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## Port of Ashburton – Updated advice on Biofouling Management – Invasive Marine Pests

Number: A14/2026

Date: 15/06/2026

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Date of effect:	15/06/2026
Details:	Port of Ashburton – Updated advice on Biofouling Management – Invasive Marine Pests
Former notice:	A09-2025 - Port of Ashburton - VBRAMP and IMP Management
Charts and publications:	AUS 64 / ENC Cell - AU422114
Further notice:	
Attachments:	

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### Purpose

This Marine Notice provides an update to vessel biofouling management and invasive marine pest (IMP) risk assessment requirements for the Port of Ashburton.

### Background

Section 8.2 of the Port of Ashburton Handbook (Vessel Notification of Arrival – non-trading commercial vessels) advises that Pilbara Ports holds an environmental licence for the management of Invasive Marine Pests (IMP).

Please be advised that this position has changed. Pilbara Ports no longer holds an environmental licence for the management of Invasive Marine Pests.

### Implications for Port Users

As a result of this change:

- Pilbara Ports no longer undertakes or manages vessel biofouling risk assessments on behalf of port users.
- Responsibility for demonstrating appropriate management of biofouling risk rests with the vessel operator.
- Vessel operators must ensure compliance with all applicable Commonwealth and State biosecurity requirements prior to arrival.

### New Requirement for Project Vessels

Pilbara Ports now requires that:

- All non-trading commercial vessels engaged to undertake works on Pilbara Ports projects must comply with the: [Introduced Marine Pest Vessel Assessment Procedure – West Pilbara](#)

This procedure establishes the current process for assessing and managing invasive marine pest risk for project vessels.

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### **Ongoing Requirements**

All vessels must continue to:

- Comply with relevant Commonwealth and State legislation.
- Follow Australian biofouling and in-water cleaning requirements.
- Follow International Maritime Organization (IMO) biofouling guidance.
- Not undertake in-water cleaning or activities that disturb hull fouling without prior approval.

### **Additional Information**

The procedure and associated assessment form are available on the Pilbara Ports website under: [Environmental guidelines and standards](#).

### **Further Notice**

Relevant sections of the Port of Ashburton Handbook will be updated to reflect this change.

Capt. Mike Minogue  
**Harbour Master**