Schedule 6 Requirements relating to Sydney Cove

1 Definitions

In this Schedule—

**Sydney Cove** means the whole of that portion of Sydney Harbour that lies south of an imaginary line drawn from the position of the northernmost fixed red beacon on Dawes Point to the position of the fixed red beacon on Bennelong Point.

*Note.* A map of Sydney Cove is available on the RMS website.

**wharf authorisation** means an authorisation (however described) given by RMS or Transport for NSW under the *Ports and Maritime Administration Act 1995* that permits a person to secure a vessel to a wharf, pier, jetty, landing stage or dock owned by RMS within Sydney Harbour or its tributaries.

2 Approvals required

(1) A vessel must not enter or operate in Sydney Cove unless—

(a) written approval has been obtained from RMS, Transport for NSW, the Port Authority of New South Wales or the harbour master, or

(b) there is a wharf authorisation for the vessel that has been given by RMS, Transport for NSW, the Port Authority of New South Wales or the harbour master.

(2) No sailing vessel may operate in Sydney Cove with sails hoisted except with the written approval of RMS.

3 General navigation requirements

A vessel must be operated at a safe distance from the Port Lateral Marker at Bennelong Point and Dawes Point when arriving or departing from Sydney Cove.

4 North/south rule

(1) Subject to this clause, a vessel must be operated on a northerly or southerly course within Sydney Cove.

(2) A vessel departing Sydney Cove to a place west of Sydney Cove must be operated on a northerly course until altering course to port to pass north of the diamond shape marking the centre of the Harbour Bridge unless it is clearly safer to do otherwise.

(3) However, a vessel may be operated other than on a northerly or southerly course while within Sydney Cove if—
(a) the vessel is being manoeuvred as required to relocate between wharves 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, in circumstances when it is safe to do so, or

(b) the vessel is restricted in its ability to manoeuvre.

5 The waiting line

(1) A vessel must not depart from a berth if the departure hinders a vessel that is south of the waiting line.

(2) A vessel must not proceed south of the waiting line unless its berth is vacant and there are no vessels hindering its approach.

(3) A vessel that is permitted to relocate between wharves 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 must not remain south of the waiting line if its destination wharf is not available.

(4) In this clause—

waiting line means the imaginary line drawn between the knuckle located at the northern end of the Sydney Cove Passenger Terminal building and the knuckle in the Opera House sea wall, located 150 metres south of Bennelong Point.

6 Special requirements for water taxis

(1) A water taxi waiting for the use of the Commissioners Steps and the Harbour Masters Steps must remain west of the taxi waiting line west.

(2) A water taxi waiting for the use of the Eastern Pontoon must remain east of the taxi waiting line east.

(3) Another vessel must not be permitted to raft up to a water taxi in Sydney Cove.

(4) Passengers must not be permitted to embark or disembark a water taxi at wharves 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 at Sydney Cove.

(5) A water taxi must give berthing priority to another vessel for which there is a wharf authorisation.

(6) In this clause—

raft up means to rope together a number of small vessels to form a raft-like structure.

taxi waiting line east means an imaginary line drawn along the western face of the Eastern Pontoon parallel to the sea wall extending south to the sea wall.

taxi waiting line west means an imaginary line drawn along the face of the Overseas Passenger Terminal wharf extending south to the sea wall.

7 Control of hull or propeller wash

(1) A vessel in Sydney Cove must not be operated in a manner that directs excessive propeller turbulence towards the Commissioners Steps or the Harbour Masters Steps when vessels are alongside those berths.
(2) A vessel must not be operated so as to generate excessive hull or propeller wash within Sydney Cove.

8 Berthing of certain vessels at Eastern Pontoon

(1) A vessel more than 12 metres in length berthing at the Eastern Pontoon must be berthed port side to except with the written approval of RMS.

(2) When departing the Eastern Pontoon, a vessel berthed port side to must be operated astern until the vessel is at least 200 metres to the north, then turned to starboard to head the vessel on a northerly course to leave Sydney Cove.

(3) A vessel departing the Eastern Pontoon must not hinder the operation of any other vessel in Sydney Cove.

9 Berthing of vessels in Sydney Cove without wharf authorisations

(1) This clause applies to a vessel in Sydney Cove that does not have a wharf authorisation.

(2) At least 1 member of the crew of a vessel to which this clause applies must—
   (a) remain on board the vessel, or within 5 metres of the vessel if ashore, and
   (b) keep watch in relation to the safety of the vessel, other vessels in Sydney Cove and any person boarding or on-board the vessel.

10 Vessels entering or leaving Campbells Cove

(1) A vessel entering or leaving Campbells Cove must be manoeuvred as close to the entrance to Campbells Cove as safe navigation permits so as not to impede other Sydney Cove traffic.

(2) This clause does not affect the requirements of clause 4.

11 Communications on VHF Channel 13

(1) The master of a vessel in Sydney Cove must monitor VHF Channel 13 at all times while the vessel is in Sydney Cove.

(2) The master of a vessel in Sydney Cove must immediately advise the Port Authority of New South Wales’ Vessel Traffic Service, Sydney on VHF Channel 13 of any matter affecting safe navigation of a vessel in Sydney Cove.