

# Boating Guide

## Carnarvon Denham

### Marine Safety



August 2023

#### Recreational Skipper's Ticket

The person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of **6hp (4.5 kilowatts) or less is not required** to hold a Recreational Skippers Ticket (RST).

A person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor **greater than 6hp (4.5 kilowatts)** is required to hold an RST. You are required to carry your RST card 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.

#### 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.

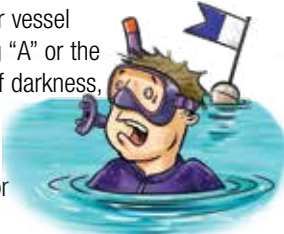
The flag must be clearly visible to all vessels operating in the vicinity.

#### 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 —

- keep your vessel at least 50 metres clear of that place or vessel; or
- where it is not possible to keep 50 metres clear of that place or vessel —
  - proceed at the slowest speed at which the vessel can be safely navigated; and
  - maintain a proper lookout for people in the water.

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



## SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS



	Recreational Skipper's Ticket	
	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.
<b>Recreational Skipper's Ticket</b> The skipper of a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 6 horsepower must hold an RST.	✓	✓
<b>Lifejacket Carriage</b> A lifejacket, as indicated in the table opposite, must be carried for every person on board.	Vessels smaller than 4.8m ✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	Vessels 4.8m and larger ✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED
	Children older than one and younger than 12 ✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED
<b>Lifejacket Wearing</b> As indicated in the table opposite.	Personal Water Craft ✓ Minimum Level 50S MUST BE WORN	✓ Minimum Level 50S MUST BE WORN
	<b>Distress Beacon (in-date)</b> 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
<b>Red and Orange Flares (in-date)</b> At least two hand held red flares and two hand held orange flares must be carried. OR <b>Electronic Visual Distress Signal</b> 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	✓
	<b>Marine Radio</b> A HF or VHF marine radio on any Registrable Vessel when operating more than 4 nautical miles from shore in unprotected waters.	RECOMMENDED
<b>Recommended Additional Safety Equipment</b> It is recommended an anchor and line, a fire extinguisher and a means of removing water be carried.	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED

SERM-OLM0722-1

#### 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).
  - 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:

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

#### Kiteboarding and windsurfing

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).
- flares.

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 that are propelled by a person using a paddle must comply with WA marine laws.

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).
- flares.

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



#### Contact details

##### Department of Transport

Email: [Ed.Boat@transport.wa.gov.au](mailto:Ed.Boat@transport.wa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.transport.wa.gov.au/imate](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imate)  
Carnarvon: 9941 6800  
Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

##### Police

Emergency: 000  
Carnarvon: 9941 7333  
Denham: 9948 1201  
Water Police: 9442 8600

##### Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Marine Rescue Western Australia  
Emergency contact: VHF 16  
Marine Rescue Carnarvon  
Marine Rescue Shark Bay

##### Boating Weather Forecasts

Boating weather: 1300 815 916  
Website: [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

##### Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development

Fishwatch: 1800 815 507  
Website: [www.dpird.wa.gov.au](http://www.dpird.wa.gov.au)

##### Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Website: [www.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au)

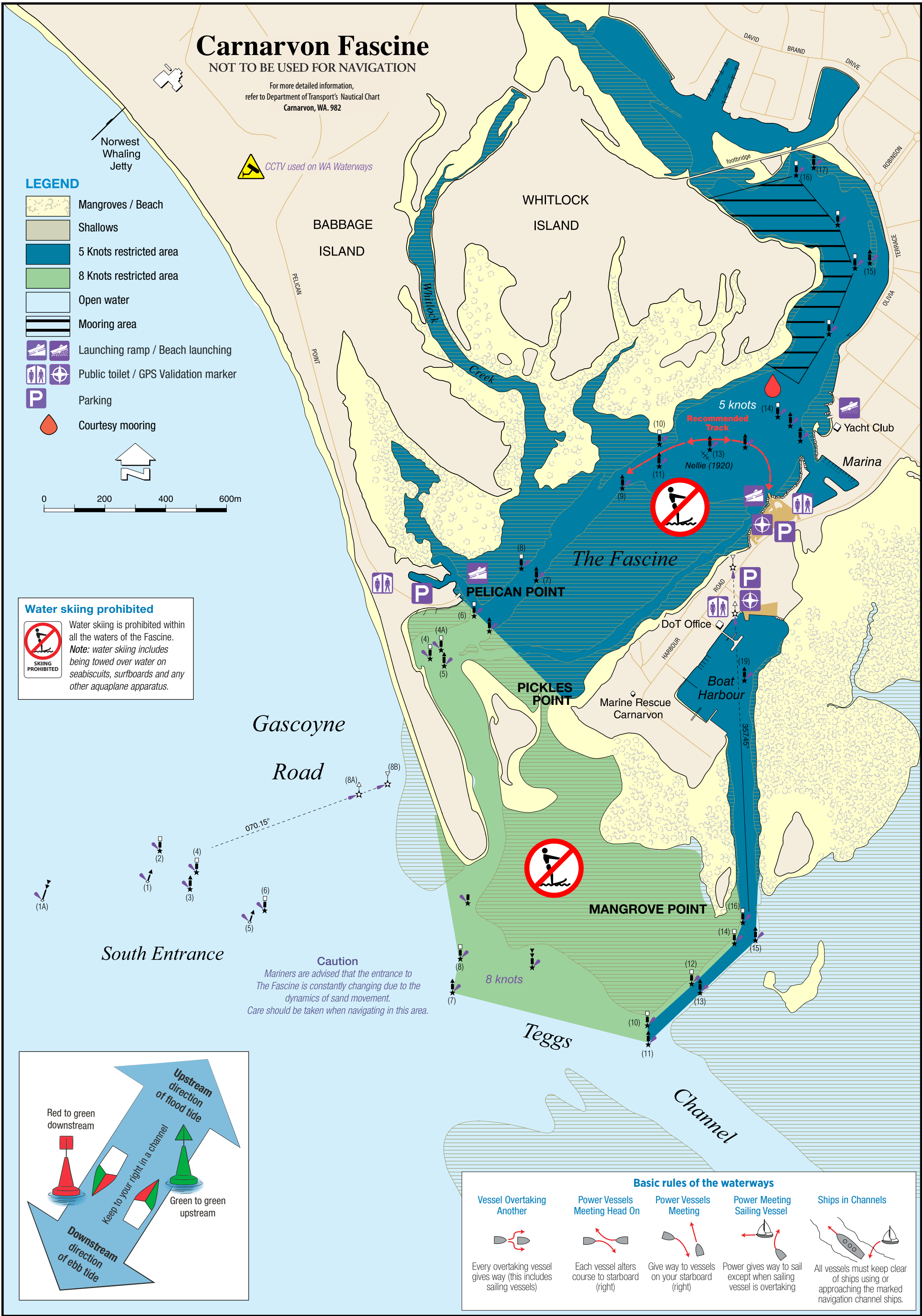
**Boating in WA just got smarter.**  
Download the free Deckee app.

**anywhere, anytime!**  
Save time and go online today

Join us at  
[facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA](https://facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA)

For further information go to  
[www.transport.wa.gov.au/boatingguides](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/boatingguides)  
or scan the QR Code

The information contained in this publication is provided in good faith and believed to be accurate at time of publication. The State shall in no way be liable for any loss sustained or incurred by anyone relying on the information. 16-05-02-SER-0523-WEB-S1





**SHARK BAY**  
**NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION**  
For more detailed informatio, refer to Nautical Charts  
Bellefin Flats to Denham WA661

**LEGEND**

- 5 Knot Speed Limit
- Closed Waters – Motorised Vessels
- Water Ski Area
- Swimming Prohibited
- Parking / Launching Ramp
- Public Toilet / GPS Validation Marker

**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.

**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.

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

**North Cardinal**  
Light: White light, continuous flashing  
Pass to North

**West Cardinal**  
Light: White light, 9 flashes  
Pass to West

**East Cardinal**  
Light: White light, 3 flashes  
Pass to East

**South Cardinal**  
Light: White light, 6 flashes + 1 long flash  
Pass to South

**AREA**

**WARNING - Tropical cyclone region**  
The north west of Western Australia experiences more severe cyclones than any other part of the Australian coastline and is one of the most cyclone-prone coasts anywhere in the world. The cyclone season extends from November through to April, but most coastal impacts occur in the period from January to March.  
Please refer to the Carnarvon/shark bay Cyclone Contingency Plan that DoT activates during cyclones which is available along with a range of other DoT cyclone plans on the web site:  
[www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine)

**Navigation marks**

- Lighthouse, major, minor light
- Beacon, port, starboard
- Safe water, isolated danger
- Spar buoy, port, starboard
- Pillar buoy, port, starboard
- Mooring buoy, yachting buoy
- Lead, front, rear

**Cardinal marks**

- Indicates safe water to the North
- Indicates safe water to the South
- Indicates safe water to the East
- Indicates safe water to the West

**Distress beacons, EVDS and flares must be in-date**

**Remember to LOG ON LOG OFF! every trip**  
with the local Marine Rescue group

**Basic rules of the waterways**

- Vessel Overtaking Another**  
Every overtaking vessel gives way (this includes sailing vessels)
- Power Vessels Meeting Head On**  
Each vessel alters course to starboard (right)
- Power Vessels Meeting**  
Give way to vessels on your starboard (right)
- Power Meeting Sailing Vessel**  
Power gives way to sail except when sailing vessel is overtaking
- Ships in Channels**  
All vessels must keep clear of ships using or approaching the marked navigation channel ships.