



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: October 31, 2023

TIME: 3:04 PM

WSR 23-22-117

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Meeting
Washington State Department of Ecology invites you to review and comment on the draft Antifouling Boat Paint report.

Ecology has drafted a third report on Antifouling Boat Paint. This report summarizes the results of Ecology's review as directed by the Legislature under RCW 70A.445.020(1). It consists of a scientific review of biocidal and non-biocidal paints and ingredients, and it focuses on new scientific information that recently became available. In this report, we prioritize identifying alternatives that are safer and effective.

Ecology invites you to review the draft report and provide written comments from December 4, 2023, to January 17, 2024. Ecology will host an informational public workshop on December 6, 2023.

Viewing the draft report

Starting on **December 4, 2023**, the draft Antifouling Boat Paint report will be available for review on the following webpage: <https://ecology.wa.gov/antifouling>.

Submitting written comments

Ecology will accept online comments on the draft report from **December 4, 2023, to January 17, 2024**. Comments must be submitted no later than **11:59 p.m. PDT on January 17, 2024**.

To submit a comment online, please fill out the online comment form:

<https://hwtr.ecology.commentinput.com?id=SkN8TbrMC>

Join us for an informational meeting

Ecology will host a virtual informational meeting on the draft report. The public meeting will include a presentation to summarize findings and conclusions, and time to answer questions.

Antifouling boat paint meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. PDT

Join through the Zoom link: <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/81242965315>

Join by phone:

- +1 253 214 8782
- Meeting ID: 812 4296 5315

Project background

Copper based hull paint has been the most popular antifouling biocide additive in the market since the 1980s. Ecology's earlier work found that copper can impact water quality and marine



organisms. Washington state has concerns on the release of copper and other toxic chemicals into the aquatic environment.

In 2011, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation to phase out the use of copper-based antifouling paints. Ecology conducted two follow-up studies in 2017 and 2019 to investigate the availability and environmental impact of alternative antifouling products. Both studies concluded that some non-copper alternatives might be more harmful to the environment than the copper-based paints. As a result, the Legislature adopted Ecology's recommendations and delayed the copper ban in 2018 and 2020. Ecology continues to search for safer and effective alternatives to copper and summarized recent scientific information in this third report.

Ecology contact

If you have any questions, please contact the antifouling boat paint project lead, Iris Deng.

Iris Deng
Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program
Email: Iris.Deng@ecy.wa.gov

