

Appendix 2 – Weipa & Amrun

Extreme Weather Event Contingency Plan 2024 - 2025

Department of Transport and Main Roads — Maritime Safety Queensland, September 2024

Document history

Date	Version	Comments
September 2023	1	Original
November 2023	1.1	Minor amendments to improve consistency and inclusion of chartlets.
September 2024	2	Reviewed for currency. Weipa chartlet updated. Dates updated.

Weipa & Amrun

This port-specific plan must be read in conjunction with the full Extreme Weather Event Contingency Plan document, available on the MSQ webpage <https://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Safety/Preparing-for-severe-weather/Extreme-weather-contingency-plans> .

Extreme Weather Event

The hazards covered under this plan include CYCLONE and FLOOD. One or more hazards may occur simultaneously.

Yellow – Advice

Destructive Winds, Swell, Rain or Riverine Flooding Forecast Within 24-48 Hours

- Suspend all cargo or trading operations and obtain a situation report on state of operations including draft.
- Inform ships' masters of situation and place a short notice to sail.
- Obtain information on length of time to bring ships to a readiness to sail.
- Inform Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) of situation and ascertain suitable sailing times and draft requirements.
- If time permits, resume loading. Bring ship to satisfactory handling trim and safe transit draft.
 - During a Yellow Advice, small vessels prepare to move to designated cyclone mooring areas (Appendix A).
 - Owners of recreational vessels are to follow the directions given in the chartlets at the end of this Appendix.

Note: When conditions are deteriorating, every endeavour will be made to accommodate the working of cargo in the available time, allowing for tidal constraints.

Orange – Watch and Act

Destructive Winds, Swell, Rain or Riverine Flooding Forecast Within 12-24 Hours

- Sail all ships (note: It may already have been necessary to have sailed some ships due to tidal conditions).
- In the event that a ship cannot sail, arrange linesmen, instruct master to take standard cyclone precautions.
- On water authorities prepare to depart.
- All small vessels move to designated area and final preparations and tying off completed.

Note: The anchoring of large vessels upstream is not recommended due to tidal surges that could inundate the area, which, with high winds,

Red - Emergency Warning

Destructive Winds, Swell or Riverine Flooding Forecast Within 6 Hours

Port Closed

Vessels are not to leave their cyclone moorings or designated areas until the official all clear is given by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns). Only movements of an emergency nature will be permitted during a Red Emergency Warning.

Yellow – Advice

After The Event Has Passed, Recovery Underway

The Regional Harbour Master will assess residual risks and determine which actions need to be addressed. Do not assume that as the extreme weather event has passed it is safe to move your vessel.

Vessels, commercial and recreational, are not to leave their cyclone moorings until the official all clear is given by the Regional Harbour Master.

Mariners should maintain a listening watch on VHF frequencies 16 and 12 and follow advice/directions given by Weipa VTS.

Movements will be at the RHM's discretion and can be in stages including limited Internal Port movements until the Channel or areas within the Port are deemed safe.

Owners and masters of vessels should be aware that aids to navigation may be affected by the extreme weather event.

Owners and masters should refer to Notices to Mariners for the latest updates. Furthermore, port infrastructure will require inspection to ensure that facilities are fit for purpose.

White – All clear

Port open to all traffic, business as usual

A Pilotage area may be effectively re-opened by the Regional Harbour Master following direction to allow the entering or leaving of ships in and out of a pilotage area, or movement of vessels within a pilotage area. Such direction will be provided:

- When satisfied that all danger has passed, and the Pilotage area is safe for vessels to re-enter or exit; and
- Following inspections and surveys to critical maritime infrastructure (for example navigational aids and wharves) as well as clearance of navigational hazards.

The Vessel Traffic Services Centre (Callsign Weipa VTS) will coordinate the safe movement of vessels following the opening of the Pilotage area in accordance with normal practice. Berths will be re-opened, and operations resumed when structural assessments have been completed and wind and sea conditions are within operational limits.

Communication

The successful implementation of this plan relies on high quality communication of information and directions.

From the commencement of Yellow Advice, the Weipa Cyclone Control Centre (CCC) will monitor VHF channel **16** and telephone 07 4090 6000.

The CCC will relay messages from the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) and act as a co-ordination and control centre.

Once in position all small vessels are to contact the CCC and advise of location and number of persons remaining on board. If the vessel is to be left unattended the owners or masters are to advise the CCC of their contact telephone numbers.

The Vessel Traffic Services Centre (callsign Weipa VTS), will implement the extreme weather event contingency plan on behalf of the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) by acting as a central communications point and will be designated as the Maritime Control Centre for the duration and aftermath of the extreme weather event.

The vessel Maritime Control Centre call sign will be '**Weipa VTS**'.

VHF channels **16, 12** and **10** will be continuously monitored before and during the extreme weather event, unless the centre is evacuated. Extreme weather watches, warnings and any directions will be issued on these channels frequently as directed by the Regional Harbour Master.

If the plan requires for the Regional Harbour Master to give directions in relation to the operation and movement of vessels within their jurisdiction (such as port evacuation, closure and/or the movement of vessels to safer moorings), these actions will be coordinated by the Maritime Control Centre. In such instances, all vessels must contact the Maritime Control Centre before moving to their area of shelter, either by:

- Telephoning 4052 7470, 1300 551 899; or
- Calling Weipa VTS on VHF channel 16,12 or 10.

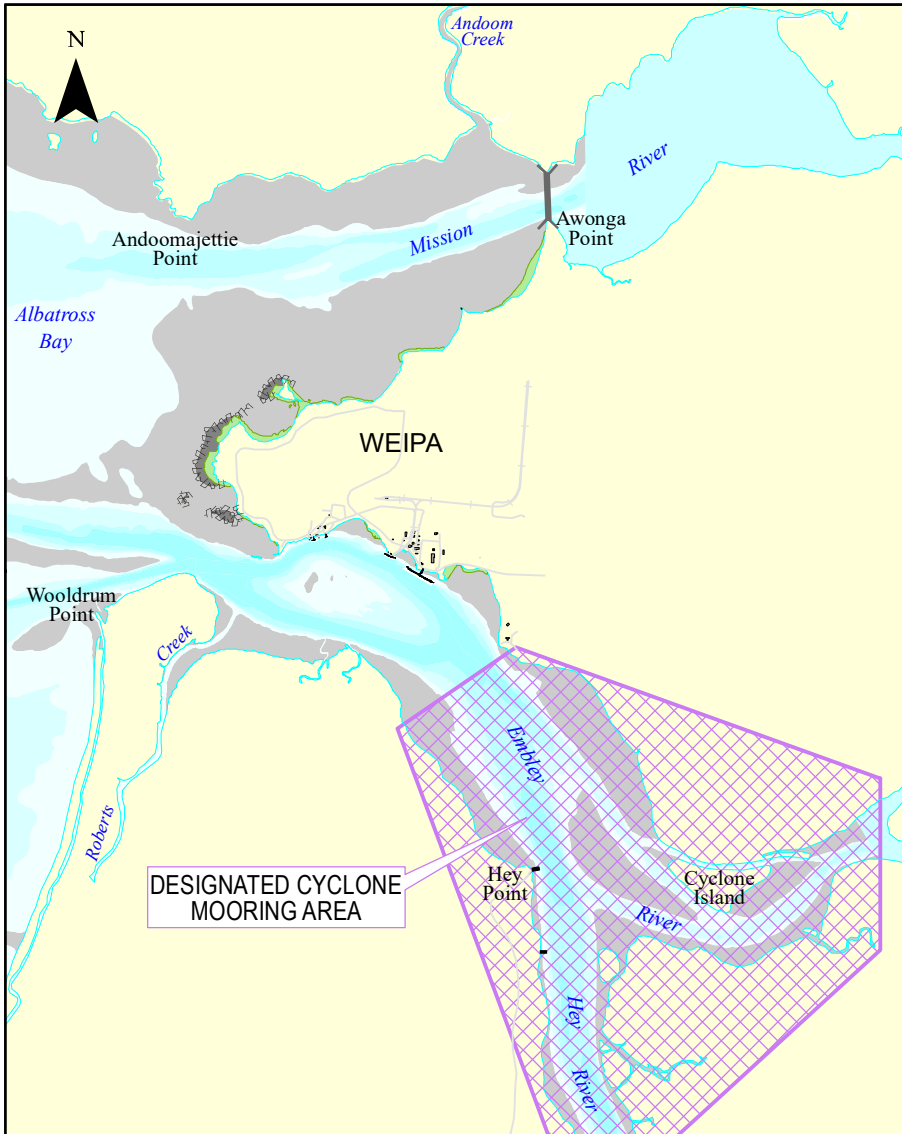
Key Contacts

Name	Contact Number
Regional Harbour Master	07 4052 7400
Weipa VTS	1300 551 899
Police – Weipa	07 4090 6000
Boating and Fisheries Patrol	07 4069 8114
Cyclone Control Centre	07 4090 6000
North Queensland Bulk Ports	07 4069 7749
Rio Tinto Aluminium	07 4069 8962

Key Websites

Name	URL
Detailed weather updates: BOM	www.bom.gov.au
MSQ Website	www.msq.qld.gov.au
MSQ Dashboard – detailed information on Port closures, Notice to Mariners, Tide Charts and more.	https://www.qldmaritime.msq.qld.gov.au

MARITIME EXTREME WEATHER EVENT PLAN (CYCLONE) PORT OF WEIPA



Yellow - Advice

- Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **24 - 48 hours.**
- Plant on cyclone alert Phase 1.
 - Commence plot of cyclone.
 - Suspend loading, obtain a situation report.
 - Give masters short notice to sail.
 - Get readiness to sail.
 - Inform RHM of situation and ascertain suitable sailing times.
 - Inform Weipa Tugs.
 - If time and draft permit bring load to best handling trim.
 - Small vessels to designated cyclone mooring areas.

Orange - Watch and Act

- Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **12 - 24 hours.**
- Plant on cyclone alert Phase 2.
 - Man control centre fully.
 - Hourly met. data to plant.
 - Sail all ships where possible.
 - Linesmen, standard cyclone precautions for ships in port.
- All small vessels should be moored in their designated area and final preparations and tying off completed. On water authorities prepare to depart.

Red - Emergency Warning

- Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **6 hours.**
- Port closed.**
- Vessels are NOT to leave their cyclone mooring until the official ALL CLEAR is given by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns).

OBJECTIVE:

To have the port area evacuated at least six hours before destructive winds commence, and to have all vessels safely moored in their designated areas of shelter by that time.

All vessels, other than those being used for emergency purposes, are to evacuate and clear the port area. Owners should be aware that should they leave their vessel in the port area, they may be liable to prosecution and, additionally, be held accountable for any damage that their vessel may cause or incur.

VESSEL COMMUNICATIONS & CONTROL CENTRE:

CAIRNS VTS, at the Harbour Master's Office (Tingira Street) will be the Maritime Control Centre.

VHF Channels 16 and 12 will be continuously monitored. The vessel Communications & Control Centre callsign will be "Weipa VTS".

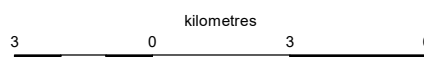
The Harbour Master's requirements for clearing the port of large vessels will generally be:

- Wind speeds must not have reached 30 knots.
- Ships must be able to sail, e.g. machinery working and crew on board, trim suitable.
- The ship's deepest draught must give suitable clearance when sailing.
- The ship can only sail 1.25 hours before high water, or at low water.
- Tugs must be available.

To ensure an orderly evacuation, the schedule above is to be observed when announced by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) over VHF ch 16.

Map S10c-8-9

Map Datum: GDA2020
Map projection: UTM MGA Zone 54
Prepared 4 September 2024
Maritime Safety Queensland - Spatial Services

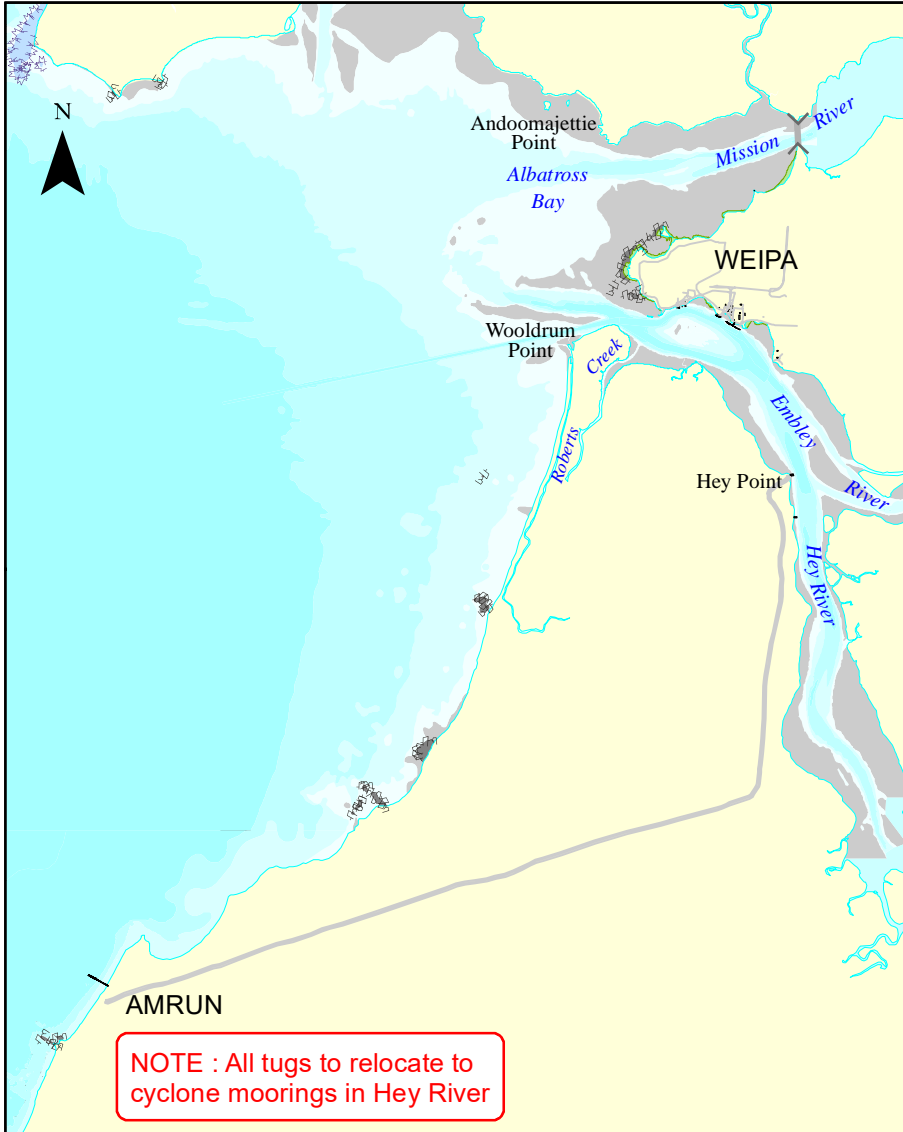


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MARITIME EXTREME WEATHER EVENT PLAN (CYCLONE) AMRUN



Yellow - Advice

Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **24 - 48 hours.**

- Plant on cyclone alert Phase 1.
- Commence plot of cyclone.
- Suspend loading, obtain a situation report.
- Give masters short notice to sail.
- Get readiness to sail.
- Inform RHM of situation and ascertain suitable sailing times.
- Inform Amrun Tugs.
- If time and draft permit bring load to best handling trim.
- Small vessels to designated cyclone mooring areas.

Orange - Watch and Act

Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **12 - 24 hours.**

- Plant on cyclone alert Phase 2.
- Man control centre fully.
- Hourly met. data to plant.
- Sail all ships where possible.
- Linesmen, standard cyclone precautions for ships in port.

All small vessels should be moored in their designated area and final preparations and tying off completed. On water authorities prepare to depart.

Red - Emergency Warning

Destructive winds forecast to affect the area within **6 hours.**

Area closed.

Vessels are NOT to leave their cyclone moorings until the official ALL CLEAR has been given by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns).

OBJECTIVE:

To have the area evacuated at least six hours before destructive winds commence, and to have all vessels safely moored in their designated areas of shelter by that time.

All vessels, other than those being used for emergency purposes, are to evacuate and clear the area. Owners should be aware that should they leave their vessel in this area, they may be liable to prosecution and, additionally, be held accountable for any damage that their vessel may cause or incur.

VESSEL COMMUNICATIONS & CONTROL CENTRE:

CAIRNS VTS, at the Harbour Master's Office (Tingira Street) will be the Maritime Control Centre.

VHF Channels 10 and 16 will be continuously monitored. The vessel Communications & Control Centre callsign will be "Weipa VTS".

The Harbour Master's requirements for clearing the port of large vessels will generally be:

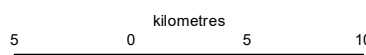
- Wind speeds must not have reached 30 knots.
- Ships must be able to sail, e.g. machinery working and crew on board, trim suitable.
- The ship's deepest draught must give suitable clearance when sailing.
- The ship can only sail 1.25 hours before high water, or at low water.
- Tugs must be available.

To ensure an orderly evacuation, the schedule above is to be observed when announced by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) over VHF ch 16.

Map S10c-11-4

Map Datum: GDA2020
Map projection: UTM MGA Zone 54
Prepared 14 november 2023

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