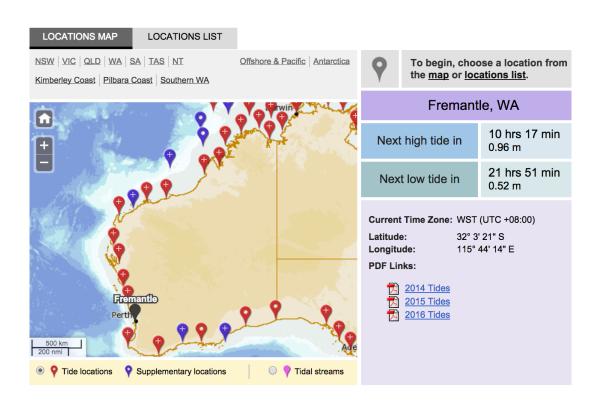
Supporting shipping with tide predictions

Safe access of shipping to ports is governed by the height and timing of the local tides. The Royal Australian Navy Hydrographer, the International Hydrographic Commission and the International Maritime Organization all require tide predictions to be provided for Australian ports in order to allow international shipping activity there. The Bureau of Meteorology's Tide Prediction Service provides tidal predictions for more than 700 locations around Australia. Ports Australia's 24 port and maritime authority members use this information to ensure safe, efficient commercial operations at Australia's major and secondary ports.



The tide predictions provided by the Bureau are critical for the safe navigation and passage of vessels arriving and departing from Australian ports. The predictions are used in dynamic under-keel clearance software systems, which enhance navigation for large ships in restricted waterways. The combination of both sets of data ensures maximum use of the tidal window for fully laden vessels, resulting in significant cost savings for the shipping industry.

Susan Fryda-Blackwell

Executive Officer
Ports Australia

Tide predictions are made by the Bureau of Meteorology for locations around Australia using tidal data collected by the Bureau and port and maritime authorities.

