

Boating Guide Augusta Margaret River Marine Safety

SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

	REGISTRABLE VESSELS Including sailing vessels that are or can be propelled by mechanical power.	
	PROTECTED WATERS Includes rivers, lakes, estuaries, harbours and waters within 400 metres from the shore in unprotected waters but excludes Cambridge Gulf and Lake Argyle.	UNPROTECTED WATERS Beyond 400 metres from the shore.
Recreational Skipper's Ticket The skipper of a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 6 horsepower must hold an RST.	✓	✓
Lifejacket Carriage A lifejacket, as indicated in the table opposite, must be carried for every person on board.	Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	Minimum Level 100 MUST BE WORN
Lifejacket Wearing As indicated in the table opposite.	Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	Minimum Level 100 MUST BE WORN
Distress Beacon (in-date) A GPS enabled 406 MHz EPIRB OR If worn by at least one person, a GPS enabled PLB. Distress beacons must be in-date and registered with AMSA.	RECOMMENDED	✓
Red and Orange Flares (in-date) At least two hand held red flares and two hand held orange flares must be carried. OR Electronic Visual Distress Signal An electronic signalling device may be carried in lieu of flares IF a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB (must be worn) is also carried.	RECOMMENDED	✓
Marine Radio A HF or VHF marine radio on any Registrable Vessel when operating more than 4 nautical miles from shore in unprotected waters.	RECOMMENDED	REQUIRED beyond 4 nautical miles RECOMMENDED within 4 nautical miles
Recommended Additional Safety Equipment It is recommended an anchor and line, a fire extinguisher and a means of removing water be carried.	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED



August 2023

Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST)

The person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of **6hp or less** is not required to hold a Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST). A person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor **greater than 6hp** is required to hold an RST. You are required to carry your RST card with you when boating.

Age restrictions
A person under 10 years may not drive a motor boat. RST holders over 14 but under 16 years of age are restricted to operating during daylight hours at a speed less than 8 knots.

Interstate skipper's tickets
If you hold a valid/current interstate ticket, recognised by DoT and you enter, as a visitor or with the intention of permanently residing in Western Australia, you have three months to have the qualification recognised. For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

General speed limit restrictions

It is illegal, in any navigable waters to drive a motor boat at a speed exceeding eight knots, water ski or para-sail:

- through an arch of a bridge;
- in or through a mooring area;
- within 15 metres of a vessel underway;
- within 50 metres of -
 - a moored vessel;
 - a person in the water;
 - a jetty or wharf;
 - a river bank or low water mark.

Logging on and off

Skipper's are advised to log on and off with their nearest radio station every time they go out in their boats. Typically a Marine Rescue group, Australian Coast Radio Monitors (ACRM) base or Water Police. The idea being that you log on with a radio station and let them know who you are, where you are going, when you will arrive back and log off on your return.



Personal water craft (PWC)

Every skipper of a PWC must hold an RST. A skipper who is older than 14 but under 16 years of age with an RST can only operate a PWC during daylight hours at a maximum speed of 8 knots.

- Every person on board a PWC must wear a lifejacket (minimum 50S) at all times.
- When travelling beyond 400 metres from shore in unprotected waters you need:
 - a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB (must be worn); and
 - flares or electronic visual distress signal device.
- Beyond 4 nautical miles from shore in unprotected waters a marine radio must also be carried.

Freestyling and wake jumping is prohibited in the Blackwood River, Scott River and Hardy Inlet:

- within any speed restricted area;
- within 30 metres of another PWC;
- within 50 metres of another vessel or person in the water.

PWC may operate when towing a water skier. When towing a water skier all vessels are required to carry an observer of at least 14 years of age. Observers must also wear a lifejacket.

PWC not engaged in water skiing must at all times remain well clear of the take-off and landing area and any vessels engaged in water skiing.

- For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56
- ### Paddle Craft
- Recreational canoes, kayaks, surf skis, wave skis, inflatables or similar paddle craft must comply with WA marine laws including carriage of safety equipment.
- When travelling beyond 400 metres from shore in unprotected waters you need:
- lifejackets (minimum 50S) (must be worn);
 - a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB (must be worn); and
 - flares.

For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

Contact details

Department of Transport
Email: Ed.Boat@transport.wa.gov.au
Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine
Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

Police
Emergency: 000
Water Police: 9442 8600

Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Marine Rescue Western Australia
Emergency contact: VHF 16
Marine Rescue Augusta
Marine Rescue Margaret River
Marine Rescue Naturaliste - Dunsborough
Marine Rescue Caple

Boating Weather Forecasts
Boating weather: 1300 815 916
Website: www.bom.gov.au

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development
Fishwatch: 1800 815 507
Website: www.dpird.wa.gov.au

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Website: www.dbca.wa.gov.au

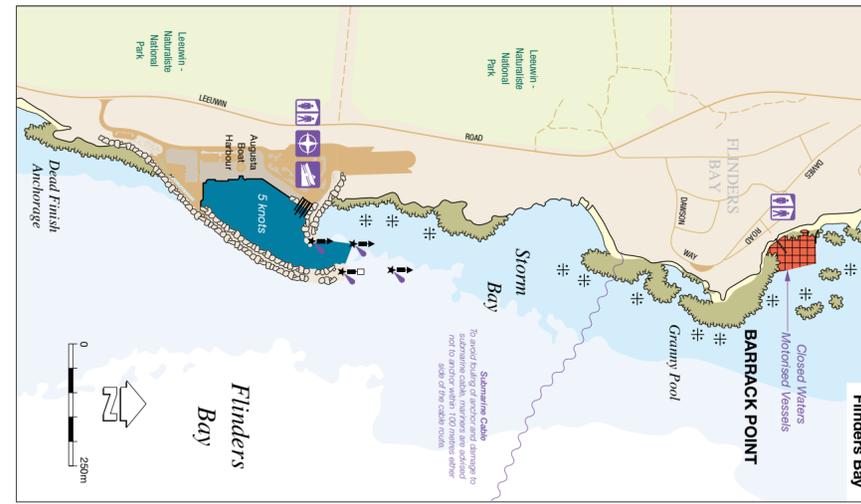
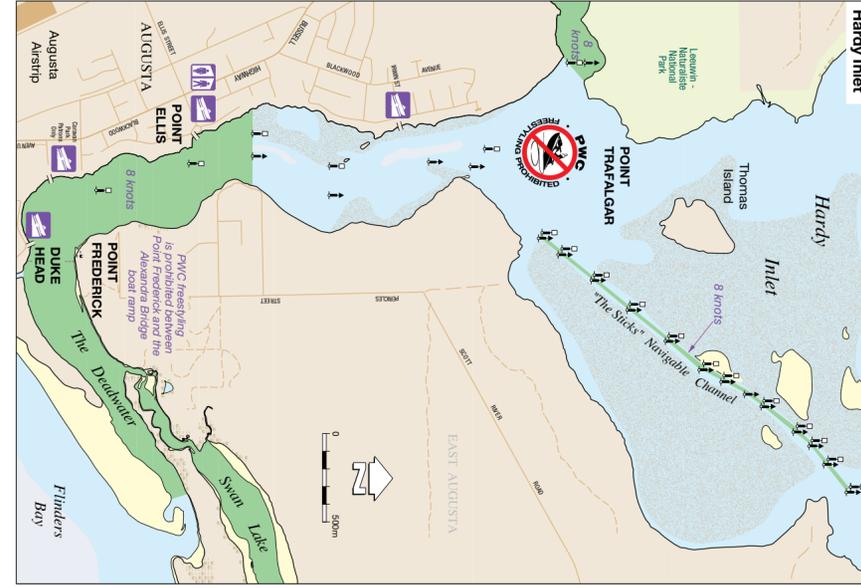
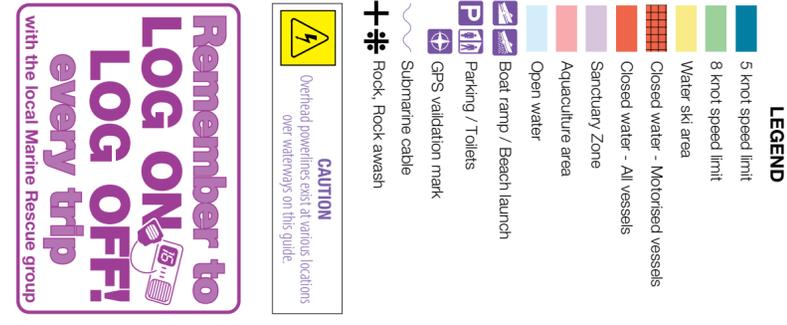
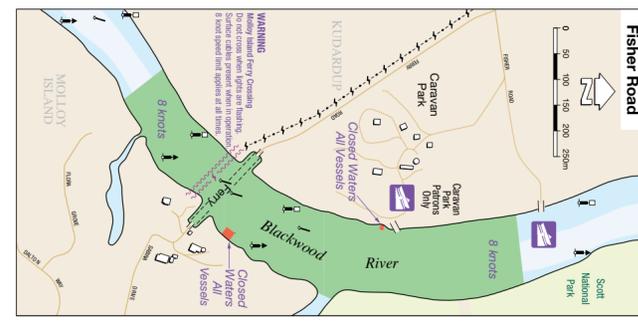
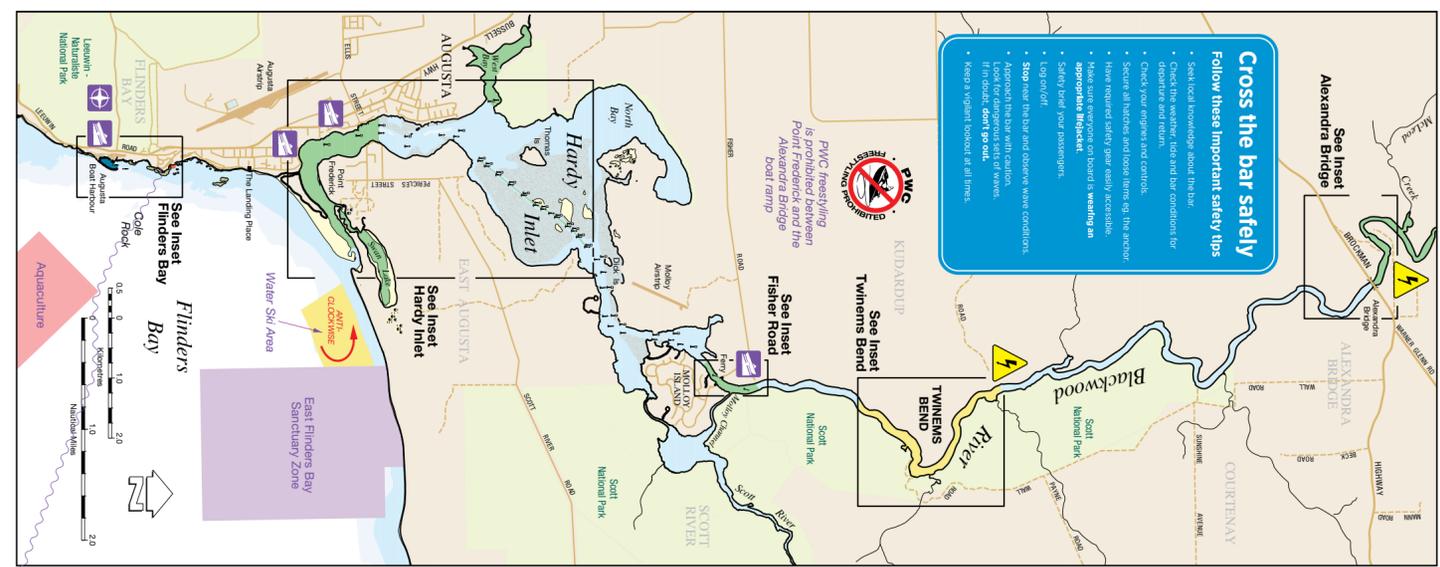
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Join us at facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA

For further information go to www.transport.wa.gov.au/boatingguides or scan the QR Code

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Kiteboards and windsurfing

With the onset of the sea breeze windsurfers and kiteboarders congregate at many popular locations such as the Deadwater. In certain conditions these small, fast moving sailing craft may be difficult to see and skippers need to maintain a proper lookout at all times and take appropriate action.

All windsurfers and kiteboarders have a duty of care to ensure their activities are conducted with regard to the prevailing conditions and circumstances and take appropriate action to avoid collisions.

- When travelling beyond 400 metres from shore in unprotected waters you need:
- lifejackets (minimum 50S) (must be worn);
 - a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB (must be worn); and
 - flares.

For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56

Aids to navigation

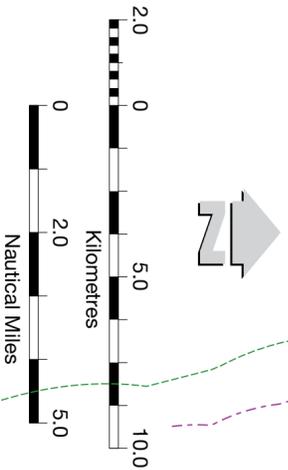
It is illegal to interfere with, remove or damage any beacon, buoy or other artificial aid to navigation. Without permission in writing from the Department of Transport (DoT), it is illegal to secure any vessel to any beacon, buoy, seamark or other aid to navigation.

Obstruction of navigation aids, channels and leads
Cray pots, lines and floats, drop nets, fishing nets, marker buoys or other buoyed objects can not be placed or allowed to remain in any channel or fairway in any port or harbour, or in any channel, fairway or passage in any navigable waters without the permission of DoT. You also can't anchor or moor a vessel in any channel or fairway, unless the vessel is in distress.

Ocean entrances

Siltation problems at the ocean entrances can cause dangerous conditions for boaters as sandbars form. Don't risk crossing a bar unless you have local knowledge, experience and the right kind of boat. Wear a lifejacket while crossing a bar in any boat at any time.

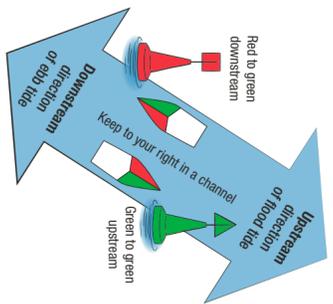
NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION



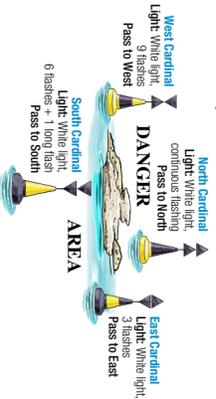
- Legend**
- 5 Knot Speed Limit
 - 8 Knot Speed Limit
 - Closed Waters - All Vessels
 - Closed Waters - Motorised Vessels
 - Water Ski Area
 - Sanctuary Zone
 - Aquaculture Area
 - Parking / Ramp Boat Launching
 - Public Toilet / GPS Validation Marker
 - 4 Nautical Miles from mainland shore
 - Marine Park Boundary
 - Submarine Cable
 - Rock, Rock awash

CCTV used on WA Waterways

Make a difference MAINTAIN AND WEAR YOUR LIFEJACKET



Used to indicate that deeper water lies in a compass direction away from a danger area such as a reef, shallow areas, etc.



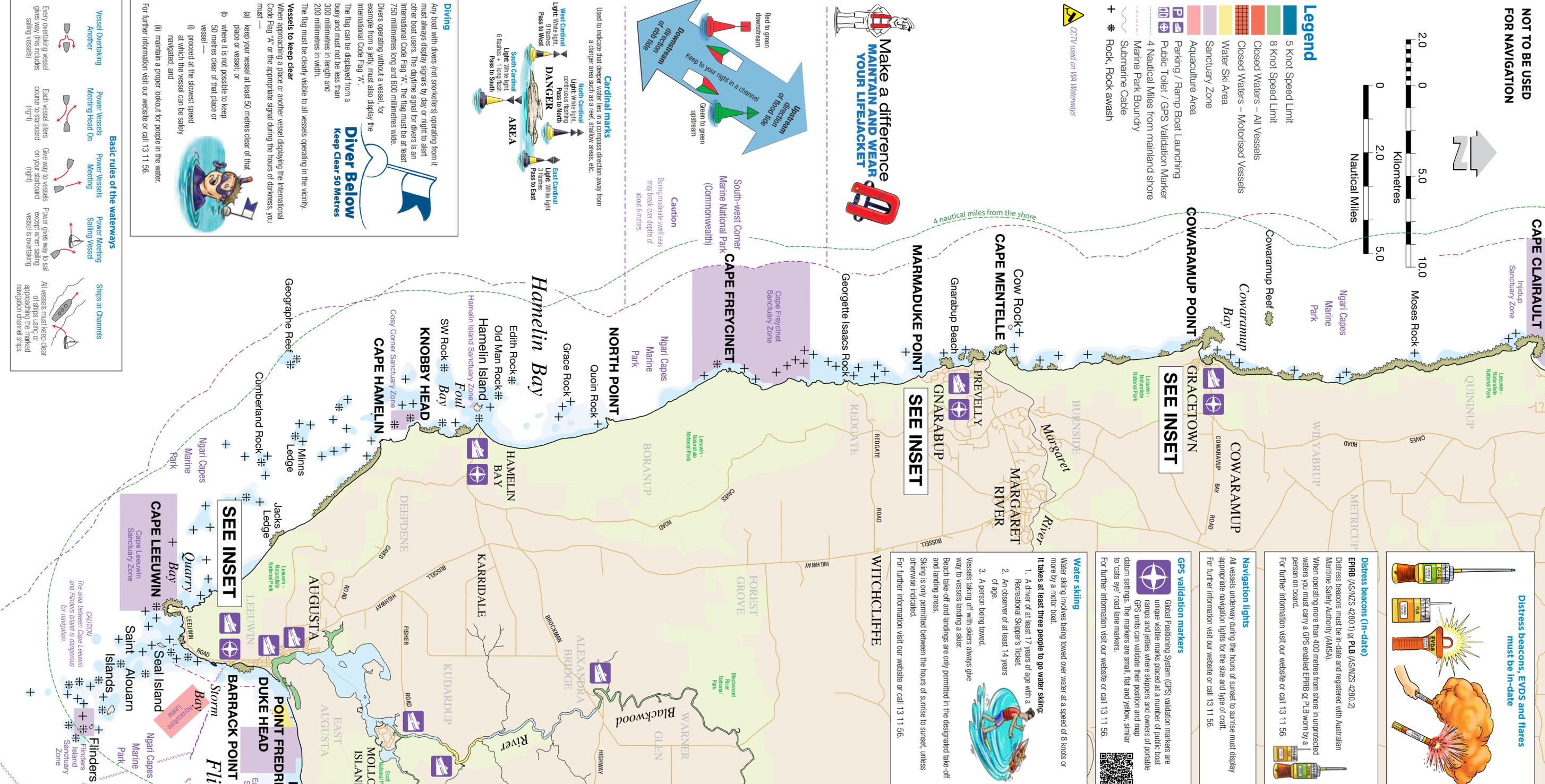
Diving
Any boat with divers (not snorkellers) operating from it must always display signals by day or night to alert other boat users. The daytime signal for divers is an International Code Flag 'A'. The flag must be at least 750 millimetres long and 600 millimetres wide. Divers operating without a vessel, for example from a jetty, must also display the International Code Flag 'A'.
The flag can be displayed from a buoy and must not be less than 300 millimetres in length and 200 millimetres in width.

Diver Below Keep Clear 50 Metres



Vessels to keep clear
When approaching a place or another vessel displaying the International Code Flag 'A', or the appropriate signal during the hours of darkness, you must —
(a) keep your vessel at least 50 metres clear of that place or vessel; or
(b) where it is not possible to keep 50 metres clear of that place or vessel —
(i) proceed at the slowest speed at which the vessel can be safely navigated; and
(ii) maintain a proper lookout for people in the water.
For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

- Basic rules of the waterways**
- Vessel Overtaking**
Another vessel: Each vessel alters course to starboard (right) to pass.
 - Power Vessels Meeting Head On**
Power gives way to sailing vessel.
 - Power Vessels Meeting**
Power gives way to sail except when sailing vessel is overtaking.
 - Ships in Channels**
All vessels must keep clear of navigation channel ships.



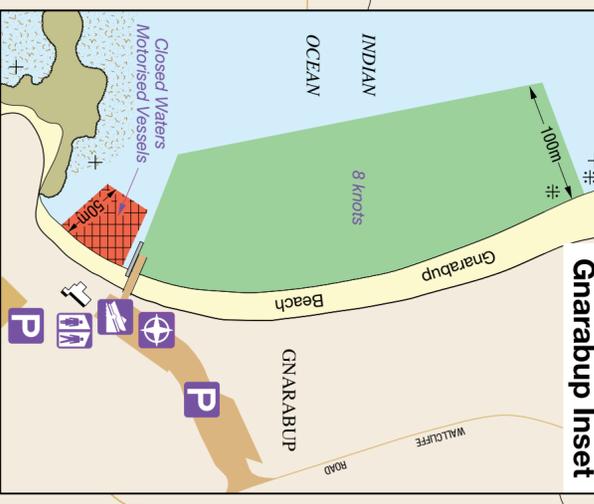
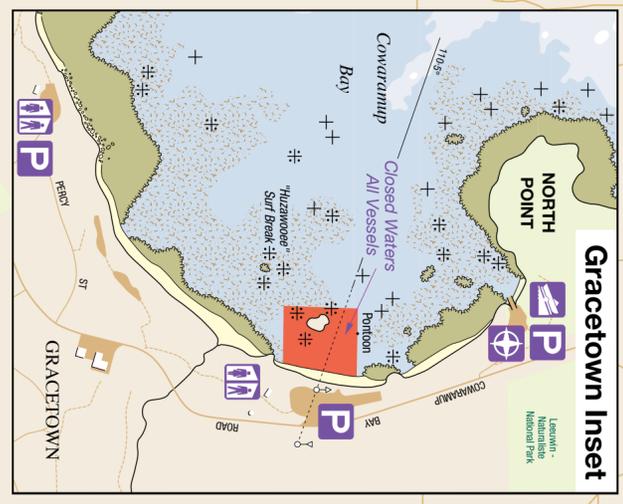
Distress beacons, EVDs and flares must be in-date

Distress beacons (in-date)
EPIRB (AS/NZS 4280.1) or PLB (AS/NZS 4280.2)
Distress beacons must be in-date and registered with Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).
When operating more than 400 metres from shore in unprotected waters you must carry a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB worn by a person on board.
For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

Navigation lights
All vessels underway during the hours of sunset to sunrise must display appropriate navigation lights for the size and type of craft.
For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

GPS validation markers
Global Positioning System (GPS) validation markers are unique visible marks placed at a number of public boat ramps and jetties where skippers and owners of portable GPS units can validate their position and map datum settings. The markers are small, flat and yellow, similar to cats eye road lane markers.
For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.

Water skiing
Water skiing involves being towed over water at a speed of 8 knots or more by a motor boat.
It takes at least three people to go water skiing:
1. A driver of at least 17 years of age with a Recreational Skipper's Ticket.
2. An observer of at least 14 years of age.
3. A person being towed.
Vessels taking off with skiers always give way to vessels landing a skier.
Beach take-off and landings are only permitted in the designated take-off and landing areas.
Skiing is only permitted between the hours of sunrise to sunset, unless otherwise indicated.
For further information visit our website or call 13 11 56.



Remember to LOG ON! every trip

LOG OFF!

with the local Marine Rescue group

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Flinders Bay

Remember to LOG ON! every trip

LOG OFF!

with the local Marine Rescue group