



VICTORIAN NOTICE TO MARINERS

The following Notice to Mariners is published for general information.

Barwon Heads, 26 March 2026
AUSTRALIA – VICTORIA

No. 167 - 2026

LOCAL PORT OF BARWON HEADS

Barwon Heads – Barwon River Bar Depths Compromised

Date: Effective from 26 March 2026

Details: Mariners are advised that reduced water depths have been identified within the river bar entrance channel of the Barwon River, specifically between the Barwon River Entrance Beacon and Starboard Beacon No. 3 and Port Beacon No. 4. These conditions have developed as a result of natural coastal processes, further changes may occur.

A hydrographic survey conducted on 4 March 2026 is attached to this notice and provides information about seabed depths and hazards for mariners considering navigating the entrance to the Barwon River.

The area outside the existing navigational beacons includes reef outcrops, sand waves and breaking waves which may present significant hazards to vessels. Mariners are also reminded of the 5 knot speed limit in the Barwon River which extends to the Barwon River Entrance Beacon.

Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution in this area. The safest time to cross the river bar is during daylight hours and between 1.5 hours before high tide and 1.5 hours after high tide and only in conditions of low wind and low swell.

Charts Affected: AUS143

Further Notice: This Notice to Mariners cancels NtM No. 146 - 2026.

This Notice to Mariners is issued by the Barwon Coast Committee of Management Inc. appointed port manager for the local port of Barwon Heads. If you require any further information, please contact Barwon Coast on (03) 5254 1118.

Victorian Notices to Mariners can also be viewed on the Barwon Coast website www.barwoncoast.com.au or on the Ports Victoria (PV) website <https://ports.vic.gov.au/>

Gareth Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Barwon Coast Committee of Management Inc.

The bathymetric survey was carried out using a single beam echo sounder. The information contained in the grid is believed to be trustworthy. However, its accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed. Breaklines and change in grade lines are not possible to be measured under water, therefore contours may not accurately reflect terrain under water.

The information is provided for general reference only.
Conditions may change over time.

No.7

No.8 
Main Jetty
Barwon Heads

No.5

No.6

No.3

No.1

No.2

*Indicative
Reef Edge*

**Indicative
Reef Edge**

Breakers

Breakers

Indicative
Reef Edge

*Survey Runline of 7.5m not achieved in this area due to swell conditions.
Runline spacing = 10m-20m Spacing

Sand Waves

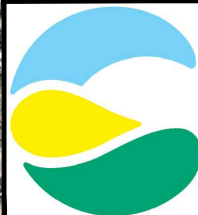
*Low Resolution Survey in this Area

Entrance Beacon

Breaks in Low to Moderate Swell

DEPTH IN METRES BELOW CHART DATUM		
Minimum	Maximum	Color
4.00	3.50	
3.50	3.00	
3.00	2.50	
2.50	2.00	
2.00	1.50	
1.50	1.00	
1.00	0.50	
0.50	0.00	
0.00	-0.50	

NOTE: Aerial Photography 24 January 2026.



Barwon Coast
Committee of
Management Inc.
7 Ewing Blyth Dve
Barwon Heads
VIC 3227
Ph. 03 5254 1118

Zone 55

 Navigational Beacon

A horizontal number line with arrows at both ends. It is marked with the numbers 0, 50, 100, and 150.

Scale in metres

PORT OF BARWON HEADS BARWON RIVER BAR AND BOATING CHANNEL HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY