



Boaties, fishers and divers – you can help stop exotic caulerpa spreading

You could accidentally move exotic caulerpa around as it can snag on anchors, chains, fishing and diving gear and be spread to new locations. Take these simple actions to avoid spreading it.

- When at sea anywhere in the Bay of Islands (outside of the legal controlled area), before you move to a new location, check your vessel's anchor and anchor chain, as well as any other gear (e.g. fishing line, dive equipment).
- If you find any seaweed attached – remove it, bag or contain it securely so it can't get back into the water, and take it ashore for disposal.
- Dispose of seaweed in household rubbish or in a bin away from the sea.
- If you can't securely contain it so it does not get back in the ocean, put it back into the waters it came from.

Report any sightings of suspected exotic caulerpa from areas outside of the Te Rāwhiti Controlled Area

THINK YOU'VE SEEN IT?



TAKE A
PHOTO



RECORD YOUR
LOCATION



CALL
0800 80 99 66

OR



VISIT
report.mpi.govt.nz

What exotic caulerpa looks like



www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government



Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

April 2025

TOGETHER LET'S STOP THE SPREAD

SEE WEED? BAG IT. BIN IT.



**PROTECT OUR
PARADISE**
Stop the spread of marine pests



What you need to know about exotic caulerpa seaweed in Te Tai Tokerau Northland

www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa



Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Caulerpa brachypus and *Caulerpa parvifolia* (known together as exotic caulerpa) are two fast-growing, non-native seaweeds which have been found in a number of upper North Island locations including the Hauraki Gulf, Coromandel, and the parts of the Bay of Islands, including Te Rāwhiti Inlet and areas around it, including Paroa Bay and Urupukapuka Island.

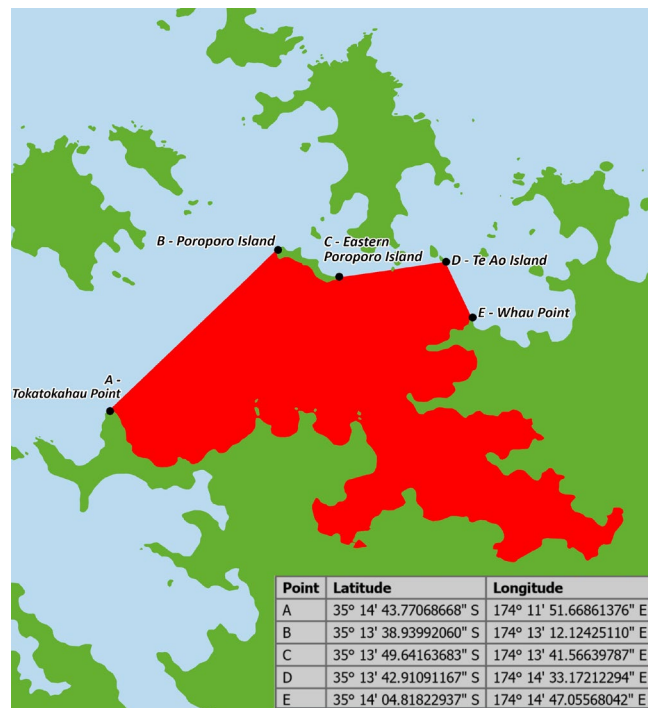
Exotic caulerpa can spread rapidly, forming dense meadows that threaten our native marine ecosystem and the fishing and boating destinations we love.

Stop the spread of exotic caulerpa. Remember to check your gear for any seaweed before you move location. If you find seaweed, bag it and bin it back on shore. And follow the rules of the Controlled Area Notice (CAN) at Te Rāwhiti Inlet.

**Find all the known locations
and how you can help at:
www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa**



Te Rāwhiti Controlled Area



Legend

■ Controlled Area Notice zone.

The area under controls is bounded by Whau Point, the south-eastern tip of Te Ao Island, the eastern shoreline of Poroporo Island and the northern tip of Tokatukahau Point up to the high-tide area.

A rāhui is in place over this same area with the same restrictions on anchoring and fishing.

**PROTECT OUR
PARADISE**
Clean your gear. Enjoy the ocean.

Te Rāwhiti Controlled Area rules

Anchoring

- No anchoring is allowed in the Controlled Area (red on the map).
- Anchoring here is only allowed in an emergency (for example, to shelter from severe weather) or if you have a permit from Biosecurity New Zealand for exceptional reasons.

Fishing/Diving activities

- It is illegal to remove any marine life (including fish, shellfish, koura (crayfish) or seaweed from the Controlled Area. This means any form of fishing is banned, including spearfishing, crayfishing, kina and other shellfish gathering, net fishing and drift fishing from any kind of vessel.
- It is also illegal to take vessels or dive gear (for example, wetsuits, fins, tanks) into the Controlled Area for fishing or diving activities.

