

ADVERSE WEATHER - GUIDE TO PORT EVACUATION TRIGGERS AND CONSIDERATIONS

This document is provided as a general guide to assist port users in understanding the triggers and considerations that may lead to vessel evacuation during adverse weather. Under the Port Authorities Act, the final decision to evacuate or retain vessels within the port is that of the Harbour Master. Further details are outlined in HMOP 04 – Adverse Weather Monitoring and Management Procedure.

WEATHER MONITORING SCOPE

Fremantle Ports continuously monitors conditions across the Lancelin Coast, Perth Coast, and Perth Local Waters, using multiple forecasting resources including the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), Weatherzone, and Windy. These insights support operational decisions and timely communication with industry stakeholders.

ADVERSE WEATHER TRIGGERS

The following conditions may trigger further assessment by Fremantle Ports and could lead to action to protect people, vessels, and infrastructure.

Gale warning or above issued by Bureau of Meteorology

Average wind speeds between 34-47 knots or more

Gusts reaching 48-65 knots or more

Sustained strong wind conditions

[*www.bom.gov.au/marine/knowledge-centre/reference/wind.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/knowledge-centre/reference/wind.shtml)

CONSIDERATIONS

The below factors are assessed alongside weather triggers.

WIND, SEA AND SWELL

- DIRECTION - BERTH ORIENTATION - DURATION - SEVERITY - SIZE

PERSONNEL, VESSEL AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY

- SAFETY OF PERSONNEL - SIZE OF VESSELS - VESSEL EQUIPMENT
- NUMBER OF VESSELS WITHIN PORT WATERS
- LANDSIDE EQUIPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

RISK REVIEW

Once all triggers and considerations are assessed through a risk review by the Harbour Master's Office, appropriate actions may be taken – including the movement of vessels or evacuation from anchorages and berths. Under the Port Authorities Act, the final decision to evacuate or retain vessels within the port is that of the Harbour Master.

ADVERSE WEATHER ACTIONS via SHIPPING AGENTS MEMO

Sequential evacuation of vessels from anchorages and berth



Sequential repopulation of Harbour anchorages and berths following weather improvement and cancellation of gale warnings

Further details are outlined in **HMOP 04 – Adverse Weather Monitoring and Management Procedure.**