



How is the Small Boat Conservancy Fee Calculated?

The Small Boat Conservancy Fee is based on the length of the vessel and is current for one year from date of issue of invoice. The fee is calculated in accordance with the provisions of the *Third Schedule Division 2 of Ports and Harbours Regulations*. The fees for fishing boats are set out in the Schedule of *Marine Navigational Aids Regulations 1985*.

What is the money spent on?

To ensure safe navigation within WA waters the State Government provides for the installation and maintenance of navigation aids for waters outside the control of a Port Authority.

How is the money allocated?

The Department oversees a contract for the maintenance, repair and inspection of its navigation aids within the State waters.

The contractor supplies an annual works program detailing and prioritising the recommended repairs and maintenance for each of these navigation aids. The works program provides for both schedule and unscheduled maintenance.

Do you still have to pay even though you don't use navigation aids?

YES. Conservancy fees are paid once a year and provides for the use of that vessel within all navigable waters of WA. Even though a vessel may currently be operating in an area without navigation aids, at some stage during the life span of the vessel it may move to an area that does.

For more Information

State Law Publisher

To view the acts and regulations referred to in this brochure please visit the State Law Publisher's website: www.slp.wa.gov.au

Department of Transport

Commercial Vessel Safety: 08 9216 8237

Private Vessel Registration: 08 9216 8204

Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/imarine

Email: Boat.Registrations@transport.wa.gov.au

What is the Small Boat Conservancy Fee?



SMALL BOAT CONSERVANCY FEES

What is the Small Boat Conservancy fee?

Commercial boat owners pay the Small Boat Conservancy Fee for the maintenance and provision of navigational aids within the navigable waters of Western Australia.

Conservancy fees have been in effect since 1986 and the Small Boat Conservancy Fee was introduced in September 1999.

The fee:

- only applies to commercial vessels between 5.5 and 70 metres in length;
- is based on the length of the vessel;
- is payable upon the entry of the vessel into a port; and
- is valid for a year.

Recreational boat owners pay for the provision and maintenance of navigation aids in their annual registration fee.

Commercial and recreational boat owners contribute the same percentage of money in conservancy fees.

Are there exemptions?

As stated in *Ports and Harbours Regulations 18 (appendix 2)* the following vessels are exempt from the Small Boat Conservancy Fee:

- vessels of war;
- vessels owned by any of Her Majesty's States or Colonies or government of any country that is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, that is engage in a non-commercial voyage;
- mission vessels;
- vessels calling at a port either for the purpose of remedying a situation endangering the safety of the vessel or of obtaining medical treatment for a person on board;
- vessels used solely for private pleasure purposes;
- vessels 5.5 m or less in length (exclusive of the bowsprit);
- vessels 70 m or more in length (exclusive of the bowsprit);
- vessels without means of propulsion;
- training vessels on non-commercial voyage;
- vessels engaged on a non-commercial voyage which are exempted in circumstances which are at the discretion of the chief executive officer;
- some fishing vessels (see opposite).

Are fishing vessels exempt?

Fishing vessels are exempt if they are:

- vessels under professional purpose that is the subject of a current fishing boat licence under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*, or equivalent licence, permit or registration under laws of another state or territory of the Commonwealth;
- vessels under 5.5m in length. (exclusive of bowsprit);
- vessels solely engage in fishing in estuaries or inland waters; or
- a vessel that has already paid conservancy dues under the *Ports and Harbours Regulations*.

However, under *Ports and Harbour Regulations 18 (1a)*, fishing vessels using any of the following ports have to pay the prescribed conservancy fee:

- Emu Point Fishing Boat Harbour - Albany;
- Fishing Boat Harbour - Carnarvon;
- Brandy Creek Small Boat Harbour - Esperance;
- Fishing Boat Harbour - Fremantle;
- Inner Harbour - Geraldton; or
- Fishing Boat Harbour - Port Denison.

