

# City of Darwin Cruises Pty Ltd

## Environmental Management Procedures

Section 6.2 Environmental Management Procedures - Products 1,2 and 3

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## 1.0 Introduction

This document describes the environmental management procedures for ASE products, on Darwin Harbour and Top End Coastal Waters.

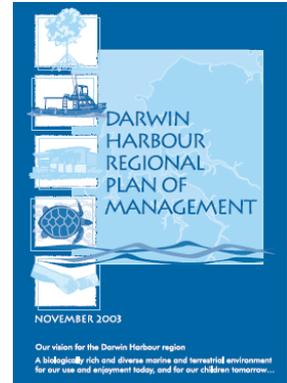
## 2.0 The site

Taken from the Darwin Harbour Plan of Management 2006

"The Darwin Harbour region plays a central role in the economy, lifestyle and character of the Top End of the Northern Territory. The area supports the largest concentration of the Northern Territory population, is home to most Territorians and encompasses the foremost intensity of industrial and commercial operations in the region.

The Darwin Harbour region:

- Provides our drinking water;
- Offers a range of recreational opportunities;
- Is an important transport hub for road, rail, shipping and air travel;
- Features significant Indigenous and European cultural heritage, especially for the Larrakia people;
- Supports a diverse range of marine, estuarine, freshwater and terrestrial environments;
- Is an important tourist destination;
- Supports primary industries; and
- Offers a range of lifestyles, from rural to city living.



Supporting these uses, whilst maintaining the values of the region, is a challenge for all; the

community, industry and Government. The Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management aims to provide a coordinated integrated approach to managing the Darwin Harbour regions

Values and uses.

Similarly, the Bynoe Harbour Region plays a key role in the lifestyle and economy of Territorians but to a lesser extent."

(See Darwin Harbour Plan of Management)

## 3.0 Environmental Policy

ASE will, for the coastal areas of Darwin Harbour and Bynoe Harbour (and all coastal waters) shall ensure that its operations are in line with the protection of ecosystems, and the maintenance of the harbour's value as a recreational, cultural, commercial and scenic resource.

## 4.0 Compliance Requirements

The main compliance requirements governing ASE's operations are;

- (a) The *NT Marine Pollution Act 2004*, and those which govern commercial vessels.
- (b) the *Bushfires Act 2006* (for lighting of fires)
- (c) Fishing Tour Operators Licence

A copy of these Acts and other relevant plans will be made available to all staff on Induction to ASE.

## 5.0 Environmental Impact Identification:

### Actual Impacts

The actual impacts from the operations of ASE is minimal, namely the impacts of beach walking, disturbance of wildlife (minimal) and fishing. These impacts are minimised by following codes of conducts for disturbance of wildlife, and compliance with bag limits for fishing. Fishing is however rarely undertaken on visits to Bynoe Harbour.

### Potential Impacts

The main potential impact is the accidental pollution from fuel or oil spills. However, by following risk management procedures, these are unlikely. If an incident was to occur, management will follow procedures as described in the *NT Marine Pollution Act*.

## 6.0 Objectives and Targets:

ASE will aim to continually ensure that it's operational and management procedures are adhered to, implemented and reviewed on an annual basis.

## 7.0 Consultation

All ASE staff will be consulted during and after establishment of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). This is necessary to ensure that all staff are involved in, and committed to the plan.

Senior management are in close contact with Northern Territory scientists and Rangers to ensure that they are kept up to date on aspects such as codes of conduct for disturbance to wildlife etc.

## 8.0 Operational and Emergency Risks and Procedures

Potential Incident risk issue	Likelihood	Management Procedure	Action or Response if incident occurred
Oil or fuel spill	Low	Spill mats used on refuelling. Services carried out by trained personnel	Follow <i>NT Marine Pollution Act</i> guidelines to minimise spills.
Disturbance to wildlife or vegetation	Low	Training of staff in Codes of Conduct toward wildlife and how to minimise impacts on coastal vegetation	Review training
Spread of bushfire	Low	Adherence to <i>Bushfires Act 2006</i> for camp fires (ie 4m diameter break, fire to be extinguished thoroughly etc)	Report to management and Bushfires NT. Document all actions taken and reasons for spread. Training of staff.

Noise Pollution	Very Low	Vessels are sailing vessels. Engine noise is very minimal	NA
Water conservation	Very Low	All ASE vessels carry own fresh water	NA
Waste and effluent	Low	ASE vessels have holding tanks	NA
Lighting and visual impacts	Low	Lights kept to a minimum during cruises and at anchor	NA

## 9.0 Environmental Response Plan

### Goal 1. To maintain a healthy marine environment

Outcomes to be achieved:

1.1 Improved understanding and knowledge of the region's environment;

#### Strategies:

1. Improve understanding of the environment and potential impacts to it
2. Disseminate information to improve public awareness and understanding of the region's environment

1.2 Protection and enhancement of estuarine and marine water quality;

#### Strategies:

1. Manage sewage effluent and grey water discharging into vessel tanks. Tank discharge to occur at least 1 nautical mile from reefs, marinas and shorelines (currently very minimal)
2. Protection of the health and functioning of ecosystems and conservation of biodiversity.

#### Strategies:

- Identify significant species, ecosystems and biodiversity
- Minimise the impact of pollution on ecosystems and biodiversity
- Prevent, manage and control introduced species
- Improve public awareness of ecosystems and species of significance and

This details the methods and procedures which an organisation will use to meet its objectives and targets.

## 10.00 Responsibilities and Reporting Structure

Responsibilities will be allocated to staff and management to ensure the EMP is implemented effectively.

## 11.0 Training

All ASE staff will undergo environmental awareness training to familiarise them with their responsibilities for implementing the EMP and with the overall environmental policy and objectives of the organisation. This provides staff with the necessary skill and motivation for the effective implementation of the EMS.

#### **12.0 Review Audits and Monitoring Compliance**

Review audits will be undertaken regularly to ensure the EMP is achieving its objectives and to refine operational procedures to meet this goal. In order to ensure regulatory and other requirements are being met, it is often necessary to undertake regular environmental monitoring.