

4. Port description

4.1 General information

Ports North is responsible for the operation and management of the port.

Metro Mining is currently responsible for installation and maintenance of navigational aids and loading facilities at Skardon River.

MARITIME SAFETY QUEENSLAND ADVISES THAT ESTUARINE CROCODILES ARE PRESENT IN THE WATERS OF THE PORT

4.2 Pilotage area

The Skardon River pilotage area (see section 16.3) is described in schedule 2 of the [*Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Regulation 2016*](#) as the area of:

- (a) waters bounded by an imaginary line drawn—
- starting at the high–water mark at approximate latitude 11° 47.00' south, longitude 141° 58.54' east on the mainland, south of the entrance of the Skardon River
 - then west to latitude 11° 47.00' south, longitude 141° 57.00' east
 - then north to latitude 11° 44.50' south, longitude 141° 57.00' east
 - then east to the high–water mark on the mainland at approximate latitude 11° 44.50' south, longitude 142° 00.12' east
 - then by the high–water mark, initially in a southerly direction, returning to the starting point; and
- (b) the navigable waters of rivers and creeks flowing, directly or indirectly, into the waters in paragraph (a).

4.3 Load lines

Skardon River is in the South Pacific seasonal tropical area.

Tropical: from 1 April to 30 November.

Summer: from 1 December to 31 March.

4.4 Maximum vessel size

The port limits ship size to 95.00 m LOA, beam 10 m. The entrance channel has a least depth of 1.0 m at LAT. Consult the [*Notices to Mariners*](#) for the latest port depth information.

4.5 Time zone

UTC + 10 hours throughout the year.

4.6 Working hours

Port service providers are available 24 hours per day seven days per week.

4.7 Charts and books

For navigation in pilotage areas, masters should refer to the nautical charts produced by the Australian Hydrographic Office and Admiralty Sailing Directions NP13 (Australian Pilot Volume 1). Charts of the area include:

- AUS 301 Booby Island to Archer River
- AUS 701 Vrilya Point to Duyfken Point.
- AUS 4060 Australasia and adjacent waters
- AUS 4603 Australia – North Coast and adjacent waters
- AUS 4720 Booby Island to Cape Wessel including Gulf of Carpentaria.

4.8 Shipping announcements

4.8.1 Notices to Mariners

Maritime Safety Queensland circulates marine safety information to mariners, organisations and other interested parties, in the form of [Notices to Mariners](#).

Notices to Mariners advise of:

- navigation warnings and hazards (such as aids to navigation which may have been destroyed, missing or unlit)
- changes to the uniform buoyage system (which assists with the correction and updating of marine charts)
- navigation depths (necessary when navigating in channels with depth restrictions)
- any other works which may affect the safe navigation of vessels in Queensland coastal waters and ports (such as dredging operations and construction works).

Faulty navigation aids should be reported to Skardon River Port Control on VHF channel 09 or to Cairns VTS by phone on (07) 4033 3670.