

## 12. Emergency, pollution, marine incidents

The aim of this section is to provide guidance to the port community for initial response procedures in the event of dangerous incidents, emergencies, terrorist acts and disasters.

### 12.1 General

Organisation	Telephone
North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited	+61 7 4955 8147
Police (Mackay)	000 or +61 7 4968 3444
Department of Environment and Science	1300 130 372 (Press option 2)
Ambulance (Mackay)	000
Fire	000 + 61 7 4898 2100
Hay Point VTS	1300 645 022 (24 hrs)
Pollution reports – Hay Point VTS	1300 645 022
Hospital (Mackay Base Hospital)	+61 7 4885 6000
Regional Harbour Master (Mackay)	1300 645 022
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry	13 25 23
Australian Border Force (ABF)	13 18 81
Maritime Safety Queensland (Mackay)	+61 7 4944 3700
Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR)	+61 7 4955 5448

Table 24 Emergency contact details

### 12.2 Authorities

Maritime Safety Queensland's emergency procedures are prepared under the provisions of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Act 1994](#) and the [Transport Operations \(Marine Pollution\) Act 1995](#).

North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited has published an emergency response plan. Contact emergency response for details:

#### Emergency Response

24 hours – 7 days

NQBP Duty Officer Phone: +61 7 4955 8147 or 0417 761 086

All emergencies should be reported to Hay Point VTS on VHF channel 16, (or 1300 645 022) who will call the appropriate emergency response service.

Call police, fire, or ambulance on 000.

## 12.3 Fire

Call the Queensland Fire and Emergency Service (QFES phone 000) and notify Hay Point VTS on VHF channel 16. Queensland Fire and Emergency Service is the agency responsible for fires on board vessels within Queensland state waters. The RHM, in consultation with the facility operator and North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited, will make the decision if the vessel is to be removed from the berth for the safety of the port.

## 12.4 Marine pollution

The [Transport Operations \(Marine Pollution\) Act 1995](#) is designed to protect Queensland's marine and coastal environment by minimising deliberate and negligent discharges of ship-sourced pollution. Discharges of oil, noxious liquid substances, packaged harmful substances, sewage, and garbage (MARPOL annexes I, II, III, IV and V) from ships are prohibited in Queensland coastal waters and pilotage areas.

Maritime Safety Queensland has the authority to detain any vessel suspected of causing marine pollution and to intervene where there is imminent danger to the coastline.

Ships should dispose of all waste ashore using the waste reception facilities available ([15.3 Waste](#)).

### 12.4.1 Reporting

Section 67 of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Pollution\) Act 1995](#) requires the master of a ship to report a discharge or probable discharge without delay to the RHM. The initial report should be made via Hay Point VTS (24 hours) on VHF radio Channel 16 or phone 1300 645 022.

The Port Authority duty officer (24 hours) can be contacted on:

Phone: +61 7 4955 8147

Mobile: +61 417 761 086

The following details should be provided in a report of marine pollution:

- Date/time of incident
- Location (latitude, longitude, and physical site)
- Report source and contact number
- Nature, extent and estimated quantity of spill
- Type of oil or description
- Spill source and point of discharge from source
- Identity and position of nearby ships or name of alleged polluter
- Nature and extent of spill and movement and speed of spill
- Local weather/tide/sea conditions
- Whether a sample of the substance spilled has been collected

And any additional information that relates to the spill.

The VTS centre will complete [Form F3968 - Marine Pollution Report](#) based on the above information and fax to the relevant authorities.

## 12.5 Marine Incidents

Under the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Act 1994](#), a marine incident is classified as an event causing or involving:

- the loss of a person from a ship,
- the death of, or grievous bodily harm to, a person caused by a ship's operations,
- the loss or presumed loss or abandonment of a ship,
- a collision with a ship,
- the stranding of a ship,
- material damage to a ship,
- material damage caused by a ship's operations,
- danger to a person caused by a ship's operations,
- danger of serious damage to a ship,
- danger of serious damage to a structure caused by a ship's operations.

### 12.5.1 Marine Incident Reporting

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- the death of, or grievous bodily harm to, a person caused by a ship's operations, or
- the loss presumed loss or abandonment of a ship, or
- a collision with a ship, or
- the stranding of a ship, or
- material damage to a ship, or
- material damage caused by a ship's operations, or
- danger to a person caused by a ship's operations, or
- danger or serious damage to a ship, or
- danger or serious damage to a structure caused by a ship's operations, or
- another event prescribed by regulation.

Section 124 of the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994 requires ships masters to assist if a marine incident involves two or more ships. The master of each ship involved in the marine incident must, to the extent that he can do so without danger to his ship or persons on board his ship:

- give the other ship involved in the incident, its master and persons onboard the ship the help necessary to save them from danger caused by the marine incident;

- stay by the other ship until no further assistance is required;
- give the master of the other ship reasonable particulars adequate to identify the ship and its owner.

## 12.5.2 Reporting

Section 125 of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Act 1994](#) requires the master of a ship involved in, or believed to be involved in a marine incident to report the situation to the Regional Harbour Master immediately. For category 1 incidents the Regional Harbour Master will complete a Marine Incident – Preliminary Advice form within 48 hours of the incident occurring.

Section 129 of the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994 requires the master of a ship to promptly report dangers to navigation including, an abandoned ship, a damaged aid to navigation, severe weather conditions and so on.

A [marine incident report](#) is also to be submitted to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. Refer to website for details - [Report of marine safety concern | Australian Maritime Safety Authority \(amsa.gov.au\)](#).

## 12.5.3 Procedures Subsequent to Serious Marine Incidents

In the case of a vessel grounding or if structural damage has occurred, the vessel is to be removed to a position of safety.

Immediate advice from the RHM should be sought in this instance. The vessel will be surveyed by the appropriate authority (the AMSA or classification society) to ensure seaworthiness before it leaves port limits.

## 12.5.4 Port Community Responsibilities

As a responsible member of the maritime community, any person witnessing an incident which was or is capable of becoming an emergency is obliged to report the matter to the RHM's office (VTS) and/or the emergency response agencies of police, fire or ambulance.

Australian Maritime Safety Authority requests pilots, stevedores, port authority officers and others to notify them of suspected deficiencies on ships, or of any complaints relating to a vessel.

## 12.5.5 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority incident report form

To report an incident where a breach of Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority regulations is observed witnesses are asked to complete the [GBRMPA incident report form](#). Urgent matters should be reported by phone to the appropriate number listed on the form.