

Classification and Operating Areas for Commercial Vessels



Commercial Marine Survey | **FACT SHEET**

This Fact Sheet provides information about the Classification of Commercial Vessels as well as the Operating Areas within South Australia.

Commercial vessels can be classified into four different categories:

- Class 1 Passenger/Trading vessels i.e. vessels carrying more than 12 passengers.
- Class 2 Passenger/Trading vessels i.e. vessels that may carry up to 12 passengers.
- Class 3 Fishing vessels.
- Class 3C Restricted Fishing vessels.

They are also classified by their area of operation, as follows:

- "A" Area -- An unlimited area of operation
- "B" Area – Offshore operations to 200 nautical miles off the coast
- "C" Area – Restricted offshore operations within a range of 30 nautical miles from partially smooth waters or mainland coast

"D" Area – Operations within declared partially smooth waters

"E" Area – Operations within declared smooth waters

Lesser limits apply if crew/passengers are not appropriately berthed.

The limits of smooth waters and partially smooth waters are defined in Schedule 1 of the *Harbors and Navigation Regulations 2009*.

Class 1 – Passenger vessels (i.e. vessels carrying more than 12 passengers):

- 1A: Seagoing all operational areas (including International waters)
- 1B: Seagoing to offshore operations up to 200 nautical miles from the coast

1C: Seagoing to restricted offshore operations up to 30 nautical miles from the coast

1D: Sheltered waters – within declared partially smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

1E: Sheltered waters – within declared smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

1F: Hire and Drive houseboats

Class 2 – Trading vessels (i.e. vessels that may carry up to 12 passengers):

2A: Seagoing all operational areas (including International waters)

2B: Seagoing to offshore operations up to 200 nautical miles from the coast

2C: Seagoing to restricted offshore operations up to 30 nautical miles from the coast

2D: Sheltered waters – within declared partially smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

For further information

call: 08 8348 9543
email: DPTI.Commercialmarineservices@sa.gov.au
visit: www.dpti.sa.gov.au/marine/survey



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2E: Sheltered waters – within declared smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

Class 3 – Fishing vessels:

3A: Seagoing all operational areas (including International waters)

3B: Seagoing to offshore operations up to 200 nautical miles from the coast

3C: Seagoing to restricted offshore operations up to 30 nautical miles from the coast

3D: Sheltered waters – within declared partially smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

3E: Sheltered waters – within declared smooth waters (Schedule 1*)

Class 3C – Restricted Fishing vessels:

3C: Within designated restricted areas (Schedule 2**)

As an example:

A Class 3B vessel is a fishing vessel able to operate offshore up to 200 nautical miles from the coast.

* The limits of smooth and partially smooth waters are defined in Schedule 1 of the *Harbors and Navigation Regulations 2009*.

** The designated restricted areas are defined in Schedule 2 of the *Harbors and Navigation Regulations 2009*.

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Schedule 1 – Definition of Partially Smooth and Smooth Waters

Area	Partially Smooth Water Limits
Arno Bay	Arno Bay west of a line drawn from Cape Driver 040°T to the shore.
Coffin Bay	Coffin Bay south of a line drawn from Sir Isaac Point easterly to Mount Dutton.
From Edithburgh coastwise to Port Noarlunga including Adelaide and Environs	St. Vincent Gulf which lie towards the shore from a line commencing at Troubridge Point then to Troubridge Shoal Light House then through Middle Spit Beacon at Port Vincent to join a line drawn eastwards from the silo at Ardrossan which joins a line drawn northerly from Long Spit Beacon then from Long Spit Beacon to Port Adelaide Fairway Beacon then to Onkaparinga Point.
Kangaroo Island	The waters of Nepean Bay but not seaward of a line from Marsden Point to latitude 35°43.1' South and longitude 137°58' East.
Moonta Bay and Point Hughes	Tipara Bay east of a line drawn from Warburto Point to Cape Elizabeth.
Port Augusta	The approaches to Port Augusta north of a line drawn from Lowly Point Light House to Ward Spit Beacon.
Port Broughton	The approaches to Port Broughton including Tickera Bay east of a line drawn from Point Jarrold to the Munderoo Channel (Point Broughton) Entrance Beacon then to Point Riley.
Port Gibbon	North of a line drawn from Point Gibbon to the Knob.
Port Neill	Dutton Bay west of a line drawn from Cape Burr 020°T to the shore.
Port Lincoln	Louth Bay and adjacent waters which lie west of a line from Pt. Bolingbroke to Cape Donnington.
Port Pirie	Germein Bay east of a line drawn from Ward Spit Beacon to Point Jarrold.
Port Turton	South of a line drawn from Corny Point Light House to Port Minlacowie Jetty.
Port Victoria	The approaches to Port Victoria bounded by a line drawn from Reef Point to Goose Island then to Cliff Point on Wardang Island then to Gawler Point.
River Murray	The lower reaches of the River Murray south of Wellington including Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert.
Streaky Bay	Streaky Bay south of a line drawn from the northern extremity of Cape Bauer through the South Channel Beacon to the shore at Perlubie.
Thevenard	Tourville Bay, Murat Bay, D'Ecres Bay and Smoky Bay bounded by a line drawn from the southern extremity of Peter Point to the Yatala Channel Fairway Beacon then to the north west extremity of St. Peter Island then from the north eastern extremity of St. Peter Island to Cape Missiessy.
Tumby Bay	Adjacent to Tumby Bay west of a line drawn from the southern extremity of Massena Bay to the eastern extremity of Tumby Island then 020°T to the shore.
Venus Bay	Venus Bay east of a line drawn northerly from the north eastern extremity of South Head to the shore line east of Point Weyland.
Walleroo	Walleroo Bay east of a line drawn from Point Riley to Warburto Point.
	The waters of Emu Bay but not seaward of a line from Cape D'estrange to latitude 35°34' South and longitude 130°34.3' East.

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Schedule 1 – Definition of Partially Smooth and Smooth Waters

Area	Smooth Water Limits
Cowell	Franklin Harbour north of a line joining Germein Point to Victoria Point.
Eyre Peninsula	Baird Bay, Lake Newland, Round Lake, Lake Hamilton, Lake Greenly and Sleaford Mere.
Lakes in the South East of South Australia	Lake Leake, Lake Bonney, Lake George, Lake St. Claire, Lake Eliza, Lake Robe, Lake Fellmongery, Lake Batte, Valley Lake.
Lakes and rivers in the North of South Australia	Coopers Creek, Lake Eyre, Lakes Frome, Lake Gairdner, Lake Torrens
Port Adelaide	Port Adelaide river north of a line drawn 270° from Outer Harbor Signal Station and Barker Inlet not north of a line drawn 050°T ↔ 230°T through Point Grey Light Beacon.
Port Augusta	North of a line joining Curlew Point to latitude 32°32.52' South and longitude 137°46.8' East.
Port Lincoln	Boston Bay and Port Lincoln south of a line joining Hayden Point to Cape Donnington and west of a line joining Maria Point to Point Boston.
Port Pirie	Port Pirie Harbour and approaches south of a line joining Mangrove Point to Mount Ferguson.
River Murray	The River Murray north of Wellington, Lake Bonney, the Goolwa channel and the Coorong.
Other inland areas	All other inland waters except waters designated by this Schedule as partially smooth.

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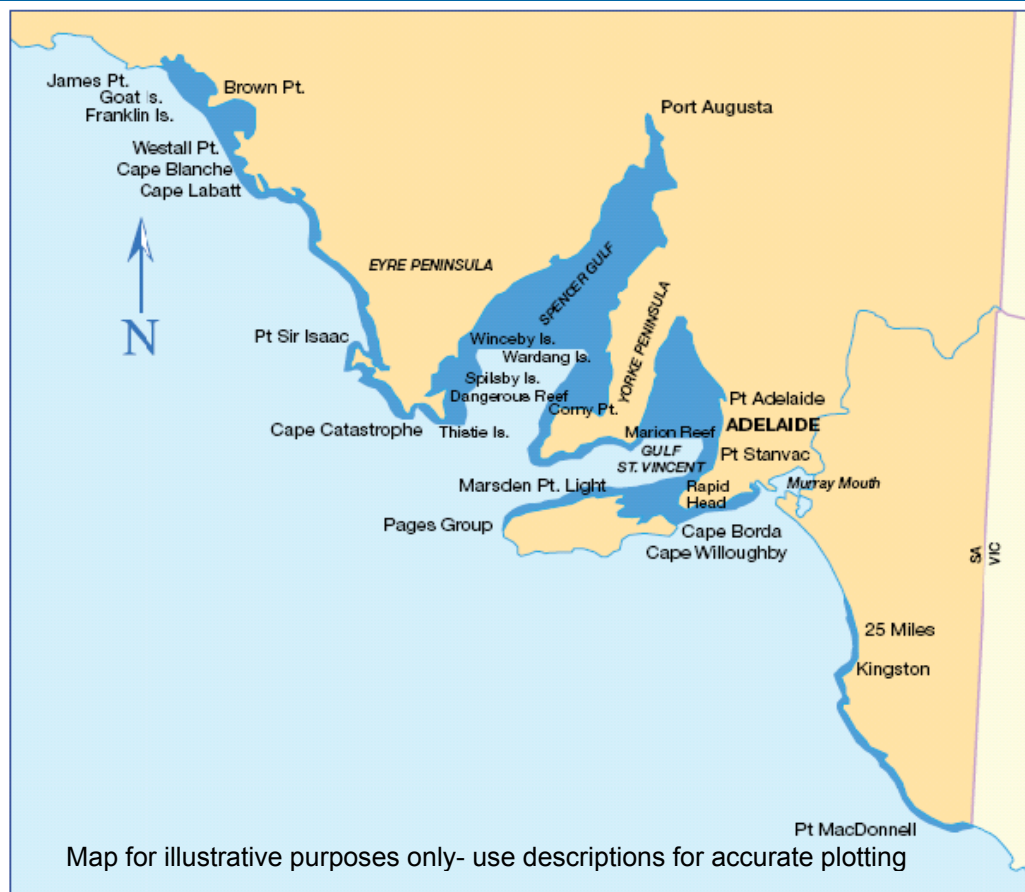


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Schedule 2 – Definition of Restricted Vessel Operational Areas

Area	Restricted
Spencer Gulf and Gulf St. Vincent Area	All that area lying to the north and west of a line from a position three nautical miles south of Cape Catastrophe then to Waterhouse Point on the south-eastern most point of Thistle Island then to the light on Dangerous Reef then to the easternmost point of Spilsby Island then to Winceby Island light; and the waters of north Spencers Gulf north of a line from Winceby Island light to a position three nautical miles west of Wardang Island; and the coastal waters east and north of a line from a position three nautical miles west of Wardang Island to a position three nautical miles west of Corny Point then following the coast line at a distance of three nautical miles from the shore of southern Yorke Peninsula terminating at Marion Reef light; and the waters of Gulf Wardang Island to a position three nautical miles west of St. Vincent north of a line from Marion Reef light to a position three nautical miles west of Port Stanvac jetty, and east of a line from three nautical miles west of Port Stanvac jetty following the coast at a distance of three nautical miles from the shore to a position three nautical miles north of Rapid Head.
Kangaroo Island and Backstairs Passage Area	All that area of Investigator Strait and Backstairs Passage lying east and south of a line from Cape Borda light to a point three nautical miles to the north then to a point three nautical miles to the north of Cape Cassini, then to a point three nautical miles north-east of Marsden Point light, then to a point three nautical miles north of Rapid Head; and north of a line from Cape Willoughby light to the southernmost islet of the Pages Group then to the Murray Mouth.
South East Area	All that area lying to the east of a line commencing at a point on the coast 25 nautical miles north of Kingston projecting seaward for three nautical miles, then southward following the coastline at a distance of three nautical miles from the shore terminating at the border of South Australia with Victoria.
West Coast Eyre Peninsular Area	All that area of the coastal waters of the west coast of the Eyre Peninsula lying eastwards of a line from James Point to the south-western extremity of Goat Island, then to the most southerly point of Franklin Island, then to a position three nautical miles south-west of Brown Point, then to a position three nautical miles south-west of Westall Point, then to a position three nautical miles south-west of Cape Blanche, then to a position three nautical miles south-west of Cape Labatt, then following the coast in a general south-easterly direction at a distance of three nautical miles from the shore to a position three nautical miles south of Cape Catastrophe.



Further Information

Contact the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

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