

Port Procedures and Information for Shipping – Port of Brisbane

August 2023

Creative Commons information

© State of Queensland (Department of Transport and Main Roads) 2022



<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence. You are free to copy, communicate and adapt the work, as long as you attribute the authors.

The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of information. However, copyright protects this publication. The State of Queensland has no objection to this material being reproduced, made available online or electronically but only if it is recognised as the owner of the copyright and this material remains unaltered.



The Queensland Government is committed to providing accessible services to Queenslanders of all cultural and linguistic backgrounds. If you have difficulty understanding this publication and need a translator, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 13 14 50 and ask them to telephone the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads on 13 74 68.

Disclaimer: While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained within. To the best of our knowledge, the content was correct at the time of publishing.

Contents

Creative Commons information	2
Contents	3
List of Tables.....	10
Table of amendments.....	11
1. Introduction	12
1.1 General.....	12
1.2 Port description.....	12
1.3 Purpose.....	12
1.4 Datum.....	13
1.5 Definitions.....	13
1.5.1 AMSA – Australian Maritime Safety Authority	13
1.5.2 Australian Standard – AS 3846 – 2005	13
1.5.3 Commencement (Movement).....	13
1.5.4 Completion (Movement).....	13
1.5.5 Deadweight tonnage (DWT).....	14
1.5.6 Duty Harbour Master	14
1.5.7 Estimated time of arrival (ETA).....	14
1.5.8 Estimated time of departure (ETD).....	14
1.5.9 Extreme Weather Event	14
1.5.10 Highest astronomical tide (HAT)/lowest astronomical tide (LAT)	14
1.5.11 International Chamber of Shipping (ICS).....	14
1.5.12 International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code)	14
1.5.13 International Maritime Organization (IMO)	14
1.5.14 International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals (ISGOTT)	15
1.5.15 International Ships and Ports Security Code (ISPS Code).....	15
1.5.16 International Tonnage Certificate (ITC)	15
1.5.17 Length overall (LOA)	15
1.5.18 Local Traffic.....	15
1.5.19 Manager (Vessel Traffic Services) (MVTs).....	15
1.5.20 Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ).....	15
1.5.21 MASTREP – the Modernised Australian Ship Tracking and Reporting System	15
1.5.22 Navigation Act	15
1.5.23 Nett explosive mass (NEM).....	15
1.5.24 Non ‘gas free’ tankers – (NGF).....	15
1.5.25 Pilotage Exemption Certificate – (PEC).....	16
1.5.26 Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL).....	16
1.5.27 QSHIPS – Queensland Shipping Information Planning System.....	16
1.5.28 REEFREP	16
1.5.29 Reef VTS.....	16
1.5.30 Regional Harbour Master (RHM).....	16
1.5.31 Sailing time.....	16
1.5.32 Ship to Ship Transfer (STS)	16
1.5.33 Tow Split	16
1.5.34 Tug and Tow Length - Total Combination Length	16
1.5.35 Under Keel Clearance (UKC)	17
1.5.36 Vessel Traffic Service (VTS)	17
1.5.37 Vessel Traffic Service Operator (VTSO)	17
1.6 Contact information	17

1.6.1	The Harbour Master	17
1.6.2	VTS Centre	17
1.6.3	Port Corporation.....	18
1.7	Rules and regulations.....	18
1.7.1	Applicable regulations	18
2.	Arrival and departure procedures	19
2.1	General arrival and departure requirements.....	19
2.1.1	Arrival checklist	19
2.1.2	Departure checklist.....	19
2.1.3	Small Craft (Yacht) Arrivals	20
2.2	Quarantine and Biosecurity.....	20
2.2.1	Ballast water information	20
2.3	Australian Border Force (Customs and Immigration).....	21
2.4	Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd Requirements	21
2.4.1	Security	21
2.4.2	Dangerous goods	21
2.5	Australian Coastal Passage Requirements	21
2.5.1	MASTREP Reporting	21
2.5.2	Reef VTS.....	21
3.	Movement and traffic procedures	23
3.1	Introduction	23
3.2	Vessel Traffic Service (VTS).....	23
3.2.1	Timely Information.....	23
3.2.2	Monitoring and management of ship traffic	23
3.2.3	Responding to developing unsafe situations	24
3.2.4	VTS Business Continuity Plan.....	24
3.2.5	Brisbane VTS area	24
3.2.6	VTS Role.....	25
3.3	VTS communications.....	25
3.3.1	Language	26
3.3.2	Voice recordings.....	26
3.3.3	Distress and Emergency	26
3.4	Port Contact Details	26
3.5	Prior Notification of Movements	26
3.6	Reporting requirements.....	27
3.6.1	Overview of Reporting Requirements.....	27
3.6.2	Arrival Reporting Requirements	28
3.6.3	Removal Reporting Requirements	28
3.6.4	Departure Reporting Requirements.....	29
3.7	Booking a vessel movement.....	29
3.7.1	QSHIPS – (Queensland shipping information planning system)	29
3.7.2	Removals	30
3.7.3	Booking a Tug & Tow	31
3.8	Movement scheduling.....	31
3.8.1	Confirmation of schedules	31
3.8.2	Schedule changes.....	31
3.8.3	Prioritising of ship movements.....	32
3.9	Movement clearance information	33
3.10	Tug and Barge/Towing Operations.....	33
3.10.1	Operational Rules.....	33
3.11	Mooring requirements	33
3.11.1	Separation distance between ships at the berth.....	34

3.11.2	Moorings – Fisherman Islands and Luggage Point	34
3.11.3	Moorings – Above Pelican Banks.....	35
3.11.4	Berths prone to interaction	35
3.12	Superyacht.....	36
3.13	Detained Vessels.....	36
3.14	Reporting defects.....	36
3.15	Small vessels navigating in and near shipping channels	37
4.	Port Description	38
4.1	Geographical Areas	38
4.1.1	Pilotage area	38
4.1.2	Port of Brisbane area	38
4.1.3	Brisbane VTS area	38
4.2	Load lines	38
4.3	Maximum vessel size	38
4.4	Time zone.....	38
4.5	Working hours.....	38
4.6	Official Navigation Resources.....	38
4.6.1	Recommended Paper Charts	38
4.6.2	Recommended Publications.....	39
4.7	Shipping announcements	39
4.7.1	Notices to Mariners	39
4.8	Brisbane berth information	39
4.9	Wharf cranes and loaders	39
4.10	Anchorage areas	40
4.10.1	Point Cartwright.....	40
4.10.2	Moreton Bay (Brisbane Roads)	40
4.10.3	Small craft anchoring.....	40
4.11	Leading Lights.....	41
4.11.1	Moreton Bay	41
4.11.2	Outer Bar Reach reciprocal leads	41
4.11.3	Below Pelican Banks	41
4.11.4	Above Pelican Banks	41
4.11.5	Bridge Clearance Lights	42
5.	Port navigation and operational restrictions	43
5.1	General.....	43
5.2	Passage Information	43
5.3	Speed Limits	43
5.3.1	Moreton Bay	43
5.3.2	Brisbane River – Gazetted Speed Limits.....	43
5.3.3	Brisbane River – Operational Speed Limit	43
5.4	Draft restrictions	44
5.4.1	Under Keel Clearance Management Overview	44
5.4.2	Static UKC programme (SUKC)	44
5.4.3	Live UKC programme	45
5.4.4	Maximum draft forecasts	45
5.4.5	Hourly drafts alongside.....	45
5.4.6	Under Keel Clearances (UKCs) – Moreton Bay	45
5.4.7	UKC's – Brisbane River.....	45
5.4.8	UKC's – alongside berths	45
5.4.9	Trim and list requirements	45
5.5	Passing requirements.....	45
5.5.1	Local Traffic.....	46

5.5.2	Moreton Bay	46
5.5.3	One mile to seaward of the Entrance Channel, Entrance Channel and Outer Bar Reach.....	46
5.5.4	Inner Bar Beacons to Pelican Bank Buoy.....	47
5.5.5	Brisbane River upstream from the Pelican Bank Buoy.....	47
5.6	River Transits – advice of movement to other vessels.....	47
5.7	Maximum Ship Size.....	47
5.7.1	Below Pelican Banks.....	47
5.7.2	Above Pelican Banks	47
5.7.3	Above Hamilton Reach.....	48
5.7.4	Swinging – maximum ship length.....	48
5.8	Air draft/bridge heights.....	48
5.9	Specific Berth & Operational Manoeuvre Requirements.....	48
5.9.1	Ampol Products wharf - berthing/unberthing restrictions	48
5.9.2	Wagner Wharf – berthing/unberthing restrictions	48
5.9.3	+300m LOA Container - berthing/unberthing restrictions	49
5.9.4	QBT Berth – Ships 200m to 230m LOA, berthing/unberthing restrictions	49
5.9.5	Pinkenba Berth - LR1 Tankers berthing and unberthing restrictions	49
5.10	Restricted Visibility	49
5.11	Operational Wind Limitations.....	50
6.	Environmental information	51
6.1	Tidal information	51
6.1.1	Tidal information – Tsunami effects.....	51
6.2	VTS – information services	52
6.2.1	Tide gauges	52
6.2.2	Weather stations	52
6.3	Hazard to shipping – Jellyfish.....	53
6.4	Advisory Note – Interaction with Marine Mammals	53
7.	Pilotage	55
7.1	Vessels that require a pilot.....	55
7.2	Pilotage area.....	55
7.3	Night pilotage	55
7.4	Request for pilot.....	55
7.4.1	Poseidon Sea Pilots	55
7.5	Notice required.....	55
7.5.1	Notification of Arrival	56
7.6	Pilot Assignment.....	56
7.6.1	2 nd Pilot - +300m LOA Container Vessels	56
7.7	Point Cartwright anchorage	56
7.8	Pilot boarding position	56
7.9	Pilot boarding arrangements.....	56
7.10	Pilot licences	57
7.10.1	Pilotage Area Endorsements.....	57
7.10.2	Cancelation of licences	57
7.10.3	Pilotage Exemption Certificates	57
7.11	Pilotage area – navigational data.....	57
7.12	Pilotage area – marine incidents.....	57
7.13	Pilotage delays and cancellations	57
7.13.1	Pilotage delays – arrival	58
7.13.2	Pilotage delays – departure.....	58
7.13.3	Pilotage delays – removal	58
7.13.4	Aborted movement due to pilots assessment.....	58
7.14	Passage planning – Bridge resource management (BRM)	59

7.15	Instrument Navigation – Portable Pilot Units.....	59
7.16	Alcohol management.....	59
7.17	Master/pilot responsibilities.....	59
7.18	Smoking on the Bridge while under Pilotage	59
8.	Harbour Towage & Support Vessel Procedures	60
8.1	Tug booking.....	60
8.2	Tug Allocation – General Requirements	60
8.3	Substitution of a tug with a bow thruster.....	61
8.4	Escort harbour towage	61
8.4.1	+300 metre LOA Container Ships	61
8.5	Lines Launch Requirements	61
8.6	Push up tug for Ampol Products	61
8.7	Emergency communication – jammed radio	61
8.8	Tug companies.....	62
8.9	Lines launch services	62
8.10	Pilot launch services.....	62
9.	Work permits	63
9.1	General.....	63
9.2	Work permit descriptions	63
9.2.1	Immobilisation main engines	63
9.2.2	Diving or Underwater Operations	64
9.2.3	Lifeboat drills	64
9.2.4	Engine trials	64
9.2.5	Notification of handling of bulk liquids	64
9.2.6	Controlled Activities Permit (Hot work, spraying, sand blasting and overside work).....	64
9.2.7	Tank/crude oil wash and tanker ballasting	64
9.2.8	Tankers at non tanker berths	65
9.2.9	Vessel Fumigation.....	65
9.3	Marine Civil Construction.....	66
10.	Dangerous cargo	67
10.1	General.....	67
10.1.1	Notification	67
10.2	Explosives	68
10.2.1	Explosives notification	68
10.2.2	Guidelines	68
10.3	Dangerous cargo limits	68
10.4	Dangerous cargo events	68
10.5	Ship to ship transfer (STS) operations.....	68
10.5.1	LPG Carriers	68
10.5.2	Gas Transfer operation procedures:.....	69
11.	Emergency Management.....	70
11.1	Authorities	70
11.2	Roles and responsibilities	70
11.3	Emergency Contact Numbers	70
11.4	Actions in the event of an emergency.....	71
11.4.1	Port community responsibilities	71
11.4.2	VTS Centre responsibilities	71
11.5	Marine pollution.....	71
11.5.1	Reporting.....	72

11.5.2	Environmental incident reporting	72
11.6	Marine incidents	72
11.6.1	Marine incident reporting.....	73
11.6.2	Procedures subsequent to serious marine incidents	73
11.6.3	Environmental incident reporting	74
11.7	Extreme Weather Event	74
11.7.1	Mooring Considerations	74
11.7.2	Extreme Weather Events Operational Limitations	74
11.7.3	Communications during Extreme Weather Events.....	74
12.	Security	75
12.1	General.....	75
12.2	Port security procedures	75
12.2.1	Access to ships and port facilities.....	75
12.3	Port security contacts.....	76
12.4	National security	76
13.	Port State Control Inspections	77
13.1	Inspections	77
14.	Port Services	78
14.1	Bunkering, Fresh Water.....	78
14.2	Shipping Agencies and Liner Services	78
14.3	Port Community	78
14.3.1	Mission to Seafarers.....	78
14.3.2	Stella Maris	78
15.	Appendices	79
15.1	Brisbane Port, Pilotage and VTS Limits	81
15.1.1	Brisbane VTS Area.....	81
15.1.2	Brisbane Port and Pilotage Limits	82
15.1.3	Brisbane VHF Coverage	83
15.2	Chartlets – Main Shipping Channels	84
15.2.1	Pilot Boarding Ground and Fairway Approach	84
15.2.2	North West Channel to Spitfire Channel.....	85
15.2.3	Spitfire Channel to Main Channel.....	86
15.2.4	Brisbane Roads and Ship to Ship transfer anchorages.....	87
15.2.5	Bar Cutting	88
15.2.6	Outer Bar to Inner Bar Reach.....	89
15.2.7	Inner Bar Reach	90
15.2.8	Inner Bar Reach to Swing Basin.....	91
15.2.9	Fisherman Islands Swing Basin	92
15.2.10	Lytton Rocks Reach	93
15.2.11	Lytton Rocks Reach to Quarantine Flats Reach	94
15.2.12	Quarantine Flats Reach to Lytton Reach	95
15.2.13	Lytton Reach to Pinkenba Reach.....	96
15.2.14	Eagle Farm Flats Reach.....	97
15.2.15	Parker Island Reach.....	98
15.2.16	Quarries Reach	99
15.2.17	Hamilton Reach.....	100
15.3	Wharf and berth information	101
15.4	Swing basin and swing areas Brisbane River	104
15.5	Air draft/bridge heights.....	105

15.5.1	Sir Leo Hielscher Bridges	105
15.5.2	Bulimba power lines	105
15.5.3	Story Bridge	105
15.5.4	Sir Leo Hielscher Bridges – Navigational Lights & Clearances	106
15.6	Weather Stations	107
15.7	Static Under Keel Clearances Requirements	108
15.7.1	Moreton Bay and Brisbane River.....	108
15.7.2	Tides – UKC required for Brisbane River	108
15.8	Wind Limits	109
15.8.1	How to use the Table	109
15.8.2	Below Pelican Banks, including Fisherman Island Precinct	110
15.8.3	Above Pelican Banks	112
15.9	Vessel Traffic Management Forms	113
15.9.1	VTIS A1 – Booking Form.....	113
15.9.2	VTIS A2 Vessel details form VTIS A2 – Booking form (Removals)	115
15.9.3	VTIS A3 Vessel Details Form.....	116
15.9.4	VTIS A4 Form – Tug and Tow Advice	117
15.9.5	UKC® Vessel particulars request.....	119
15.9.6	Gas Free Status Declaration	120
15.9.7	'Permission to Immobilise Main Engines' – Sample	121
15.9.8	'Permission to Conduct Lifeboat Drills' – Sample	122
15.9.9	'Permission to hold Main Engine Trials' - Sample	123
15.9.10	'Permission to tank/crude oil wash' – Sample	124
15.9.11	'Gateway Bridge Clearance form' – Sample.....	125
15.10	Navigation Data	126
15.10.1	Moreton Bay Distance Tables	126
15.10.2	Moreton Bay steaming times	127
15.10.3	Pilotage – Brisbane River removal distances	128
15.10.4	Passage Planning	129

List of Tables

Table 1 – Arrival Check List	19
Table 2 – Departure Check List.....	20
Table 3 – VHF Communication Channels	26
Table 4 – Port contact details.....	26
Table 5 – Pre-entry Notification Times	27
Table 6 – Morten Bay leading lights	41
Table 7 – Outer Bar Reach reciprocal leads	41
Table 8 – Below Pelican Banks - leading lights.....	41
Table 9 – Above Pelican Banks – leading lights.....	42
Table 10 – Tide Gauges.....	52
Table 11 – Weather Stations.....	52
Table 12 – Svitzer Tugs	62
Table 13 – Permit Requests.....	63
Table 14 – Dangerous Cargo Minimum Notification Times	67
Table 15 – Emergency – Roles and Responsibilities	70
Table 16 – Emergency Contact Numbers	71
Table 17 – Air draft/bridge heights	105
Table 18 – UKC Moreton Bay and Brisbane River	108
Table 19 – Tides UKC for Brisbane River	108
Table 21 –Moreton Bay steaming times	127
Table 22 – Brisbane River removal distances	128
Table 23 – Passage Planning	130

Table of amendments

Contact for enquiries and proposed changes. If you have any questions regarding this document or if you have a suggestion for improvements, please contact:

Contact Officer: Regional Harbour Master, Brisbane
 Phone: +61 7 3632 7500
 Fax: +61 7 3632 7500
 Email: rhmbrisbane@msq.qld.gov.au

Revision Date	Page number or section	Summary of Changes	Approved by
July 2009	-	First Issue	Regional Harbour Master
May 2015	-	Second Issue	Regional Harbour Master
March 2017	Various	Reformatted to latest TMR template and Updating TOMSA/TOMSR	Regional Harbour Master
June 2017	Sections 2.2 & 2.5	Updated Customs document timeframes	Principal Manager – Vessel Traffic Management
September 2017	Various	UKC Management VHF Procedures Minor TMR formatting & hyperlinks	Regional Harbour Master
November 2017	Various	Berth Surge Management	Regional Harbour Master
April 2018	Entire document	Updated hyperlinks due to website changes	Regional Harbour Master
September 2018		Addition of new Wagner's berth Updating TOMPR	Regional Harbour Master
November 2018	Section 3.6.4 & 15.6	Updated non pilotage removals and replaced the weather monitoring station map	Regional Harbour Master
August 2019	Various	Superyacht management Formatting Movement procedures Navigation Lead alterations Koopa Swing Basin Pilot transfer arrangement	Regional Harbour Master
September 2020	Various	Incorporate operational rules for +300m LOA container ships	Regional Harbour Master
March 2021	Various	Aligning VTS procedures including Portable Pilot Unit usage, pilot boarding ground management, passing rules, restricted visibility and terminal name changes.	Regional Harbour Master
July 2021	Various	Brisbane VTS Area Description and Map	Regional Harbour Master
December 2021	Various	Inclusion of Poseidon Sea Pilots Closure of Hamilton 4 Wharf Formatting	Regional Harbour Master
October 2022	Various	Including extreme weather event response, formatting	Regional Harbour Master
December 2022	Sections 1.6.2, 3.3.3, 3.4, 11.3, 11.5.1	Contact Information Updated	Regional Harbour Master
March 2023	Entire document	Amending broken links and correcting outdated corporate forms. Correction of numbering.	Regional Harbour Master
August 2023	Various	Definition of Tug & Tow lengths, including for Pilot Assignment, operational wind limits, VTS contact details, additional Current meters, engine immobilisation, fumigation, revised distance tables	Regional Harbour Master