

Grounding

Grounding occurs mostly in shallow waters leading to interruption of ships trading. Many areas and rivers around the globe are recently suffering from severe droughts resulting in extraordinary low water levels.

Grounding results in ships being trapped in rivers and remote location where lightering and tug availability is very limited.

The following notes are few recommendations for Ship owners, Masters and Officers for prevention of grounding.

- Master should liaise with local Agents on tidal conditions prior to entering any river.
- Master should request assistance and guidance of a local Pilot / Authorities.
- Master should exercise extreme due diligence when navigating in rivers.
- Master should ensure that the vessel maintains a sufficient keel clearance at all times.
- Master should consider the exposure of cooling water intakes becoming blocked.
- Master should report any grounding so that under water survey is arranged.
- Master should remain until next high tide prior to attempting any refloat activity.