

Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EPPR00570813

This environmental authority is issued by the administering authority under Chapter 5 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Environmental authority number: EPPR00570813

Environmental authority takes effect on the date that your related development approval takes effect (2206-29253 SDA). This is the take effect date.

The anniversary date of this environmental authority is the 13th of May each year.

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
GLADSTONE PORTS CORPORATION LIMITED	Kullaroo House 40 Goondoon Street GLADSTONE DC QLD 4680

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Adjacent to LOT 63/CTN1787
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Adjacent to Lot 98/CTN279
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Lot 210/SP120888

Additional information for applicantsEnvironmentally relevant activities

The description of any environmentally relevant activity (ERA) for which an environmental authority (EA) is issued is a restatement of the ERA as defined by legislation at the time the EA is issued. Where there is any inconsistency between that description of an ERA and the conditions stated by an EA as to the scale, intensity or manner of carrying out an ERA, the conditions prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

An EA authorises the carrying out of an ERA and does not authorise any environmental harm unless a condition stated by the EA specifically authorises environmental harm.

A person carrying out an ERA must also be a registered suitable operator under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act).

Contaminated land

It is a requirement of the EP Act that an owner or occupier of contaminated land give written notice to the administering authority if they become aware of the following:

- the happening of an event involving a hazardous contaminant on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a change in the condition of the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a notifiable activity (as defined in Schedule 3 of the EP Act) having been carried out, or is being carried out, on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 20 business days);

that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm.

For further information, including the form for giving written notice, refer to the Queensland Government website www.qld.gov.au, using the search term 'duty to notify'.

Take effect

Please note that, in accordance with section 200 of the EP Act, an EA has effect:

- a) if the authority is for a prescribed ERA and it states that it takes effect on the day nominated by the holder of the authority in a written notice given to the administering authority-on the nominated day; or
- b) if the authority states a day or an event for it to take effect-on the stated day or when the stated event happens; or
- c) otherwise-on the day the authority is issued.

However, if the EA is authorising an activity that requires an additional authorisation (a relevant tenure for a resource activity, a development permit under the *Planning Act 2016* or an SDA Approval under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*), this EA will not take effect until the additional authorisation has taken effect.

If this EA takes effect when the additional authorisation takes effect, you must provide the administering authority written notice within 5 business days of receiving notification of the related additional authorisation taking effect.

If you have incorrectly claimed that an additional authorisation is not required, carrying out the ERA without the

additional authorisation is not legal and could result in your prosecution for providing false or misleading information or operating without a valid environmental authority.

John Bowlen

John Bowlen
Department of Environment and Science
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Enquiries:
Coastal and Marine Assessment
Department of Environment and Science

Phone: 1300 130 372
Email: palm@des.qld.gov.au

Date issued: 25 November 2022

Obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

In addition to the requirements found in the conditions of this environmental authority, the holder must also meet their obligations under the EP Act, and the regulations made under the EP Act. For example, the holder must comply with the following provisions of the Act:

- general environmental duty (section 319)
- duty to notify environmental harm (section 320-320G)
- offence of causing serious or material environmental harm (sections 437-439)
- offence of causing environmental nuisance (section 440)
- offence of depositing prescribed water contaminants in waters and related matters (section 440ZG)
- offence to place contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443)

Other permits required

This permit only provides an approval under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. In order to lawfully operate you may also require permits / approvals from your local government authority, other business units within the department and other State Government agencies prior to commencing any activity at the site.

Development Approval

This permit is not a development approval under the *Planning Act 2016*. The conditions of this environmental authority are separate, and in addition to, any conditions that may be on the development approval. If a copy of this environmental authority is attached to a development approval, it is for information only, and may not be current. Please contact the Department of Environment and Science to ensure that you have the most current version of the environmental authority relating to this site.

Conditions of environmental authority

Environmentally relevant activities and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Adjacent to LOT 63/CTN1787
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Adjacent to Lot 98/CTN279
Prescribed ERA, ERA 16 - Extraction and Screening, 1: Dredging, in a year, the following quantity of material, (c) more than 100,000t but not more than 1,000,000t	Lot 210/SP120888

The environmentally relevant activity conducted at the locations as described above must be conducted in accordance with the following site-specific conditions of the approval.

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	Condition
GPMG1	<p>Activities under this environmental authority must be conducted in accordance with the following limitations:</p> <p>(a) the amount of dredged material in a year must not exceed 1,000,000t; and</p> <p>(b) within the bounds of the Port of Gladstone maintenance dredging footprint as shown in Schedule 2 on the following approved plans—</p> <p>(i). Figure 1 – Limits of Gladstone Port, showing existing approved channels, berth pockets, swing basins, anchorages and marina</p> <p>(ii). Figure 2 – Boyne River Bar Maintenance Dredging Section 86 Approval Details, drawing no. 702-00573, dated 6 November 2017</p>
GPMG2	In relation to environmental performance, dredging equipment must be in survey, registered and equal to or better than the following:

	<p>(a) <u>Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge</u> (TSHD) equipped with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i). below keel discharge of tail waters via an anti-turbidity control valve; (ii). on-board systems for determining solids/water ratio or density of dredged material; (iii). electronic positioning and depth control system for defining the location and depth of dredging; (iv). dredge heads fitted with fauna exclusion devices (e.g. turtle deflectors); and (v). valves to control the amount of air in the overflow water, reducing turbidity. <p>(b) <u>Cutter Suction Dredge</u> equipped with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i). electronic positioning and depth control system for defining the location and depth of dredging; (ii). continuous delivery connection to an approved placement site; (iii). a system or process to ensure the delivery system integrity is maintained at all times; and (iv). on-board systems for determining solids to water ratio or density of dredged material during operations. <p>(c) <u>Grab Dredge</u> equipped with electronic positioning system for defining the location and depth of dredging.</p>
GPMG3	All reasonable and practicable measures must be taken to minimise the likelihood of environmental harm being caused.
GPMG4	Record the area(s) dredged in relation to the approved plan(s) in Schedule 2, the volume of material removed (to the nearest tonne) and where these volumes are placed.
GPMG5	All information and records required by this permit must be kept for five (5) years and be made available to the administering authority upon request.
GPMG6	The administering authority must be advised at least five (5) business days prior to the commencement of any dredging activity , including information on the area to be dredged and the location(s) of disposal with evidence of any applicable approvals for disposal. For placement of dredge material on land (other than for beach nourishment) include evidence that the containment area is certified as fit for purpose by a registered Professional Engineer of Queensland (RPEQ).
GPMG7	A suitably qualified person must design and/or conduct a receiving environment monitoring program to monitor the effects of maintenance dredging on the marine environment.
GPMG8	<p>The receiving environment monitoring program must include at least the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) significant and sensitive receptors in the port area are identified and mapped; (b) environmental aspects and potential impacts are identified; (c) all contaminant releases are monitored; (d) the methods for collection and analysis of the samples (including specific areas to be monitored, when monitoring is to be undertaken and duration of monitoring);

	<p>(e) the methods of analysing the data and responding to the results to ensure compliance with conditions;</p> <p>(f) long-term ecological impacts associated with dredging operations are monitored;</p> <p>(g) reporting intervals; and</p> <p>(h) review of environmental performance is undertaken after each dredging campaign.</p>
GPMG9	A copy of the receiving environment monitoring program must be submitted to the administering authority at least 20 business days prior to the commencement of dredging and, if necessary, amended in accordance with any comments made by the administering authority .

Agency interest: Air	
Condition number	Condition
GPMA1	The release of odour and/or airborne contaminants from the activity must not cause environmental nuisance at any nuisance sensitive place .

Agency interest: Land	
Condition number	Condition
PML003	Treatment and management of acid sulfate soils must comply with the latest edition of the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soil Technical Manual.

Agency interest: Acoustic	
Condition number	Condition
GPMN1	Noise from the activity must not cause environmental nuisance at any nuisance sensitive place .

Agency interest: Water	
Condition number	Condition
GPMWT1	Monitor and keep records of the quality characteristics of the release of decant waters to check compliance with Condition GPMWT2 at a frequency not less than that specified in Schedule 1, Table 1 – Dredge Decant Water Release Limits.
GPMWT2	<p>Dredge decant waters must only be released to waters in compliance with the release limits listed in Schedule 1, Table 1 – Dredge Decant Water Release Limits at the following discharge locations:</p> <p><u>RG Tanna</u> (RGT) from the reclamation cells to Port Curtis via Ken's Drain:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 49.97' S, 151° 14.10' E and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 49.91' S, 151° 14.07' E</p> <p><u>Wiggins Island Coal Export Terminal</u> (WICET) to Calliope River Anabranch:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 50.23' S, 151° 11.81' E (Reclamation Area B) and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 50.88' S, 151° 10.82' E (Reclamation Area C)</p> <p><u>Fisherman's Landing</u> to Port Curtis:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 47.39' S, 151° 09.57' E</p> <p><u>Western Basin Reclamation Area</u> (WBRA) to Port Curtis:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">23° 45.85' S, 151° 9.88' E</p>
GPMWT3	All determinations of the quality of contaminants released to waters must be made in accordance with, but are not limited to, methods prescribed in the latest edition of the administering authority's Monitoring and Sampling Manual; and carried out on samples that are representative of the discharge.
GPMWT4	A suitably qualified person(s) must conduct any monitoring required by this approval.
GPMWT5	All analyses and tests required under this authority must be carried out at a laboratory that has NATA certification for such analyses and tests. The only exception to this condition is for in-situ monitoring of pH, Dissolved Oxygen and Turbidity.
GPMWT6	Immediately cease discharging decant waters if any water quality parameter stated in Schedule 1, Table 1 – Dredge Decant Water Release Limits is exceeded and take reasonable and practical measures to rectify the exceedance.

Agency interest: Reporting	
Condition number	Condition
GPMR1	A report is to be submitted to the administering authority within 40 business days of completion of all monitoring required by this authority. The report must include areas and volumes that were dredged, where it was placed, reportable incidents and all monitoring results with summaries, graphic interpretations and an assessment of these results in relation to the conditions of this authority and environmental impacts. In respect of the receiving environment monitoring program, reports are to be provided as detailed in that plan.
GPMR2	Any incident of environmental harm (including a reasonable suspicion that environmental harm has or is likely to have occurred), the activities must cease immediately and be reported to the administering authority as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours on (07) 4971 6500 (during business hours) or 1300 130 372 (Pollution Hotline).
GPMR3	A written notice detailing the following information must be provided to the administering authority within 14 days of any incident provided in accordance with Condition GPMR2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the name of the operator, including their approval number; (b) the name and telephone number of a designated contact person; (c) quantity and substance released; (d) vehicle and registration details; (e) the location and time of the release; (f) the suspected cause of the release; (g) a description of the effects of the release; (h) the results of any sampling performed in relation to the release; (i) actions taken to mitigate any environmental harm caused by the release; and (j) proposed actions to prevent a recurrence of the release.
GPMR4	All complaints received must be recorded and the following details provided to the administering authority upon request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) time, date, name and contact details of the complainant; (b) reasons for the complaint; (c) details of investigations undertaken by the port authority; (d) conclusions formed; and (e) actions taken to resolve the complaint.

Agency interest: Waste	
Condition number	Condition
GPMWS1	Only remove waste from the site by using a transporter lawfully able to transport it and to a place lawfully able to receive it.
GPMWS2	Waste must not be burnt.

Agency interest: Legislative Requirements	
Condition number	Condition
PLR022	This permit only provides an approval under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> . In order to lawfully operate you may also require permits / approvals from your local government authority, other business units within the department and other State Government agencies prior to commencing any activity at the site. For example, this may include permits / approvals with your local Council (for planning approval), the Department of Transport and Main Roads (to access state controlled roads), the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (to clear vegetation), and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (to clear marine plants or to obtain a quarry material allocation).
PLR024	<u>Development Approval</u> This permit is not a development approval under the <i>Planning Act 2016</i> . The conditions of this environmental authority are separate, and in addition to, any conditions that may be on the development approval. If a copy of this environmental authority is attached to a development approval, it is for information only, and may not be current. Please contact the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection to ensure that you have the most current version of the environmental authority relating to this site.

Agency interest: In-stream Dredge Material Placement	
Condition number	Condition
ISP01	<p>In-channel dredge material placement must only occur within the bounds denoted within the following plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tide Island In-Channel MRA prepared by BMT dated 24 September 2021, Drawing Number A-1, revision A. - Clinton In-Channel MRA prepared by BMT dated 24 September 2021, Drawing Number A-2, revision B.
ISP02	<p>Prior to the commencement of each campaign of in-channel dredge material placement, except in the first instance of placement, an Operational Plan must be developed and submitted to the administering authority at either of the addresses below:</p> <p>palm@des.qld.gov.au; or</p> <p>Department of Environment and Science Permit and License Management Implementation and Support Unit GPO Box 2454 Brisbane Qld 4001</p>

ISP03	<p>The Operational Plan, as required by condition ISP02, must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volume of material to be deposited in tonnes. 2. A copy of the land-use approval for the deposition of the dredge material at the in-channel dredge material placement sites. 3. Details of the material placement: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) type of equipment to be used in placement of dredge material; b) methods to be utilised for transporting dredged material; and c) method for deposition of dredge material. 4. Except the first instance of placement, a review of previous monitoring data and impacts to sensitive receptors carried out by a suitably qualified person. 5. Monitoring plan prepared by a suitably qualified person to monitor the impacts to sensitive receptors from the placement and material which has moved from the placement site. The monitoring plan must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) identify and map significant and sensitive receptors in the port area; b) identify environmental values and potential impacts; c) monitor all releases; d) detail the methodology to be used for the collection and analysis of samples (including specific areas to be monitored, when monitoring is to be undertaken and duration of monitoring); e) detail the methodology for analysing the data and responding to the results to ensure compliance with conditions; f) monitor long-term ecological impacts associated with dredging operations area; and g) identify reporting intervals. 6. Statement from a suitably qualified person demonstrating the continued placement of material at the in-channel dredge material placement sites will not cause environmental harm.
ISP04	<p>The Operational Plan, as required by condition ISP02, must not be implemented or amended in a way that contravenes or is inconsistent with any condition of this authority.</p>
ISP05	<p>The Operational Plan, as required by condition ISP02, must be submitted to the administering authority at least 20 business days prior to the commencement of in-channel dredge material placement and amended in accordance with any comments made by the administering authority.</p>
ISP06	<p>If the Operational Plan, is amended, it must be provided to the administering authority at least 20 business days prior to commencing activities under the amended Operational Plan.</p>
ISP07	<p>Any comments made by the administering authority on the amended Operational Plan provided in accordance with condition ISP05 must be addressed to the satisfaction of the administering authority prior to implementing the amended Operational Plan.</p>
ISP08	<p>Condition ISP05 and ISP06 applies each time the Operational Plan is amended.</p>
ISP09	<p>The in-channel dredge material placement must be undertaken in accordance with the Operational Plan required in condition ISP02.</p>

Definitions

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section and **bolded** throughout this document. Applicants should note that where a term is not defined, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations or environmental protection policies must be used. If a word remains undefined it has its ordinary meaning.

Activity means the environmentally relevant activity to which this environmental authority relates.

Administering authority means the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and any successor administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Continuously, in respect of continuous monitoring means *in-situ* monitoring with data collected at least every five (5) minutes.

Control site refers to a monitoring site located beyond the anticipated **zone of influence** of sediment plumes and has **site pairing** with one or more **test sites** or **sentinel sites**. In monitoring programs, **control sites** serve the same role as do **reference sites** but only for a defined subset of parameters.

Decant waters means settled dredge spoil waters released to Port Curtis following settlement or other management requirements.

Dredging includes extraction of mud, sand, coral, ballast, shingle, gravel, clay, earth and other material from the bed of Queensland tidal and non-tidal waters. Dredging also includes the discharge of dredge decant waters and is not complete until decanting has finished to the satisfaction of the administering authority.

Environmental harm means environmental harm as defined in section 14 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Environmental nuisance is unreasonable interference or likely interference with an environmental value caused by—

- (a) aerosols, fumes, light, noise, odour, particles or smoke; or
- (b) an unhealthy, offensive or unsightly condition because of contamination; or
- (c) another way prescribed by regulation.

Environmental value means environmental value as defined in section 9 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

In-channel dredge material placement means the placement of material within the bounds of the dredge material placement sites denoted within Schedule 3.

Maintenance dredging means dredging undertaken in existing approved shipping channels, berth pockets, swing basins, anchorages and marina(s) to maintain declared depths.

Measures has the broadest interpretation and includes plant, equipment, physical objects, monitoring procedures, actions, directions and competency.

NTU means nephelometric turbidity units.

Nuisance sensitive place means;

- a dwelling, residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises;
- a motel, hotel or hostel;
- a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution;

- a medical centre or hospital;
- a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the *Marine Parks Act 1992* or a World Heritage Area;
- a public thoroughfare, park or gardens; or
- a place used as a workplace, an office or for business or commercial purposes and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place.

Port area means as defined in section 267 of the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*.

Port authority means as defined in Schedule 2 of the *Transport Infrastructure (Ports) Regulation 2005*.

Qualified person means a person or persons who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis to performance relative to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.

Reference site refers to a monitoring site located not only beyond the anticipated **zone of influence** of a sediment plume, but also beyond other sources of environmental impacts, and has **site pairing** with one or more **test sites** or **sentinel sites**. In monitoring programs, **reference sites** serve the same role as do **control sites** but can generally be suitable for a broader set of parameters.

Sediment plume-associated impacts are impacts associated with sediment plumes including turbidity and suspended solids concentrations, light attenuation or sedimentation rates elevated above either **control site** or **reference site** readings or baseline conditions for an equivalent time of year. Where **dredge material** possesses acid sulfate soil-related properties, **sediment plume-associated impacts** may also include pH, dissolved oxygen and metal and metalloid-related toxicity impacts.

Serious environmental harm means serious environmental harm as defined in section 17 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Sensitive receptor includes biological **sensitive receptors** together with other **environmental values** sensitive to the effects of dredge-generated **sediment plume-associated impacts**.

Sentinel site is a **test site** that is situated between the disturbance source and the **sensitive receptor** and serves to provide earlier warning of developing adverse conditions than does a **test site**

Test site is a **concern site** that functions as a test point for compliance, is a monitoring site situated within the area where a **sensitive receptor** occurs and where environmental monitoring-related assessment criteria (e.g. **trigger values**) apply.

Western Basin means all existing shipping channels, berth pockets, swing basins and anchorages to the west of the Wiggins Island wharf swing basin.

Waters includes river, stream, lake, lagoon, pond, swamp, wetland, unconfined surface water, unconfined water natural or artificial watercourse, bed and bank of any waters, dams, non-tidal or tidal waters (including the sea), stormwater channel, stormwater drain, roadside gutter, stormwater run-off, and any under groundwater, any part thereof.

END OF PERMIT

Appendices

Schedule 1

GPMT1	Table 1 – Dredge Decant Water Release Limits			
Quality Characteristics	Type of Release Limit			Monitoring Frequency
	Minimum	80th Percentile	Maximum	
Suspended Solids	-	80 mg/L (Senescent ¹) 50 mg/L (Growing ¹)	100 mg/L (Senescent ¹) 60 mg/L (Growing ¹)	Weekly
Turbidity	-			<u>Continuously</u>
Dissolved Oxygen	2.0 mg/L			<u>Continuously</u>
pH	6.5	-	9.0	<u>Continuously</u>
Ammonia			1 mg/L	Weekly
Aluminium			165.0 ³ µg /L	
Cadmium (filtered)	-	-	2.1 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Chromium (filtered)	-	-	13.2 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Copper (filtered)	-	-	3.9 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Lead (filtered)	-	-	13.2 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Mercury (filtered)	-	-	0.3 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Nickel (filtered)	-	-	21.0 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Silver (filtered)	-	-	4.2 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Zinc (filtered)	-	-	45.0 ³ µg/L	Weekly ²
Tributyltin (TBT)			-	Weekly ²

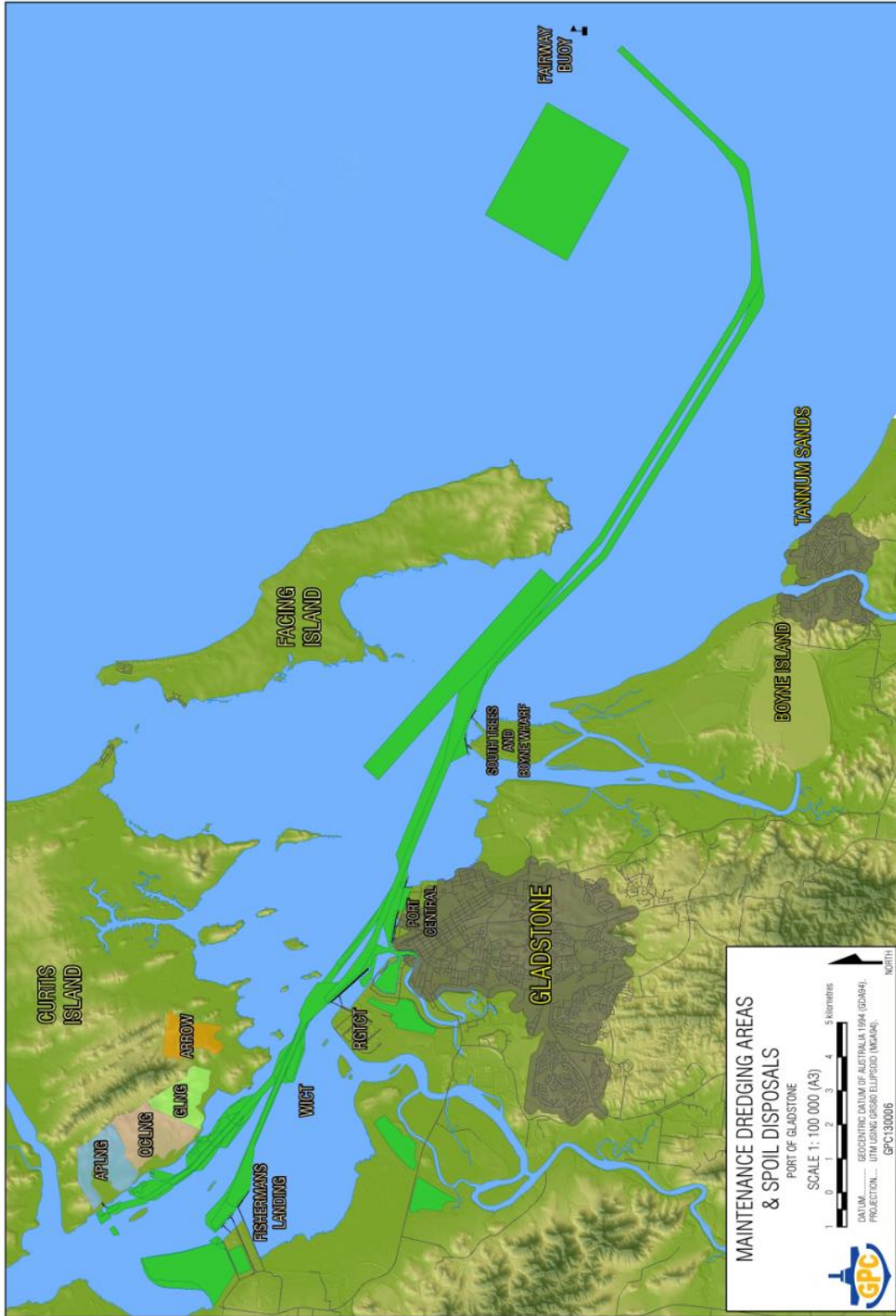
¹ In consideration of seagrass requirements, “Senescent” season is from 1 January to 30 June inclusive. The remainder of the year is taken to be the “Growing” season.

² While pH levels are outside the above range, monitoring for the above metal species is to be carried out daily.

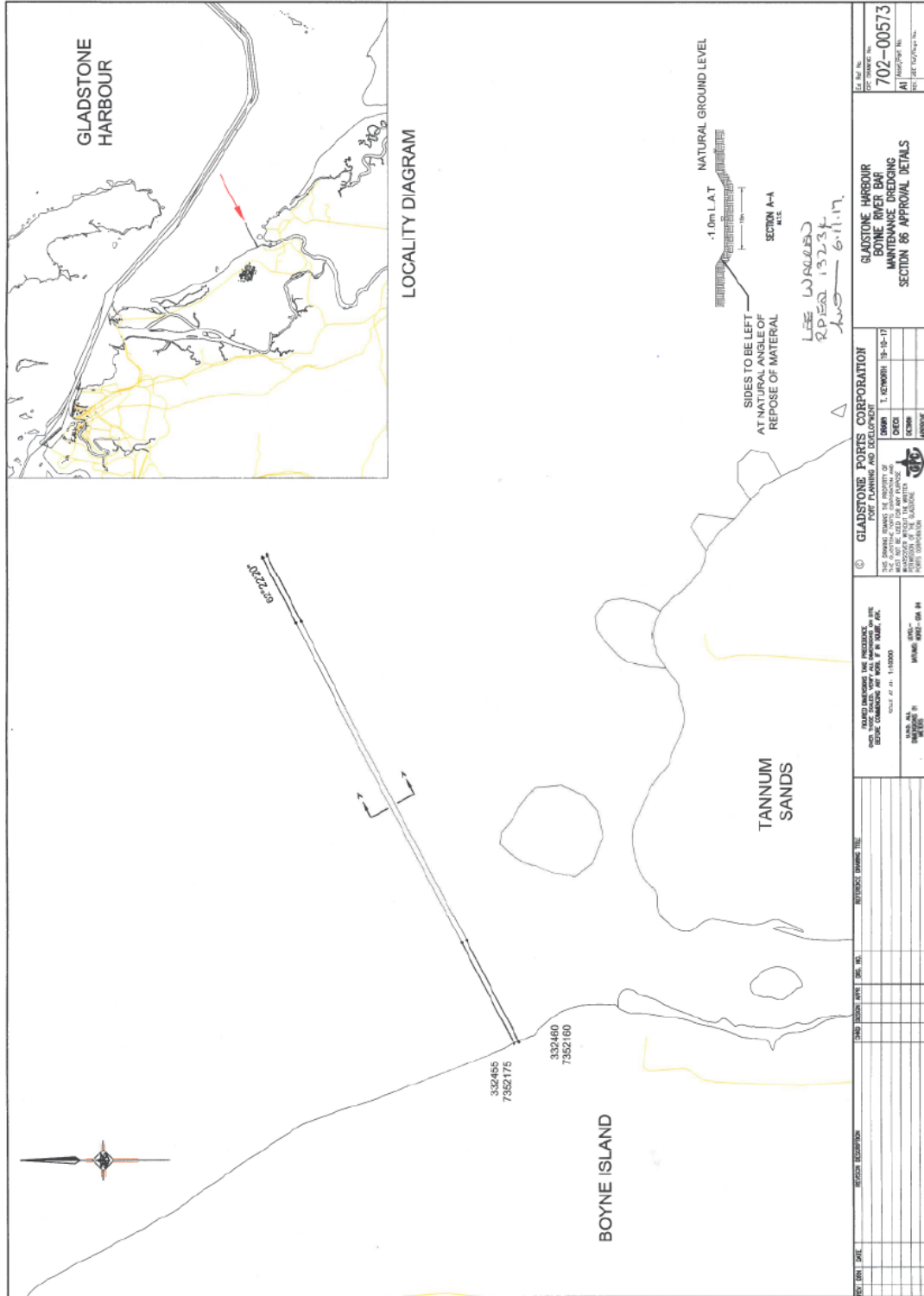
³ These values are trigger values only. If three (3) consecutive results exceed these values, all results must be reported to the administering authority and further investigation may be required.

Schedule 2

GPMF1	Figure 1 – Limits of Gladstone Port, showing existing approved channels, berth pockets, swing basins, anchorages and marina
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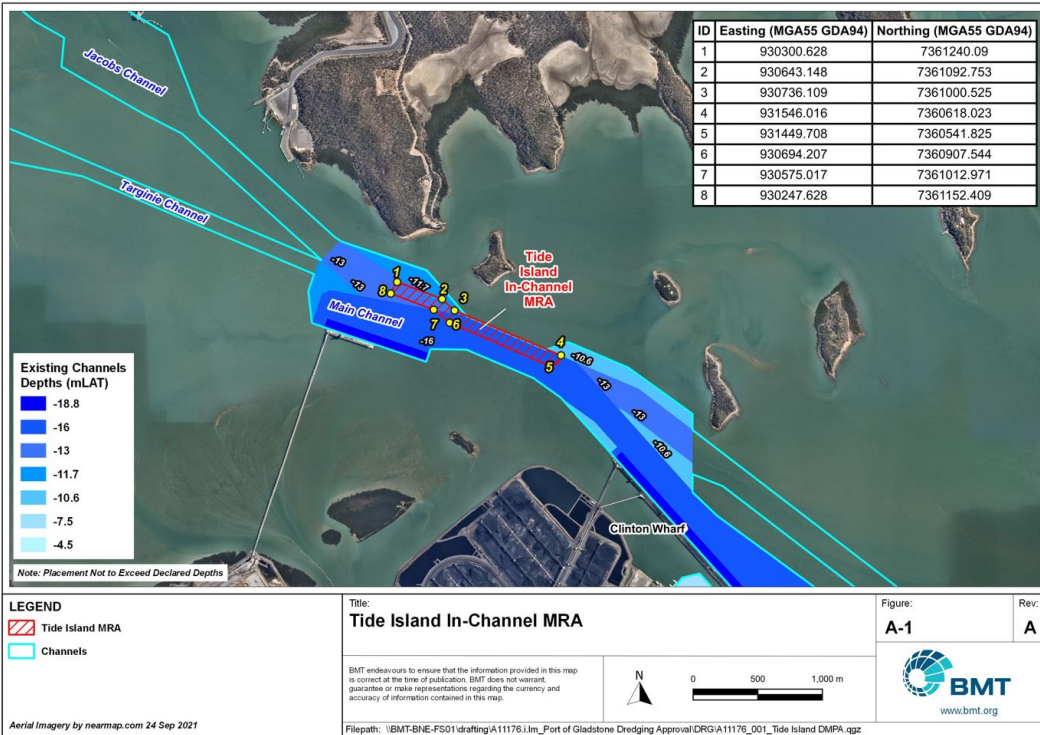


GPMF2 Figure 2 – Boyne River Bar Maintenance Dredging Section 86 Approval Details, drawing no. 702-00573, dated 6 November 2017



Schedule 3

Tide Island In-Channel MRA prepared by BMT dated 24 September 2021, Drawing Number A-1, revision A.



Clinton In-Channel MRA prepared by BMT dated 24 September 2021, Drawing Number A-2, revision B.

