Shipboard sewage management plan - declared ships

Under section 51 of the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995* (the Act), a declared ship must have on board a shipboard sewage management plan. A maximum penalty of 850 penalty units applies to not keeping a shipboard sewage management plan on board. Further, if a ship has on board a shipboard sewage management plan but it is not fitted with any equipment required to implement the plan, the ship's owner and master commit an offence. A maximum penalty of 850 penalty units applies.

The minimum requirements to be detailed in a shipboard sewage management plan are listed in section 36 of the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Regulation 2018* (the Regulation). The plan must be in English and include:

- (a) name, registration number and class of the ship
- (b) size and type of the ship
- (c) how the plan provides for the management of shipboard sewage and prevents the unlawful discharge of sewage from the ship
- (d) the waters, if any, where the ship may lawfully discharge sewage
- (e) equipment the ship is fitted with for holding or treating sewage
- (f) operating and maintenance instructions for the equipment
- (g) how the equipment is operated to prevent the unlawful discharge of sewage into waters where the ship is operating
- (h) how the equipment is maintained and checked to ensure the equipment is in proper working order.

Example of a possible format for a shipboard sewage management plan

Shipboard sewage management plan						
Ship's name:	Registration number:					
Class:	Size:					
Ship type:						
(Details of passenger numbers generated on-board)	and length of journeys may also be included to indicate the likely volumes of sewage					

On-board sewage management practices:

- · Description of how sewage is managed on-board
- Untreated or treated sewage on-board

Sewage equipment:

- The equipment, including model numbers and type, for managing sewage on-board
- How equipment will be operated to prevent unlawful discharge

Areas where sewage discharge is permitted:

- · List of areas where the discharge of sewage from the ship is permitted
- Demonstrated understanding of nil discharge areas

Operating and maintenance instructions:

- Details of operating and maintenance instructions
- · Alternatively a description of where instructions can be found

Equipment maintenance:

- Details of maintenance schedule
- Details of routine measures to ensure equipment is in proper working order



Sewage disposal record book – declared ships

Under section 38 of the Regulation a declared ship must carry a sewage disposal record book that is readily available for inspection at all times. A maximum penalty of 350 penalty units applies for failure to keep a sewage disposal record book.

Entries in sewage disposal record book

Under section 39 of the Regulation, whenever sewage is discharged an entry must be made in the sewage disposal record book. A maximum penalty of 350 penalty units applies for failure to make an entry.

The entry in the sewage disposal record book must:

- (a) state the date, time, place, and volume, in litres, of each discharge
- (b) if the discharge is at sea state the latitude and longitude of the place of the discharge
- (c) be made in the English language
- (d) be signed by the master or other person in control of the discharge.

When a page of the sewage disposal record book is completed the ship's master must sign the page without delay. A maximum penalty of 350 penalty units applies for failure to sign the page.

Retention of a sewage disposal record book

Section 38 of the Regulation requires the sewage disposal record book to kept on the declared ship for three (3) years from the day of the last entry and be readily available for inspection.

A maximum penalty of 350 penalty units applies for failure to keep a sewage disposal record book on-board and readily available.

Example of format for a sewage disposal record book

Date	Time	Place of Discharge		Volume	Sewage Type			
		Facility	At sea - Latitude	- include Longitude	(in litres)	Treated (T) Untreated (U)	Name	Signature

