Before the commencement of daily operations all personnel should be reminded of general PPE requirements. The following are minimum standards that must be followed when cleaning/disinfecting UCSB owned/operated vessels and vessel specific equipment. Users are encouraged to exceed these standards while following all applicable health, safety and environmental laws.

All boat surfaces and boating related equipment that is touched by the operator or crew will be cleaned/disinfected at the end of the operating day. It is the PI and captain’s responsibility to insure the following three-part strategy (in this order) is completed in its entirety:

1) Rinsed or wiped down with clean water
2) Disinfected with an environmentally safe, EPA approved disinfectant
3) Allowed to dry for a minimum of 12 hours before re-use.

The following is a minimum list of surfaces and equipment that may require cleaning/disinfection after use:

- Electronic Equipment: GPS, Radar, VHF, Tachometer, Trim Tab Switches, Key
- Boat Specific Surfaces: Hand Rails, Swim Steps, Gunnels, Anchor/Chain, Dash, Helm, Sling Pear and Clips
- Trailer: Jack, Trailer Dolly, Chains, Hitch and Wire Harness
- Safety Kits/Equipment (only if used): Oxygen Kit, First Aid Kit, Emergency Signaling Equipment, Dive Flag, Current Line

The following guidelines must be followed when cleaning/disinfecting boats and boat specific equipment at the UCSB Marine Lab:

- All personnel will wear eye protection, gloves and a face covering while cleaning/disinfecting boats and boat specific equipment.
- When there is a significant chance of chemical runoff into the environment, only non-toxic, biodegradable EPA approved chemicals are allowed to be used when cleaning vessels and equipment.
- All cleaning/disinfection supplies will be provided by the PI, will be checked for expiration and will be used per manufacturer instructions.
- Disinfectants will be given 12 hrs to dry before the next boat user.
- Electronics, steering wheel, throttle, safety kits and communal hand rails will be wiped down with clean/potable water then disinfected with 60-70% Isopropyl alcohol wipes and left to dry.
- Communal surfaces such as anchors, anchor chain, gunnels, swim step rails, etc should be rinsed with high pressure clean water before being sprayed with an environmentally friendly EPA approved disinfectant and left to dry.
- Equipment made from a suitable material and that can be safely removed from the vessel and cleaned/disinfected in a laboratory sink or similar can be disinfected with a diluted bleach solution prepared by mixing 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water. Bleach solutions should not be used where follow up rinsing poses a threat to the environment.

*Note: These cleaning guidelines only apply to boat surfaces/equipment that are contacted by the users and pose a risk of surface contact virus transmission. These guidelines do not apply to the hull, engine, windows, trailer body etc. These surfaces should be hosed down per normal boat cleaning procedures.*