The Boating Traffic Management Plan exists to protect the environment of the Williams River.

The conditions of the ‘Plan’ are enforceable under NSW Maritime regulations.
Narrow waterways like the Williams River are valued and used for a diverse range of activities. Responsible navigation by vessel masters plays an integral part in protecting the rivers for future use.

Remember the following rules and safety messages and you’ll ensure that everyone enjoys a great day out on the water.

- Make sure your activity is compatible with the river and consider how your actions will impact on other users.
- Minimise your Wash
  Consider other waterway users. Look behind your vessel and check if your wash could be annoying to others or damaging to the foreshore.
- Power turns are not permitted
  Power turns have the ability to create large wash. Vessels must slow down to idle speed to turn around.
- No Ballast or wave enhancing devices
  Vessels must not be loaded with ballast water or solid ballast, or be fitted with any wave enhancing devices.
- Keep your distance
  When travelling at a speed of 10 knots or more keep a safe distance from people in the water, other vessels, the shore and any other objects in the water.
- When navigating your vessel
  Always keep to the right, where possible stay as close to the middle of the river as possible. This helps your wash dissipate before it reaches the shore and helps reduce riverbank erosion.
- Drive in a straight line
  Each time you change the vessel’s direction you increase the effect the wash has on others and the foreshore.
- Head on situation with another vessel
  Alter course to the right and pass the other vessel at a safe distance. Always make your intentions clear and in sufficient time.
- Caution – Fallen skiers
  Turn your vessel at idle speed, return to your skier slowly and on the same course. You protect your skier from other vessels and avoid creating excessive wash.
- Boat ramps
  Immediately move away from the ramp after launching your vessel to avoid obstructing others.
- Noise Annoys
  Noise travels better over water than land. Before heading out consider time of day, location, wind direction, your vessel’s engine and music.
- Safety Equipment
  Ensure you are carrying all the required safety equipment on your vessel.

For more information contact the Newcastle Office on 4962 8500, or visit our website www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime.

Remember CARE, COURTESY AND COMMONSENSE!