

# Port of Karumba



**PORT HANDBOOK**

# PORT HANDBOOK

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*This document is a port directory describing the general characteristics and facilities at the Port of Karumba. The information contained in this document is produced in good faith and according to the knowledge available to Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited (FNQPC) t/a Ports North at the time of publication. No warranty is given as to its accuracy. Any relevant service provider either included or not included in this Directory is welcome to email FNQPC at [enquiries@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:enquiries@portsnorth.com.au) for correction or consideration of inclusion of its details in the next edition.*

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## **FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND PORTS CORPORATION LIMITED (FNQPC)**

### **OVERVIEW**

Far North Queensland Ports Corporation (FNQPC), trading as Ports North, is the Port Authority for the Port of Karumba and eight other Ports throughout the Far North.

Ports North's trading Ports handle bulk shipments of fuel, zinc, silica sand, sugar and molasses as well as live cattle and general cargo. Community Ports supply neighbouring areas with essential general cargo and fuel.

### **THE PORT OF KARUMBA**

#### **Description**

The Port of Karumba handles the export of zinc and lead for New Century Resources, general cargo for a number of Gulf communities and live cattle exports. Located at the mouth of the Norman River in the south-east corner of the Gulf of Carpentaria, the Port of Karumba has serviced remote Gulf communities since the late 1800s.

New Century Resources exported its first 10,000 tonnes of zinc concentrate in 1999. Today, about one shipload per week leaves the Gulf waters destined for customers in Europe, Asia and Australia.

When requested, Ports North provides dredging services to maintain the necessary channel depth, usually about every two years. Ports North also provides pilotage services and tugs are not required at the Port.

Karumba is also a trans-shipment Port for the Port of Weipa and other Gulf communities including Mornington Island, with refrigerated semi-trailers bringing goods north to Karumba for trans-shipment.

#### **Facilities**

New Century Resources commercial facilities at the Port include a dewatering and transport operation. Zinc concentrates are transported to the Port via a 304 kilometre underground slurry pipeline. Once dewatered, the mineral concentrate is transported via a transfer vessel, the "MV Wunma", to export ships anchored in a designated area 45 kilometres offshore in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Other facilities in the Port provide for general cargo, fuel and fisheries' products. Most of the Port facilities such as wharves and storage facilities are privately owned and are not on Ports North land, so they are not under the direct control of Ports North.

#### **Trade**

In 2019-20, the Port of Karumba exported 208,640 tonnes of zinc and 6,785 tonnes of general cargo.

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## Transport Links

Karumba has a population of around 600 with limited services. The nearest regional centre is Cairns which is 780 kilometres east of the town.

- Airport

Karumba has an unsealed airstrip which is used primarily by charter aircraft services. Cairns is the nearest airport providing both domestic and international services. Contact the ship's agent for details on air travel from Karumba.

- Bus

Due to the remote location of Karumba, bus transport is limited. A service to Cairns is available. Contact ship's agent for more details.

## PORT AUTHORITY ROLE AT KARUMBA

As the Port Authority for Karumba, Ports North's key roles are to:

- manage and develop reliable, appropriate Port facilities and infrastructure to cater for existing and future trade needs;
- maintain appropriate levels of Port security and safety;
- co-ordinate emergency response;
- protect the environment by minimising impact of development; and
- be committed to and have regard for the interests of the community.

Ports North provides a key service in the Port by maintaining a shipping channel through a regular maintenance dredging program of the Norman River. Pilotage and Port navigation is controlled by MSQ.

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## KEY PORTS NORTH CONTACTS

### General Manager Commercial

#### Kevin Malone

Phone: +61 7 4052 3814

Mobile: 0409 552 425

Email: [Kevin.Malone@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:Kevin.Malone@portsnorth.com.au)

### Port Security Officer (Cairns)

#### Richard Stevenson

Phone: +61 7 4052 3851

Mobile: 0417 681 918

Email: [richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au)

### Emergency Response 24 hours – 7 days

#### Ports North Duty Officer

Tel: +61 7 4051 2558

## TERMINAL OPERATOR ROLE AT KARUMBA

At Karumba, New Century Resources is the largest operator in the Port and is responsible for the operation of the largest export facility.

Terminal operations can be broken into the following components:

- processing plant and stockpiling facilities;
- conveyor system for loading MV Wunma at ZCML Norman River wharf;
- ship loading plant within MV Wunma being a purpose built covered transfer vessel; and
- deep water self-discharging of MV Wunma onto export vessels.

There are a number of other facilities in the Port which are privately owned and operated.

## KEY NEW CENTURY RESOURCES CONTACTS

### Terminal

Phone: +61 7 4747 6300

Fax: +61 7 747 6307

### Manager Operations

Greg O'Shea

Phone: 0419 786 579

Email: [goshea@newcenturyresources.com](mailto:goshea@newcenturyresources.com)

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## **REGIONAL HARBOUR MASTER ROLE AT KARUMBA**

Shipping legislation in Queensland is controlled by MSQ, a State Government agency attached to the Department of Transport and Main Roads, whose role is to protect Queensland's waterways and the people who use them by providing safer and cleaner seas.

Regional Harbour Masters are responsible for:

- improving maritime safety for shipping and small craft through regulation and education;
- minimising vessel sourced waste and providing response to marine pollution;
- providing essential maritime services such as Port Pilots and aids to navigation; and
- encouraging and supporting innovation in the maritime industry.

State waters extend to the first three nautical miles of the territorial sea from the coast line. Pilotage areas have been gazetted around designated Ports and maritime areas to ensure the safe and efficient movement of shipping. These areas encompass the approaches, main shipping channel and waters of the Port.

Collectively, the Regional Harbour Master and the Port Authority have responsibility for managing the safe and efficient operation of the Port.

## **Contact**

The Regional Harbour Master for Karumba is based in Cairns.

For operational maritime questions, marine incidents, pollution, pilotage, buoy moorings, navigation aids and towage requirements, please contact the Regional Harbour Master's office. The office is located at:

Physical Address: 100 – 106 Tingira Street, Portsmith QLD 4870  
Postal Address: PO Box 1787, Cairns QLD 4870  
Phone: +61 7 4052 7400  
Fax: +61 7 4052 7427  
Email: [RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au)

After Hours Emergency: 1300 551 899

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## **PORT CONTROL ROLE AT KARUMBA – VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE**

The Port Control Centre is situated at the Regional Harbour Master's office. For ship traffic scheduling, pollution incidents and reporting defective navigation aids, please direct initial enquiries to the Port Control Centre.

Call sign "KARUMBA VTS" is provided by MSQ and provides a 24 hour, seven days a week marine operations service to the Port community. They are contactable on:

- VHF Radio: VHF Channel 12 and 16
- Phone: +61 7 4052 7470
- Fax: +61 7 4052 7460
- Email: [vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au)



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## SERVICES – NAVIGATION

### Location

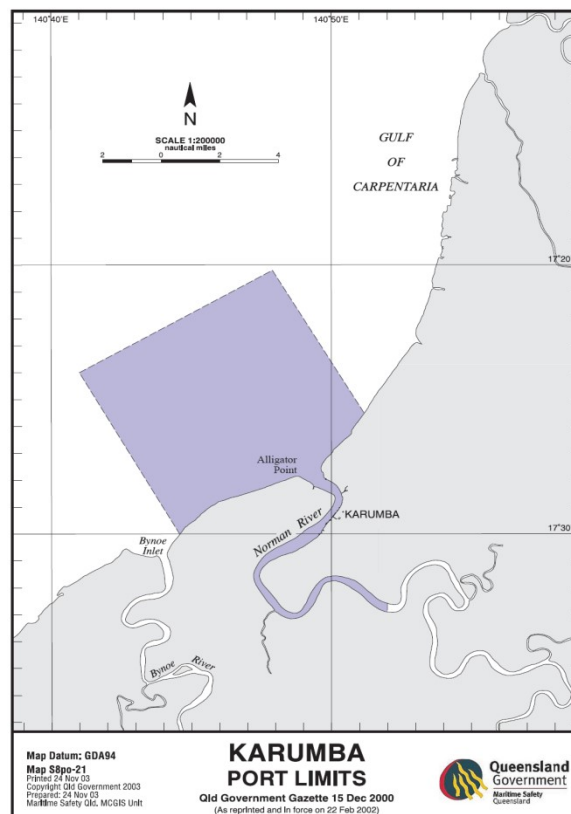
The Port of Karumba is located in the region between Latitude 17° 29' south and Longitude 140° 50' east.

### PORT LIMITS

The Port limits, which are defined in the regulations of the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*, are highlighted on the map below and include the waters at the high water mark within the following boundaries:

- the Norman River and connected waterways system from the head of navigation to the river mouth; and
- from the river mouth, the waters within a ten nautical mile radius centred at the north head of the Norman River entrance.

The Port limits also include all navigable waters of rivers and creeks flowing directly or indirectly into the waters as described above.



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## ANCHORAGES

Vessels arriving off the Port of Karumba will be assigned a designated anchorage position by VTS, while awaiting berthing instructions.

Check the 'Notice to Mariners' at <https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/karumba-notice-to-mariners> or contact the Karumba VTS Office by VHF Radio channel 12 or 16 or telephone +61 7 4052 7470 for current anchorage information.

## BERTH FACILITIES

There are a number of berth facilities in the Port, most of which are privately owned and operated. Contact the berth operator or ship's agent for specific details on lengths, maximum vessel size and any restrictions for each berth.

BERTH	ACTUAL DEPTH (metres)
Gulf Freight Services Wharf	6.2
Gulf Freight Services Ramp/Wharf	4.6
Karumba Cold Stores Wharf	6.2
Karumba Livestock Loading Wharf	5.4
Mobil/Trinity wharf	6.3
Pasminco Export Wharf	4.2
Raptis Wharf	5.3
Ruby Marine Wharf	5.3
Sea Swift/Shell Wharf	6.2

Figures are taken from MSQ 'Notice to Mariners' for the Port of Karumba. NOTE: Depth is subject to change. Check 'Notice to Mariners' for the Port at:

<https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/karumba-notice-to-mariners> for current depth information.

## DEPTHS OF WATER

The depth of approaches are 3.7 below datum.

NOTE: The depth is subject to change. Please check the latest Notice to Mariners for the Port of Karumba at <https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/karumba-notice-to-mariners> for the most current depth information for approach channel.

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## PILOTAGE

### General

The *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1995* specifies that, unless a current Pilotage Exemption Certificate (PEC) is held by the Master of a ship, pilotage is compulsory for:

- a ship that is 50m or more;
- a foreign flag ship that is 35m or more;
- a vessel towing another vessel where the combined length of the vessels is 50m or more;
- a ship whose Owner or Master asks for the services of a Pilot; and
- a ship whose Master is directed by the Harbour Master to use the services of a Pilot.

### Request for Pilot

The requirements of the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004* shall be observed for all bookings. Ports North provides a pilotage service for ship arrivals, departures and removals. All Pilot transfers are carried out by Pilot launch.

### Notice Required (For Pilotage and Berth)

Ships requiring the services of a Pilot in the Port are required to submit arrival, removal and departure notices no less than the indicated number of hours prior to the desired movement:

- Arrivals                    48 hours
- Removals                   24 hours
- Departures                 24 hours

Initial notification should be made via email at [vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au).

## TIDES

Karumba has a "Diurnal Tide Range" which refers to a tide which has a cycle of about one tidal day – one high and one low tide every 25 hours.

There is an extreme range during spring tides of up to 4.7m. Prolonged periods of offshore winds may also influence the tidal level greatly, with drops in level of up to one metre being recorded.

MSQ provides tidal estimations for pilotage areas. Contact the Regional Harbour Master's office at [RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au) for most current tidal information.

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## **TUGS**

There are no tugs are required at the Port.

## **SERVICES – OPERATION**

### **Application to Berth**

An 'Application to Berth' form must be received by Karumba VTS no later than 48 hours before the vessel's estimated Pilot boarding time.

The ship's agent will send a blank 'Application to Berth' form to the vessel seven to ten days before their arrival.

This ensures up-to-date documents are always used.

Contact the ship's agent for latest information on berthing applications.

### **Bunkering**

There are no bunkering services available at the Port.

### **Cargo Completion**

Vessels must vacate the berth without delay, subject to tidal conditions. Call on VHF Channel 16 (initial calling) and work on VHF Channel 6 (tug operations/working).

### **Communications**

Pilot vessel and tugs call on VHF Channel 16 and work on VHF Channel 6.

### **Cyclone Procedures**

Detailed cyclone procedures are provided in Ports North's Emergency Response Plan and are consistent with the Maritime Cyclone Contingency Plan for Port, which is issued by MSQ. Alert phases in the Port provide a guide for action as a cyclone or severe heavy weather approaches an area. The alert will be announced by the Regional Harbour Master over VHF Channel 16.

### **Electrical Power**

Check with the ship's agent to confirm availability of shore power at the specific wharf the ship is berthing at.

### **Emergency Services**

Ports North has developed an Emergency Response Plan that covers situations such as cyclones, marine incidents, bomb threats, fire, explosion or fatalities. Copies of the Emergency Response Plan are held by Ports North operational staff, by the Regional Harbour Master in Cairns and by a number of Port users and other key agency contacts.

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Where a non-marine incident is caused through the activities of a Port user on Port land, the initial response is the responsibility of the Port user, who must notify Ports North. If the incident has the potential to escalate, Ports North maintains the right to initiate external resources and response agencies to assist in reducing the impact of the incident on other Port users.

## **Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) Notice**

Emailed or faxed to the ship's agent at least seven days before arrival.

NOTE: To avoid delays to berthing and to avoid tug cancellations, it is important that all adjustments to ETA's are advised to all parties. Contact the ship's agent for the latest information on arrival notices.

## **Power**

Check with the ship's agent to confirm availability of shore power at the specific wharf ship is berthing at.

## **Fuel**

Check with ship's agent to confirm.

## **Gangway/Deck Watchmen**

The ship's gangway is used and the ship's crew is used as Watchmen.

## **Garbage Disposal**

There are no garbage disposal services available.

## **Line Boats**

There are no line boats available at Karumba.

## **Port Notices/Port Rules and Charges**

Port Notices regulate the business operations of the Port. This reference document contains instructions for the Orderly Conduct of Business and Public Safety in the Port. Copies are displayed at the Port office at Evans Landing Boat Shed and are also available for downloading from [www.portsnorth.com.au](http://www.portsnorth.com.au).

In addition, this document outlines the process for handling dangerous goods. A person in charge of dangerous goods who proposes to store, handle, carry, use, transport or otherwise deal with any dangerous goods within the Port must notify at least two working days before the date on which it is anticipated the dangerous goods will enter the Port by forwarding a copy of MSQ Form No. F3217 'Dangerous Cargo Report' to Seaport Operations.

Contact Seaport Operations on +61 7 4051 2558 or 0419 657 350 or email [seaport.operations@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:seaport.operations@portsnorth.com.au) for the latest information on Port Rules and Notices for Karumba.

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## **Stowage Factor**

Contact the ship's agent for latest information on stowage factor.

## **Pratique/Health Regulations**

Karumba is a First Port of Entry and notification of quarantine inspection is required. Radio Pratique is available. Send message to the "Quarantine Officer" through the ship's agent, not more than 24 hours before arrival. (This stipulation is not enforced). The agent will keep the vessel advised. Text of the message is in accordance with the advised procedure in the Sailing Directors for Entry to First Australian Port.

## **Oil Spill Procedures**

MSQ has the responsibility to provide an effective oil spill response across the State. To assist MSQ in local oil spill response, Ports North has entered into an agreement to provide a first strike response in the Port under the direction of the Regional Harbour Master. Ports North provides trained personnel, equipment and vessels to undertake clean-up of any hydrocarbon spills. Ship crewmen must ensure all measures are taken to prevent the release of hydrocarbons into the environment. MSQ will provide resources out of Cairns or other centres, for larger spills.

In the event of an oil spill, immediately notify the Regional Harbour Master on +61 7 4052 7400 and if after hours, call 1300 551 899. Also contact Ports North Operations on +61 74051 2558 or 0419 657 350.

## **Repatriation**

Repatriation can be arranged. Please contact the ship's agent for details.

## **Restrictions**

Access to any wharf and/or loading plant is restricted. Persons requiring access, crew members or visitors, must wear safety hard hats, safety shoes, adequate eye protection and comply with all safety regulations. The berth operator is not responsible for accidents incurred by personnel who use their wharf gangway.

Pedestrian access along the wharf approach is not permitted. Special authorisation is required for private vehicles and visitors within the Port for wharf access. Access to the remainder of the Port site is strictly forbidden.

## **Seaman's Clubs**

There are no Seaman's Clubs in Karumba.

## **Ship's Chandler**

The Chandler will attend a vessel if necessary and bonded stores are also available. See Port Service Providers for contact details.

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## **Shore Leave**

The crew is permitted to go ashore after immigration and customs clearance.

## **Time Zone**

Time is Eastern Standard Time and equates to GMT + 10 hours.

All ETA and other messages should be made in local time.

## **Waste**

There are no waste services available at Karumba.

## **PORT SECURITY**

As Karumba is not a security regulated Port under the *Maritime Transport Security Act 2003*, Ports North requires any security regulated ship that wishes to enter the port to make application no less than 14 days prior.

The ship's Master must report directly to Ports North, or via their ship's agent the following:

- International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) compliance number;
- current ship security level or any change to the ship security level while in Port;
- Ship Security Officer contact details;
- list of expected visitors/contractors;
- nominated provedore;
- crew list and identification; and
- any security incident (as defined under the ISPS code or Maritime Transport Security Legislation) while in Port.

## **CONTACTS**

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**Port Security Officer  
(Cairns)**

**Richard Stevenson**

Phone: +61 7 4052 3851

Mobile: 0417 681 918

Email: [richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au)

**24 Hour Duty Officer**

+61 7 4051 2558

## SHIPPING CONTACTS

### Agents

**Wilhelmsen Ships Service**

Phone: +61 7 4721 4955

Email: [wss.townsville@wilhelmsen.com](mailto:wss.townsville@wilhelmsen.com)

**Carter Marine Agencies Pty Ltd**

PO Box 319

Westcourt QLD 4870

Phone: +61 7 4051 1046

Fax: +61 7 4039 0685

Email: [carrie@cartermarine.com](mailto:carrie@cartermarine.com)

**Inchcape Shipping Services**

3/22 Martyn Street

Cairns QLD 4870

Phone: +61 7 4051 5211

Fax: +61 7 4051 5082

Email: [Cairns@ISS-Shipping.com.au](mailto:Cairns@ISS-Shipping.com.au)

### Commercial Diving

**Southern Cross Marine Supplies NQ**

90 Perkins Street West

Railway Estate

Townsville QLD 4810

Phone: +61 7 4724 5144

Email: [townsville@scms.com.au](mailto:townsville@scms.com.au)

**Monson Agencies Australia Pty Ltd**

3/9 Railway Avenue

Townsville QLD 4810

Phone: +61 7 4724 5938

Fax: +61 7 4724 5968

Email: [townsville@monson.com.au](mailto:townsville@monson.com.au)

**Sea Swift Pty Ltd**

41-45 Tingira Street

Portsmith QLD 4870

Phone: +61 7 4035 1234

Email: [admin@seaswift.com.au](mailto:admin@seaswift.com.au)

### Provedores

**Pacific Marine Group**

11-15 Sandspit Drive

South Townsville QLD 4810

Phone: +61 7 4724 2200

Fax: +61 7 4724 2208

Email: [info@pacificmarinegroup.com.au](mailto:info@pacificmarinegroup.com.au)



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## Ship Repairs

### Pacific Marine Group

11-15 Sandspit Drive

South Townsville QLD 4810

Phone: +61 7 4724 2200

Email: [info@pacificmarinegroup.com.au](mailto:info@pacificmarinegroup.com.au)

NOTE: Any vessel requiring repairs must advise their agent well prior to arrival at Karumba.

## KEY PORTS NORTH CONTACTS

### General Manager Commercial

#### Kevin Malone

Phone: +61 7 4052 3814

Mobile: 0409 552 425

Email: [kevin.malone@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:kevin.malone@portsnorth.com.au)

### General Manager Operations

#### Richard Stevenson

Phone: +61 7 4052 3851

Mobile: 0417 681 918

Email: [richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au](mailto:richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au)

### Emergency Response

24 hours – 7 days

#### Ports North Duty Officer

Tel: +61 7 4051 2558

## TERMINAL OPERATOR CONTACTS

### New Century Resources

#### Terminal

Phone: +61 7 4747 6300

Fax: +61 7 4747 6307

### Manager Operations

Greg O'Shea

Phone: 0419 786 579

Email: [goshea@newcenturyresources.com](mailto:goshea@newcenturyresources.com)

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## REGIONAL HARBOUR MASTER CONTACTS

Physical Address: 100-106 Tingira Street, Portsmith QLD 4870  
Postal Address: PO Box 1787, Cairns QLD 4870  
Phone: +61 7 4052 7400  
Fax: +61 7 4052 7427  
Email: [RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au)  
After Hours Emergency: 1300 551 899

## GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY CONTACTS

### **Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)**

82 Northborne Avenue  
Braddon ACT 2612  
Internet: [www.amsa.gov.au](http://www.amsa.gov.au)

*Shipping Emergencies, Major Oil Pollution, Ship Reporting (AUSREP)*

Phone: 1800 641 792 (24 hours) or +61-2-6230 6811

### **Department of Agriculture (Quarantine Services)**

Building 114, Catalina Crescent  
Airport Business Park  
Cairns Airport  
Cairns QLD 4870  
Phone: +61 7 4030 7800  
Phone: 1800 900 090

### **Department of Home Affairs**

Aviation and Maritime Security Division  
PO Box 25  
Belconnen ACT 2616

*General Enquiries:*

Phone: +61 2 6274 7111

Fax: +61 2 6257 2505

Internet: [www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/security](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/security)

*Reporting of security incidents:*

Phone: 1300 791 581

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## **Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ)**

64-66 Tingira Street

Portsmith QLD 4870

Phone: +61 7 4052 7400

Fax: +61 7 4052 7427

Email: [RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:RHMCairns@msq.qld.gov.au)

*Marine Incidents / Marine Pollution (after Hours)*

Phone: 1300 551 899

Port Control – Karumba VTS

VHF Radio: VHF 12 and 16

Phone: +61 7 4052 7470

Fax: +61 7 4052 7460

Email: [vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au](mailto:vtscairns@msq.qld.gov.au)