

Undaria Control

Wakame / Undaria (*Undaria pinnatifida*) is a species of Japanese or Asian kelp not native to New Zealand's marine environment. Undaria is a highly invasive, opportunistic species of seaweed - which spreads mainly by fouling on boat hulls – resulting in its presence in almost all of New Zealand's ports and harbours', including Port Taranaki. It is listed legally as an Unwanted Organism – Alga by Biosecurity New Zealand.

You can learn more about *Undaria* and other marine pests here: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/10478-New-Zealand-Marine-Pest-ID-Guide>

Whilst ports are not required to respond to these incursions, we believe that we have the opportunity to prevent it spreading further and potentially displacing our native kelps *Ecklonia radiata* and *Carpophyllum flexuosum*. So, each year we survey and clean the following locations as part of an ongoing removal program:

- 5 knot spa buoys
- Blyde wharf
- Eastern Reclamation
- Lee Breakwater jetty
- Lee Breakwater marina
- Main Breakwater 1
- Main Breakwater 2
- Moturoa Basin / Mot 1 berth
- Mot 2 & 3 berths
- Newton King Tanker Terminal

We recently changed the schedule to inspect and clean these structures before the weed begins to spawn.

Here's how the programme is going:

