

Don't be xxx-RATed!

It is illegal to have rats aboard any boat in Alaskan waters. Boat owners could be fined.

- Kill every rat or mouse that boards your boat!
- Have traps set at all times. Use snap traps and/or sticky boards and poison bait boxes.
- Eliminate food and water rodents need to stay alive by keeping trash and food in rat-proof containers on high shelves.
- Clean up debris piles that shelter rodents.
- Seal holes that give rats and mice access. Rats can squeeze through just a 1/2 inch gap and mice through 1/4 inch



1/2"



1/4"

- Inspect all oncoming cargo and gear. Droppings and chew marks are obvious signs of rats and mice. Don't take any suspicious cargo aboard your boat!
- Use line guards on large boats to keep rats and mice from climbing aboard.
- Never throw a live rat overboard. Rats are excellent swimmers and might end up on land.

We Can Help!

Rat prevention kits are available for vessels using Alaskan waters – FREE! Each kit contains instructions, rat traps, mouse traps, rodent sticky board traps, a rodent ID poster, and an entertaining and educational DVD.



For free kits or to learn more
www.stoprats.org

or contact the

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
(907) 235-6546

alaskamaritime@fws.gov

Thank you for your help!

Join us in protecting Alaska's fishing and shipping industries, public health, and our wildlife.

Kayumitax ECO • Shipping Safety Partnership

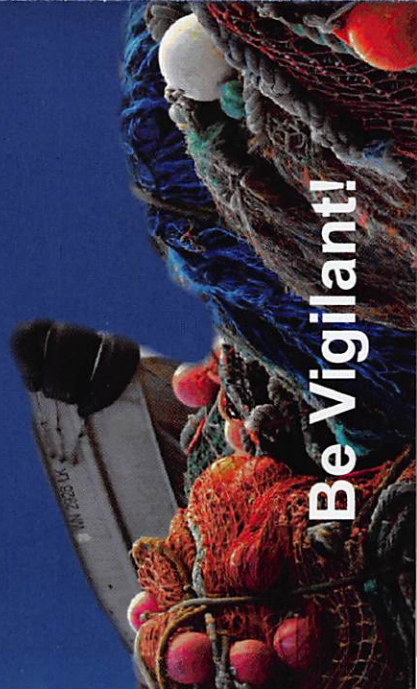


Stop Rats!



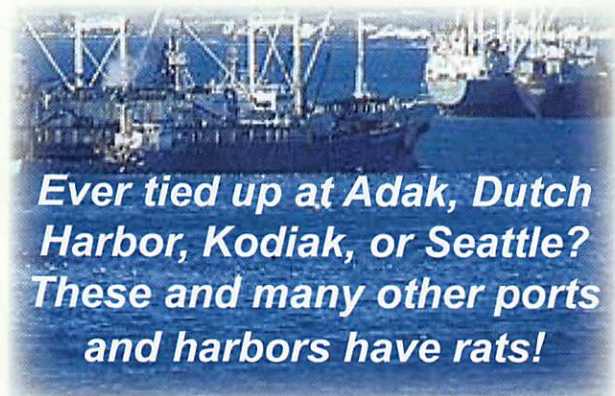
Before They Stop You

Be Vigilant!



Rats Could Get on Your Boat

Without you even knowing it, rats could have boarded your boat by hiding in cargo or by climbing a line or the gangplank. Rats also nest in stored nets and can easily be brought on board!



Ever tied up at Adak, Dutch Harbor, Kodiak, or Seattle? These and many other ports and harbors have rats!

Protect Your Ship and Cargo!

Rats and mice shred materials for their nests, gnaw through pipes, and chew on electrical and hydraulic lines, creating potential for fire and hydraulic leaks. They also can contaminate your seafood catch.



Photo: USEPA/USCG

Rodents cause billions of dollars damage to the economy each year.

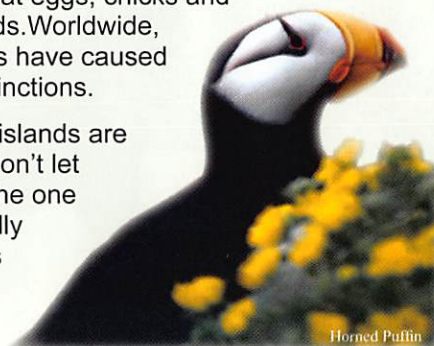
Protect Your Health!

At 40 droppings a day, a rat can mess up your boat in a hurry. Rats and their fleas can also transmit to people diseases like Hantavirus, salmonellosis, rat bite fever and even plague.

Protect Alaska's Wildlife!

One pregnant rat hitchhiking on your vessel and all her future offspring could wipe out bird life on an island. Rats eat eggs, chicks and even adult birds. Worldwide, introduced rats have caused island bird extinctions.

Most Alaskan islands are still rat free - don't let your boat be the one that accidentally unleashes this plague on our wildlife paradise!



Horned Puffin

Your Boat Could Spread Rats

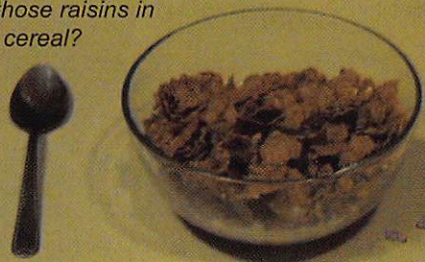


If one of these stowaways jumps ship to a rat-free location—like Anchorage, Homer, the Pribilof Islands, Sand Point, or an uninhabited island—you could spread these harmful pests to new locations.

Rats and mice are most often released by hiding out in freight, gear, or garbage, or simply by climbing overboard and jumping or swimming to shore.

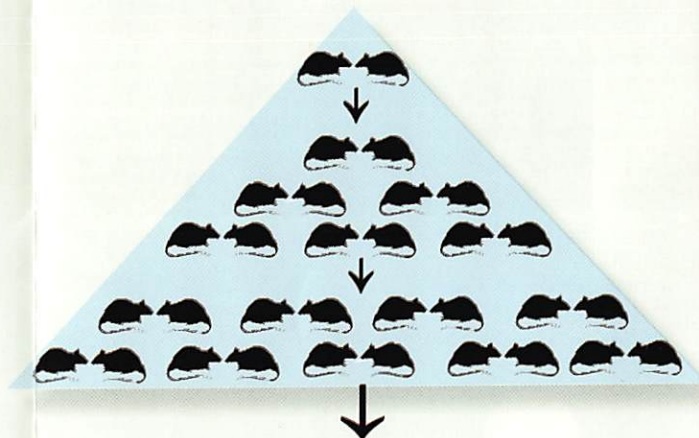
Some ports, like those in the Pribilof Islands, deny entry to all vessels that harbor rats.

Are those raisins in your cereal?



Did You Know?

Rats can breed at just three months of age and will produce new litters of up to a dozen new rats every 3 weeks. So just one pair of rats hiding on your boat could soon multiply into a full-fledged infestation!



*Under ideal conditions,
2 rats could = 15,000 rats in one year!*

New State Regulations

1. Prohibit the intentional or negligent feeding of rats, mice, and other "deleterious exotic wildlife" (e.g. unsecured garbage, improperly stored food);
2. Make it against the law for the owner or operator of a vessel, vehicle, aircraft, structure being translocated, or other means of conveyance of knowingly or unknowingly harboring live rats or mice, or to enter Alaska (including Alaska waters) while knowingly or unknowingly harboring these animals; and
3. Require that the owner or operator of a harbor, port, airport, or food processing facility in which live rats or mice have been found develop and implement an ongoing rodent response and eradication or control plan.