



Marine High Risk Site Surveillance



The Marine High Risk Site Surveillance (MHRSS) is undertaken every six months in 11 of New Zealand's busiest international shipping ports and marinas.

Objectives

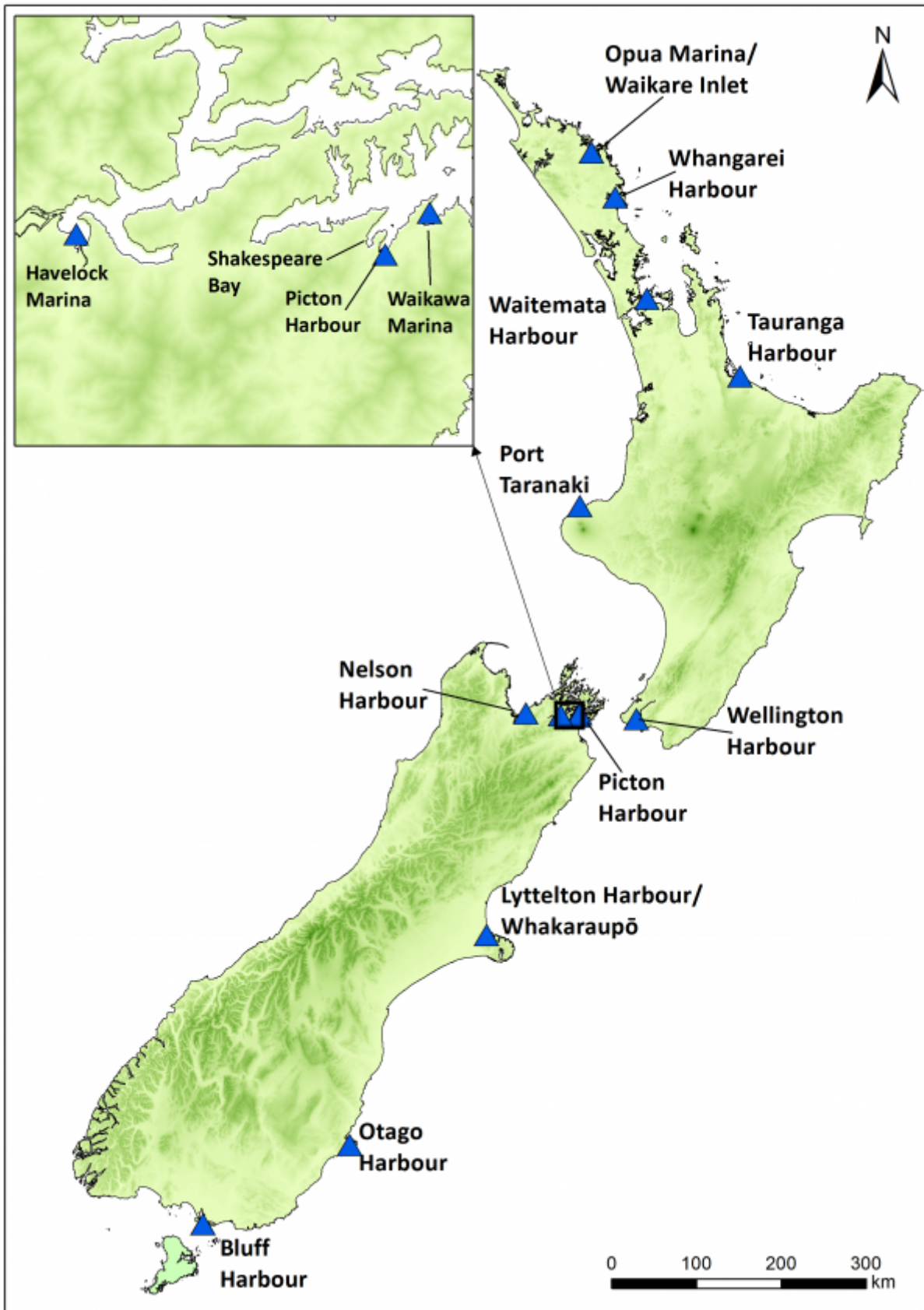
The objectives of the MHRSS are to:

- detect incursions of high risk non-native organisms (those listed on the national register of Unwanted Organisms) that are not known to be present in New Zealand.
- detect incursions of other non-native or cryptogenic organisms that have not previously been recorded in New Zealand, and
- detect range extensions by established non-native or cryptogenic organisms that exhibit characteristics of pests.

[Read more about some of these species on our Marine Pests pages.](#)

High Risk Sites

As the name suggests, the national MHRSS is undertaken in some of New Zealand's busiest ports and marinas of first entry for international vessels. These are the sites where incursions by marine species not currently in New Zealand are most likely to occur. Eleven harbours are included in the programme. Sampling within each harbour is focused on the habitats and locations where the primary target species are most likely to occur.



The 11 locations surveyed by the Marine High Risk Site Surveillance (MHRSS) every six months. Picton, Havelock and Waikawa are surveyed as a single location.

Survey Methods used in the Marine High Risk Site Surveillance

Survey methods used in the MHRSS have been chosen to optimize detection of the primary high risk species. An important consideration was the efficiency with which samples could be taken in the field since the chances of detection are greatest when a large number of samples can be taken.

Related reading

1. Marine high-risk site surveillance - Annual report for all ports and marinas 2019/2020 [Download document \[PDF, 13.6 MB\]](#)
2. Marine high-risk site surveillance - Annual report for all ports and marinas 2018/2019 [Download document \[PDF, 12 MB\]](#)
3. Marine high-risk site surveillance - Annual report for all ports and marinas 2017/2018 [Download document \[PDF, 15 MB\]](#)
4. Marine high-risk site surveillance - Annual report for all ports and marinas 2016/2017 [Download document \[PDF, 12.3 MB\]](#)