



2024 ANS Program Watercraft Protocol

Watercraft Type	Risk Classification	Incoming with Boulder Tag and Receipt	Incoming with Colorado Tag and Receipt	Incoming without Tag and/or Receipt, or Tag from Out of State, or confirmed Out of State Use
Small Watercraft (SWC) and Equipment				
Solid SUP (stand-up paddleboard)	1	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection
Inflatable SUP	2	Inspection	Inspection	Inflated Inspection
Multi Chamber Inflatable (belly boats, tubes, rafts, inflatable boats without motor)	2	Inspection	Inspection	Inflated Inspection
Canoe/Shell	2	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection and Decon
Kiteboard, Sailboards, Windsurfer	2	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection
Open Water Swim Equipment -buoys, anchors, rope, etc.	2	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection and Decon
Kayak	3	Inspection	Inspection and Decon	Inspection and Decon
Trailer without Watercraft	3	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection and Decon
Trailered/Motorized Watercraft				
Open Hull Boat with outboard engine	3	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection and Decon and inspection
Sailboats without Cabin/Motor	3	Inspection	Inspection	Inspection, Decon & Inspection
Boat with Inboard or I/O motor, live wells, Jet Craft, NO ballast tanks	4	Inspection	Inspection and Decon	Inspection + Decon + Quarantine 30 days + Decon +Inspection
Sailboats with Cabin/Motor under 50HP, NO ballast tanks	4	Inspection	Inspection and Decon	Inspection + Decon + Quarantine for 30 days + Decon +Inspection
All Pontoon Boats, House Boats, Cabin Cruisers	5	Inspection	Forfeiture of Boulder Reservoir Permit	Forfeiture of Boulder Reservoir Permit
Any Boats with Ballasts (including removable ballasts)	5	Inspection	Forfeiture of Boulder Reservoir Permit	Forfeiture of Boulder Reservoir Permit

Risk scale 1-5, with 5 being most risk based on structure of craft and ability to transport ANS

Watercraft Entry Inspections

To ensure no Aquatics Nuisance Species (ANS) are introduced into the Boulder Reservoir, it is necessary to inspect each watercraft that enters the premises. Aquatic nuisance species that we are currently concerned about are **Zebra mussels, Quagga mussels, New Zealand mud snails, Eurasian watermilfoil, and Brazilian elodea**. Any watercraft entering and leaving the facility will need an inspection. If your watercraft does not pass the inspection, you must also have a **Decontamination**. You will also need a Decontamination if your watercraft meets any of the criteria in the above table. Additional circumstances may arise where a quarantine and/or additional decontamination will be required.

Class 5 Watercraft going to any other body of water will forfeit their ability to boat at the Boulder Reservoir (even at a "clean", in-state body of water).

Inspections

To pass an inspection the watercraft must be **Clean, Drained, and Dry**. The tag must also be from the Boulder Reservoir and be accompanied by a valid receipt. A tag from any other body of water with any other receipt will require a decontamination.

Clean – Absent of visible ANS, attached vegetation, dirt, debris or surface deposits including mussel shells or residue on the watercraft, trailer, engine, or equipment that could mask the presence of attached mussels.

Drained – All water drained from any live well, bait well, storage compartments, bilge area, engine compartment, floor, ballast tank, water storage and delivery system, cooler, or other areas on the watercraft, trailer, engine, or equipment. State Regulation requires that bilge plug must be out when the watercraft is not in use.

Dry – No visible sign of any standing water on or in the watercraft, trailer, engine or equipment.

Watercraft Decontaminations

Decontaminations are performed by certified Boat Inspectors trained and licensed by the State of Colorado. Decontaminations consist of a high and low pressure spray with water 120-140 degrees Fahrenheit. They are performed in order to kill and/or remove possible ANS that may be on or in your watercraft, trailer, engine, or equipment. **Engines, motors, ballasts, and bilges must be operational for the Decontamination to be conducted.** Owners are required to be present during the decontamination and assist the Boat Inspector during the process.

The cost of a decontamination varies based on the complexity of the watercraft. See Decontamination Fee Structure for updated costs.

Decontaminations are available for current permit holders at the Boulder Reservoir by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call 303-441-3490 a minimum of 72 hours in advance as decontaminations will be performed based on staff availability. Boulder Reservoir staff reserve the right to deny a decontamination at any time for safety concerns (thunderstorms, other extreme weather, watercraft equipment, or Reservoir equipment).

Watercraft Quarantine Period

Quarantine periods are required to dry-out and kill all mussels and veligers on board through desiccation. The quarantine period is based on data received from the State of Colorado. Current data shows the survival rate of zebra/quagga mussels veligers to be at least 27 days, therefore current quarantine requirement for Boulder Reservoir is 30 days.

Watercraft Exit Inspections

Upon exiting the Boulder Reservoir with your watercraft, you must stop for an Exit Inspection at the Boat Inspector Building. This is the only way to receive a green tag and receipt from the Boulder Reservoir. To pass the inspection your watercraft must be **Clean, Drained, and Dry**. This includes the ballast tanks, bilge, and live bait wells. In addition, the bilge plug must be removed for transport. Upon successful completion of an inspection, the watercraft will be issued a green Boulder Reservoir tag along with a white receipt. Due to the presence of Eurasian watermilfoil in the Boulder Reservoir, all watercraft including small watercraft (SWC) must be inspected upon exit to ensure you're not carrying any plant material to another body of water.

Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, Denver Office

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 - (303) 291-7295.

Watercraft inspection and decontamination services are available at no charge from 9am-5pm on Monday-Friday. Appts helpful but not required. Closed on State holidays.

We do NOT accept decontaminations or tags from any state other than Colorado.

**** Any inspection may lead to a decontamination****

****When dealing with a suspect watercraft, decontamination will be done then the watercraft will be required to remain off water pending sampling results.**

Live Bait Regulations:

1. Live aquatic bait is prohibited west of the Continental Divide, except at Navajo Reservoir, and east of the Continental Divide above 7,000 feet.
2. In areas where live bait is allowed, boaters must show a receipt that the bait was purchased within seven days of use from a Colorado commercial bait dealer and the receipt must itemize the type of the bait purchased.
3. The Boulder Reservoir reserves the right to deny the use of any bait for environmental safety reasons.

Live Bait Recommendations:

1. Anglers should not collect and transfer live bait from a reservoir where mussel larvae have been found.
2. Anglers using live bait should always minimize the transfer of water with bait between reservoirs. Netting bait and transferring to a clean container with distilled water will minimize risks of ANS transfer.

****Anglers should rinse and thoroughly dry all equipment between each use****

