

Ballast Water Management Reporting Form Instructions

NOTE: Adobe Acrobat Reader or Adobe Acrobat Pro is required to use the PDF form. Adobe Reader can be downloaded from adobe.com.

VESSEL INFORMATION

Vessel name: Enter the name of the vessel. For tug and barge combinations, please multiple vessel names separated by a hyphen (-).

ID number: Select "IMO Number" or "Official Number" from the pull-down menu and enter the vessel identification number into the adjacent field. For tug and barge combinations, please list multiple vessel numbers, separated by a hyphen.

Country of Registry: Choose from the country pull-down menu.

Owner/operator: Name of the registered owner(s) of the vessel. If under charter, enter operator name.

Type: Select a vessel type from the pull-down menu. If the exact vessel type is not available, select "Other".

Gross Tonnage: The Gross Tonnage of the vessel. If reporting a tug-barge combo, report total combined gross tonnage.

Ballast water volume units: Select cubic meters, metric tons, or gallons from the pull-down menu. NOTE: this volume unit will be applied to all volume entries on the form.

Total ballast water capacity: The maximum total volume of ballast water that can be carried in the vessel according to its Ballast Water Management Plan. If reporting a tug-barge combo report the total combined ballast water capacity.

Number of tanks on ship: The total number of ballast water tanks, cargo holds, and other spaces that are used for carrying ballast water.

Onboard BW Management System: If the vessel is equipped with an approved ballast water management system, enter the US Coast Guard designated system identification number:

- For **USCG Type Approved** systems, the US Coast Guard Approval Number is located on the BWMS and looks like: 162.060/#/#.
- For USCG accepted **Alternative Management Systems** the AMS ID is in the AMS Acceptance Letter and looks like: AMS-20##-XXX...XXX-001.
- For vessels enrolled in the **Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program**,

enter "STEP Vessel".

- Otherwise, enter "None".

Last dry dock date: The date of the vessel's last regularly scheduled out-of-water dry docking, or if the vessel has not yet been to dry dock, the delivery date. Please see the U.S. Coast Guard MSIB 013-15 and/or the [Maritime Commons Blog post of 11 March 2019](#) for more information on the definition of regularly scheduled out-of-water dry docking.

VOYAGE INFORMATION

Arrival port (port and state): The name of the port or place that is the destination for this voyage. No abbreviations please. Select the matching state, territory or province from the pull-down menu.

Arrival date: Date of arrival to the arrival port. Use European date format (DD/MM/YYYY).

Last port (port and country): Name of the last location at which the vessel called, either outside the US EEZ or the previous US location. No abbreviations please. Select the country or US territory of the last port from the pull-down menu.

Next port (port and country): Name of the next location at which the vessel plans to arrive. Select the country or US territory from the pull-down menu.

Total ballast water on board: Total volume of ballast water on board upon arrival into the arrival port. Do not count potable water. If reporting a tug-barge combo, report the total combined ballast water on board.

Number of tanks in ballast: Total number of ballast water tanks, cargo holds, and other spaces that are carrying ballast water upon arrival to the Arrival port.

Number of tanks discharged: Total number of ballast water tanks, cargo holds, and other spaces carrying ballast water discharged at, or en route to, the Arrival port.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCURATE INFORMATION

Certificate of accurate information: By checking this box, you attest to the accuracy of the information provided and that the activities were in accordance with the ballast water management plan required by CFR 151.2050(g).

Responsible Officer's name and title: Name and title of the individual (i.e., master, owner, operator, agent or person in charge) responsible for the information provided on this form. A typed name in combination with the certificate of accurate information constitutes an official signature.

Report type: Choose "New report" or "Corrected report" from the pull-down

menu. Choose "New report" for the initial report for a particular arrival. Choose "Corrected Report" if a prior report was already submitted for this arrival, including information updates, port rotations or error corrections. If an arrival is CANCELLED after a report is sent to NBIC, please e-mail nbic@ballastreport.org, including the vessel ID, arrival port and arrival date of the report to cancel.

Submitted by and Contact information: Enter the name of and contact information for the individual (i.e., master, owner, operator, agent, person in charge) submitting the BWMR to the NBIC.

BALLAST WATER HISTORY

Record all tanks discharged inside coastal waters (12nm) of the United States, either en route to or at the arrival port.

Ballast Water History is reported on an "event" basis, with each ballast water event reported on a separate line. For each tank, report events in reverse date order, with the most recent ballast water discharge event at the top.

***NOTE:** [US Coast Guard NOBOB policy](#) also requires vessels entering the Great Lakes and Hudson River (north of the George Washington Bridge), after operating beyond the U.S. EEZ, to report the Ballast Water History of empty BW tanks that underwent an alternative management (e.g., Salt Water Flush or mid-ocean exchange) the last time the tank contained ballast water.*

BALLAST WATER EVENTS

The following events can be selected in the Event pull-down menu. Combination events (e.g. Source+Treatment, Discharge+Treatment) are included to simplify reporting by allowing a single selection for concurrent ballast water events.

- **Discharge** – Discharge of ballast water
- **Discharge to US waters** – Discharge of ballast water inside coastal waters (within 12 nmi) of the US. This option is included in the first event line of each tank as a reminder that only tanks discharging water within coastal waters of the US should be reported on the BWMR.
- **Discharge + Treatment** – Discharge of ballast water where the treatment is applied during discharge (e.g., UV treatment systems that treat during source events and treat again during discharge).
- **Discharge to Facility** – Discharge to an approved ballast water reception facility or another vessel for the purposes of treating the BW to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species.

- **Empty-Refill Exchange** - To pump out the ballast water taken on in ports, estuarine, or territorial waters until the pump(s) lose suction, then refilling the ballast tank(s) with mid-ocean water.
- **Empty-Refill + Treatment** - To pump out the ballast water taken on in ports, estuarine, or territorial waters until the pump(s) lose suction, then refilling the ballast tank(s) with mid-ocean water . The ballast water treatment is applied during refill.
- **Flow-Through Exchange** - To flush out ballast water by pumping in mid-ocean water at the bottom of the tank and continuously overflowing the tank from the top until three full volumes of water has been changed to minimize the number of original organisms remaining in the tank.
- **Flow-Through + Treatment** - To flush out ballast water by pumping in mid-ocean water at the bottom of the tank and continuously overflowing the tank from the top until three full volumes of water has been changed to minimize the number of original organisms remaining in the tank. Ballast water treatment is applied during the ballast water exchange.
- **Onboard Treatment** - The ballast water treatment system is operated independent of source, discharge, or exchange events.
- **Salt Water Flush** - The management of empty ballast tanks (only unpumpable residuals remain) before entering the Great Lakes. Mid-ocean water is added to the empty tank, mixed with unpumpable residual, and then discharged. The remaining residual should have a salinity as high as achievable.
- **Source** - The uptake of ballast water.
- **Source + Treatment** - The uptake of ballast water where the treatment is applied during uptake (e.g., UV treatment systems that treat during source events and treat again during discharge).
- **Source from PWS** - The source of the ballast water is a US Public Water System.

TANK INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: The "Number of Tanks on Ship" box on page 1 must be filled in before any tank information can be entered, and the tank name and tank capacity for specific tanks must be filled in before ballast water events can be entered for that tank. Select a discharge event type on the first line before entering subsequent events.

Tank name / number: Enter the specific name and number of the tank, including its location and side (center, port or starboard), e.g. "WT 1P".

Tank capacity: The maximum volume that the tank or hold can carry.

BALLAST WATER EVENTS

1. Discharge Events

Event: Select either "Discharge to US waters", "Discharge+Treatment" or "Discharge" from the pull-down menu. Use the top line of the tank block for the most recent ballast water discharge event.

Date: The date that ballast water is discharged, using DD/MM/YYYY format.

Location: The port or place name (including state, territory, or country), or latitude and longitude of the location where ballast water was discharged. "Discharge to Facility" events should include the location and name of the facility.

Volume: The volume of ballast water that is discharged.

2. Management Events - The activities required for the prevention of biological introductions from unmanaged ballast water

- For discharge to a shore-based facility or to another vessel for treatment select "Discharge to facility" in the **Discharge Events** section above.
- For ballast water from a US Public Water System select "Source from PWS" in the **Source Events** section below.
- If ballast water management was **NOT CONDUCTED**, skip to the **Source Events** section below.

OTHERWISE, select a management event:

Event: Select "Empty-refill exchange", "Flow-through exchange", "Onboard treatment", "Empty-refill+Treatment", "Flow-through+Treatment" or "Salt Water Flush" from the "Select event" pull-down menu.

NOTE: "Salt Water Flush" is a [US Coast Guard's Best Management Practice](#) for vessels with empty ballast water tanks entering the Great Lakes and Hudson River (north of the George Washington Bridge). Salt water flushing is defined as the addition of mid-ocean water to empty ballast water tanks; the mixing of the flush water with residual water and sediment through the motion of the vessel; and the discharge of the mixed water.

Date: For "Onboard Treatment" enter the date treatment was started. For "Empty-refill exchange", "Flow-through exchange" or "Salt Water Flush" enter the date on which BW Management was completed. For BW exchange combination events ("Empty-refill+Treatment", "Flow-through+Treatment") enter the completion date.

Location(s): If BW was managed by empty-refill exchange, flow-through exchange or salt water flush while underway, enter the latitude and longitude of both the start point and end point, separated by a "/". Do not include locations when onboard treatment is reported as a stand alone event.

Volume: Enter the full volume of ballast water that is pumped and/or gravitated INTO the tank during empty-refill exchange, flow-through exchange or salt water flush. For onboard treatment enter the volume treated. Combination events share the same volume. When the volume of events (exchange and treatment) differ, report as individual events instead.

3. Source Events

Event: Select either "Source", "Source+Treatment" or "Source from PWS" from the "Select event" pull-down menu. "Source from PWS" indicates that a US public water system is used. If there are multiple sources for a tank, report each source on a separate line.

Date: Date on which the ballast water is taken into the tank (DD/MM/YYYY).

Location: The port or place name (with state or territory, and country) or latitude and longitude where ballast water is taken into the tank.

Volume: Volume of water taken into the tank from the source location.

*NOTE: If there was more than one source for a tank, report the largest sources, up to three. If the five lines in a tank block are not enough to report all of the ballast water events for a single tank, please use the [on-line reporting application](#), which supports unlimited tank events.

If BW Management was *not* conducted for this tank, select one of the following reasons: If ballast water management did not occur on water discharged into the waters of the United States, select from "Equipment failure", "Regulatory exemption", "Route exemption", "Safety - weather", "Safety - design limit" or "Mid-ocean source".

EXAMPLE FORM

Illustrated examples of reporting ballast water history are shown in this [BW History Sample form](#).

SUBMIT THE BWMR FORM TO NBIC

Send the completed Ballast Water Management Report to NBIC using one of the following methods:

Option #1: The "**Submit report via e-mail**" button on the first page of the form will automatically prepare an e-mail with an attachment that contains the data you entered. This attachment is much smaller than the form itself -- typically 10 to 15 KB. NOTE: this button may not work with all shipboard e-mail systems.

Option #2: Clicking the "**Submit report on-line**" button will send the report directly to NBIC, and return a PDF-format receipt.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

The Coast Guard estimates that the average burden per response is 40 minutes for a Ballast Water Management Report. You may submit any comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate or any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Commandant (CG-OES), U.S. Coast Guard Stop 7509, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20593-7509 or Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1625-0069), Washington, DC 20503.

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 4711; Pub. L. 104-332; 33 CFR 151 subpart D §§151.2060 and 151.2080.

Purpose: The Coast Guard will use the information provided on ballast water reporting forms to evaluate vessel ballast water management practices.

Routine Uses: Authorized Coast Guard personnel will use this data in efforts to reduce discharge of aquatic nuisance species into U.S. waters from vessels and to prevent future damage caused by such discharges. Any external disclosures of information within this record will be made in accordance with DHS/USCG-013, Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE), 74 Federal Register 30305 (June 25, 2009).

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is mandatory; failure to furnish the requested information is a violation and may incur civil penalties.