The Environmental Protection Act 1986 imposes strict controls of noise emissions. Unnecessary or excessive noise is prohibited. Section 84 of the Regulations provides:

“84. Excessive noise emissions from vehicles or vessels

(1) A person who is the owner or driver of a vehicle or vessel which does not comply with any noise emission standard prescribed for the purposes of this subsection commits an offence. ”

Masters are therefore advised to restrict the use of their vessel's whistles whilst in port. Sound signaling devices may not be used to attract the attention of personnel ashore.

Nothing in this directive prohibits the use of sound signaling devices in the event of an emergency. The continuous sounding of the vessel's whistle may be used to indicate an emergency.

Masters of vessels visiting Esperance must ensure that at all times they are able to communicate with their Agent.

Harbour Master/Marine Manager/PSO
Southern Ports - Esperance
Email: pilots@southernports.com.au