Proposed Waterway Rule Changes 2024

For the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne, and the Maribyrnong River upstream of Shepherd Bridge on Footscray Road

Yarra River:

Proposed Rule Change		Current Rule		
3.3. Prohibition of Specified Activities for the purposes of Clause 12.		3.3. Prohibition of Specified Activities for the purposes of Clause 12.		
(a)	The waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to the Gipps Street Bridge (Collins Bridge) are prohibited to swimmers.		er upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to ins Bridge) are prohibited to swimmers.	
(b)	The waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne are prohibited to personal water craft and hovercraft.	 (b) The waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne are prohibited to personal water craft and hovercraft. (c) Areas where berthing and mooring is prohibited i) The mooring and berthing is prohibited on the waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to Dight's Falls excluding those areas detailed in Table 1 for the times and purposes detailed in that table, and those waters in the Docklands Area as defined in the Schedule 1 of the Docklands Act 1991; (ii) The master of a vessel is exempt from the above when berthed or moored on the Yarra River in accordance with a written authority from Parks Victoria; Table 1 – Allocation of moorings & berths The table provides a summary of berth locations 		
(c)	Areas where anchoring, berthing and mooring is prohibited			
	i) Anchoring, mooring and berthing is prohibited on the waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to Dight's Falls excluding those areas detailed as per authorised Parks Victoria signage, displayed on fixed or floating infrastructure for the times and purposes detailed, and those waters in the Docklands Area as defined in the Schedule 1 of the Docklands Act 1991;			
	ii) Where signage is damaged or removed the last displayed direction will remain enforceable on any fixed or floating infrastructure until such a time as it can be replaced.			
	iii) Parks Victoria will be required to give a minimum of 4 weeks notice prior to	and berthing restrictions		
	changing of designated directional signage.	Berth Location	Berthing Restriction	
	iiii) The master of a vessel is exempt from the above when anchored, berthed or moored on the Yarra River in accordance with a written authority from Parks Victoria.	Walmer Street Landing	4 hour limit	
		Alma Wharf	No berthing	
		Richmond Landing	4 hour limit	
		Leonda Landing	Pick up and drop off passengers only	
		Power Street Fishing Landing	No berthing	
		Herring Island North Landing	4 hour limit	
		Herring Island South Landing	Pick up and drop off passengers only	



Como Landing	Pick up and drop off passengers only
Caroline Street Landing	4 hour limit
Punt Road Landing	4 hour limit
Anderson Street Fishing Landing	No berthing
Botanic Gardens Landing	4 hour limit
Kings Domain Landing	4 hour limit
Swan Street North Landing	Pick up and drop off passengers only
Swan Street South Landing	4 hour limit
Melbourne Park Landing	Commercial vessels only / Pick up and drop off passengers only
Henley Landing	4 hour limit
Federation Wharf - Berth No. 1	Commercial vessels only / Pick up and drop off passengers only
Federation Wharf - Berth No. 2	Authorised commercial vessels only
Federation Wharf - Berth No. 3	Authorised commercial vessels only
Federation Wharf - Berth No. 4	Authorised commercial vessels only
Federation Wharf - Berth No. 5	Authorised commercial vessels only
Flinders Landing	4 hour limit
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 1	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 2	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 3	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 4	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 5	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 6	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southgate Wharf - Berth No. 7	Authorised commercial vessels only
Southbank Landing	Commercial vessels only / Pick up and drop off passengers only
Sandridge Wharf	4 hour limit
Banana Alley Wharf	Authorised commercial vessels only
Enterprise Wharf	4 hour limit
Turning Basin Wharf	Pick up and drop off passengers only
Crown Landing	Commercial vessels only / Pick up and drop off passengers only
Clarendon Promenade Landing	Commercial vessels only / Pick up and drop off passengers only
South Wharf Landing – Berth No.1	4 hour limit
South Wharf Landing – Berth No.2	Authorised commercial vessels only



3.4 Exclusive use and special purpose areas for the purposes of Clause 13 –

Persons operating vessels on the waters of the Yarra River must comply with the following operating provisions –

- (a) Vessels proposing to berth at the boathouses on the south bank of the Yarra River and located immediately upstream of the Princes Bridge must approach the berthing area from downstream and after passing through the southern arch of the Princes Bridge.
- (b) Yarra River special light provisions

A Recreational Vessel -

- (i) used for training or competition; or
- (ii) is not powered but is propelled by using oars or paddles;

on the waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to Dight's Falls shall exhibit between sunset and sunrise –

(iii) a fixed 180 degree white light located on the bow of the vessel and a flashing 180 degree white light located on the stern of the vessel.

3.4 Exclusive use and special purpose areas for the purposes of Clause 13 –

Persons operating vessels on the waters of the Yarra River must comply with the following operating provisions –

- (a) Vessels proposing to berth at the boathouses on the south bank of the Yarra River and located immediately upstream of the Princes Bridge must approach the berthing area from downstream and after passing through the southern arch of the Princes Bridge.
- (b) Yarra River special light provisions

A Recreational Vessel -

- (i) used for training or competition; and
- (ii) is not powered but is propelled by using oars or paddles;

on the waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne to Dight's Falls shall exhibit between sunset and sunrise –

- (iii) a light in accordance with Rule 25 of the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972; or
- (iv) a fixed 180 degree white light located on the bow of the vessel and a flashing 180 degree white light located on the stern of the vessel.

New Rule Proposed

Speed limit for vessels without an engine used for propulsion. – 12-month trial period

- a) Vessels without an engine used for propulsion will be permitted to operate at a speed not exceeding 8 knots when engaged in formal training within the waters bounded by a diagonal line across the Yarra, between the upstream end of Birrarung Marr and the VRA rowing Judges Box; extending upstream to the Gipps Street Bridge (Collins Bridge).
- b) Vessels engaged in coaching activities may operate at the speed of the rowing vessel being coached when operating within the waters bounded by a diagonal line across the Yarra, between the upstream end of Birrarung Marr and the VRA rowing Judges Box; extending upstream to the Gipps Street Bridge (Collins

Related Rule

3.1. Five (5) knot speed limit for the purposes of Clause 7. -

All the waters of the Yarra River upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne are subject to a speed limit of 5 knots



Bridge). Provided they do not exceed the speed of the rowing vessels they are accompanying and do not generate undue wash. All other vessels must adhere to the 5-knot speed limit at all times.	
Operating during flood events - When a Moderate or Major flood warning has been issued by the control agent for the waters of the Yarra River upstream of the Bolte Bridge to the Johnston Street Bridge, all non-powered craft, vessels restricted in their ability to manoeuvre and vessels limited in their ability to safely operate within flood water conditions, such as those with limited power, must cease all operations until such time as the flood warning has been reduced or removed.	No related rule.
Transiting bridges — Vessels traveling downstream have right of way when transiting through bridges, upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne. Overtaking is not permitted when transiting bridges, and a master of a vessel must not impede the transit of any vessel, unless in an emergency.	No related rule.

Maribyrnong River:

Proposed Rule Change	Current Rule
4.3 Exclusive use and special purpose areas for the purposes of Clause 13 –	4.3 Exclusive use and special purpose areas for the purposes of Clause 13
Maribyrnong River special light provisions – a recreational vessel: (a) used for training or competition; or	Maribyrnong River special light provisions – a recreational vessel: (a) used for training or competition
(b) is not powered but propelled by using oars or paddles	(b) not powered but propelled by oars or paddles
on the waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} shall exhibit between sunset and sunrise:	on the waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} shall exhibit between sunset and sunrise:
(c) a fixed 180 degree white light located on the bow of the vessel and a flashing 180 degree white light located on the stern of the vessel.	(c) a light in accordance with Rule 25 of the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972



			180 degree white light located on the bow of the vessel and a flashing 180 degree t located on the stern of the vessel.
4.2. Prohibition of Specified Activities for the purposes of Clause 12		4.2. Prohi	bition of Specified Activities for the purposes of Clause 12
(a)	The waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} are prohibited to swimmers.		The waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} are prohibited to swimmers
(b)	The waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} are prohibited to personal watercraft and hovercraft.		The waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} are prohibited to personal watercraft and hovercraft.
(c)	Areas where anchoring, berthing and mooring is prohibited		
	i) Anchoring, mooring and berthing is prohibited on the waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} , excluding those areas detailed as per authorised Parks Victoria signage, displayed on fixed or floating infrastructure for the times and purposes detailed.		
	ii) Where signage is damaged or removed the last displayed direction will remain enforceable on any fixed or floating infrastructure until such a time as it can be replaced.		
	iii) Parks Victoria will be required to give a minimum of 4 weeks notice prior to changing of designated directional signage.		
	iiii) The master of a vessel is exempt from the above when anchored, berthed or moored on the Maribyrnong River in accordance with a written authority from Parks Victoria.		
New Rule Proposed		Related R	ule
Speed li	mit for vessels without an engine used for propulsion. – 12-month trial period	4.1 Five (5	5) knot speed limit for the purposes of Clause 7
a)	Vessels without an engine used for propulsion will be permitted to operate at a speed not exceeding 8 knots when engaged in formal training within the waters upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4}		ters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} are subject to a it of five (5) knots.
b)	Vessels engaged in coaching activities may operate at the speed of the rowing vessel being coached when operating within the waters upstream of the Shepherd Bridge ^{1,2} to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} , provided they do not exceed the speed of the rowing vessels they are accompanying and do not generate undue wash.		



All other vessels must adhere to the 5-knot speed limit at all times.	
Operating during flood events -	No related rule.
When a Moderate or Major flood warning has been issued by the control agent for the waters of the Maribyrnong River upstream of the Shepherds Bridge ^{1,2} on Footscray Road to the Canning Street Bridge ^{3,4} all non-powered craft, vessels restricted in their ability to manoeuvre and vessels limited in their ability to safely operate within flood water conditions, such as those with limited power, must cease all operations until such time as the flood warning has been reduced or removed.	
<u>Transiting bridges</u> -	No related rule.
Vessels traveling downstream have right of way when transiting through bridges, upstream of port waters of the Port of Melbourne. Overtaking is not permitted when transiting bridges, and a master of a vessel must not impede the transit of any vessel, unless in an emergency.	

