



## Emergency Procedures – STORM

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The probability of a severe thunderstorm or cyclone striking the **Keppel Bay Marina** is at its greatest between **November and March** each year.

The purpose of this contingency plan therefore, is to outline the **procedures to be taken by the Keppel Bay Marina Community prior to the storm season** each year and in the advent of the approach of a Severe Storm or Cyclone.

Remember the best protection against the savages of any emergency is to be prepared.

Experience has shown that in the event of a major storm (or cyclone) passing a marina, the risk of storm damage and injury can be significantly reduced by **early preventative action**.

The recommendations that follow are for boats in the marina AND on the hardstand at Keppel Bay Marina.

## 2. THE WARNING SYSTEM

**A CYCLONE WATCH** is issued if a cyclone or potential cyclone exists and there are strong indications winds above gale force will affect coastal or island communities within 24 to 48 hours.

**A CYCLONE WARNING** is issued as soon as gales or stronger winds are expected to hit within 24 hours. It identifies areas, intensity, and expected wind strengths, forecasts of heavy rainfall, flooding and tidal information.

Where possible Marina Management will communicate Cyclone Warning notices to vessel owners via email in the lead up to a severe event, but owners are reminded to be aware and monitor weather activity during the storm season.

Weather warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

## 3. OVERALL CONSIDERATION

In the event of a storm/cyclone, personal safety is of prime importance. Flying debris can be lethal. All non-essential crew (and children) should leave the marina.

Persons electing to stay aboard vessels must realise conditions may preclude them from returning to land.

In the event of the centre of the storm passing close by, a major windshift can be expected and this may be accompanied by a storm surge, with sea levels typically between two and five metres higher than a normal tide.



#### 4. VESSEL OWNERS PREPARATION

- i. Check your boat is in good condition.
- ii. Prepare an **emergency kit** of extra lines, torches, tape, pumps, buckets and tools.
- iii. Check your **lines**.
- iv. **Double up mooring lines** by running duplicate lines to alternative bollards. The alternative ropes should be run slightly slack to ensure they are only required if the primary mooring lines fail. Fit chafe preventers.
- v. Remember, man-made synthetic fibres such as polyethylene, **polypropylene and polyester deteriorate in sunlight**. The deterioration is usually unnoticeable until the rope is subjected to stress. If in doubt replace.
- vi. Check all boat cleats. If there is any doubt, secure additional lines to other structural customers and fittings e.g. winches, sampson posts, etc.
- vii. **Reduce wind loadings** to a minimum. Remove all excess deck gear including lifebuoys, biminis, etc. and stow below.
- viii. Remove all furled sails and covers. If this is not possible, double wrap and tie all sails and covers securely.
- ix. **Stow all loose gear** (hatches, boat hooks, buckets, fishing gear, floats, life rings, etc) below decks. Deflate and stow inflatable dinghies. Do not place dinghies on the walkways.
- x. Tie off radar antenna
- xi. Ensure all self-draining openings are clear and working. Dinghies in davits should be cleaned out, bungs removed or, preferably, removed from the vessel and stowed.
- xii. **Disconnect all shore power** leads and water hoses. DO NOT leave leads or hoses wound around pedestals.
- xiii. Ready spare fenders and lines.
- xiv. Ensure engine is serviceable and batteries are fully charged.
- xv. Check all **bilge pumps** are operational.
- xvi. Communication should be checked on VHF Channel 21.
- xvii. If you have to remain aboard your vessel in the marina, it is mandatory you **advise the marina office of your presence** aboard and your intentions.
- xviii. Marina management may determine personnel are barred from the pontoons and/or the hardstand areas. Ensure you abide by any such direction.
- xix. Larger vessels wishing to leave the marina to seek shelter at other locations must do so before conditions deteriorate. You are reminded that severe conditions make maneuvering dangerous.
- xx. Vessels located ashore should be secured. Ensure wheels are chocked and brakes on and the boat is secured to the trailer.
- xxi. Vessels with outboard motors should lower them into the water in preparation for a storm.
- xxii. Hardstand vessels and dinghies will be returned to the water if possible. If vessel cannot be returned to the water, take similar action to the above.
- xxiii. All non-essential crew (and children) should leave the Marina as the cyclones arrival becomes imminent.
- xxiv. Verify your contact details with the marina office including registration of any vehicles kept on premises, up to date email address, and emergency contact details .
- xxv. Check your **insurance cover**.

Staff will do what they can to assist, but it is still each owners' responsibility to ensure your vessel and equipment are as secure as possible.

The above information is provided as a guide to encourage boat owners to be prepared in the event of a cyclone and in no way alters clause 32 of the terms & conditions of permit to occupy agreed to by all occupants of Keppel Bay Marina.



## 5. PROCEDURE POST STORM

Depending on the severity of a storm, post storm access restrictions will vary. In all cases, the **vessel owner is responsible for checking their vessel for any damage.**

Marina Management will endeavour to report any obvious or externally visible damage in the most urgent cases, but vessel owners must make arrangements for their vessel to be checked as soon as reasonably possible following a storm. When checking vessels, **report first to Marina Office** to check on protocol for that particular event.

Even in the less severe storm events, **power surges may cause vessel shore power to trip off.** It is recommended that fridges and freezers are left empty in storm season if the vessel owner is not readily able to check the power supply following a storm event.

## 6. WEATHER INFORMATION

Weather Information by **phone**

Bureau of Meteorology Warnings

- Tropical Cyclone 1300 659 212
- Weather & Flood 1300 659 219
- Coastal Marine 1300 360 427
- Tsunami 1300 878 626

Weather Information by **internet**

[www.keppelbaymarina.com.au/weather-and-safety](http://www.keppelbaymarina.com.au/weather-and-safety) contains links to key sites including Bureau of Meteorology Internet Home Page [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

- Latest Wind Observations for Rosslyn Bay (updated ½ hourly)
- Marine Wind Forecast
- Tropical Cyclone Forecast

Weather Information by **marine radio**

Rocky Met broadcast on **VHF 21** at 7:20am, 10:10am, 12:10pm and 17:05pm

## 7. EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Fire, Police, Ambulance	000	
Poisons Info Centre	13 11 26	
Water Police	4939 7990	
Yeppoon Coastguard	4933 6600	(Fri-Mon)
Coastguard Keppel Sands	4934 4906	(Tue-Thu)
Keppel Bay Marina Office	4933 6244	
Night Security / Assistance	0414 636 166	Jim Ransom
Marina Operations Manager	0459 336 244	Dean Ganfield
General Manager	0438 336 244	Kylie Smith
Marina Owner	0407 620 901	Richard Wilson