carry water contaminated with exotic animals, such as the New Zealand mud snail or zebra mussel, prior to bringing equipment into the park. Thoroughly wash all hauling tanks and equipment using a hard spray from a garden hose. If equipment was used in infested waters, use the following steps to clean the equipment:

Wash with hot water (140 F or 40 C) or a high-pressure washer (250 pounds per square inch).

Remove all aquatic weeds -- they can carry non-native snails and mussels.

2. Disinfect equipment. Recent research shows that disinfection of nets and equipment with benzalkonium chloride at typical treatment rates (10 milligrams per liter for 24 hours, 100 milligrams per liter for 3 hours, or 250 milligrams per liter for 15 minutes) will effectively eliminate most exotic animals. Two other commonly used disinfectants, calcium hypochlorite and iodine, are ineffective against zebra mussels.
  - a. Many adult snails and mussels can live more than a week out of water in moist, shaded areas. Dry pumps, nets and other equipment used in infested waters in the sun for two to four days after cleaning. If adult snails or mussels are present, equipment must be dried for two weeks.

- b. No imported earth materials will be allowed without the written permission of the Contracting Officer.
- c. All material must be free of animals and/or animal evidence, including, but not limited to: rodents/small mammals, rodent/small mammal droppings, chew marks, insects, spider webs, insect holes in boxes.

**C. Personnel:** All contracting and sub-contracting personnel must abide by the biosecurity regulations provided below.

1. Footwear, clothing, and personal packs must be inspected and cleaned prior to leaving the mainland. Footwear cleaning can be done with the boot brushes provided at the NPS boatyard dock. Laces, shoelace holes, socks, pant cuffs, zippers, and all small crevices on clothing and packs can be hiding small insects or weed seeds. All insects and seeds must be removed before leaving the mainland.
  - a. It may be necessary to inspect and clean footwear, clothing, and personal packs while on island, when moving between sensitive sites.
2. Single-use plastic bags and corrugated cardboard packing is not permitted, unless the cardboard is factory-sealed and has not been opened prior to transport to the island(s). Tightly sealed containers, such as Action Packers, are an acceptable alternative.
  - a. All contracting and sub-contracting personnel must provide trash can with a secure-fitting lid at on-site work area. The purpose of the secure lid is to keep out wildlife, including ravens and foxes.
  - b. Feeding of wildlife, including ravens and foxes, is not permitted at any time.
3. Single-use plastic water bottles are not permitted. 5-gallon water coolers with refillable water bottles are an acceptable alternative.

**D. Protection of Archeological Sites from Looting and Damage:** All contracting and sub-contracting personnel must abide by the cultural resource regulations provided below.

1. The excavation, removal, damage, alteration, or defacement of any archeological resources on the Channel Islands is not permitted at any time.
  - a. The Contractor shall control the actions of employees and subcontractors to ensure that sites will not be disturbed or damaged. It is also the obligation of the Contractor to cease work in the event of encountering a new archeological site.