Local Notice to Mariners

Mooring Inspections and Maintenance – Darwin Harbour

To	Port Users	**Location**	Darwin Harbour
Date of issue	23 / 11/ 2026	**Ref number**	Local NtM 2026 – 097 (T)

Notification

Port users are advised Inspection and maintenance of moorings and 16 Darwin Port Aids to Navigation (AtoN) in Darwin Harbour.

Date of activity:

Monday 30 November 2026 to Monday 14 December 2026.

Working days: 30 Nov – 4 Dec and 7 – 11 Dec 2026 (no work at weekends). Barge tow-out Mon 30 Nov; barge tow-in Mon 14 Dec. Dates are subject to equipment arrival and weather.

Time of activity:

Daily 06:30 – 14:00 (ACST). The work vessel departs the barge at about 07:00 and is back at the barge by about 13:00 on most days.

The support barge remains in position in the work area day and night from 30 November to 14 December 2026.

Location of activity:

Darwin Harbour. AtoN moorings to be worked (positions as held by Darwin Port):

- **Channel markers:** No.02, No.04, No.07, No.10, No.11, No.13, No.15, No.16
- **Middle Arm:** MA01, MA04, MA07
- **Kitchener Bay:** KB01, KB03, KB07, KB08, KB10

Support barge: moored in Darwin Harbour within 1.5 – 6 nm of the inner-harbour moorings.
Barge tow route: Hudson Creek (HCK6) to the work area and return.

Day-by-day schedule:

Date	Vessel away from barge	AtoN worked / movement
Mon 30 Nov	06:45–13:45	Barge towed from Hudson Creek (HCK6) to work area (tow out of Hudson Ck approx. 08:45, barge in position approx. 10:05). No.13 (riser replacement)
Tue 1 Dec	07:00–12:45	KB08 (riser + ground chain replacement), MA01
Wed 2 Dec	07:00–12:05	MA07 (riser replacement), No.10
Thu 3 Dec	07:00–12:20	No.02

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

	<table><tr><td>Fri 4 Dec</td><td>07:00–12:00</td><td>No.04</td></tr><tr><td>Mon 7 Dec</td><td>07:00–12:25</td><td>No.07, MA04</td></tr><tr><td>Tue 8 Dec</td><td>07:00–12:40</td><td>KB01 (riser + ground chain replacement), No.11</td></tr><tr><td>Wed 9 Dec</td><td>07:00–12:10</td><td>KB03 (riser + ground chain replacement), No.15</td></tr><tr><td>Thu 10 Dec</td><td>07:00–12:30</td><td>KB07 (riser + ground chain replacement), No.16</td></tr><tr><td>Fri 11 Dec</td><td>07:00–10:30</td><td>KB10 (riser + ground chain replacement) – final mooring</td></tr><tr><td>Mon 14 Dec</td><td>07:00–10:35</td><td>Barge towed from work area back to HCK6 (enter Hudson Ck approx. 08:40, alongside 09:00); work vessel locks into Frances Bay approx. 10:00</td></tr></table>
Assets/ Vessels involved	• **Work vessel:** PMC work vessel with A-frame [vessel name to confirm]. • **Support barge:** PMC modular flat-top barge, 12 m × 4.8 m, moored in the work area as a store for chain and spares. Towed out on 30 Nov and back on 14 Dec. • **Crew transfer vessel:** PMC CTV running between the HCK6 ramp and the barge, morning and afternoon. **AtoN:** the 16 Darwin Port AtoN listed above.
Description of Activity:	The work vessel will go alongside each AtoN to inspect and maintain its mooring: • about 1.5 hours on station at each channel marker / Middle Arm AtoN to inspect and replace top tackle (bridles, swivels, shackles), and replace the riser chain where it is condemned (planned at No.13 and MA07); • about 3 hours on station at each Kitchener Bay AtoN to replace the riser and the ground chain. While the vessel is working at an AtoN, the buoy may be held alongside the vessel or briefly moved off its charted position. It will be put back on station before the vessel leaves. **Mariners are requested to keep well clear of the work vessel and the moored barge, pass at slow speed and keep wash to a minimum. The work vessel will have restricted ability to manoeuvre while on station and will show the correct lights and shapes.**
Conducted by:	Polaris Marine Constructions Pty Ltd (PMC), on behalf of Darwin Port.
Communication :	**Radio:** Work vessel monitoring VHF Ch 16 and Ch 10 (Darwin Harbour Control). **Mobile:** Alastair Lau, Project Supervisor, PMC – 0418 799 845 **Darwin Port contact:** Sam Christensen, Asset & Maintenance Specialist – 0408 455 908
Additional information	• The work vessel will notify Darwin Harbour Control before starting work each day and when work is finished.

	• Barge tow movements on 30 Nov and 14 Dec go through Hudson Creek around high water (about 08:40 – 09:00). • Darwin Port will be told the same day about any AtoN found defective or left in a temporary condition. • Dates may change because of weather or equipment arrival. PMC will tell the RHM office of any change.
Cancel this notice on:	Monday 14 December 2026 at 12:00 (ACST), after the barge has been towed back to HCK6. PMC will advise if the works run longer.

Jon Abbey

Regional Harbourmaster – Darwin