Port of Karumba

PORT HANDBOOK
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 for correction or consideration of inclusion of its details in the next edition.

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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 MMG Century, 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.

MMG Century 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.

Ports North provides dredging services to maintain the necessary channel depth, usually about every two years. Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) provides pilotage services, but no tugs are 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

MMG Century’s 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 2011–12, the Port of Karumba exported 924,995 tonnes of zinc, 39,736 tonnes of lead, 9,559 tonnes of general cargo and 10,522 head of livestock. A total of 197 ships visited the Port.

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.
## KEY PORTS NORTH CONTACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Mobile</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Manager Commercial</td>
<td>Michael Colleton</td>
<td>+61-7-4052 3814</td>
<td>0409 529 714</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.colleton@portsnorth.com.au">michael.colleton@portsnorth.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports North Port Supervisor / Deputy Security Officer (Karumba)</td>
<td>Troy Dryden</td>
<td>+61-7-4745 9522</td>
<td>0429 979 457</td>
<td><a href="mailto:troy.dryden@portsnorth.com.au">troy.dryden@portsnorth.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Security Officer (Cairns)</td>
<td>Richard Stevenson</td>
<td>+61-7-4052 3851</td>
<td>0401 543 473</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au">richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Response 24 hours – 7 days</td>
<td>Ports North Duty Officer</td>
<td>Tel: +61-7-4051 2558</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TERMINAL OPERATOR ROLE AT KARUMBA

At Karumba, MMG Century is the largest operator at 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 MMG CENTURY CONTACTS

**Terminal**

Phone: +61-7-4747 6300  
Fax: +61-7-4747 6307

**Manager Operations**

Ross Byers  
Phone: +61-7-4747 6348  
Email: ross.byers@mmg.com

**Shipping Manager**

Kevin McLean (P&O Maritime)  
Phone: +61-7-4747 6365  
Mobile: 61-400-978-756  
Email: kevin.mclean@mmg.com

**Port Facility Security Officer**

Ross Byers  
Phone: +61-7-4747 6348  
Email: ross.byers@mmg.com
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: 64-66 Tingira Street, Portsmith Qld 4870
Postal Address: PO Box 1787, Cairns Qld 4870
Phone: +61-7-4052 7400
Fax: +61-7-4052 7427
Email: RHM Cairns@msq.qld.gov.au

After Hours Emergency: 1300 551 899

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
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.
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 http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Home/Notices-to-Mariners.aspx 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.

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

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:


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 http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Home/Notices-to-Mariners.aspx for the most current depth information for approach channel.
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. MSQ 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.

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 for most current tidal information.

**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 at Ports North’s Karumba office in Yappar Street, by the Regional Harbour Master in Cairns and by a number of Port users and other key agency contacts.

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.
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 ES ‘Dangerous Cargo Report’ to the Port Supervisor Karumba.

Contact the Ports North Port Supervisor on +61-7-4745 9522 or 0429 979 457 or email troy.dryden@portsnorth.com.au for the latest information on Port Rules and Notices for Karumba.

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 the Ports North Port Supervisor on +61-7-4745 9522 or 0429 979 457 and if after hours call the Ports North 24 hour number on +61-7-4051 2558.

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.

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 a security regulated Port under the Maritime Transport Security Act 2003, Ports North has an approved Maritime Security Plan. This Plan was officially approved by the Federal Government’s Office of Transport Security.

Under IMO legislation there is a procedure ships must follow when entering the Port. Before entering the Port of Karumba, 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

### Port Security Officer (Cairns)

**Richard Stevenson**  
Phone: +61-7-4052 3851  
Mobile: 0401 543 473  
Email: richard.stevenson@portsnorth.com.au

### Deputy PSO (Karumba)

**Troy Dryden**  
Phone: +61-7-4745 9522  
Mobile: 0429 979 457  
Email: troy.dryden@portsnorth.com.au

### 24 Hour Duty Officer

+61-7-4051 2558

### MMG Century Port Facility Security Officer (PFSO):

**Ross Byers**  
Phone: +61-7-4747 6348  
Email: ross.byers@mmg.com

## SHIPPING CONTACTS

### Agents

**Wilhelmsen Ships Service (Cairns Office)**  
83 Fearnley Street  
Portsmith QLD 4870  
Phone: +61-7-4035 4344  
Fax: +61-7-4035 4006  
Email: cairns@wilhelmsen.com

**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

**Carter Marine Agencies Pty Ltd**  
PO Box 319  
Westcourt QLD 4870  
Phone: +61-7-4051 1046  
Fax: +61-7-4039 0685  
E-mail: carrie@cartermarine.com

**Sea Swift Pty Ltd**  
41-45 Tingira Street  
Portsmith QLD 4870  
Phone: +61-7-4035 1234  
Email: admin@seaswift.com.au

**Inchcape Shipping Services**  
3/22 Martyn Street  
Cairns QLD 4870  
Phone: +61-7-4051 5211  
Fax: +61-7-4051 5082  
E-Mail: 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

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

Ship Repairs

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

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

KEY PORTS NORTH CONTACTS

General Manager Commercial
Michael Colleton
Phone: +61-7-4052 3814
Mobile: 0409 529 714
Email: michael.colleton@portsnorth.com.au

PCQ Port Supervisor
(Tarumba)
Troy Dryden
Phone: +61-7-4745 9522
Mobile: 0429 979 457
Email: troy.dryden@portsnorth.com.au

Emergency Response
24 hours – 7 days
Ports North Duty Officer
Tel: +61-7-4051 2558
TERMINAL OPERATOR CONTACTS

MMG Century Terminal
Phone: +61-7-4747 6300
Fax: +61-7-4747 6307

Manager Operations
Ross Byers
Phone: +61-7-4747 6348
Email: ross.byers@mmg.com

Shipping Manager
Kevin McLean (P&O Maritime)
Phone: +61-7-4747 6365
Email: kevin.mclean@mmg.com

Port Facility Security Officer
Ross Byers
Phone: +61-7-4747 6348
Email: ross.byers@mmg.com

REGIONAL HARBOUR MASTER CONTACTS

Physical Address: 64-66 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
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

Shipping Emergencies, Major Oil Pollution, Ship Reporting (AUSREP)
Phone: 1800 641 792 (24 hours) or +61-2-6230 6811

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)
Building 114, Catalina Crescent
Airport Business Park
Cairns Airport
Cairns QLD 4870
Phone: +61-7-4030 7800
Fax: +61-7-4030 7843
Office of Transport Security
Department of Infrastructure and Transport
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

General Enquiries:
Phone: +61-2-6274 7111
Fax: +61-2-6257 2505

Reporting of security incidents:
Phone: 1300 307 288

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

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