



# SMALL VESSEL PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST FOR FLINDERS ISLAND

## Your Small Vessel Matters!

Small vessels are frequent carriers of invasive species. Gear that has been in the garage or even stored in the house could be hiding rodents, reptiles, insects and seeds. By following these steps, you help maintain the ecological balance of our island.

We appreciate your cooperation in following these guidelines closely and completing the checklist prior to departing the mainland.

Item Checked	Action Required	Completed (✓/X)
1. Prohibited Items	Ensure no live plants, mulch, soil, or live animals are onboard without written approval from the landowners.	
2. Cargo and Luggage Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all cargo and provisions intended for Flinders Island are inspected and stored according to directed guidelines prior to loading.</li> <li>• Check all luggage, especially bags and containers that are seldom used or stored in sheds or garages.</li> <li>• Shake out and visually inspect all bags and equipment for insects, spiders, seeds, or any organic matter.</li> <li>• Clean all outdoor and camping equipment, especially tents, sleeping bags, and hiking poles.</li> <li>• Check and clean any sporting equipment like bikes, fishing gear, and surfboards.</li> <li>• Check and clean any dirt, seeds or plant material from clothing and footwear.</li> <li>• Inspect food and perishables, and seal in pest-proof plastic tubs - see container requirements or ask for more information if you are unsure.</li> <li>• Securely close all bags and containers after packing, and store all cargo in a clean, dry place off of the ground until departure.</li> </ul>	
3. Rodent and Invertebrate Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place bait stations with approved rodenticides (Brodifacoum or Difenacoum) on each deck at least 5 nights before departure. Check and refresh baits as needed.</li> <li>• Set approved lethal traps (e.g., snap traps) on each deck. Check regularly and reset as necessary.</li> <li>• Fit rat guards to all mooring lines and utility lines connected to the vessel for at least 5 nights before departure.</li> <li>• Raise gangways or other access platforms during hours of darkness for at least 5 nights prior to departure.</li> <li>• Ensure lethal traps for rodents are set and checked regularly during transit.</li> <li>• Have an insect knock-down spray on board and use as needed to treat any invertebrate activity.</li> <li>• Thoroughly clean the vessel to remove any pest signs like dead invertebrates and old rodent faeces 7 days prior to departure.</li> </ul>	
7. Pre Departure Notification	Contact us to confirm your travel plans by phone, email or via the website at: <a href="#">Travel Plans - Flinders Island SA</a> Email us to report any pest activity arising from your inspection, measures taken, and include images of rodent bait stations and rat guards.	

## Additional Guidelines

- Bait and Trap Locations: Ideal locations for bait stations and traps include the galley, saloon, food storage lockers, ropes lockers, and any accessible yet out-of-the-way locations that might attract rodents.
- Bait and Trap Security: Secure bait stations and traps using double-sided tape or Velcro to prevent movement while at sea.
- Invertebrate Treatment: Regularly treat the vessel with insect knock-down sprays, especially after detecting invertebrates.
- Communication: Maintain constant communication with the Flinders Island landowners/manager regarding any biosecurity issues and compliance with the required actions.

## Container Packing Requirements

All containers must:

- Be able to be fully sealed to prevent access by small invertebrates (e.g. ants). Aiming for this level of protection will effectively exclude all other pest species of concern (e.g. mice and rats).
- Have as smooth as possible exterior and interior surfaces. This prevents/limits areas where soil, seeds, spiders etc. may attach or be missed by cleaning procedures.

## Container Examples

- May include hard cover eskies/coolers or iceboxes, heavy duty fish bins with tightly closing lids, buckets, barrels, or heavy duty tubs of various sizes. Readily available from your local hardware, fishing or boating store.
- All containers must have a suitable lid/door which fully seals with a positive latch, mechanism, or design feature which ensures any improper/incomplete closure is readily noticeable and, accidental opening during storage and/or transport is not possible.
- As a general guide, if a small child could easily close or open the lid of these tubs, then the design is not likely to be suitable.
- Note: foam boxes, cardboard boxes, or open shopping bags are not suitable.



## Why Your Efforts Matter

From the moment you pack your bags to when you step ashore, every action you take can contribute to conservation. The biosecurity measures you follow are not just procedures; they are proactive steps towards maintaining the ecological integrity and resilience of Flinders Island.

## Contact and Support

For assistance or queries related to biosecurity measures, please contact the Flinders Island team. We are here to support you in ensuring that your visit does not compromise the ecological integrity of Flinders Island.

Flinders Island Biosecurity

Jonas Woolford M [0419 280 577](tel:0419280577)

Carissa Woolford M [0448 790 114](tel:0448790114)

E [admin@flindersislandeco.com](mailto:admin@flindersislandeco.com)

**Thank you for your commitment to protecting Flinders Island. By following these guidelines, you help us maintain the island as a pristine natural haven for future generations.**