

Vessel ID now required on Queenstown Lakes District waterways

Part of QLDC's **Navigation Safety Bylaw 2025** to improve safety and accountability.

Vessel Identification Requirements

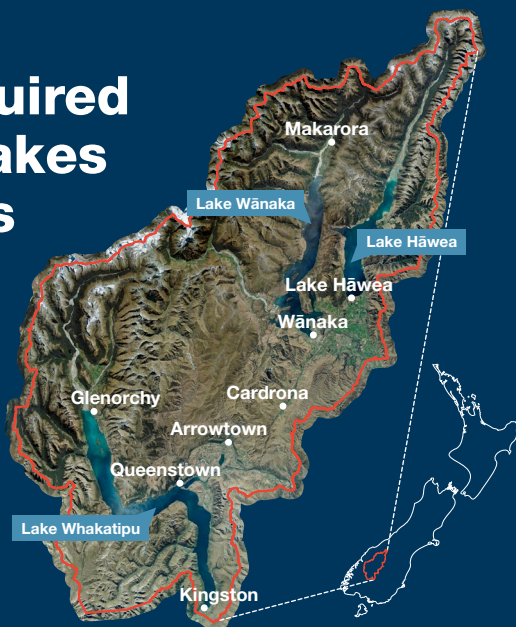
Clause 18: To improve identification, safety, and accountability on the district's waterways, new vessel ID rules are being introduced under the 2025 Navigation Safety Bylaw.

Who must display vessel ID

- » Motorized vessels (including jetboats, powerboats, etc.).
- » Commercial vessels registered with MNZ or with a VHF call sign.
- » Recreational trailer-borne vessels.

What to display

- » **Commercial or MNZ registered vessels:** Use MNZ-approved name, number or VHF call sign.
- » **Recreational vessels:** For most recreational boat owners with trailer borne vessel, the new rules will mean displaying the registration number of its trailer above the waterline on each side of the vessel.



Exemptions

- » Non-powered vessels under 6 meters in length (e.g., kayaks, paddleboards) are exempt. However, it is recommended that these vessels be marked with the owner's name and contact details somewhere on the vessel.
- » Vessels that display a sporting organisation registration number (examples: Jet boat NZ registration number, Sail number for Yachting NZ).

Out-of-town vessels

- » Vessels visiting temporarily must display markings that comply with the ID requirements of their home region's Navigation Safety Bylaw, or the QLDC district requirements as above.

Harbourmaster inquiries can be made to QLDC 24/7.
Please phone **03 441 0499** or email
harbourmasterwaterways@qldc.govt.nz



Placement & dimensions

Markings must be:

- » Above the waterline
- » On both sides of the vessel
- » In block letters/numbers, minimum 90 mm in height
- » In a contrasting colour to the hull for visibility
- » Durably affixed (paint, vinyl decal, or plate).

Where to source ID stickers/decals

Contact local printing services for a decal printing and installation options. Online services are also available.

Further information

Full details are available in **Clause 18** of the **Navigation Safety Bylaw 2025**.



Scan the QR code or visit

 www.qldc.govt.nz/lakes-and-boating



Note: The name or number displayed on the vessel does not need to be supplied to council, and there is no registration cost. It is solely to improve identification, safety and accountability on the district's waterways.



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