

## Summary of Field Gear Cleaning and Decontamination Procedure

### Prior to field work:

- Check if the sampling will take place in an area of extreme concern – map on following page
- Plan field activities to minimize contact between equipment and potential sources of invasive species, particularly aquatic plants and sediment.

### After conducting field work:

- **Inspect and clean** all equipment. Remove any visible soil, vegetation, vertebrates, invertebrates, plants, algae or sediment. If necessary, use a scrub brush and rinse with clean water either from the site or brought for that purpose. Continue this process until the equipment is clean. **Drain** all water in bilges, samplers or other equipment that could harbor water from the site. This step should take place before leaving the sampling site or at an interim site. If cleaning after leaving the sampling site, ensure that no debris will leave the equipment and potentially spread invasive species during transit or cleaning.
- **Additional Requirements for felt sole waders used anywhere in the state and equipment that contacted sediment, aquatic vegetation or fish in areas of extreme concern:**
  - **Smooth surfaced sampling equipment that can be easily and fully wiped down – wipe until dry.** The equipment must be smooth enough so there are no cracks or crevices that could harbor a sand-grain-sized juvenile New Zealand mudsnail while being wiped dry.
  - **For all other equipment, use one of the decontamination treatments found in the table below.** Conduct decontamination where the procedure can be carried out effectively and safely. Wash and rinse water must not drain to surface water, and all chemicals must be disposed of to a sanitary sewer.

### Equipment Storage:

- **Dry** – Between field sites and upon returning from the field, when cleaning and decontamination requirements are complete, store gear to facilitate drying.

Table. Decontamination Options

Treatment	Concentration or temperature	Exposure Time	Comments
hot water wash or soak	60° C (140° F)	5 min for felt-soled boots and nets; 10 sec for other equipment	Ensure all parts of the equipment reach temperature for the full exposure time
	49° C (120° F)	10 min for felt-sole boots and nets; 5 min for other equipment	Ensure all parts of the equipment reach temperature for the full exposure time
cold	-4° C	4 hours minimum	Time starts after the equipment reaches -4 °C
drying	low humidity, in sunlight is best	48 hours	Time starts after the equipment is thoroughly dry
Formula 409 All-Purpose Cleaner <sup>1</sup>	100% (full strength)	10 min	Follow proper procedures for storage and handling.
sparquat 256 <sup>2</sup>	3.1% or higher	10 min	Follow proper procedures for storage and handling.
Quat 128	4.60%	10 min	Follow proper procedures for storage and handling.
Hydrogen peroxide <sup>3</sup>	30,000 ppm (3%)	15 min	Spray on until soaked, then keep damp for contact time (cover or place gear in a dry bag)
Virkon Aquatic®	2%	20 min	Must soak (not spray on) Follow proper procedures for storage and handling <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Must be antibacterial (make sure it has quaternary ammonia, otherwise it is ineffective)

<sup>2</sup> Sparquat is corrosive; read the MSDS and use with caution.

<sup>3</sup> May be corrosive; read the MSDS and follow safety precautions

<sup>4</sup> Rinse gear after soak to prolong life. Solution degrades, lasts up to 7 days, best if mixed fresh

Map: Extreme concern areas where all equipment contacting sediment, fish, and aquatic vegetation needs to be decontaminated (Note: felt sole boots must be decontaminated where ever they are used).

