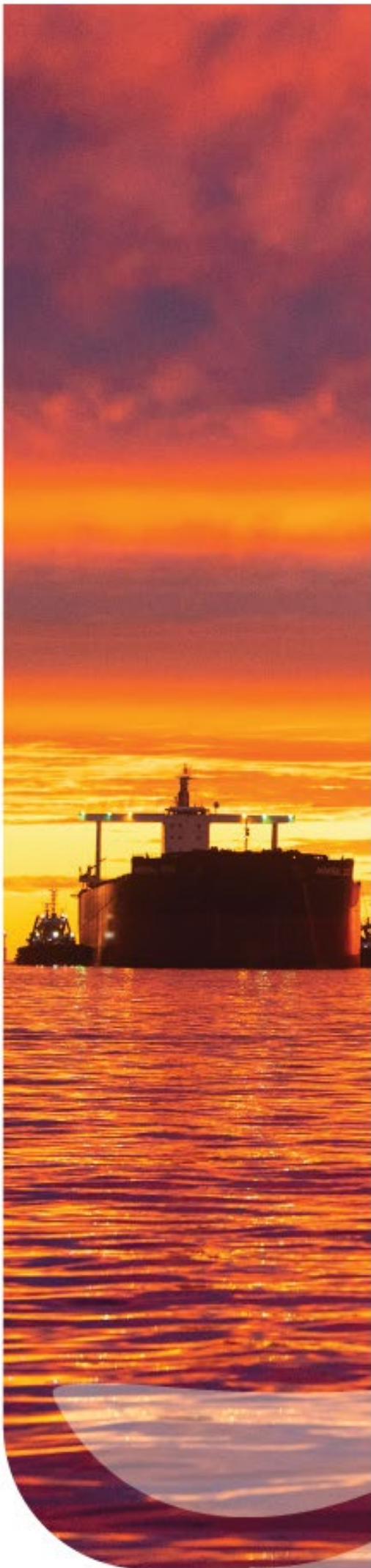




# PORT OF ASHBURTON EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

A576544



**PILBARA PORTS INTERNAL CONTACT LIST**

**24-Hour Emergency Number (08) 9159 6556 or 0428 888 800**

<b>Pilbara Ports Personnel</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Security Gatehouse (Dampier)	(08) 9159 6584 (staffed 24 hours a day)
Media	0447 072 294

**PILBARA PORTS EXTERNAL CONTACT LIST**

Onslow Police	(08) 9159 9100
Ambulance/Police/DFES	000
Onslow Hospital	(08) 9184 3200
Department of Transport Oil Spills 24/7	(08) 9480 9924
Chevron Emergency Contact 24/7	(08) 9184 7444

**PILBARA PORTS UHF EMERGENCY RADIO FREQUENCY**

Sitewide UHF Radio Emergency Frequency	Channel 17
---	------------

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS..... 5
- 1. INTRODUCTION..... 8
- 2. SCOPE ..... 9
- 3. AIM ..... 10
- 4. LEGISLATION..... 11
  - 4.1 Defining an Emergency.....11
  - 4.2 Emergency Activation and Response.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
  - 4.3 Supporting Documents.....14
  - 4.4 Priorities.....15
  - 4.5 Reporting Incidents .....15
    - 4.5.1 Marine.....15
    - 4.5.2 Landside .....16
    - 4.5.3 Aircraft .....16
  - 4.6 Ashburton Pilots.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
  - 4.7 Stakeholders Actions .....16
  - 4.8 Fire Fighting Resources .....16
  - 4.9 Cost Incurred .....17
- 5. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ..... 18
  - 5.1 Incident Controller.....18
  - 5.2 Incident Control System .....18
  - 5.3 Incident Level Classifications .....18
  - 5.4 IMT Structure .....18
  - 5.5 Salvage and Casualty Coordination .....19
  - 5.6 Role of the Casualty Coordination Unit.....19
  - 5.7 IMT Locations .....20
    - 5.7.1 Incident Control Centre (ICC).....20
  - 5.8 Media.....20
  - 5.9 Pilbara Ports Preparations .....21
  - 5.10 Inter-agency and External Liaison .....21
  - 5.11 Safety during an Incident .....21
  - 5.12 Preservation of the Scene .....22
- 6. MARINE INCIDENTS ..... 23
  - 6.1 General Guidance for Marine Operational Emergencies .....23
  - 6.2 Port Emergency .....23
  - 6.3 Movement and Control of Shipping .....24
  - 6.4 Port Emergency VHF Working Channel .....24

---

6.5	Ship Stability .....	24
6.6	Dangerous Goods .....	24
7.	SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES .....	24
7.1	Fire on a Vessel Alongside.....	24
7.2	Fire on the Vessel Underway .....	25
7.3	Fire on a Vessel in the Anchorage .....	25
7.4	Vessel Grounding .....	26
7.5	Vessel Collision,.....	26
7.6	Disabled Vessel in the Channel .....	26
7.7	Pilot Injured or Incapacitated.....	27
7.8	Mooring line .....	27
7.9	Vessel Dragging Anchor .....	27
7.10	Man Over Board (MOB) .....	27
7.11	Casualty Evacuation .....	27
7.12	Small Vessel Incidents .....	28
7.13	Search and Rescue.....	28
7.14	VTS Evacuation .....	28
8.	LANDSIDE EMERGENCIES .....	28
8.1	General Guidance for Landside Operational Emergencies.....	28
8.2	Fall from Height.....	29
8.3	Landside Fire .....	29
8.4	Bulk Hydrocarbon Spill Landside.....	30
8.5	Dangerous Goods or Noxious and Hazardous Substance Spills .....	30
8.6	Blockage of Port Access Roads .....	30
8.7	Heavy Vehicle Collision.....	31
8.8	Cargo Handling Incident.....	31
9.	AIRCRAFT EMERGENCIES LAND / SEA.....	32
10.	EXERCISES.....	33
11.	SITE INFORMATION PORT OF ASHBURTON .....	34
11.1	Map of Port Limits Port of Ashburton.....	34
11.2	Map of VTS Coverage area.....	35
11.3	Map of Muster Points - Port of Ashburton.....	36
12.	PROCESS OWNER .....	37

**DOCUMENT AMENDMENT TABLE**

<b>VERSION</b>	<b>PREPARED BY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>AMENDMENT DETAILS</b>
1	Security Supervisor	23/01/2018	Port of Dampier and Ashburton – Emergency Response Plan divided into individual port plans.
2	Security Supervisor	14/01/2020	Added Chevron 24/7 emergency contact telephone number, sitewide UHF emergency frequency and map showing Muster Points locations. Updated information relating to the State Emergency Plan and the State Hazard Plan (MEE).
3	Harbour Master	23/11/2021	Schedule Review
4	Harbour Master		Updated Emergency Maps Updated Supporting Documents Updated Abbreviations and Definitions Updated Defined Emergencies Removed Pilbara Ports and replaced with Pilbara Ports

**ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
AIIMS	Australian Inter-service Incident Management System
BIEMC	Burrup Industries Emergency Management Committee
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DBLB	Dampier Bulk Liquids Berth
DCW	Dampier Cargo Wharf
DEMC	District Emergency Management Committee
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
DG	Dangerous Goods
DOT	Department of Transport
DPAW	Department of Environment and Conservation
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
ECO	Emergency Control Organisation
EM Act	Emergency Management Act 2005
EM Regs	Emergency Management Regulations 2006
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incident
HM	Harbour Master
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
IC	Incident Controller
ICC	Incident Control Centre
IMDG Code	International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code
IMS	Incident Management System
IMT	Incident Management Team

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
IRMS	Integrated Risk Management System
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSIC	Maritime Security Identification Card
OH&S	Occupational Health & Safety
OIC	Officer in Charge
POWBONS Act	Pollution of Waters by Oil & Noxious Substances Act 1987
PPE	Personal Protection Equipment
Regulations	Port Authorities Regulations 2001
SAR	Search and Rescue
SDS	Safety Data Sheets
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SO	Support Organisation
SoA	Shire of Ashburton
The Act	Port Authorities Act 1999
The Port	Port of Ashburton
TIM	Training and Incident Management Building (Port of Dampier)
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
VHF	Very High Frequency
VTS	Vessel Traffic Services
VTSC	Vessel Traffic Services Centre
VTSO	Vessel Traffic Services Officer

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
Australian Inter-service Incident Management System	System which integrates effective practices in emergency preparedness and response into a comprehensive framework for incident management. Such a system enables responders at all levels to work together more effectively to manage incidents no matter what the cause, size or complexity

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
Combat Agency	Is an organisation which, because of its expertise and resources, is responsible for performing a task or activity such as firefighting, rescue, temporary building restoration, evacuation, containment of oil spills, monitoring of radioactive materials.
Emergency Incident	An incident that may result in the loss of life, serious injury, major equipment damage/loss or environmental damage.
Environmental Emergency	An emergency that involves widespread destruction and/or contamination of the environment and call for immediate action (for example, a major fuel or hazardous chemical spill).
Hazard Management Agency	An organisation which, because of its legislative responsibility or specialised knowledge, expertise and resources, is responsible for ensuring that all emergency management activities pertaining to the prevention of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from a specific hazard are undertaken.
Hazardous Material	Materials which, without adequate safeguards, may contaminate the environment to the immediate or subsequent detriment of that environment and/or human society, and includes all dangerous goods and many industrial chemicals and wastes.
Incident Action Plan	A statement of objectives and strategies to be taken to control an incident.
Incident Control Centre	The location where the Incident Controller and members of the Incident Management Team provide overall direction of response activities in an incident.
Incident Controller	Individual responsible for the management of all operations in response to an incident. Role is undertaken by Pilbara Ports where Pilbara Ports is the designated HMA
Incident Management Team	A team which provides a structured and coordinated approach in response to an incident, and which consists of members from the HMA, combat Agencies, Support Organisations and Pilbara Ports.
Incident Safety Officer	An individual responsible for the overall safety of personnel involved in the response.
Muster Points	Pre-arranged locations where Pilbara Ports employees, visitors and contractors assemble in the event of an emergency in order to be accounted for.
State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)	The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), established under the Emergency Management Act 2005, is a standing committee that provides strategic advice to the Minister for Emergency Services.
Support Organisation	A support organisation provides functions such as welfare, health, transport, essential services etc. Support organisations report to the incident controller.

---

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Port of Ashburton is located in the west Pilbara region of North-West Western Australia approximately 12 kilometres west of the port and town of Onslow. This ERP has been constructed to fulfil Pilbara Ports responsibilities as per the *Port Authorities Act 1999* and the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*, where the provision of Port Services includes providing emergency response strategies to emergencies within the boundaries of the Port of Ashburton over which Pilbara Ports holds jurisdiction.

## **2. SCOPE**

This ERP covers emergencies within the Port of Ashburton port boundaries.

Marine pollution emergencies in the ports are covered by the State Hazard Plan Maritime Environmental Emergencies (MEE).

### **2.1 Major Identified Risks to the Ports**

- Bomb Threat/Terrorism
- Collision or Grounding (vessel)
- Distress call received from a vessel
- Fire/Explosion Vessel/Facility
- Hazardous Material Emergency/Chemical Spill
- Sea and Rescue (Person overboard)
- Sudden Death (Fatality Management)
- Tsunami
- Medical Emergency

---

**3. AIM**

The ERP aims to provide guidance to Pilbara Ports Port of Ashburton staff, port stakeholders and users on the response to operational emergencies, to ensure the least potential impact on port operations. This document is supported by other Pilbara Ports documents outlined in the supporting document section 5.3.

#### 4. LEGISLATION

The Emergency Response Procedures have been developed in accordance with the acts and regulations in Table 1.

**Table 1 - Acts and Legislation**

ACTS AND REGULATIONS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Australian Inter-service Incident Management System	System which integrates effective practices in emergency preparedness and response into a comprehensive framework for incident management. Such a system enables responders at all levels to work together more effectively to manage incidents no matter what the cause, size or complexity
Emergency Management Act 2005 as amended	An act to provide for the prompt and coordinated organisation of Emergency Management (EM) in the Western Australia (WA).
Emergency Management Regulations 2006 as amended	Subsidiary legislation under the EM Act which outlines the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), details the Hazard management Agencies (HMA) and Combat Agencies for each hazard.
Port Authorities Act 1999 as amended	Details the functions, the areas that they are to control and manage, the way in which Port Authorities are to operate and related matters.
Port Authorities Regulations 2001 as amended	Subsidiary legislation under the Port Authorities Act which outlines the conduct of vessels in port, Pilotage and Pilotage Exemption Certificates, and other aspects of the conduct of the Port Authorities.
Mines Safety and Inspection Act 1994 as amended	Consolidates and amends the law relating to the safety of mines and mining operations and the inspection of mines and mining operations and plant and substances
Mines Safety and Inspection Regulations 1995 as amended	Subsidiary legislation under the Mines Safety and Inspection Act which outlines the Administrative, and safety requirements under the Mines Safety Act.

##### 4.1 Defining an Emergency

The Emergency Management Act 2005 and Emergency Management Regulations 2006 identifies 27 major hazards and assigns hazard management agencies and control agencies to each hazard.

State Hazard Plans describe the hazard-specific emergency management arrangements in WA. The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has delegated responsibility for the development, maintenance, review and exercising of relevant State Hazard Plans to the authorised hazard management agencies.

An emergency is defined as an event, actual or imminent, which endangers or threatens to endanger life, property, or the environment, and which may halt or hinder the operations of the port.

**Table 2 - Hazards Identified Under The Emergency Act**

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGENCY</b>	<b>CONTROLLING AGENCY</b>	<b>STATE HAZARD PLAN</b>
Air Crash	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	Crash Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Animal and Plant Biosecurity	Director General, DPIRD	DPIRD	Animal and Plant Biosecurity – State Hazard Plan
Collapse (r. 15(e))	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Collapse – State Hazard Plan
Cyclone	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Severe Weather – State Hazard Plan
Earthquake	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Earthquake – State Hazard Plan
Electricity Energy Supply Disruption <sup>1</sup> (r. 15(l))	Coordinator of Energy	Coordinator of Energy	Energy Supply Disruption – State Hazard Plan
Fire	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attraction’s (DBCA) Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS), and local governments are responsible for fire management in their respective jurisdictions	Fire – State Hazard Plan
Flood	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Severe Weather – State Hazard Plan
Gas Energy or Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption <sup>1</sup> (r. 15(k))	Coordinator of Energy	Coordinator of Energy	Energy Supply Disruption – State Hazard Plan
Hazardous Material – Biological (r. 15(f))	Chief Executive Officer	Department of Health	Human Biosecurity – State Hazard Plan

<sup>1</sup> Infrastructure Operators are considered the controlling agencies for physical restoration of supply.

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGENCY</b>	<b>CONTROLLING AGENCY</b>	<b>STATE HAZARD PLAN</b>
HAZMAT – Chemical, radiological or other substance (r. 15(f))	Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner	DFES	HAZMAT – State Hazard Plan
Heatwave (r. 15(m))	Chief Executive Officer	Department of Health	Heatwave – State Hazard Plan
Human Epidemic (r. 15(g))	Chief Executive Officer	Department of Health	Human Biosecurity – State Hazard Plan
Land Search (r. 15(a))	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	Search and Rescue Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Marine Oil Pollution (r. 15(j))	Chief Executive Officer	Department of Transport	Maritime Environmental Emergencies - State Hazard Plan
Marine Search (r. 15(b))	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	Search and Rescue Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Marine Transport Emergency (r. 15(i))	Chief Executive Officer	Department of Transport	Maritime Environmental Emergencies - State Hazard Plan
Radiation NPW (r. 15(c))	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	HAZMAT Annex A Nuclear Powered Warship – State Hazard Plan
Rail Crash PTA	Public Transport Authority	Public Transport Authority	Crash Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Rail Crash ARC Infrastructure	Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd (Arc Infrastructure)	Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd (Arc Infrastructure)	Crash Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Road Crash	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	Crash Emergency – State Hazard Plan
Storm	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Severe Weather – State Hazard Plan

HAZARD	HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGENCY	CONTROLLING AGENCY	STATE HAZARD PLAN
Space Re-entry Debris (SPRED) (r. 15(d))	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	HAZMAT Annex B SPRED – State Hazard Plan
Hostile Act (r. 15 (n))	Commissioner of Police	WA Police	Hostile Act – State Hazard Plan
Tsunami	Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner	DFES	Tsunami – State Hazard Plan

For the majority of incidents, the relevant HMA will respond to the incident and manage the hazard specific component in conjunction with Pilbara Ports. Pilbara Ports will manage the impact on port operations and business continuity. For a Maritime Transport Emergency (MTE) and Marine Oil Pollution (MOP) the Harbour Master will assume the role of Incident Controller on behalf of DOT.

This plan integrates with the following Pilbara Ports policies, plans and procedures:

- Crisis Management Plan
- Business Continuity Manual
- Emergency Response Procedures – Facility

#### **4.2 State Emergency Response Arrangements**

Pilbara Ports holds an active interest in the following State Emergency Management Committees:

- State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)
- District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)
- Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) and
- Local Marine Oil Pollution Committee (MOP) which meets quarterly

#### **4.3 Supporting Documents**

While this document outlines emergency response procedures, it is recommended that this document is read in conjunction with other Pilbara Ports documents.

- Work Health and Safety Management Plan
- Environmental Management Plan
- Incident Management Procedure Port of Ashburton Port Handbook
- Pilbara Ports West – Marine Pollution Contingency Plan
- Port of Ashburton – Marine Safety Plan
- Pilbara Ports Marine West – Cyclone Response Plan
- Ashburton VTS Emergency Checklists
- ERC 00 – Dampier Emergency Contact List

- ERC 01 – Aircraft Accident In / Around Port Waters
- ERC 02 – Dangerous Goods (including ammonium nitrate) Emergency
- ERC 03 – Recreational / Commercial Vessel Emergency Situation In / Around Port Waters
- ERC 04 – Break Away from Berth / Not Under Command
- ERC 05 – Bomb or Terrorism Threat
- ERC 06 – Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel (SIEV)
- ERC 07 – Man Overboard (From Vessel or Jetty)
- ERC 08 – Marine Pollution (Oil & Chemical)
- ERC 09 – Medical Evacuation & Flowchart
- ERC 10 – Sudden Death (Fatality) Management Emergency Ashore and at Sea
- ERC 11 – Vessel Fire / Explosion When at Berth
- ERC 12 – Vessel Collision / Grounding / Fire / Explosion When Not at Berth
- ERC 13 – Tsunami Threat to the Port
- ERC 14 – Evacuation of VTSC
- ERC 15 – Anhydrous Ammonia Release
- ERC 16 – Gatehouse Duress Alarm

#### **4.4 Priorities**

During operational emergency response the response effort has the following priorities:

- Safety of life
- Minimising the impact on the environment
- Minimising the damage to port infrastructure
- Minimising the impact on port operations
- Ensuring the continuation of adjacent operations
- Recovery

#### **4.5 Reporting Incidents**

All incidents shall be reported to Ashburton VTS on VHF 14 or VHF16, or phone 9159 6556. The Duty Vessel Traffic Services Officer (VTSO) shall record the details of the incident. UHF Ch17 is used for onsite stakeholder and visitor emergency communications.

##### **4.5.1 Marine**

- Vessel Name
- Vessel Location
- Nature of the Emergency
- Number of Casualties
- Assistance required
- Number of Persons On Board (POB)
- Actions being taken
- Name and contact details

#### **4.5.2 Landside**

- Location
- Nature of the Emergency
- Number of casualties
- Assistance required
- If Emergency Services have been contacted
- Actions being taken
- Name and Contact Details

#### **4.5.3 Aircraft**

- Aircraft call sign or description
- Location of the incident
- Nature of the emergency
- Number of POB
- If Emergency Services have been contacted
- Name and Contact Details

#### **4.6 Pilots Operating Within the Port of Ashburton**

Marine Pilots may be asked to assist in support of the Harbour Master or delegate.

#### **4.7 Stakeholders Actions**

The Harbour Master or delegate will determine the resources required to respond to the incident. Service providers will be contacted by Ashburton VTS at the direction of the Harbour Master or delegate for assistance if required.

All stakeholders or port users not involved in the emergency are to remain well clear of the incident location and not to interfere with or hamper the response efforts.

#### **4.8 Fire Fighting Resources**

There are limited fire-fighting capability and resources in the immediate area. Resources and expertise are available from local DFES at Onslow and from ship crews alongside. The Ashburton Cargo Wharf is covered by a mobile fire skiff which is deployed at the South Wharf and can be moved if required.

DFES has a volunteer fire brigade. This unit will respond to landside emergencies and boundary cool from the deck of a vessel but will not be deployed internally on a vessel, to fight a fire. Where possible, appropriately trained DFES volunteers will be deployed to tugs with firefighting capabilities to assist with the direction of the fire monitors.

Where Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) is used in landside firefighting response all reasonable and practicable efforts shall be made to contain the foam and prevent the runoff entering the Harbour.

---

**Note: There are strict assessment criteria to be considered before using firefighting foams within the Port of Dampier operating environment. The approval of the Harbour Master must be sought prior to using firefighting foam within the Port’s operating environment.**

**4.9 Cost Incurred**

All costs incurred in response to marine incidents, such as pilots, tugs, lines boats or crew transfer vessels shall be invoiced to the vessel’s agent.

## **5. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT**

### **5.1 Incident Controller**

The Hazard Management Agency is responsible for appointing the Incident Controller (IC). Refer to Table 2.

### **5.2 Incident Control System**

Pilbara Ports has adopted the Australasian Inter Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) for incident management. AIIMS has been adopted to ensure interoperability with all response agencies and to provide a known structure that can be adapted to suit the response requirements.

The IC will assess the required response effort and adjust the size and scale of the response to meet the specific incident requirement. That is, the IC will determine number of responders required and the functional areas that are stood up to form the Incident Management Team.

### **5.3 Incident Level Classifications**

Under the AIIMS Incident management system the following incident classifications are used:

- Level 1 – are generally able to be resolved through the application of local or initial resources only.
- Level 2 - are more complex in size, duration, resource management and risk and may require deployment of jurisdiction resources beyond the initial response
- Level 3 – are generally characterised by a degree of complexity that requires the Incident Controller to delegate all incident management functions to focus on strategic leadership and response coordination and may be supported by national and international resources.

In determining the level of the response, the following shall be considered:

- The nature of the emergency
- The location of the emergency and the ability of responders or emergency services to access the site if required
- The requirement for resources beyond the Pilbara Ports Ashburton inventory
- The likely duration of the response effort
- The requirement for specialist skills

### **5.4 IMT Structure**

The IMT Structure may include:

- Incident Controller
- Planning
- Operations
- Logistic

- Finance
- Casualty Coordination
- Media

An Investigation into the incident may be conducted by the WA Police (WAPOL), Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), DOT Marine Safety Investigation Unit (MSIU), Work Safe WA or Department of Mines and Petroleum. Where the above organisations conduct an investigation, they will perform the role of the investigation function. The IMT is to provide support and assistance as required including ensuring appropriate records and evidence is maintained. Pilbara Ports may also conduct an investigation into an incident.

Media and Public relations will be handled by Pilbara Ports Communications team. The communications team is contactable on:

- Mobile: 0447 072 294
- Email: [media@pilbaraports.com](mailto:media@pilbaraports.com)

### **5.5 Salvage and Casualty Coordination**

In the event of a maritime casualty, careful management and oversight of the salvage effort is required to ensure it is effective and does not result in further risk to the marine environment or the operations of the port. The vessel owners will engage a salvor to render the casualty to a safe state and deliver the vessel to a specified location. Pilbara Ports has engaged its own contractor to provide salvage advice and related services.

For level 1 incidents a casualty coordination unit will be established within the IMT.

For level 2 and level 3 incidents, a separate casualty coordination IMT will be raised. This will work closely with the salvor and commonwealth agencies to ensure the effectiveness of the salvage effort and the protection of the marine environment.

### **5.6 Role of the Casualty Coordination Unit**

The role of the Casualty Coordination Unit (CCU) will depend on the nature of the incident. The CCU will reside in the IMT where it will be responsible for coordinating the salvage effort from the port's perspective.

The CCU will also liaise with the following:

- Ship master
- Salvor
- DOT
- AMSA
- Port Services (Pilots, Tugs etc.)

The CCU is to ensure that the salvage plan is:

- Adequate
- Properly resourced
- Minimises the potential impact on the environment
- Does not have the potential to create further risk to port infrastructure or operations
- Takes into account forecasted and prevailing weather conditions

## 5.7 IMT Locations

### 5.7.1 Incident Control Centre (ICC)

The designated ICC for Ashburton is the Training and Incident Management building (TIM) located at Dampier port.

**Table 3 - Incident Management Team Locations**

FUNCTIONAL AREA	BREAKOUT ROOM	FORWARD OPERATING BASE	COMMENTS
Incident Controller	Marine Operations Incident Control Room and VTS	Ashburton Conference Room	TIM is fitted out with the VTS console and VHF radio, providing situational awareness if required.
Planning	Marine Operations Incident Control Room	Ashburton Conference Room	
Operations	Marine Operations Incident Control Room and VTS	Ashburton Conference Room	
Finance	Karratha Quarter	Ashburton Conference Room	
Logistics	Marine Operations Incident Room	Ashburton Conference Room	
Media	Perth Head Office, Karratha Quarter or DMOC	Ashburton Conference Room	

## 5.8 Media

An office at the Pilbara Ports administration building will be made available for the person nominated by the Incident Controller (IC) to liaise with the media during an emergency.

It is of the utmost importance that the media (electronic and print) are informed of progress during an emergency response, particularly in an environmental situation, i.e. a major oil spill.

The media should only be briefed by the Chief Executive Officer or a trained and approved Pilbara Ports media spokesperson.

### **5.9 Pilbara Ports Preparations**

Pilbara Ports has a contract in place with a local provider to provide marine services. These services include the provision of a vessel for normal operation requirements and emergency response requirements.

The Harbour Master and Deputy Harbour Masters operate a 24/7 on-call duty Harbour Master roster.

Towage provider licences contain clauses which require service providers to respond to Harbour Masters directions in the case of an emergency.

Contained within Ashburton VTS standard operating procedures are a number of emergency response checklists (refer to 4.3 Supporting Documents). VTS is operated 24/7 and available as an Incident Control Centre for the relevant HMA to manage any port emergencies.

Communications systems include telephones, mobile phones, radio base stations and portable radios (VHF 14 and 16 and UHF 17 and the Pilbara Ports's own ECO UHF network).

### **5.10 Inter-agency and External Liaison**

Where the IMT is liaising with another agency (such as DFES or SoA) consideration should be given to include a representative of that agency within the IMT, as a liaison and advisor. This will facilitate better communication and will allow for a more in-depth assessment of the response requirements and ensure a more coordinated and efficient response.

A representative of the vessels Protection and Indemnity Club (P&I Club) may be present within the IMT as an advisor to ensure that there is open communication and involvement for the P&I Club.

### **5.11 Safety during an Incident**

The safety of personnel is the highest response priority. All response activities must be undertaken safely, in compliance with Pilbara Ports policies and standard operating procedures, and with consideration for the risks outlined below.

All personnel must comply with:

- Pilbara Ports Work Health And Safety Policy
- Pilbara Ports Fitness For Duty Alcohol And Drugs Procedure
- Pilbara Ports Fitness For Work Duty Fatigue Management Procedure
- Pilbara Ports Hazard Management Procedure
- Pilbara Ports Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Procedure
- Pilbara Ports Incident Management Procedure

---

Where a person's life is at immediate risk or requires immediate first aid, the responders are to make an assessment of the hazards and only when safe to do so provide assistance to the casualty.

Where the safety of life is not threatened, responders are required to complete a Job Hazard Analysis as per the Hazard Management Procedure.

**5.12 Preservation of the Scene**

The requirements in the [Pilbara Ports Incident Management Procedure](#) to preserve the scene are to be complied with at all times.

## **6. MARINE INCIDENTS**

### **6.1 General Guidance for Marine Operational Emergencies**

For all marine operational emergencies, the duty VTSSO upon receiving the report will gain the necessary information (who, what, when, where, why, how and actions), from the vessel or stakeholder reporting the incident. The duty VTSSO will contact the Harbour Master or delegate and provide the necessary brief. The duty VTSSO will take action in accordance with the direction of the Harbour Master and the relevant ERC (VTSSO's Emergency Response Checklists).

The following will be considered by the Incident Controller:

- Safety of life
- Control over the vessel is maintained
- The vessel has sufficient resources to be assisted to a safe location
- Minimise the risk to the marine environment
- Minimise the impact on shipping and port operations

A careful assessment of the impact the incident has on shipping will be made by the Incident Controller. The Incident Controller will assess the impact and where the safety of personnel is at risk the operation will be restricted or shipping movements suspended until it is safe to recommence. The impact will be carefully managed with a view to safely facilitating all operations.

### **6.2 Port Emergency**

In the context of operational emergencies, a port emergency is defined as an event that poses significant risk to the safe or continued operation of the port by effecting the:

- Safety of personnel within the port area
- Shipping channel,
- Port assets, or
- Port infrastructure.

A port emergency can be declared by the following:

- A Marine Pilot, piloting a ship
- The Harbour Master or delegate

A port emergency requires the co-ordination and careful allocation of port resources such as marine pilots, tugs/firefighting tugs, helicopters, pilot launches and lines boats. The Harbour Master or delegate will assess the situation, allocate resources as required and monitor the effectiveness of the response.

For all marine incidents where the complexity of the incident warrants a second pilot will be transferred to the vessel to assist with communication and on scene management of the incident.

Where tugs are used to assist a vessel including alongside and in the anchorage a pilot will be transferred to the vessel to ensure the safe control of the tugs.

### **6.3 Movement and Control of Shipping**

During a port emergency the Harbour Master or delegate shall assess the situation and determine if there is a requirement to suspend shipping. Where Shipping is suspended, no vessel shall be moved within the VTS area (including the anchorages) without the express permission of the Harbour Master. This will be coordinated by the duty VTSSO through the normal traffic clearance process.

### **6.4 Port Emergency VHF Working Channel**

Port operators conduct their operations on a number of VHF and UHF frequencies. Some of these radio frequencies are private. During an emergency all vessels must be able to communicate on a common frequency.

A Marine Pilot, Harbour Master or delegate may declare a Port Emergency on VHF Channel 14. A Port Emergency will continue until the emergency situation is resolved or is sufficiently stabilised to move back to the normal working frequency.

After the formal declaration of a port emergency, Ashburton VTS will make a Sécurité broadcast on VHF Ch 14 & 16 advising of a port emergency, and Channel 67 must be kept clear for emergency traffic only. Normal communications with Ashburton VTS will be made on VHF channel 14.

### **6.5 Ship Stability**

Where there is concern that a vessel's stability cannot be maintained within safe limits, it shall be immediately reported to the Harbour Master. The Harbour Master and the Master shall assess the situation and take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of the vessel.

### **6.6 Dangerous Goods**

Where dangerous goods (DG) are present on board the Master and crew shall make an assessment of the potential for the DG to be affected by the emergency and advise the VTS accordingly. The Harbour Master will assess the situation and determine if DFES assistance is required.

## **7. SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES**

### **7.1 Fire on a Vessel Alongside**

The Harbour Master will assess the situation and allocate appropriate resources to assist the Master and crew in the response. Firefighting support vessels will be provided to assist the vessel where necessary. The primary use of the tug will be for boundary cooling but can assist with fighting a fire on the deck. Where possible a DFES volunteer firefighter will be placed on the tug to direct the fire monitors.

If the fire on board the vessel results in loss of power or the mooring arrangements rendered inoperable, tugs may be used to hold the vessel alongside if it is considered safe to do so.

Once the fire is extinguished, the damage and condition of the vessel will be assessed and a plan to remove the vessel to a safe location will be implemented.

Firefighting water will also be provided to the vessel alongside from the shore fire line connected through the international ship-shore coupling.

For further details refer to

- ERC 11 – Vessel Fire / Explosion When at Berth

## **7.2 Fire on the Vessel Underway**

Where a vessel is under way and suffers a fire the pilot or master is to advise Ashburton VTS. The Harbour Master in conjunction with the Pilot or master will assess the situation. Considerations will include:

- The severity of the fire and the location on-board
- The ability of the ship's crew to respond effectively to the fire
- The location of the vessel and its ability to reach safe water
- Assets required to assist and their availability

Firefighting support vessels will be sent to assist the vessel as above. The Harbour Master and duty pilot will assess the situation and determine the most suitable option including:

- Continue the passage to open water
- Anchor
- Berth

For further details refer to

- ERC 12 – Vessel Collision / Grounding / Fire / Explosion When Not at Berth

## **7.3 Fire on a Vessel in the Anchorage**

Where a vessel suffers a fire in the anchorage the vessel shall remain at anchor unless approved to weigh anchor and get underway by the Harbour Master. Firefighting support vessels will be used to assist the vessel with the firefighting response.

For further details refer to

- ERC 12 – Vessel Collision / Grounding / Fire / Explosion When Not at Berth

#### **7.4 Vessel Grounding**

Where a vessel grounds a careful assessment of the damage condition of the vessel will be made. The Harbour Master and Duty Pilot will assess the height of tide at the time of grounding and subsequent tides to determine if the vessel is likely to be refloated. Where there is sufficient tidal height and the condition of the vessel allows, the vessel will be refloated as soon as possible and shifted to an anchorage until an assessment of the vessels damage condition can be made.

Where the vessel cannot be refloated, or the damage condition is such that the vessel cannot be safely refloated and moved to open water the Harbour Master will assess the situation and determine what services are required. This may include tugs to hold the vessel in place and work boats to transfer personnel and equipment to the vessel.

If a vessel grounds in the berth pocket the vessels steering gear and propellers condition will be carefully assessed. If safe to do so the vessel will be shifted to the anchorage so an assessment of the vessels condition can be made.

For further details refer to

- ERC 12 – Vessel Collision / Grounding / Fire / Explosion When Not at Berth

#### **7.5 Vessel Collision,**

Where a collision occurs between two vessels tug assistance will be provided if required. Both vessels will, if safe to do so, be allocated an anchorage whilst the damage condition is assessed.

For serious collision a careful assessment of the damage condition of both vessels will be required. Where vessels are locked together a salvage plan will be required.

For further details refer to

- ERC 12 – Vessel Collision / Grounding / Fire / Explosion When Not at Berth

#### **7.6 Disabled Vessel in the Channel**

Where a vessel is disabled in the channel, such as for a main engine failure or blackout, Ashburton VTS will mobilise additional tugs to assist the vessel, if available. The Harbour Master will assess the options for the vessel and determine the best course of action based on Under Keel Clearance, the speed of advance and the conditions. In general, the vessel will be taken to open water where possible.

#### **7.7 Vessel in Channel Hindered by Vessel Ahead**

Where a vessel in the channel is disabled or the speed of advance hinders subsequent ships in the channel, the Harbour Master and the Duty Pilot will assess the situation and determine the safest course of action.

Where appropriate, additional towage will be provided to assist the vessels which are hindered by the vessel ahead. So that the vessel can be safely controlled and maintained in the channel.

#### **7.8 Pilot Injured or Incapacitated**

Where the pilot is injured or incapacitated a second pilot may be immediately transferred to the vessel. In the interim the duty VTSO shall provide assistance to the masters and tugs relating to course over the ground and speed made good. Where the passage cannot be safely continued the tugs are to arrest the momentum of the ship and hold it in the centre of the channel with the assistance from the VTSO until another pilot can be transferred to the vessel.

For further details refer to

- ERC 09 – Medical Evacuation & Flowchart

#### **7.9 Mooring line**

Mooring lines parting is a risk, all mooring failures shall be reported to the VTS. A Pilot will board the vessel and tug assistance will be provided until the line/s can be rerun or the vessel sailed.

#### **7.10 Vessel Dragging Anchor**

All vessels are responsible for monitoring their position and safety whilst at anchor. Where the vessel observes the anchor is not holding, this is to be reported to Ashburton VTS immediately. The Master is to assess the situation and decide whether to pay out more cable or request permission to get underway, re anchor, or steam to weather. The vessel shall keep Ashburton VTS apprised of its actions and intentions.

If the vessel is immobilised (note this requires approval) or requires assistance to anchor a pilot and tugs will be allocated to assist the vessel.

#### **7.11 Person Over Board**

In the event of a person overboard where the vessel cannot recover the person or the person fell from a wharf or structure, Ashburton VTS will direct suitable vessels of opportunity in the vicinity to recover the person.

Search and rescue will be conducted as described below.

For further details refer to

- ERC 07 – Man Overboard (From Vessel or Jetty)

#### **7.12 Casualty Evacuation**

There are limited local resources for evacuating a casualty from the ship. Where a casualty is unconscious or cannot sit upright without assistance the evacuation shall be coordinated by the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) Australia.

If a casualty is transferred by boat, the ACW will be utilised.

The vessels Agent is responsible for arranging the attendance of the St Johns Ambulance Officer and where the transfer cannot be incorporated into the scheduled pilot transfers the cost will be invoiced to the agent.

For further details refer to

- ERC 09 – Medical Evacuation & Flowchart

### **7.13 Small Vessel Incidents**

Where there is a small vessel incident such as collision, grounding or a small vessel becomes disabled, Ashburton VTS will request the assistance of nearby vessels to assist the vessel. The vessel will be towed to a safe place.

Any casualties will be dealt with as above and search and rescue will be as below.

### **7.14 Search and Rescue**

For search and rescue incidents, the WA Police will be notified for state waters and (RCC) Australia will be notified for commonwealth waters. Ashburton VTS will broadcast security over the radio and seek the assistance of small vessels in the area.

### **7.15 VTS Evacuation**

Where an incident (fire, bomb threat, cyclone etc) requires the evacuation of the Dampier VTSC the duty VTSO will follow the appropriate emergency checklist and relocate to the Landside Operations Manager's office, the TIM building or the Security Gatehouse (whichever is appropriate to the event at the time).

Once the VTSO's are in a safe location they will recommence providing VTS.

For further details refer to

- ERC 14 – Evacuation of VTSC

## **8. LANDSIDE EMERGENCIES**

### **8.1 General Guidance for Landside Operational Emergencies**

For all Landside operational emergencies, the duty VTSO upon receiving the report will gain the necessary information from the person reporting the incident and contact the Harbour Master, the Landside Operations Superintendent and the relevant Landside Operations Coordinator. The duty VTSO will take action in accordance with the direction of the Harbour Master and the relevant VTSO Emergency Response Checklists.

During a landside emergency the following general steps are considered by the Incident Controller:

- All staff, contractors and visitors are accounted for and safe
- Casualties are reported and Emergency Services notified
- Emergency Services Access to the site is facilitated

- The extent of the incident is assessed and the impact on adjacent operations and the safety of the vessel alongside is considered
- Casualties are treated and removed to safety
- The area is made safe
- Assessment of infrastructure and the feasibility of commencing normal operations are considered
- Recovery to normal operations

A careful assessment of the impact of the incident on adjacent operations is required. The Incident Controller in conjunction with the Landside Operations Manager/ Site Operations Superintendent will assess the impact and where the safety of personnel is at risk the operation will be restricted or suspended until it is safe to recommence. The impact will be carefully managed with a view to safely facilitate all operations.

Where a ship is alongside the berth and an incident occurs on the berth or in an adjacent landside area, the Incident Controller will assess the risk the incident poses to the safety of the vessel and its crew. Where necessary the vessel will be removed from the berth and sent to anchorage until it is safe for the vessel to return and cargo operations resumed.

## **8.2 Fall from Height**

Where a person falls from height, the severity of the person's injuries will be assessed, and appropriate medical aid will be provided. The contracted maritime security guards (MSG's) can provide first aid. Where appropriate Emergency Services will be notified and their access to the site will be facilitated by the relevant security gate.

All cargo operation in the immediate area will cease until the casualty has received medical assistance and is removed from the location.

Once the scene has been released, operations will resume.

## **8.3 Landside Fire**

Once the report has been received by the VTS, Emergency Services will be notified and their access to the site will be facilitated by the relevant security gate. Where relevant the adjacent buildings and areas will be evacuated and operations in the vicinity will be assessed to determine if they can safely continue. If a vessel is alongside the wharf and the fire presents a danger to the vessel or the vessels crew the Harbour Master will sail the vessel from the berth until it is safe for the vessel to return.

Once the fire has been extinguished, an assessment of the damage will be made, and a recovery plan will be produced and communicated to all relevant Port users.

#### **8.4 Bulk Hydrocarbon Spill Landside**

The guidance in this part relates to major landside bulk hydrocarbon spills. Potential major spill sources include road tanker vehicle accident or transfer pipe. In the event that a report of a major landside bulk hydrocarbon spill within Pilbara Ports controlled land is received, the following actions will be taken:

- Ensure Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) are activated on the vessel and at the terminal (during cargo operations)
- Evacuate the area of the site at risk
- Isolate where possible all potential sources of ignition
- Facilitate Emergency Service access to the site
- Block all drains

Where appropriate, consideration will be given to implementing temporary bunding arrangements to contain the bulk hydrocarbon products. For highly flammable products DFES will more than likely use AFFF to cover the product to reduce the risk of fire. Once the scene has been made safe the product would be recovered.

#### **8.5 Dangerous Goods or Noxious and Hazardous Substance Spills**

In the event that a report of a spill of dangerous goods or hazardous and noxious substance spill which present a risk to human health or a risk to the environment within Pilbara Ports controlled port area is received, the following actions will be taken:

- Stop cargo operations
- Evacuate the area of the site at risk
- Isolate where possible all potential sources of ignition
- Facilitate Emergency Service access to the site
- Block all drains

Where appropriate, consideration will be given to implementing temporary bunding arrangements to contain the dangerous goods or hazardous and noxious substance.

Once the scene has been made safe the product would be recovered.

#### **8.6 Blockage of Port Access Roads**

The port access road could be blocked for several reasons such as:

- Vehicle accident
- Road structural failure
- Issues Motivated Groups, including Protesters

Where the port access road becomes blocked, the priority will be to determine if there are casualties and to facilitate emergency services access to the scene. E.g. helicopter or waterside transport to Beadon Creek.

### **8.7 Heavy Vehicle Collision**

This includes heavy vehicle collision with light vehicles, other heavy vehicles and infrastructure. Once the incident has been reported, the priority is to determine the number of casualties. Emergency Services will be notified and their access to the site will be facilitated by the security gate. The contracted security operator will restrict unnecessary access to the site.

The landside operations team will assess the situation and determine if cargo operations need to stop.

Once any casualties have been treated and removed from the scene an assessment of the damage will be made and a recovery plan will be developed.

### **8.8 Cargo Handling Incident**

Where there is an incident involving cargo such as a cargo shift, suspended load falling or a collision between a suspended load and infrastructure, the priority will be to determine if there are any casualties. Emergency Services will be notified and their access to the site will be facilitated by the relevant security gate. The contracted security operator will restrict unnecessary access to the.

Where the cargo shift occurred on a vessel, assessment of the damage condition and stability condition will be made. AMSA will be notified of the incident and any required assistance will be provided to the investigation.

Once any casualties have been treated and removed from the scene an assessment of the damage will be made and a recovery plan will be developed.

**9. AIRCRAFT EMERGENCIES LAND / SEA**

For all aircraft operational emergencies, the duty VTSSO upon receiving the report will gain the necessary information from the vessel or person reporting the incident and contact the Harbour Master. The duty VTSSO will take action in accordance with the direction of the Harbour Master and the relevant Emergency Response Checklist.

For further details refer to

- ERC 01 – Aircraft Accident In / Around Port Waters

The HMA for air crash is Western Australian Police.

During an aircraft emergency the following general steps are considered by the Incident Controller:

- Casualties are reported and Emergency Services notified
- Emergency Services Access to the site is facilitated if appropriate
- Ensure search and rescue operations commence if appropriate
- The extent of the incident is assessed and the impact on adjacent operations and the safety of the vessel alongside is considered.
- Casualties are treated and removed to safety
- The area is made safe
- Assessment of infrastructure and the feasibility of commencing normal operations are considered.
- Recovery to normal operations

Where the aircraft crashes at sea, Ashburton VTS will direct suitable vessels in the area to assist the aircraft. Ashburton VTS will advise RCC Australia and assist as required with the search and rescue effort.

---

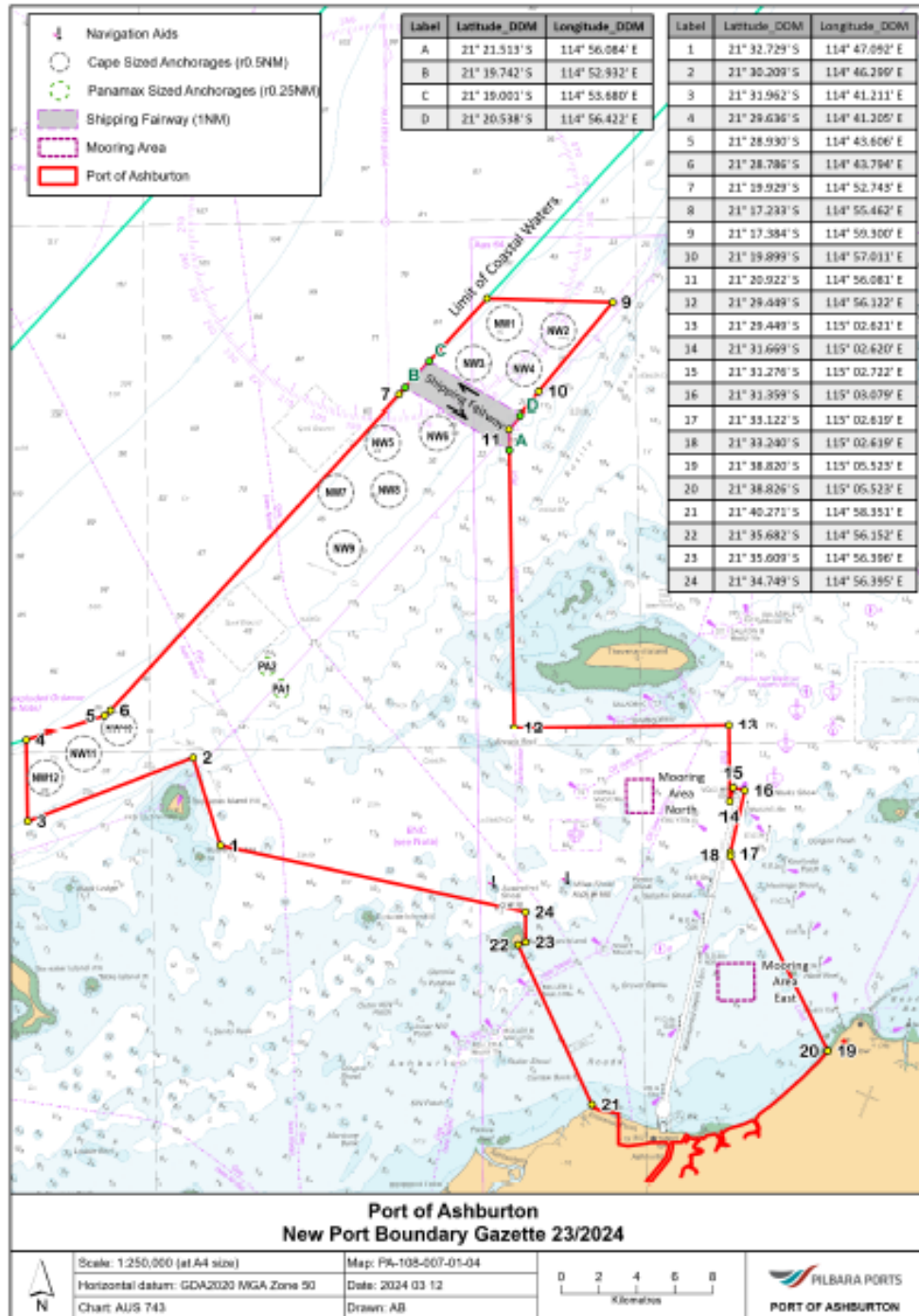
**10. EXERCISES**

Regular exercises will be conducted with Ashburton VTS, HMA's, port stakeholders and port users where appropriate. These exercises will be practical where possible. For incidents that cannot be safely replicated, desktop exercises may be held.

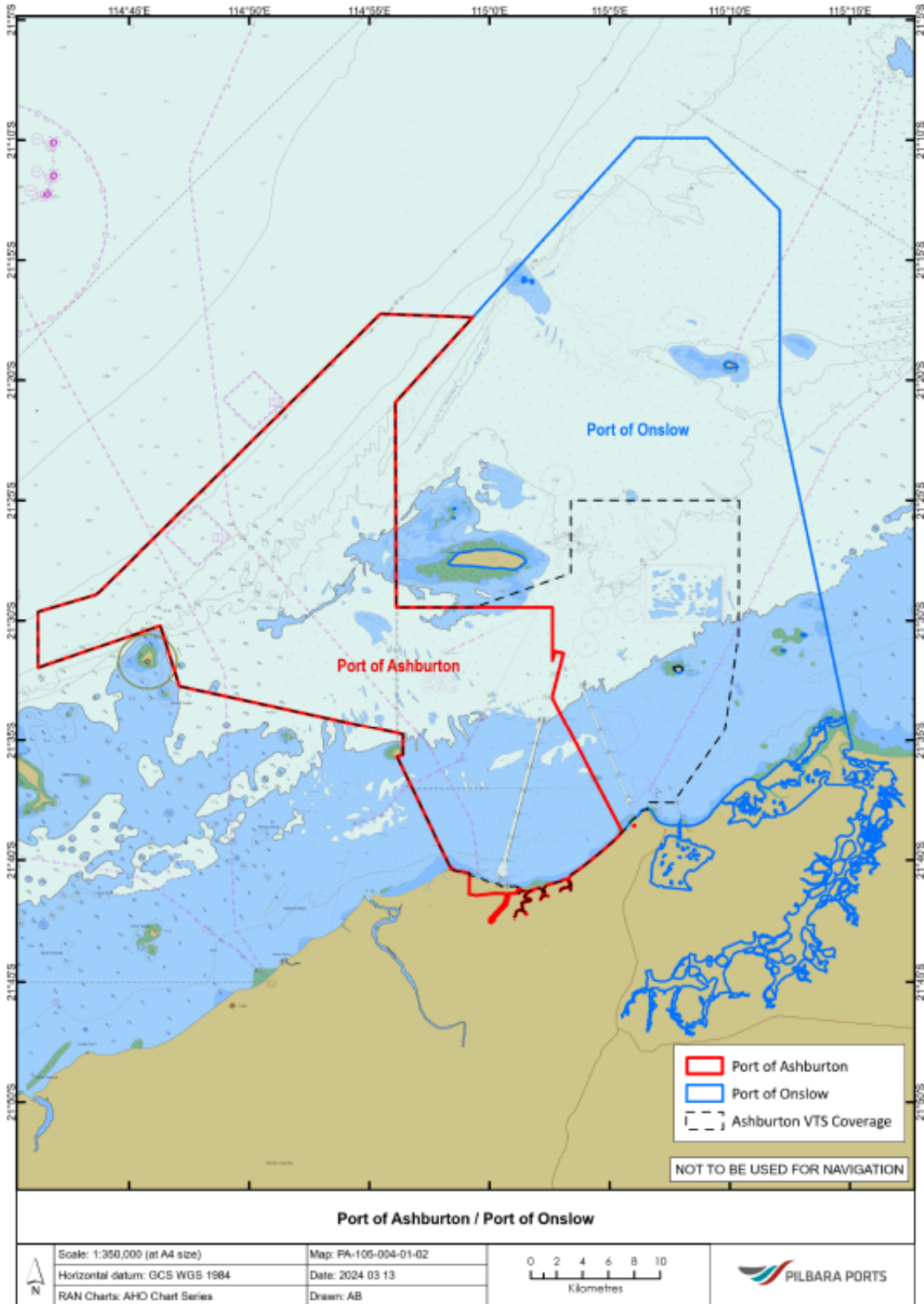
An exercise schedule is used within the Ashburton VTS centre.

**11. SITE INFORMATION PORT OF ASHBURTON**

**11.1 Map of Port Limits Port of Ashburton**



**11.2 Map of VTS Coverage area**



**11.3 Map of Muster Points - Port of Ashburton**



**12. PROCESS OWNER**

The Harbour Master is responsible for this External Document.

Date approved: 16/10/2025                      Review date: 16/10/2027