

Shipping & Transport – Tow Boat Reserves

description

This atlas page identifies the location of tow boat reserves, which were put in place by the Province of British Columbia at the request of the Council of Marine Carriers to ensure that certain harbours remain available as places of refuge for tugs towing booms and barges up and down the BC Coast. These harbours need to be of adequate size, be located along commercial navigation routes and provide adequate shelter to accommodate the tug and the load being towed. Certain harbours were identified as critical harbours because they meet the size, location and shelter criteria required. To ensure the harbour remains available as a harbour refuge, shoreline development is restrained and commercial traffic is provided priority anchorage. The tow boat reserves do not appear on Marine Charts. Some reserves include some shoreline development such as jetties and wharfs. Reserve use is variable with some sites being used only occasionally but all sites are important to maintaining safe navigation and ensuring adequate refuge for commercial marine traffic.

Tow boat reserves are set aside to provide temporary shelter for tugs and their tows during inclement weather or when waiting for favourable tides. To ensure these reserves are protected, the tow boat reserves were mapped to provide location information to Navigable Waters Protection Division (NMPD), Marine Branch, Transport Canada for consideration during navigational reviews and decisions made by the Marine Branch, Transport Canada.



data sources

• Transport Canada Pacific Region, Marine Branch, Navigable Waters Protection Division

data resolution

• Locations incorporate error of +/- 300 metres.

date compiled

• 2007

reviewers

• Brian Simms and Captain Phillip Nelson, Council of Marine Carriers

reviewer comments

• None provided.

caveats of use

- Data are based on a 1966 original drawing/map of reserves.
- Recommended date of expiry for use of these data in a marine planning context: None provided.

map, feature data and metadata access

• Visit www.bcmca.ca/data for more information.

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