



## Newsletter June 2022

Dear Comrades in Arms,

our newsletters contain information about ourselves, the latest development in our fight against NRC and sometimes important links.

On our website [www.russellcommonsense.com](http://www.russellcommonsense.com) you'll find everything you need to know about our group, the projects we are dealing with and other valuable information. Under *Breaking News* for instance you can always get our latest major updates.

In our newsletters however we want to let you know what is recently happening, how you can (always appreciated) participate and/or contribute etc. At the beginning as always we post:

### Urgent News

**Once again:**

**Please keep in mind that there is no need to pay NRC's so-called "Biosecurity Fee". We are in the possession of the following email message:**

**Credit Consultants New Zealand Account  
Enquiries<myaccount@creditconsultants.co.nz>**

Mon,  
Feb 15,  
10:40  
AM

Good morning,

The information that you provided has been noted on this account. It is now on hold – until we receive further information regarding this dispute.

Regards

Fiona

**However: There could be a new development!**

Maybe it's just a new trial balloon, who knows? But in any case it is better to be prepared . What happened?

On 10/6/22 Klaus received a "Letter of Formal Demand" to pay the unpaid biosecurity fees plus interest by 30/6/22 and, if not received by 1/7/22 NRC would commence proceedings for recovery by way of a "Summary Judgement Application" to the Kaikohe District Court. This was signed by a Nicola Hartwell, In-house Legal Advisor. As far as could be found out, this person is relatively young and probably light on experience which seems to show in her referring to a case to serve as a precedence for such procedure based on totally different facts compared with our well founded

objections to accept NRC's biosecurity fees. Furthermore Klaus researched that a "Summary Judgement" cannot be applied by a judge unless he has fully taken into consideration the reasoning of the accused for refusing to pay unless the accused had already been ordered to pay by a court after respective court proceedings. So, it very much looks like young Nicola singled Klaus out and tried to find a way to scare the pants off him and, if successful, has in mind applying this across the board. Obviously Klaus will not comply with her demand but await further developments, if any.

Whilst we do not expect this NRC action to be any more successful than the others prior to it, we ask that you be even more vigilant and involved now. Should any of you receive a similar approach please let us know without delay for further advice.

**We will of course keep all our members informed about the details of this new development and expect full support from all of you in case of a legal escalation.**

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Just yesterday, after lengthy discussions with the Northern Advocate's legal department, we finally got the green light for our ad campaign against NRC's MPMP. So two adverts (at least half a page!!) will appear there on June 30th and July 7th to wake up more ratepayers and boat owners:

Here it is:

## **ATTENTION**

**ALL RATE PAYERS, BUT ESPECIALLY ALL MOORING-  
AND MARINA BERTH OWNERS**

**Check your next NRC invoice !  
Would you like to continue to see your hard-earned money  
dumped into the sea?**

**For more than 4 years NRC has been spending rates' money and  
biosecurity fees on a battle unlikely to ever succeed.**

**NRC is required by Central Government to have a Bio Security Plan, however, it is too late to stop the spreading of already established marine pests by using their inconsistent and unfair "Marine Pest Managing Plan" (MPMP), wrongly claiming leisure boats as main vectors for spreading, while Council staff members consider boat owners "easy targets" and one councillor in particular even suggested soothing wording to literally: "make the fees easier to swallow."**

**MPMP has cost so far around \$ 2.67 million annually – a steep increase is to be expected - to administer, although it appears to be badly researched, badly thought out and in its current form expensive but useless. Nevertheless, NRC is looking at potential for "exacerbators" (that's what they also call us boat owners) to share funding!**

**After four long years of NRC failing to refute well founded counter-arguments**

**and scientific evidence, our elected Councillors have even been banned from communicating with us on this matter.**

**Do you want to continue to support this scandal with unfair fees?**

**If not, join us and remember: Together we are stronger!**  
**For more information visit our website [www.russellcommonsense.com](http://www.russellcommonsense.com)**  
**We really recommend to study it for better understanding**  
**[Northland Mooring Owners & Ratepayers](#)**

This promotion has cost us \$1,674.40 so far.

Thanks to donations from 17 of our members, we raised \$1,588.00. Sadly, some, who gave consent to the donation, have incomprehensibly done nothing more.

Since our last newsletter, where we introduced the idea of placing a paid advertisement, our support base of members appears to have suddenly dropped. We appreciate that “times are tough” and some people may not feel able to make a donation. However, that is not the point.

The serious point is that we, as mooring owners, must remain united in a common goal that will benefit all of us for the foreseeable future. Your active involvement in the emails and discussions is of great value to that common goal.

PLEASE, now is the time to keep your names active on our email chain and send us comments both for and against what is being done. As originally proposed, a donation equal to just one year’s biosecurity fee would give us a base on which to stand up to NRC.

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Tom Pasco, one of our members and supporters,

reminds us all of the following long-heralded consultation process by NRC :

<https://www.marinepests.nz/cleanhullplan.html>