

Aerial View of Whitstable Harbour Showing Ship Berthing Position



Whitstable Harbour General Information

Ships inbound for Whitstable Harbour should arrive at the Whitstable Street Buoy **two hours** before high water, where further information and berthing instructions will be conveyed to the ship by the Duty Harbour Officer. Ship to shore Communication is by VHF channel 9. Tide times and depths will be provided prior to approach. An under-keel clearance of 0.3m is recommended for all shipping movements.

The ship's master must declare any mechanical, structural or navigational defects before entering the harbour.

The first inward passage by a ship's master who has not visited Whitstable Harbour before must be conducted during daylight hours. If a ship's master has not visited the Harbour in more than 1 year, the same rule applies. In adverse weather conditions the Duty Harbour Officer may suspend a ship's arrival or departure.

Ship arrivals or departures are not to be conducted after the time of high water due to strong tidal currents crossing the Harbour mouth.

To mitigate the tidal influences, **ships should enter and depart during slack tide which starts approximately 1 hour before high water.**

For arrivals, the ship should reduce to steerage speed at the Oyster Buoy. The ship should maintain steerage speed so that the master can counteract any leeway the ship might make in its final approach and enter the harbour slowly so that it can stop in good time once inside the harbour entrance.

All arrivals are to be conducted bow first and all departures stern first.

Due caution should be always exercised due to fishing vessels, sailing boats, leisure craft and swimmers who may be encountered in the harbour and its approaches. The ship's horn should be used to clearly indicate the master's intentions. Tidal information for Whitstable Harbour is available in the Admiralty Tide Tables Volume One. Be aware that the harbour dries at low water. For navigational purposes Admiralty Charts 1607 and 2571 should be used.

Navigational Aids that will be encountered on Inward passage to Whitstable Harbour

WHITSTABLE STREET Fl.R.2s

COLUMBINE Fl.G.2s

COLUMBINE SPIT Fl(3).G.10s

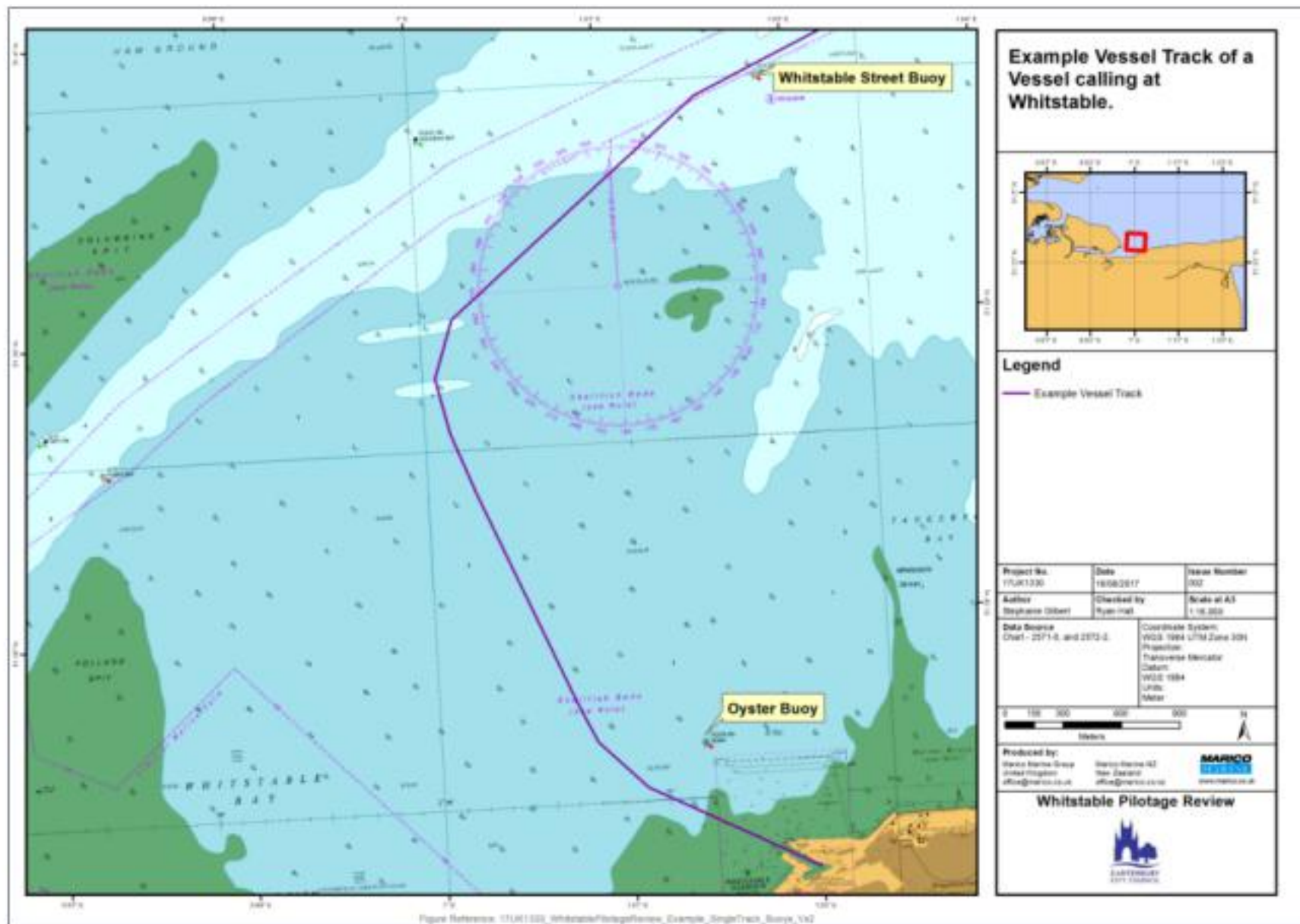
OYSTER Fl(2).R.10s

DOLPHIN Fl.G.5s

EAST QUAY ENTRY (vert)2FR

WEST QUAY ENTRY (vert)2FG

Whitstable Harbour Passage Plan



Whitstable Harbour Entry Details

