

Summary of Information

Draft Navigation Safety Bylaw 2025 |
Te Ture ā-Rohe mō te Haumarū Whakātere 2025

Attachment C



Navigation Safety Bylaw 2018 Review

Queenstown Lakes District Council (**QLDC**) is seeking public feedback on a draft proposal to amend the Navigation Safety Bylaw 2018 (**the current bylaw**).

The current bylaw has been in place since March 2018. It is due for review and will automatically expire if not reviewed prior to March 2025. QLDC has an obligation to ensure its bylaws are fit for purpose to reflect changing conditions. The best way to do this is through a review of the current bylaw.

A draft Navigation Safety Bylaw (**the draft bylaw**) has been prepared for consultation. This draft bylaw is proposed to replace the current bylaw. The draft bylaw includes:

- > provisions that are proposed to be carried forward into the draft bylaw without any amendment,
- > amendments proposed to provisions of the current bylaw, and
- > new provisions which address matters that are not currently regulated in the bylaw.

Purpose of the draft bylaw

The purpose of navigation safety bylaws is to ensure maritime safety is achieved. The Maritime Transport Act 1994 (**MTA**) enables QLDC to create a bylaw that addresses a range of different matters relating to navigation safety. The draft bylaw applies to all navigable waters and foreshores in the district.

The district is a popular place for people to engage in waterways activities. Our lakes and rivers attract year-round use from residents and visitors. More and more people are using our waterways. Together, these conditions give rise to a wide range of perceived and/or actual navigation safety problems.

Council considers that a navigation safety bylaw is necessary to achieve navigation safety in the district.

Summary of the draft bylaw

In general, the current bylaw is effective to ensure ongoing navigation safety. Following engagement with key stakeholders, including QLDCs Harbourmaster and regulatory staff, Maritime New Zealand, recreational groups, commercial operators and the general public, Council is proposing the following main changes from the current bylaw.

Key issue	Proposal in the draft bylaw	Draft bylaw reference
Ski lanes	Ski lanes are access lanes that enable powered boats to legally exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of the shore for the purpose of towing water skiers. The draft bylaw proposes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Amend the location of some ski lanes,> Remove some problematic ski lanes,	Schedule 2 (Maps and co-ordinates identifying the ski lanes) Clauses 42 and 43

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Formally identify the existing Sunshine Bay ski lane, > Improve the identification of ski lanes by way of more accurate GPS coordinates, > Update ski lane identification maps, and > Apply non regulatory mechanisms to improve compliance. 	
Albert Town Bridge – Recreational jumping	<p>The Albert Town Bridge is a common place for people to jump into the Clutha River Mata-Au. This activity creates a navigation safety risk due to the presence of both vessels and swimmers in the river.</p> <p>To mitigate this navigation safety risk the draft bylaw proposes amendments to ensure vessels are separated from swimmers through the identification of vessel passage lanes. Vessels would be required to travel under the bridge using these passage lanes which are located away from the known jumping spot.</p>	<p>Clause 37.1</p> <p>Map 14</p>
Vessel identification	<p>The current bylaw does not require vessels to be identifiable.</p> <p>The draft bylaw proposes amendments to require certain vessels to be identifiable. A range of different forms of identification will be available for vessel owners.</p>	<p>Clause 18</p>
Temporary events on the water	<p>The current bylaw contains provisions which manage events on the water. However, the current bylaw doesn't require all events to be notified to the Harbourmaster creating navigation safety risk.</p> <p>The draft bylaw proposes amendments to expand the scope of existing provisions so the Harbourmaster needs to be notified of all events, and has additional discretion to approve or refuse events applications based on the level of risk to navigation safety. The Harbourmaster will continue to be able to approve or refuse events which already require an approval.</p> <p>The draft bylaw also proposes to amend the requirement to give public notice of any event requiring Harbourmaster approval by removing the</p>	<p>Clause 33</p> <p>(also note the definition of 'public notice or publicly notified' in clause 6.1)</p>

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	need for a newspaper advertisement and associated time constraints.	
Vessel speed interpretation	<p>The current bylaw presents some ambiguity when interpreting vessel speed.</p> <p>The draft bylaw proposes amendments to ensure the correct interpretation of vessel speed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Amending the definition of 'speed' to differentiate the way speed is measured on rivers vs on lakes> Introduce a speed uplifting for part of the Clutha River / Mata-Au relating to commercial vessels operating under a resource consent.	<p>Clause 6.1 contains the proposed definition of 'speed'</p> <p>Clause 37 and map 8 contain the provisions relating to vessel speed on the Clutha River / Mata-Au</p>
Kawarau Dam access lanes	<p>The current bylaw identifies upstream and downstream access lanes for vessels to travel through the Kawarau Dam. Water conditions and vessel traffic have changed in a way which necessitates an amendment to these access lanes.</p> <p>The draft bylaw proposes to extend the existing upstream and downstream Kawarau Dam access lanes to address these changing conditions.</p>	Map 3 and clause 38
Carriage of communication devices	<p>The current bylaw does not require vessels to carry any form of communication.</p> <p>The draft bylaw proposes to introduce a new requirement for vessel operators to carry communication devices depending on the type of vessel being used, the waterway (i.e. lake vs river), and the proximity to shore.</p>	Clause 19
Other miscellaneous amendments	The draft bylaw proposes to undertake minor corrections to improve the clarity, legibility and overall accessibility of the bylaw.	Throughout the draft bylaw

Copies of the draft bylaw and Council's Statement of Proposal may be obtained at no cost from:

- > QLDCs website at <https://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz>.
- > either of QLDCs offices at 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown or 47 Ardmore Street, Wānaka,
- > any library within the Queenstown Lakes District

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Public consultation and submissions

Anyone can make a submission on any part of the draft bylaw. QLDC welcomes your views and feedback.

Submissions will be accepted from 8.00am on 30 September 2024 and must be received by 5.00pm on 31 October 2024.

Written submissions may take any form (e.g. email or letter) but we recommend your submission be made using the online survey provided at <https://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/>.

If you need help submitting, please contact Council at 03 441 0499, or call in to one of Council's offices.