

Port of Long Beach and Port of Los Angeles
Vessel Discharge Rules and Regulations



Port of
LONG BEACH
 The Green Port



THE PORT
 OF LOS ANGELES

Discharge/ Activity	Allow- able?	Discharge Restrictions Summary*	Regulation	#
Deck Washdown, Maintenance, Firefighting, Hull Cleaning and Related Discharges				
Deck washdown/ runoff	Restrictions	Deck washdown is allowed in the Ports as long as the runoff does not contain any pollutants, including trash, oils, metals, paint, or other debris.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP Section 2.2.1	Pg. 18
Above water hull cleaning and painting	Restrictions	Hull cleaning and painting is allowed in the Ports but must follow specific BMPs. Spray equipment is not allowed for any on-water painting.	VGP Section 2.2.1; CCR Title 2, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 4.8;	Pg. 19
Sandblasting	No	Sandblasting is not allowed on vessels that are in-water.	POLB; POLA	Pg. 20
Propeller maintenance and other in-water maintenance	Restrictions	Non-essential propeller or other in-water maintenance should not occur in the Ports. Beginning on January 1, 2012, propeller maintenance will not be allowed in California waters (i.e. Ports). All other in-water hull cleaning is prohibited unless the best available technologies, as determined by both the SLC and the SWRCB, are used.	SWRCB VGP Certification; VGP 2.2.9;	Pg. 21
Aqueous film forming foam (firefighting)	Emergency Only	The discharge of AFFF within the Ports is allowable only during an emergency.	VGP 2.2.5	Pg. 23
Firemain system	Emergency and Testing Only	Discharges from the firemain system are allowed in cases of emergency, when necessary to ensure the safety of the vessel and crew, as well as for testing purposes to ensure the system will be operational in an emergency.	VGP 2.2.12; (see also VGP 2.2.1 for deck washdown restrictions)	Pg. 24
Cathodic protection	Yes	There are no regulations pertaining to specific types of cathodic protection devices. The VGP includes recommended BMPs.	VGP 2.2.7;	Pg. 25
Aquatic Nuisance Species				
Ballast water	Restrictions	Ballast water shall not be discharged without treatment or exchange (unless for safety purposes) into Port waters unless said ballast water originated in the POLB, POLA, or the El Segundo marine oil terminal.	CCR Title 2, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 4.6/4.7; VGP Section 2.2.3; CFR Title 33, Part 151 (USCG); PRC 71200 et seq.; SWRCB VGP Certification; POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4	Pg. 26
Chain locker effluent discharge	Restrictions	For vessels that leave U.S. waters (i.e. Ports) at least once per month, chain lockers may not be rinsed or pumped out within the Port or any other U.S. water unless required for safety. For all other vessels that remain in the Ports and do not leave waters subject to the VGP, chain locker effluent with visible pollutants must not be discharged into Port waters.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP 2.2.8;	Pg. 28
Seawater piping biofoul prevention	Restrictions	No pesticides or chemicals banned for use in the United States may be discharged into the Ports. This includes any substance or material harmful to fish, plant life, mammals, or bird life. Removal of fouling organisms must not occur in the Port	VGP 2.2.20; California Department of Fish and Game Code 5650	Pg. 29
Anti-fouling hull coating	Restrictions	The application of anti-fouling paint containing TBT or other organotins is prohibited within U.S. and international waters. If a vessel has previous hull coatings containing TBT, this coating must be covered by a non-organotin based product prior to entering the Ports.	VGP 2.2.4; IMO Resolution A.928(22)	Pg. 30
Underwater maintenance	Restrictions	Underwater hull husbandry, including fouling removal, is allowed in the Ports assuming all required BMPs, as identified by the EPA and the SLC, are followed.	CCR Title 2, Division 3, Chapter 1, Article 4.8; SWRCB VGP Certification; VGP 2.2.23	Pg. 32

Engine Room and Contact Discharges				
Bilgewater	No	Bilgewater is prohibited from being discharged into Port waters.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4;	Pg. 34
Boiler/economizer blowdown	Restrictions	Vessels greater than 400 gross tons that leave the Ports at least once per week cannot discharge within 3 nm of the shore, unless: the vessel remains in the Ports for longer than the necessary duration between blowdowns; the vessel needs to conduct blowdown immediately before entering drydock, or for safety purposes.	VGP 2.2.6;	Pg. 35
Elevator pit effluent	Emergencies Only	Discharges of untreated elevator pit effluent are prohibited within Port waters, unless during an emergency.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP 2.2.11;	Pg. 36
Gas turbine wash water	No	Gas turbine washwater must not be directly discharged within the Ports. Washwater should be collected and properly disposed of onshore.	Fish and Game Code 5650; POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP 2.2.14;	Pg. 37
Motor gasoline and compensating discharge	Restrictions	The discharge of motor gasoline and compensating effluent that comes into contact with oil is prohibited in the Ports.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP 2.2.16	Pg. 38
Welldeck discharges	Restrictions	Welldeck discharges that contain graywater from smaller vessels shall not be discharged within Port waters except in cases of emergency. Welldeck discharges from washdown of gas turbine engines may not be discharged within the Ports. Welldeck discharges from equipment and vehicle washdowns must be free from garbage and must not contain oil.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; Fish and Game Code 5650; VGP 2.2.24;	Pg. 39
Exhaust gas scrubber washwater discharges	Restrictions	Exhaust gas scrubber washwater discharge must not contain oil. Sludge generated from exhaust gas scrubber washwater discharge must not be discharged in the Ports.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; VGP 2.2.26; 40 CFR Part 110	Pg. 40
Boat engine wet exhaust	Yes	Vessel operators are asked to minimize the use of small vessels generating wet exhaust while in the Ports to those activities required for the safety of the vessel and/or crew. Vessel operators are encouraged to consider the use of 4-stroke engines as opposed to 2-stroke engines to reduce wet exhaust.	VGP 2.2.21;	Pg. 41
Non-Contact Discharges				
Distillation and reverse osmosis	Restrictions	Brine from the distillation system and reverse osmosis water that comes in contact with machinery or industrial equipment, toxic or hazardous materials, or wastes shall not be discharged in the Ports.	VGP 2.2.10;	Pg. 42
Freshwater layup	Restrictions	Vessel operators shall minimize the amount of disinfection agents used in freshwater layup to the minimum required to prevent aquatic growth.	VGP 2.2.13;	Pg. 43
Non-oily machinery wastewater	Restrictions	Non-oily machinery wastewater shall not be discharged in the Ports if it becomes contaminated by oil or any additives that are toxic or bioaccumulative in nature.	VGP 2.2.17; POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4;	Pg. 44
Refrigeration and air condensate discharge	Yes	Clean condensation discharge is allowed in the Ports.	VGP 2.2.18;	Pg. 45
Cooling sea water	Restrictions	When possible, seawater cooling water should be discharged when the vessel is underway so that any thermal impacts are dispersed. If it must be discharged in the Ports, the discharge rate shall be reduced to minimize thermal impacts to the Port waters and ensure that the discharge does not contain trace metals or oils. If oils or metals are present, the discharge is prohibited in the Ports.	VGP 2.2.19	Pg. 46
Sonar dome discharge	No	The water inside the sonar dome shall not be discharged into the Ports.	VGP 2.2.22;	Pg. 47
Graywater and Sewage (Blackwater) Discharge				
Graywater	Restrictions	Discharge of graywater is prohibited within the Ports from large passenger vessels (i.e. cruise ships) and from those oceangoing vessels with adequate holding capacity.	California Clean Coast Act (PRC 72400); VGP 2.2.15;	Pg. 48
Sewage	No	The discharge of untreated sewage is prohibited within the Ports.	POLB Tariff No. 4; POLA Tariff No. 4; CWA Sec. 312; MARPOL Annex IV; California Clean Coast Act (PRC 72400)	Pg. 50
Graywater mixed with sewage from vessels	Restrictions	The discharge of graywater mixed with sewage must comply with both regulations listed above (graywater and sewage).	VGP Sec. 2.2.25	

*The discharge restrictions presented above are not meant to be an exhaustive list. The restrictions and regulations identified offer a summary of what can and cannot be discharged within the Ports. For further information, refer to the appropriate section of the Vessel Discharge Rules and Regulations document. A full PDF of the Port document and the Vessel General Permit is available at www.polb.com/environment/water_quality/wrap.asp and www.portoflosangeles.org/environment/wrap.asp.