

# PRESERVE YOUR PRECIOUS ENVIRONMENT – IT'S EASY

It's everyone's responsibility to slow the spread of freshwater pests like didymo. Remember to follow these simple steps:

## CHECK

Remove all obvious debris from boots and items that have been in contact with the water.

## CLEAN

Spray boots and socks for at least one minute, or until completely soaked in approximately 10% biodegradable detergent solution (one tablespoon of detergent for a 250ml spray bottle – or two for a 500ml spray bottle).

## DRY

Drying will kill didymo, but even slightly moist items can harbour didymo and other microscopic pests for months. To ensure didymo cells are dead by drying, the item must be **completely dry** to the touch, inside and out, then left dry for at least another 48 hours before use.

The thicker and denser your tramping equipment, the better it will be at holding moisture, the slower it will be to dry out and the more difficult it will be to decontaminate completely with cleaning solutions.

When cleaning equipment, we recommend that you:

- remove all obvious debris from boots and items that have been in contact with the water
- spray porous materials for longer than the specified decontamination times to ensure cleaning solution has soaked right through the item
- choose a decontamination solution that will not adversely affect your equipment or the environment
- dispose of cleaning waste well away from waterways.



## CONTACT

For further information on freshwater pests contact your local Regional Council, or visit the Biosecurity New Zealand website at [www.biosecurity.govt.nz](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz)

# FRESHWATER PESTS LIKE DIDYMO AREN'T THIS OBVIOUS, BUT THEY ARE THIS AWFUL.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FRESHWATER PESTS



NEW ZEALAND. IT'S OUR  
PLACE TO PROTECT.



# WHAT ARE YOU MOVING WITH YOUR WET BOOTS?

Unwanted freshwater pests, such as didymo, pose a serious threat to our rivers, streams and lakes. Once in a waterway they can disperse rapidly and destroy the environmental, recreational and aesthetic values of our waterways.

Some freshwater pests are microscopic and can be spread by a single drop of water. Even if you can't see the danger you could be spreading it.

Let's make sure our waterways remain free of freshwater pests so everyone can continue to enjoy them in their natural splendour for generations to come.



DIDYMO

# HELP SLOW THE SPREAD

Following the simple procedures in this brochure will help slow freshwater pests like didymo from spreading throughout New Zealand waterways. It's everyone's responsibility to try to preserve the environmental integrity of our waterways for future generations. Just remember to **Check Clean Dry** when moving from one catchment to another, anywhere in New Zealand. Happy tramping.



SALVINIA

# REMEMBER

- Your personal safety is paramount. Please always consider weather conditions, slippery rocks and detergent before decontaminating your equipment.
- Always pay special attention to cleaning when crossing into a new catchment, and after the last crossing of the day.
- Boots and other wet gear should always be dried between tramps.

