

Commercial Vessel Levy from 1 April 2026

Industry introductory pack V1

Important: The materials provided are shared to support industry readiness of the upcoming changes. Content may be updated as we receive feedback and finalise implementation details. Please refer to the Customs website or contact us directly for the most up-to-date information via trade.programme@customs.govt.nz



NEW ZEALAND
CUSTOMS SERVICE
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

**Protecting and promoting
New Zealand across borders**

The Government has approved a Commercial Vessel Levy from 1 April 2026

- From 1 April 2026 all goods fees will be removed and replaced with levies.
- The Government has approved the introduction of a new Commercial Vessel Levy.
- The levy will be charged to all commercial ships arriving in New Zealand from 1 April 2026 (NZ time) – unless they are exempt.
- NZ Customs will collect the levy on behalf of Customs and MPI:
 - The combined rate is \$4,679.00, exclusive of GST.
 - The levy is split between NZ Customs (\$3,717.00) and MPI (\$962.00).

**2026
change
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New Levy for Commercial Vessels arriving in NZ

From 1 April 2026, the Commercial Vessel Levy (CVL) will apply to all commercial vessels arriving in New Zealand.

Some exemptions apply.

- Apart from a minor change below, all documentation and processes you follow for vessels arriving in New Zealand stays the same.
- To enable Customs to charge the levy:
 - The Advanced Notice of Arrival (ANA) NZCS 344 form will have a small change to enable your Shipping Masters to nominate the organisation name that should receive the CVL invoice.
 - Customs will confirm existing Customer billing accounts or set up new accounts before 1 April 2026.

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What you need to know: Vessel Exemptions

The government has exempted some vessels from the CVL:

- Vessels whose business is not partially or fully commercial, such as research vessels.
- Vessels whose purpose is wholly or primarily relating to passengers, such as cruise ships.
- Vessels making round trips in the Exclusive Economic Zone provided that the voyage does not include meeting with any craft or person from a point outside New Zealand.
- Fishing vessels making 'round trip' voyages to the High Seas that do not visit foreign ports or interact with other vessels.
- New Zealand Defence Force and other military vessels.
- Other vessels where necessary to comply with international obligations.

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What you need to know: ANA form change

Important: Your teams and ship's Masters need to be aware of changes to Section I in the Advanced Notice of Arrival form (ANA – NZCS 344 form)

Existing ANA form

PART H Border Clearance Levy information

87. Preferred email address (for Border Clearance Levy invoice)

Note: email address only required for vessels carrying passengers

Customs use only

88. Invoice number

PART I Agent's details

89. Name

90. Company name

91. Phone number

92. Email address

93. Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

94. Craft's location at the time of ANA submission

Revised ANA form

PART H Agent's details

87. Name

88. Company name

89. Phone number

90. Email address

91. Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

92. Craft's location at the time of ANA submission

PART I Invoicing information

This section tells us who is to be charged any Border Clearance or Commercial Vessel Levies.

93. Invoice the Agent in section H above?

☐ Yes

☐ No, invoice company below

Company name:

1 February 2026:

In response to industry feedback, you can choose to nominate where the CVL invoice will go in Part I.

Please note the small format and information changes to Part I.

The small revision to Part H & I of the ANA form will come into effect on 1 February 2026 prior to the Commercial Vessel Levy coming in on 1 April 2026.

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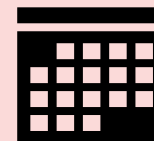
New Levy for Commercial Vessels arriving in NZ

Customs.govt.nz – 2026 levy fees

All costs shown are in NZD

What	Who pays	Levy charge from 1 April 2026			When is payment due
		Customs excl. GST	MPI excl. GST	Combined total excl. GST	
Commercial Vessel Levy (CVL)	Owners or Operators or the Agent of the Owner or Operator	\$3,717.00	\$962.00	\$4,679.00	30 days following invoice

- Customs will work with you to confirm existing Customer billing accounts or set up new accounts before 1 April 2026.
- In response to industry feedback, invoices will be sent twice a month.
- Once you have received the CVL invoice, payment needs to be made 30 days following invoice date.



Invoice periods

1st-15th month
16th-end month

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Summary

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KEY:



Stays the same

Change

From 1 April 2026, all good fees will be removed, and they will be replaced with levies.

There is a new levy for commercial vessels arriving in New Zealand.

	What you do now	Your documentation	What you need to do from 1 April 2026
Before your vessel arrives	Port confirmation Ship Master or agent notifies authorities about the crew, cargo, last port, next port, safety/security declarations	Advance documents , e.g. dangerous goods declaration, inward cargo report Advance Notice of Arrival (ANA) is completed at least 48 hours before arrival in NZ Territorial Waters	No change
After your vessel arrives	Customs will raise an invoice for the Commercial Vessel Levy <u>twice</u> a month. Payment is due 30 days after invoice date.		Important: We will send an invoice for NZD\$4,679.00 + GST to the organisation as noted in Section H or I on the ANA form .

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