

Raoul Island Decontamination Protocol

Context: To reduce the potential spread of Myrtle Rust from Raoul Island to New Zealand

Purpose: Ensure all visitors to the island meet the requirements for decontamination on the island prior to departure. Provide DOC with a clear record of the items and procedures undertaken by visitor to the island

Decontamination procedure:

1. Sorting and cleaning items ready for departure:

All visitors to list and identify all items to be taken off the island and categorise them as low, medium or high risk items under the following:

- Low Risk: Have not been used on the island and are still contained within a closed environment
- Medium Risk: Have only been used around base and the Meteorological station
- High Risk: Have been used in the field and exposed to potential myrtle rust spores

All items to be treated with the appropriate method as chosen from Appendix 1.

2. Visitor departure decontamination

Departing visitors will follow the procedure notes below.

All clean items are checked by team leader/biosecurity ranger/other team member and the form (Appendix 2) documenting the items and procedure followed signed off when ready for packing. All items to be sorted and packed in black bags which have been cleaned and wiped down with 5% Sterigene. Once completed, bags to be taped up for departing visitors.

- Staff on the island will assist visitors in completing the decontamination and quarantine procedures a 5% Sterigene mix will be provided for this purpose.
- All clothing worn on the island is to be hot washed with detergent when returning to the vessel
- All electrical equipment such as laptops, cameras, drone, cell phones/ tablets, in the medium to high risk category can be wiped down with 5% Sterigene
- All footwear cleaned and sprayed with 5% Sterigene prior to departure.
- All visitors upon returning to their vessels shall have a hot shower and clean their hair as soon as possible to remove any spore.
- All visitors may be required to wear Tyvek suits when departing the island this will be on a case by case basis.

Appendix 1. Guide to prevent cross-contamination of myrtle rust spores between Raoul Island and NZ mainland

From: MPI Myrtle Rust Response planning- Raoul Island Decontamination Protocol: August 2017

Items to clean	Required actions
All clothing items including hats, raincoats, gloves etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wash or soak in Sterigene or 70% methylated spirits. - Hot wash in washing machines if possible.
All footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scrub clean and wipe down with Sterigene. - Soak the tread in Sterigene solution for at least 10 minutes.
All washable field equipment including bags etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soak or wash with Sterigene for at least 10 minutes and then rinse thoroughly with clean water.
All submersible field equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soak in Sterigene for at least 10 minutes.
All non-submersible field equipment including electronic gear, notebooks etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thoroughly wipe with Sterigene to clean all surfaces and crevices.
All disposable equipment e.g. gloves, Tyvek suits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchase new supplies. - Disposables may not be reused.
Operator/Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have a full shower, wash hair, and clean nails OR - Change overalls and gloves and decontaminate boots between sites.

Appendix 2: Decontamination and quarantine form

Name: _____

Role: _____

Raoul Island Decontamination and Quarantine Form

Purpose

To decontaminate equipment and personal effects will have been exposed to myrtle rust spores and potentially invasive insect and plant material.

How to fill in this form

Items should be listed under the following the categories: Clothing, footwear, field equipment, electronics, miscellaneous. Write the category heading in the item column and then list the items within that category. Select whether an item has had low, medium or high risk of exposure to Myrtle Rust spores and select which treatments have been performed on the item. Complete your name and role at the top of each page, also number the pages and keep all pages together.

Definition of risk categories:

- High – Items that have been in the field, either during work or recreational time.
- Medium – Items that have only been in the Hostel and Meteorological Station area.
- Low – Items that have remained indoors for the duration of your stay on Raoul Island.

Treatments:

- Surface wiped – wiped in Sterigene (5% solution), 70% methylated spirit or ethanol.
- Hot washed – washed on extended cycles of hot wash in a washing machine.
- Sterigene soaked – soaked in Sterigene solution for at least 10 minutes.

Declaration

All my personal belongings leaving Raoul island have been listed in this form. I have removed all visible organic material from my items and have completed the selected treatment to decontaminate them from exposure to Myrtle Rust spores.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

I have checked all the items listed in this form and confirm that the items meet the quarantine and decontamination standards stated.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

