

1020 AUSTRALIA - Product - Amendment to Mariner's Handbook for Australian Waters AHP20
Australian Hydrographic Office

Chapter 9 – Notes - page 177 - Note 1, REEFVTS now referred to as Reef VTS

Insert accompanying block

Chapter 9 – Pages 172, 173, 174, 175, 176

Replace pages with accompanying block

1. In accordance with NtM 1020/2020 all references throughout AHP20 to REEFVTS should now read Reef VTS.

2. The following categories of ships are required to report to Reef VTS:
 - all ships of 50 metres or greater length overall
 - all oil tankers, liquefied gas carriers, chemical tankers or ships coming within the Irradiated Nuclear Fuel (INF) Code, regardless of length
 - ships which are towing or pushing or being towed or pushed where the length of the tow exceeds 150 metres, or the involvement of one of the vessels listed in the two previous dot points
3. Other vessels transiting the Reef VTS area may report on a voluntary basis.
4. SOLAS Regulation V/11 does not apply to any warship, naval auxiliary, or any ship owned or operated by government. However SOLAS does state that 'such ships are encouraged to participate in ship reporting systems'.
5. Mariners are referred to AMSA Marine Order 63 for details of their obligations under REEFREP. This is available on the AMSA website.

Website:	www.amsa.gov.au
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9.3.4 COMMUNICATING WITH GREAT BARRIER REEF AND TORRES STRAIT VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE

1. A Very High Frequency (VHF) radio network is available along the Queensland (QLD) coast and Torres Strait to communicate with Reef VTS. Reef VTS keeps a listening watch at all times on the VHF working Channel 11 and 14. See Reef VTS VHF Channel overview.
2. The relationship between VHF Channels and associated Entry/Exit Reporting Points are dependent on a ship's position in relation to the area of that Reporting Point (see table).
3. Position of entry and exit of the Reef VTS area to QLD ports will be upon passing port VTS areas. For those ports with no declared VTS area, port limits will be considered the entry and exit point.

Name of approved Entry/Exit position	VHF Working Channel	Name of approved Entry/Exit position	VHF Working Channel
Bramble	14	Palm Passage	14
Booby	14	Blossom	14
Endeavour	14	Swain	14
Grafton Passage	11	Sandy Cape	14

Inmarsat C Messaging

4. Reef VTS will pay the cost of messages sent by Inmarsat C if the ship uses the special access code (SAC) 861 via POR LES 212. When setting up the Inmarsat C address book, select either: ASCII or 7-bit or IA5 for data presentation or character code.
5. Inmarsat C terminals must be logged into the POR.

Other Communications

6. If for any reason a ship cannot communicate via Inmarsat C or the VHF working channel, the ship must send the required information to Reef VTS in another way. The ship can use one of the following:

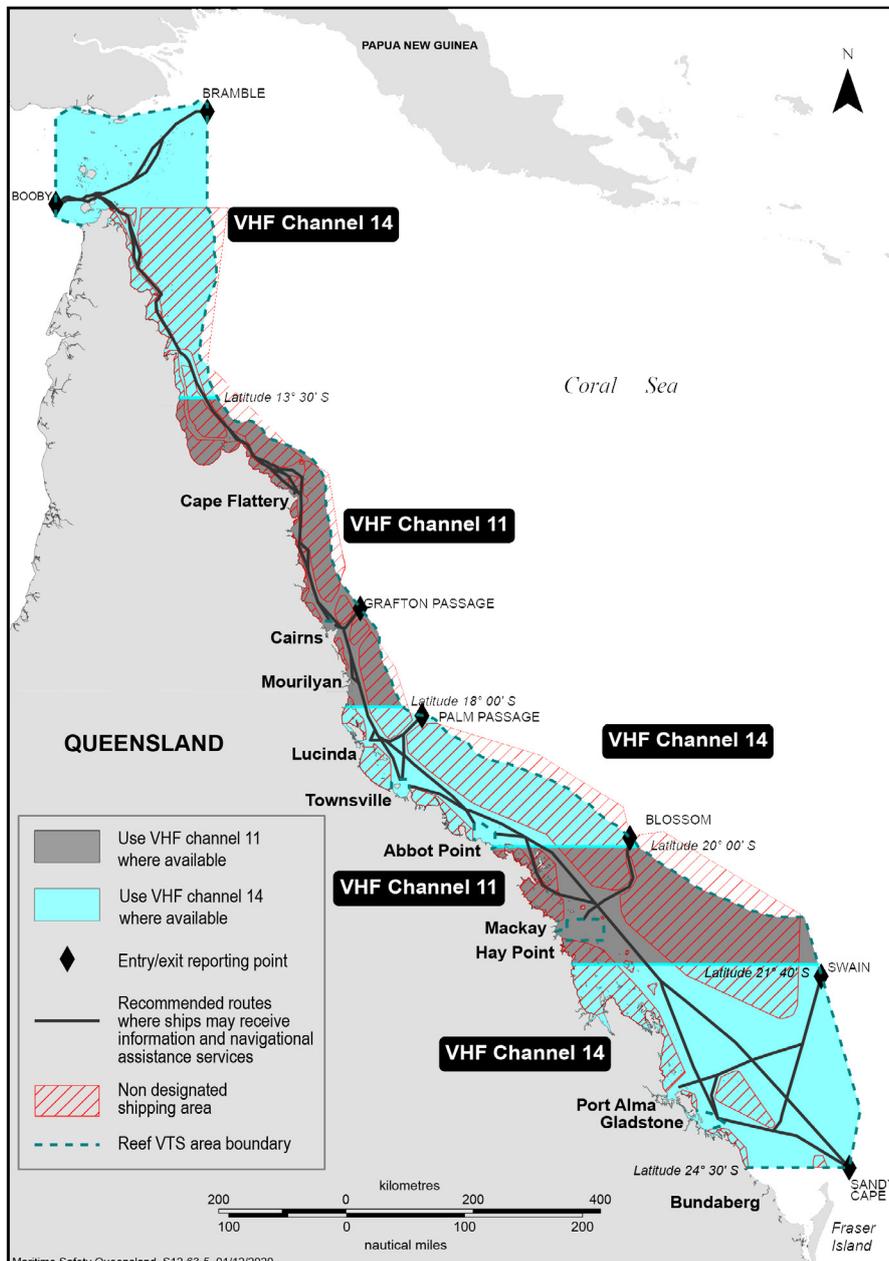
Telephone:	+61 1300 721 293
Fax:	+61 7 4721 0633
Email:	reefvts@vtm.qld.gov.au

7. If a ship's radio equipment fails and the ship cannot send the required reports to Reef VTS, the failure must be recorded in the ship's radio log book or the official log book.

9.3.5 REEF VTS AREA

1. The Reef VTS Area is area of water bounded as follows:
 - (a) the waters bounded by a line commencing at:
 - Slade Point on the coastline of the mainland of Australia on the north-west coast of Cape York Peninsula in approximate position Latitude 10° 56.973' South, Longitude 142° 08.088' East
 - then north-west to Latitude 10° 51.070' South, Longitude 141° 44.130' East
 - then north to Latitude 09° 20.100' South, Longitude 141° 44.130' East

- then north-easterly to Latitude 09° 10.680' South, Longitude 141° 58.960' East
- then south-easterly to Latitude 09° 20.910' South, Longitude 142° 36.066' East on the PSSA boundary,
- then generally easterly along the PSSA boundary to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 144° 00.000' East (includes the waters of Torres Strait with Endeavour Strait, Great North East Channel and to Bramble Cay),
- then south along the meridian of Longitude 144° 00.000' East to its intersection with the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef at approximate Latitude 10° 41.000' South
- then in a generally south and south-east direction along the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef to approximate Latitude 21° 00.000' South, Longitude 152° 30.000' East,
- then east to Latitude 21° 00.000' South, Longitude 152° 55.000' East,
- then south-easterly to Latitude 23° 42.000' South, Longitude 153° 45.000' East,
- then generally south-south-westerly to Latitude 24° 30.000' South, Longitude 153° 35.000' East,
- then east to the coastline at approximate Latitude 24° 30.000' South, Longitude 152° 02.581' East, then generally northerly following the coastline of the mainland to the starting point by also excluding the Vessel Tracking Service areas at the limits of Gladstone, Hay Point, Mackay, Abbott Point, Townsville



Reef VTS VHF Channel overview

9.4 GREAT BARRIER REEF AND TORRES STRAIT VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE REPORTS

1. The master is responsible for ensuring the following reports are provided to Reef VTS:
 - Entry Report (ER)
 - Final Report (FR)
2. Additional Reports which may be sent include:
 - Route Deviation Report (DR)
 - Intermediate Position Reports (IP)
 - Defect Reports (IR)
3. Below is the reporting codes reference table:

Entry Report code table

ID	Message type (ER, FR, DR, IP, or IR)	Example
A	Ship name, call sign and IMO number	A/HAPPY SAILOR/ ABCD/1234567
B	Date and time (Coordinated Universal Time (UTC))	B/010200UTC
C	Current Position Latitude and longitude (in degrees and minutes)	C/1120S/14430E
E		
F	Speed The planned speed of the ship in knots and tenths of a knot	F/13.5
G	Last Port of Call/Port Departing from within the Reef VTS area If entering the Reef VTS Area for the first time state the last port of call. If departing from a port within the Reef VTS Area, the name of that port	G/Singapore or G/Hay Point
H	Date, time (UTC) and point of entry to Reef VTS Area Either the name of the entry point or the position (latitude and longitude) of entry of the Reef VTS area	H/010400UTC/BOOBY or C/1030S14120E
I	Next Port of Call Name of the next port of call date and time in UTC	I/Gladstone/050500UTC NOV 16
J	Pilot Company Details Give the pilot company name	J/Australian Reef pilots or J/Torres Pilots
K	Date, time (UTC) and point of exit from area Either the name of the point, or the position (latitude and longitude) of exit leaving from the area	K/042100UTC/SANDY CAPE or K/042100UTC/2420S 15110E
L	Route information Usually a Route Plan Report. Recommended standard route plans, taking into account vessel draught, are set out in the Reef VTS User Guide	L/INNER ROUTE DEEP DRAUGHT or L/ALPHA NORTH VIA VARZIN PASSAGE/ HANNIBAL
M	Communication methods 1) Primary Inmarsat C details: Inmarsat Mobile Number (IMN), manufacturer and model. 2) Ship's satellite phone number	M/423456789/JRC/JUE- 85C or M/870773123456
O	Draught Fore and aft, in metres and decimetres	O/FORE 11.5/AFT 11.3

P	Cargo onboard Give the normal name of cargo and state whether it is classified as hazardous (yes or no). Note: If required, this information may be given by non-voice means before the first Reef VTS report	P/BULK CHEMICALS/ DG YES
Q	Defects, damage, deficiencies or other limitations Describe details of any damage, failure or breakdown: (i) collision, grounding, fire, explosion, structural failure, flooding, cargo shifting; (ii) failure or breakdown of steering gear, propulsion plant, electrical generating system, essential shipboard navigational equipment	Q/Include details as required
R	Pollution/dangerous goods lost overboard Give brief details of the type of pollution (oil, chemicals and so on) or dangerous goods lost overboard. State the ship's position	R/Include details as required
U	Ship type, length (metres) and gross tonnage Give details of the ship, including ship type, length (metres) and gross tonnage	U/TANKER/180/28000
X	COVID -19 Crew health declaration Is anyone onboard showing any Novel Coronavirus symptoms that include fever, cough, sore throat, headache, difficulty breathing or flu-like symptoms? Remarks Give any additional information which would help the navigational safety of shipping in the Reef VTS Area; for example, abnormal weather; faulty navigational aid; or any Dangerous Goods (DG), Harmful Substances (HS) or Marine Pollution (MP) incident reports	X/Yes or X/No X/Include details as required

9.4.1 ENTRY REPORT

1. A ER is required at least one hour prior to entering the Reef VTS area or departing from a port within the Reef VTS area.
2. The purpose of a ER is to advise Reef VTS of the ship intentions (e.g. entry to the Reef VTS area) and take the necessary steps to ensure that the ship's Inmarsat C terminal is operational when the vessel enters the region. The vessel's Inmarsat C terminal is to be logged into the POR.
3. The following message fields are required:

Mandatory fields:	A, B, G, H, I, J, K, M, O, P, Q, U
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9.4.2 FINAL REPORT

1. A final report is required when exiting the Reef VTS area, or when arriving at a port within the Reef VTS area.
2. The following message fields are required:

Mandatory fields:	A, B, K
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9.4.3 INTERMEDIATE POSITION REPORTS

1. In most cases, a ship's position is being tracked by sensors. Therefore intermediate position reports are not required.
2. If the ship's position is not being tracked by sensors, then a brief position report must be given as advised by Reef VTS, until sensor data is obtained, at which time intermediate position reports will no longer be required.
3. The following message fields are required:

Mandatory fields:	A, B, C, F
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9.4.4 ROUTE DEVIATION REPORT

1. If the ship deviates from the route plan which was sent to Reef VTS, this information should be reported to Reef VTS before the deviation is made. However, in situations where a deviation is made without much warning, a report should be sent to Reef VTS as soon as possible.
2. The following message fields are required:

Mandatory fields:	A, B, K, L, O
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9.4.5 DEFECT REPORT

1. An IR must be provided immediately if a ship suffers damage, failure or breakdown which affects the ship safety.
2. The following message fields are required:

Mandatory fields:	A, B, F, Q
Additional fields (if applicable):	R, X

3. The requirement to report all marine incidents including defects and deficiencies using form 'AMSA 18' and form 'AMSA 19' remains.

Websites:	www.amsa.gov.au/forms
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9.4.6 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. For more information the Reef VTS User Guide should be consulted for a more detailed description. Copies of the Reef VTS User Guide are available online, hardcopies are available from Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) or can be requested via email.

Websites:	www.msq.qld.gov.au/Shipping/Reefvts.aspx
Email:	reefvts@vtm.qld.gov.au