All You Need to Know about the Copper Anti-fouling Paints Regulations

Author: Aniela Burant, PhD., Environmental Scientist. California Department of Pesticide Regulation

In July 2018, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's (CDPR's) new copper anti-fouling paint (Cu-AFP) regulation went into effect. This regulation places a cap on the leach rate of copper from AFPs used on recreational vessels in California.

Recreational vessels are defined as vessels used for residences and/or chartered to and for pleasure. This regulation applies to recreational vessels, because they may spend long periods of time in marinas—which are often poorly flushed—and therefore, are significant contributors to pollution in marinas. The regulation does not apply to commercial vessels.

The leach rate of every AFP registered in California was calculated and verified by scientists from the Surface Water Protection Program in CDPR. AFPs are under the regulatory authority of CDPR because the active ingredient(s) in the paint (e.g., copper compounds) are considered biocides. The leach rate verification identified approximately 94 paints that exceeded the leach-rate cap. This led to the voluntarily cancellation of the registration of those paints by the paint manufacturers. There are approximately 118 paints available for use by recreational boaters as of February 2019.

Many boatyards or retailers may be concerned about their existing stock of Cu-AFPs known to be above the leach rate. Boatyards and retailers have less than two years to sell or use existing stock, giving them until June 30, 2020, to sell or use the stock. Boaters can still make the choice to have a lower-leaching non copper biocide or biocide-free paint applied to their hulls now.

Although this regulation addresses the leach rate of Cu-AFPs, it has no effect on other biocides in AFPs or biocide-free AFPs. In addition, there is no requirement on the management of hull cleaning. However, to further reduce dissolved copper concentrations in California marinas, CDPR recommends the adoption of best management practice cleaning technologies.

The Cu-AFP regulation is designed to increase compliance with California Toxics Rule copper standards and decrease the potential for toxicity to aquatic organisms. Studies have shown high concentrations of copper in California coastal marinas. This is important because copper can be toxic to aquatic organisms, including the economically important blue and Mediterranean mussels. CDPR is planning a monitoring study to measure concentrations of dissolved copper in selected representative marinas and therefore, evaluate the efficacy of the new regulation.
Destination Series:
HUNTINGTON HARBOUR

Huntington Harbour is located in the northwest section of beautiful Surf City, or Huntington Beach, in Southern California. This residential area encompasses five man-made islands, with waterways for all sorts of recreational activities.

Residents and visitors alike are lucky to enjoy year-round mild climate, perfect for outdoor activities. Any day of the week, you will find rowers, kayakers, and paddle boarders on the main channel of Huntington Harbour. Five public “mother’s beaches” are located within the Harbour to play in the sand or swim in shallow water.

Wildlife lovers are drawn to Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve just south of the Harbour and Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge due north. The latter is located within the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach and is closed to the public except during special events and escorted tours held on the last Saturday of each month (excluding December). A short walk through the Wildlife Refuge could allow for viewing of three endangered species: California clapper rail, California least tern, and Belding’s Savannah sparrow.

If you’re big into sports, visit in May to catch the Association of Volleyball Professionals Huntington Beach Open or in late July for the U.S. Open of Surfing. Watch some of the best surfers in the world compete at this annual World Surf League qualifier. December in Huntington Harbour brings a boat parade and “Cruise of Lights” in which tour boats make their way through the channel to view decorated homes.

Peter’s Landing overlooks the Harbour and is walking distance to the famous Anderson Street surf break. The center has new storefronts, walking paths, retail, and restaurants to suit your every interest. Easy transportation is available through Surf City USA Shuttle on Saturdays, Sundays, and Monday holidays through the summer. The shuttle connects visitors and residents to downtown Huntington Beach, Sunset Beach, and Bella Terra. If traveling by boat, guest slips and pumpout stations are located throughout the Harbour; here is their contact information:

Peter’s Landing Marina: (562) 592-4441
Sunset Aquatic Marina: (562) 592-2833

For more information, visit Surf City USA’s website at www.surfcityusa.com.
Honoring Kathy OBrien

After 13 years at Sun Harbor Marina in San Diego, where she served as the general manager, Kathy OBrien has retired. Kathy was an active member of the boating community serving on the board of both the Marine Recreation Association and Clean Marinas California.

Her passion and dedication to enhance the boating experience, in conjunction with being an environmental steward, was apparent. Kathy has been a certified Dockwalker since 2009, sharing with her peers clean boating tips and tools. In 2015, in partnership with The Bay Foundation, she implemented an oil-absorbent pad exchange program to give boaters the resources they need to prevent oil pollution.

Kathy ensured the sewage pumpout at Sun Harbor was consistently operational for the boating community and received good usability percentages, according to the Annual Pumpout Reports. She also participated in the California Coastal Cleanup Day event and hosted a California Clean Boating Network meeting.

Kathy's enthusiasm and expertise will be missed. Congratulations on a wonderful career, and best wishes for the future. Thank you for being a good steward of the environment.

Honey Pot Day Returns June 1st

Now in its 11th-consecutive year, the Honey Pot Day program educates recreational boaters about proper sewage waste disposal and offers participants one free mobile pumpout service.

Mobile pumpout companies make proper waste disposal extremely easy: they arrive at your boat slip, pump out your holding tank, and you don't even need to be present. The program will be provided from June 1–September 30 in four Southern California harbors: Marina del Rey, King Harbor, Port of Los Angeles, and Port of Long Beach.

Honey Pot Day's mission is to educate boaters on proper sewage disposal to ultimately help reduce bacteria levels in local harbors. Dumping one toilet flush of untreated boat sewage can cause the same environmental impact as 10,000 flushes from a homeowner's toilet processed by a municipal sewage treatment plant. The combination of public pumpout units, mobile pumpout services, and educational programs such as Honey Pot Day better informs recreational boaters, encouraging them to help keep our local waters clean.

One 2018 Honey Pot Day participant commented, “Great program. Great provider. I am new to boating and thought this was an awesome idea and I really appreciated the service!”

To sign up for the program, boaters should visit www.honeypotday.org. When the 2019 Honey Pot Day site goes live, participants will be directed to view a short video, read two brief publications, and take an online quiz. Once the quiz is completed, the participant will receive a coupon code redeemable for one free service with a local partner mobile pumpout company.

The Honey Pot Day program is funded by the California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways Clean Vessel Act Education Program and a Federal Clean Vessel Act grant through the Sport Fish Restoration Program. Federal Clean Vessel Act grants are funded by your purchases of fishing equipment and motorboat fuel.
Delta Destination:
DISCOVERY BAY YACHT HARBOR

Boaters in the California Delta have many options of where to go to cruise, fish and enjoy the wildlife and scenery. Discovery Bay—located between Stockton and Antioch along Indian Slough near Old River—is one beautiful option, and the Discovery Bay Yacht Harbor offers a host of amenities to the recreational boater.

Situated at the edge of the waterfront community in eastern Contra Costa County, the Yacht Harbor’s services include a gas dock, public boat launch ramp, a sewage pumpout, wet berths, dry storage and a boardwalk with a bar and grill and other shops and boat services.

The construction of Discovery Bay in the California Delta began in 1968, with development reaching into the 1980s. Envisioned as a recreational community for those wanting to live on the water, the deep-water bays and accompanying homes, clubs and golf course were excavated from surrounding Delta farmland. Previously cropland with acres of potatoes, onions, corn, beans, sugar beets and barley, the land bordered by Old River and Indian Slough was once known as Byron Tract. Today boaters can explore the southern Delta’s intricate waterways and unique ecosystem, which is part of one of western North America’s largest estuaries.

Universal Pumpout Adapter Pilot – a Tool for Easier Pumpouts

Whether you boat every weekend or only take your vessel out a few times a year, if you have a head on board, you have likely experienced pumping out your sewage holding tank. Boaters have the option of having this tank emptied by a mobile sewage pumpout company, but if you are the do-it-yourself type, this can sometimes be a frustrating activity.

Missing or damaged nozzles, low hose pressure and unsanitary conditions can all lead to a poor pumpout experience and deter boaters from disposing of their sewage in a clean and green way.

To help encourage boaters to pumpout more effectively, the Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Program of Northern California is implementing a pilot program funded by the California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) Clean Vessel Act Education Program and a Federal Clean Vessel Act grant through the Sport Fish Restoration Program to distribute Universal Pumpout Adapter Kits during boat shows and major outreach events.

The kits contain an adapter, printed instructions and biodegradable gloves—all packaged in a reusable and USPS mail-approved tube to keep on board your boat.

Continued on next page
Universal Pumpout Adapter Pilot –
* a Tool for Easier Pumpouts*

Having this deck adapter on board your vessel will help boaters avoid the frustration of encountering damaged nozzles and will reduce wear and tear on the system over time. Boaters will enjoy that the adapters create an air-tight, hands-free seal for more effective and cleaner pumping.

Information on the adapter kit can be found on the San Francisco Estuary Partnership website at [www.sfestuary.org/adapterkit/](http://www.sfestuary.org/adapterkit/). The website has instructions, a step-by-step video, an online survey and a link to order directly from the CVA team until supplies run out.

Stop by the DBW booth at the Pacific Sail & Power Boat Show in Richmond from April 4–7 to pick up a kit and see how much better your pumpout experience can be.

---

Small Craft Boating Sites in the Bay

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail is a great opportunity for non-motorized small boats to take advantage of one of the region’s best historic, cultural, scenic and environmental resources. The network of designated launch sites, or “trailheads,” has been growing within the nine counties surrounding the Bay, with some exciting recent additions.

Pittsburg, Antioch, Richardson Bay, Point Isabel and Richmond all have newer sites dedicated to providing recreational access for those looking to get out onto the Bay. Canoes, kayaks, kiteboards, rowing shells and standup paddleboards are just a few types of non-motorized vessels perfect for exploring the Bay Area’s largest open space. Some sites take boaters through marshes and wetlands for wildlife viewing, while others such as the newly opened Marina Bay Yacht Harbor site (shown in the photo) offer sweeping views of the Bay Bridge and the San Francisco skyline.

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail website features detailed information on exploring the Bay, including trip ideas, water safety and accessibility information, and where to store or rent boats—all with plenty of photos to inspire beginning and seasoned boaters and everyone in between. In addition, you can order beautiful waterproof, tear-proof maps or download them as PDFs.

Visit the website at [http://sfbaywatertrail.org](http://sfbaywatertrail.org) to start planning your trip today!
**Destination Series: PIER 39 MARINA**

*Authors: Becca Gross and Sheila Chandor, Pier 39 Marina*

Pier 39 Marina is centrally located in San Francisco’s historical Fisherman’s Wharf district, with access to North Beach, Chinatown and the Marina District. The harbor is accessible via public transportation—such as the F Line and Oakland/Alameda ferry—and parking is available at the Pier 39 garage. With dining and attractions nearby on famous Pier 39 and stunning backdrops of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz and the San Francisco Bay, there are ample opportunities to enjoy your visit.

The Marina offers many ways to experience the Bay, including slip tenancy, guest docking, sail and powerboat charters, whale watching, historic waterfront tours, America’s Cup boat team building and executive yacht chartering.

A full-service marina, Pier 39 Marina has 300 double-fingered slips with newly rebuilt wooden docks. The West Harbor hosts guest docking and accommodates boats up to 60 feet, and is where the world-famous California sea lions choose to lounge. The East Harbor consists of long-term and transient (cruisers) tenant boat slips, accommodating boats up to 85 feet.

Committed to the preservation and conservation of the San Francisco Bay’s environment, Pier 39 encourages, creates and supports ecological education, responsible consumption, development of renewable energy sources and addressing of environmental issues. The Marina staff work closely with the Marine Mammal Center and the on-site aquarium and Sea Lion Center to educate the public and ensure injured or sick sea lions and sea birds are monitored and rescued if necessary.

A certified “Clean Marina” for more than 10 years, Pier 39 Marina has staff trained through the California Dockwalkers program.

Pier 39’s recycling efforts help divert more than 6 million pounds of waste from landfills each year. Along with cardboard, mixed paper, plastic, glass and aluminum, an organic/wet garbage composting program is hosted by Pier 39 for its full-service restaurants, resulting in more than 2 million pounds of food waste recycled annually. The Marina also recycles 100 percent of its landscaping waste. A portion of this recycled waste is returned as fully composted material and incorporated back into the soil. As a result of its wide range of recycling efforts, Pier 39 has received numerous awards, including the State of California’s Waste Reduction Program Award almost every year. Pier 39 was also the first organization in the country to receive ISO 9001-2015 certification.

For more information about the Marina, visit [https://pier39marina.com](https://pier39marina.com) or call (415) 705-5436.
Join Us in the Fishing Line Collection Program: - *Stow It, Don't Throw It*

Used fishing line is often left behind on piers and beaches, or lost off of boats. Fishing line is not biodegradable, and when left in the environment, can harm animals, damage boat propellers and create a serious problem around boat ramps and fishing areas.

*How can you and your school or youth group make a difference?*

People of all ages can do something to help prevent this problem, whether they fish or not. Constructing and distributing simple, portable fishing line containers can help people store their monofilament fishing line until they get to a recycling collection site or a secure trash can. Constructing these containers is a great project for classrooms, environmental clubs, scout troops and community groups of all kinds.

The “Stow It, Don’t Throw It” project was conceived by a Florida high school student, Sean Russell, who manages the program nationally. The California Coastal Commission and California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways are partnering to bring this program to California.

We are inviting schools, teachers and youth groups to be part of the solution by learning more about marine debris and by implementing a hands-on project. To join us in preventing harmful debris in our waterways, follow these steps:

2. You will receive details including construction guidelines for the containers and additional related educational resources for your group regarding debris and its impacts.
3. Participating groups can take on the task of collecting empty tennis ball cans or similar containers, and following simple instructions and using materials we provide to assemble the fishing line containers. (Tennis ball cans can be easily found at your local tennis club, sporting goods store or school physical education departments. We can help with ideas on finding them.)
4. Send us the completed containers for distribution or you can distribute them yourselves to your local fishing pier, marina, boat launch ramp or marine supply store.

If you would like to learn more about this program and get involved, contact Vivian Matuk at (415) 904-6905 or vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.
San Francisco Marine Flare Pilot Collection Event

Author: Huy Le, Household Hazardous Waste and Used Oil Program Coordinator, San Francisco Department of the Environment

Marine flares can be invaluable for boaters when they find themselves in a life-threatening situation and need to send a signal for help. However, with an expiration of 42 months from manufacture date, most flares go unused and boaters are stuck with figuring out what to do with their expired ones.

Expired flares are considered hazardous waste and are required to be properly disposed. Unfortunately, not all California counties offer collection opportunities. For some, boaters will store them as a backup or even save them for safety training with their local harbormaster or Coast Guard Auxiliary. It’s important to consider that stockpiling them may not be a safe option, as marine flares contain explosive materials and can be unstable over time. In addition, getting a flare shoot organized may prove difficult and can be time-consuming.

In partnership with San Francisco Recreation and Parks, California State Parks’ Division of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission, the San Francisco Department of Environment received a grant from the Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to help organize a pilot collection event for San Francisco boaters to get rid of their expired or unwanted marine flares. There is no limit on the number of flares accepted; however, we recommend you make an appointment and provide an average number of flares you expect to bring. Since this is a pilot collection event, we want to control traffic by limiting attendance to San Francisco residents and boaters who keep their boats in San Francisco only. The types of flares accepted include hand-held, aerial, parachute and smoke.

For more information or to schedule an appointment for the event, please contact Huy Le at (415) 355-3760 or at huy.le@sfgov.org.

WHEN: Sunday, April 14, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
WHERE: East Marina Green Triangle, 200 Marina Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94123

For disposal of expired marine flares, please contact the California Department of Toxic Substances Control ([800] 728-6942) or your local Certified Unified Program Agency for assistance.
Check Our 2019 Educational Events Calendar!
Please join us at the following free trainings and workshops:

Dockwalker Trainings

**Saturday, March 30th – Newport Beach**
- **Time:** 10 am to 12:45 pm
- **Location:** Newport Sea Base (Foxtrot Room)
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Registration deadline:** April 22, 2019
  - [Flyer/Registration Form](#)

**Wednesday, April 10th – Alameda**
- **Time:** 7 pm to 8:45 pm
- **Location:** Oakland Yacht Club (Regatta Room)
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Registration deadline:** April 29, 2019
  - [Flyer/Registration Form](#)

**Saturday, April 20th – San Rafael**
- **Time:** 9 am to 11:45 am
- **Location:** Loch Lomond Yacht Club
  - 95 Loch Lomond Dr; San Rafael, CA 94901
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Registration deadline:** May 31
  - [Flyer/Registration Form](#)

Marinas and Yacht Clubs Spill Response Communication Workshops

For more information, download the workshop flyer.

**Friday, April 26th – San Diego**
- **Time:** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Location:** US Coast Guard Sector San Diego’s Training Center
  - 2710 N. Harbor Drive (Conference Room)
  - San Diego, CA 92101
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Registration deadline:** April 22, 2019

**Friday, May 3rd – Playa Del Rey**
- **Time:** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Location:** Dockweiler Youth Center
  - 12505 Vista del Mar
  - Playa de Rey, CA 90293
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Registration deadline:** April 29, 2019

**Wednesday, June 5th – South Lake Tahoe**
- **Time:** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Location:** South Lake Tahoe Windjammers Yacht Club
  - 589 Tahoe Keys Blvd., Suite E2
  - South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
- **Registration deadline:** May 31
  - [Flyer/Registration Form](#)

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Workshops

For more information, download the workshop flyer.

**Wednesday, March 27th – Davis**
- **Time:** 8:45 am to 2:45 pm
- **Location:** 45211 County Rd 32B (Chiles Rd)
  - Davis, CA 95618
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Lunch:** Purchase lunch at a nearby restaurant or bring your own lunch

**Tuesday, April 30th – Alameda**
- **Time:** 8:45 am to 2:45 pm
- **Location:** Aeolian Yacht Club
  - 980 Fenside Blvd
  - Alameda, CA 94501
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Lunch:** Purchase lunch at a nearby restaurant or bring your own lunch
  - **Workshop Partner:** Aeolian Yacht Club

**Tuesday, May 7th – Pacific Grove**
- **Time:** 8:45 am to 2:45 pm
- **Location:** Mott Training Center (Madrone Room)
  - 837 Asilomar Ave.; Pacific Grove, CA 93950
- **Parking:** Free parking at the facility
- **Lunch:** Purchase lunch at a nearby restaurant or bring your own lunch

California Coastal Cleanup Day

Be part of the state’s largest annual volunteer event – California Coastal Cleanup Day!

**Save the date:**
- Saturday, September 21
- Visit the California Coastal Commission’s website at [www.CoastalCleanupDay.org](http://www.CoastalCleanupDay.org) for further details.

To register and for more information about any of these trainings and events, please contact Vivian Matuk at [vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov) or (415) 904-6905.