

Vessels to keep clear of diving signals

All vessels must keep at least 50 metres clear of boats, buoys or areas showing diving signals.

Where it is not possible to keep 50 metres clear, the approaching vessel should travel at the slowest possible speed and keep a good lookout for people in the water.

Handy local information

- Tidal movements in the West Pilbara are very large. Consideration to tidal movements should be given when planning a boating trip in the area.
- Tidal movements restrict the use of the Karatha Back Beach boat ramp. The ramp requires a tidal depth of at least 2.4 metres for most vessels.
- Most islands in the Dampier Archipelago are Nature Reserves and have access zoning. These zoning are shown on the map. Dogs are not permitted on the reserves. For further information relating to the island reserves please contact the Department of Environment and Conservation on (08) 9182 2000.
- Did you know that there are two recognised dive sites in the West Pilbara. The first is east of Delambre Island and the other is near Bare Rock.

Three months interstate ticket and boat registration valid for

Any skipper operating a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 6 hp in WA must hold a WA Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST) or interstate or overseas equivalent. If you hold a valid/current interstate ticket, recognised by DOT and you enter, as a visitor or with the intention of permanently residing in the State, it will be taken that you hold a RST until three months have elapsed since you entered the State. After that period you must apply for an RST, if you wish to continue operating an RST vessel in this State.

If your boat is currently registered in another State, you have three months grace after bringing it into WA. Recreational boats brought into WA from the NT have 30 days after bringing it into WA. After that time, you must register it in this State.

| Safety Equipment | Protected Waters lakes, rivers, estuaries and except Lake Argyle | 0-2 Nautical Miles from the mainland shore | 2-5 Nautical Miles from the mainland shore | Over 5 Nautical Miles from the mainland shore |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Recreational Skipper's Ticket The skipper of a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 4.5kwip (6 hp) must hold an RST. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Bilge Pump/Bailer All vessels must carry a bilge pump. Vessels under 7 metres may carry a bailer in lieu of a bilge pump. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Fire Extinguisher Vessels with an inboard engine or carrying hydrocarbon consuming appliances must carry an approved fire extinguisher. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Anchor and line An efficient anchor and line must be carried. | — | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Lifejacket A lifejacket bearing the label PFD Type 1 or the Australian standard AS 1512 or AS 4758 - Level 100 (or higher) must be carried for every person onboard. | — | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Red and Orange Flares At least two hand held red flares and two hand held orange flares must be carried. Two parachute flares may be carried in lieu of the two hand held red flares and a smoke canister may be carried in lieu of the smoke flares. | — | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| EPIRB A 406 MHz EPIRB registered with AMSA bearing the standard AS/NZS 4280.1 must be carried if proceeding more than 2 miles from the mainland shore or more than 400 metres from an island located more than 2 miles from the mainland shore. | — | — | ✓ | ✓ |
| Parachute Flares A minimum of two parachute flares must be carried if operating more than 5 miles from the mainland shore or more than 1 mile from an island located more than 5 miles from the mainland shore. | — | — | — | ✓ |
| Marine Radio A marine radio must be carried if operating more than 5 miles from the mainland shore or more than 1 mile from an island located more than 5 miles from the mainland shore. The radio can be 27 MHz, VHF or HF. | — | — | — | ✓ |

Personal water craft

A personal water craft (PWC) - often called a jet ski - is a craft propelled by an inboard motor powering a water jet pump. The operator sits, stands or kneels and uses handlebars to steer it.

From April 2007 a person must be at least 16 years of age and hold a Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST) to operate a PWC at a speed in excess of 8 knots.

People aged 14 to 16 years and holding an RST (April 2007) may operate any recreational vessel during daylight hours under a speed of 8 knots.

A boat landing a skier has right of way over a PWC at a PWC and similar craft are powerboats as far as the rules are concerned. This means there are rules on the age of drivers, Vessels towing a skier must remain at least 45 metres or as gazzeted from the shore except when taking-off or landing a skier.

Water skiing

Water skiing within Hampton Harbour is only permitted within the gazzeted water ski area.

The person in charge of a vessel engaged in water skiing must be at least 14 years old. There must also be an observer on board, who is hold a Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST) to operate a PWC at a speed of 8 knots.

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Diving regulations

A vessel with divers working from it must carry the appropriate day or night signals. The daytime signal for divers is an international Code Flag "A". There must be at least 750mm long and 60mm wide. Divers operating without a vessel, for example from a jetty, must also display the international Code Flag "A" of the same minimum size.

The flag can be shown from a buoy, in which case the minimum distance between two nautical miles from shore in unprotected waters a PFD Type 1 must be worn. An inshore distress flare kit, in serviceable condition must also be carried.

Between two and five nautical miles, a PFD Type 1 must be worn. An inshore distress flare kit and an EPIRB, in serviceable condition must also be carried.

Vessels under 3.75 metres are not permitted more than five nautical miles offshore.

Safety equipment

Every person on board a PWC must wear a personal flotation device (PFD) at all times.

Freestyling, wake and wake jumping

Freestyling is driving a PWC in such a way that the driver of another vessel would be unable to predict its course and speed in order to avoid a collision.

Wave and wake jumping is driving a PWC over a wave or swell with the aim of becoming airborne. The wave or the swell may be formed naturally or by the passage of a vessel.

Freestyling and wake jumping is prohibited:

- within any speed restricted area;
- within 30 metres of another PWC; and
- within 50 metres of another vessel or person in the water.

Contact Details

| | | |
|---|------------------------|--|
| Department of Transport | Marine Safety Hotline | 1300 863 308 |
| | Karratha | 91596920 |
| | website | www.transport.wa.gov.au/inline/ |
| Department of Fisheries | Karratha | 9144 4337 |
| | Fishwatch | 1800 815 507 |
| | website | www.wa.gov.au/westfish |
| Police | Karratha | 9143 7200 |
| | Dampier | 9183 1144 |
| | Wickham | 9187 1444 |
| | Water Police | 9442 8600 |
| Customs | Dampier | 9144 3500 |
| | Customs Hotline | 1800 06 1800 |
| Marine Sea Search and Rescue | Port Walcott | 0439 870 995 |
| | West Pilbara | 0417 932 023 |
| VHF | Emergency | Ch. 16 |
| | Emergency | Ch. 27.88 mHz |
| | Local | Ch. 27.91 mHz |
| | Boat to Boat | Ch. 27.96 mHz |
| Sea Rescue | West Pilbara "VMR685" | Ch. 27.88 mHz |
| | Wickham "VMR 689" | Ch. 27.88 mHz |
| Department of Environment and Conservation | Karratha | 9182 2000 |
| | website | www.dec.wa.gov.au |
| Port Authority | Dampier Port Authority | 9159 6555 |
| Hospitals | Karratha (Nickol Bay) | 9144 0330 |
| | Roebourne | 9182 1004 |
| | Wickham | 9187 1405 |
| Shire of Roebourne | Karratha | 9186 8555 |
| | Ranger | 9186 8528 |
| Boating weather forecast | website | 1900 969 903 www.bom.gov.au |

Department of Transport

Boating Guide

West Pilbara

Marine Safety

June 2012

YOU'RE THE SKIPPER
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE

DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

For more detailed information, refer to the Australian Hydrographic Nautical Charts
 Aus 55 – Approaches to Port Walcott
 Aus 56 – Port Walcott
 Aus 57 – Dampier Archipelago
 Aus 58 – Port of Dampier
 Aus 59 – Plans in Port Dampier, Withnell Bay to King Bay, Dampier Wharves

LEGEND

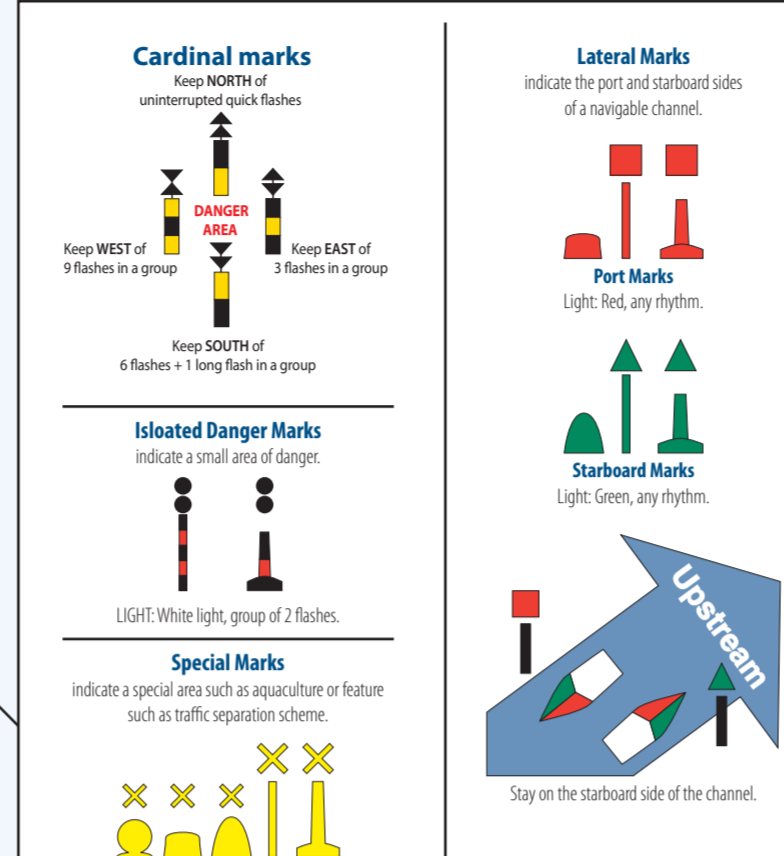
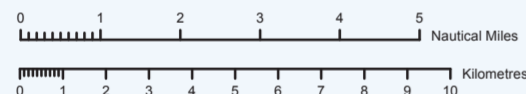
- Port Security Zones - No Access
- Fishing Restrictions - Contact Department of Fisheries
- Shallow Water (0-5 metres at low tide)
- Intertidal Areas - (dry at low tide)
- Saline Flats
- Mangroves
- Closed Waters - Motorised Vessels
- Reef
- Offshore Rocks
- Mooring Areas
- Launching Ramps
- Approximately 2 nm from mainland shore
- Approximately 5 nm from mainland shore
- Access Zoning for Island Reserves - Department of Environment and Conservation**
- Special Conservation Zone - No access at any time.
- Conservation Zone - Day access only
- Recreation Zone - Day trip and camping areas. (camping permitted only up to 100m inland of the high-water mark)
- Conservation & Recreation Reserves - Day trip and camping areas.

WARNING! — Crocodiles

Crocodiles inhabit Pilbara coastal waterways so please exercise caution when launching boats and do not clean fish at the waters edge. Immediately report all crocodile sightings to DEC on (08) 9182 2000

WARNING! — Tides

There is a 5m tidal range. Consideration to tidal movements should be given when planning a boating trip in the area.



Age requirements and restrictions for skippers

To operate a non RST Vessel

A person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of 4.5 kilowatts (6hp) or less is not required to hold a Recreational Skippers Ticket (RST). However, the following age restriction applies:

Under 10 years may not drive a motor boat.

To operate an RST Vessel

A person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor greater than 4.5 kilowatts (6hp) is required to hold a RST. However, the following age restrictions apply:

Over 14 and under 16 years restricted to operating during daylight hours only and at a speed of less than 8 knots.

Placement of registration numbers and sticker

Numbers must be fixed as follows:

Powerboats – Midships on both sides of the hull where they are clearly visible – not under the flare of the bow and 150mm in size.

Yachts – On the side of the hull immediately forward of the transom and 50mm in size.

Inflatable boats – As for a powerboat or on boards hung over either side and 150mm in size.

Tenders – Must have its parent vessel's number displayed on each side of the boat forward of the transom.

On all vessels, the registration sticker must be fixed on the port side of the vessel, adjacent to the registration number.

Obstruction of navigation aids, channels and leads

Crab nets, fishing nets, marker buoys, or any other buoyed objects, are not allowed in any channel, fairway or passage without the permission of the Department of Transport. Anchoring or mooring is also not permitted there unless you are in distress. Vessels must not be secured to a beacon or other navigation aid.

Accident/incident reporting

When an accident results in serious injury or death, or the vessel has been damaged enough to make it unseaworthy or unsafe, the owner or skipper must report full particulars of the incident to the Department within seven days.

Pick up a special form from the Department's offices, download it from the website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/iformarine/1282.asp or phone 1300 863 308 for one to be sent out.

Port security

Under State Port Authority legislation a continuous 50 metres restricted area exists around all port facilities and jetties within the ports of Dampier and Walcott, 700 metres around Woodside's Withnell Bay facility and 100 metres around the Woodside Slug Catcher facility in Withnell Bay. Unauthorised vessels may not enter these areas. Penalty \$5,000

Closed Waters – Motorised Vessels

Hearson Cove – Shire of Roebourne: All the waters of Nickol Bay contained within an area commencing at a point on the foreshore at 20°37.828'S, 116°47.813'E; thence to a point at 20°37.828'S, 116°48.101'E (approximately 500 metres easterly); thence to a point at 20°38.124'S, 116°48.101'E (approximately 550 metres southerly); thence following the high water mark back to the point of commencement at 20°37.828'S, 116°47.813'E. All coordinates based on GDA 94.

