

Navigational Warning

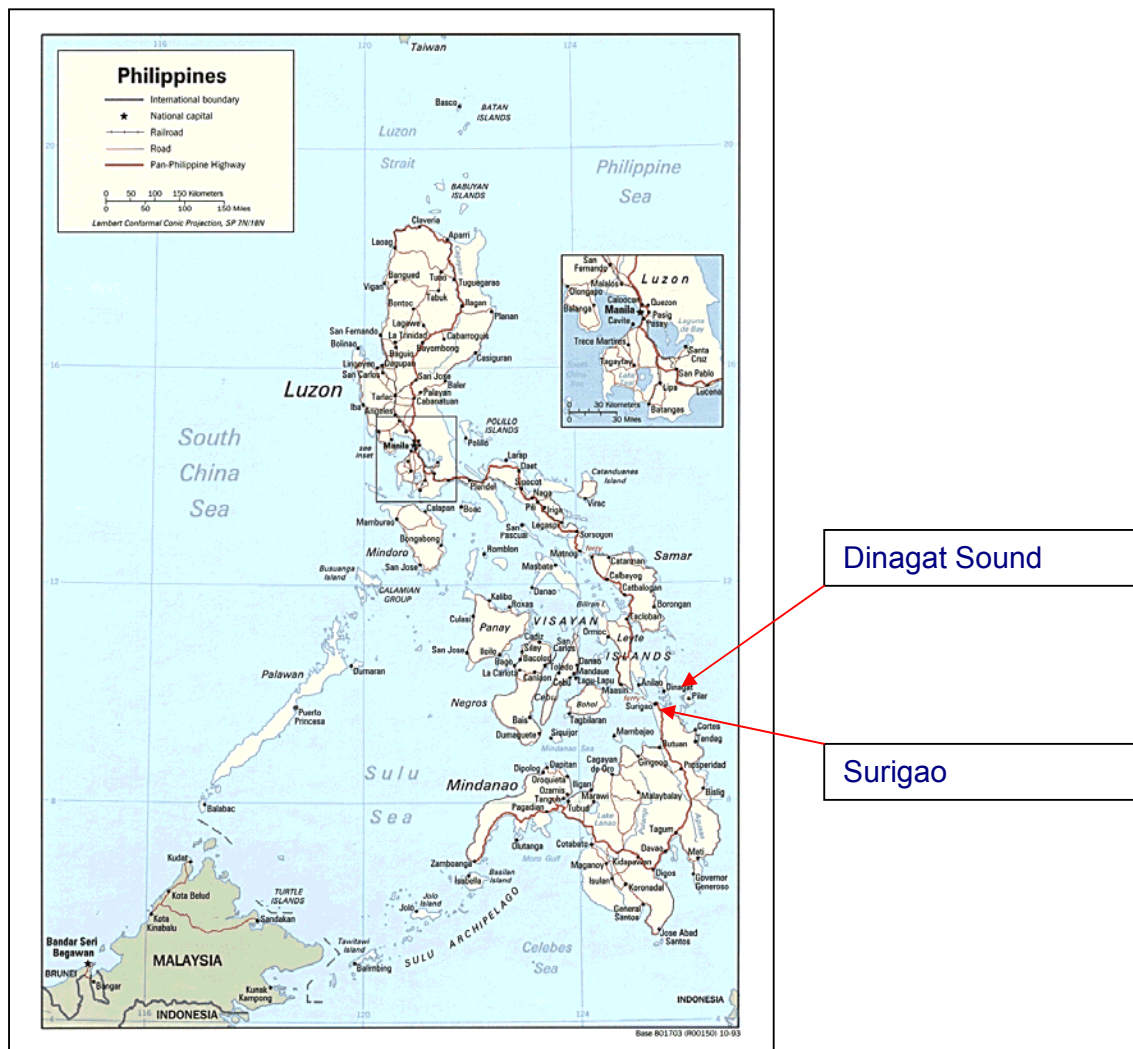


PANDIMAN PHILIPPINES, Inc.
P&I Correspondent in the Philippines

31st October 2007

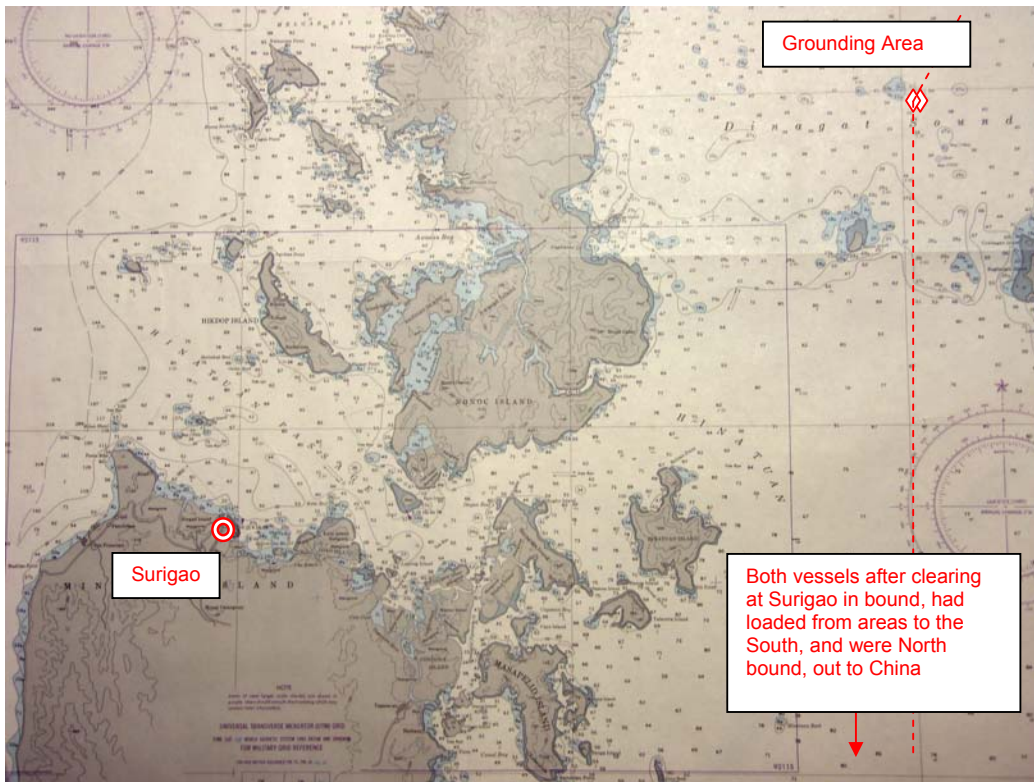
Location	Dinagat Sound, Mindanao, Philippines
Charts Affected	British Admiralty Chart 4475 United States Chart 92110 Philippine Chart 4629

We have attended two current incidents of Handy Max size bulk carriers running aground on an uncharted reef depth 10m (depth shown on charts 27.5m) after completion of loading Nickel Ore at Surigao in Mindanao, Southern Philippines. The trade in nickel ore has recently increased due to a demand for the ore in China, there is no infrastructure for loading which is done at various locations at remote anchorages from barges within the islands at areas quite distant from the port of Surigao itself.





Masters have chosen on departure to transit Dinagat Sound, this area is subject to strong currents and rip-tides particularly during the Monsoon period from September to February. On charts of the area the coral reefs and shoals in the Dinagat Sound are based on partial surveys from prior to 1930 and Masters should exercise extreme caution. The vessels involved had sailing draughts of 11.8m and 12.5m. Below is the grounding area in relation to the port of Surigao.



American Chart 92110 all depths in meters

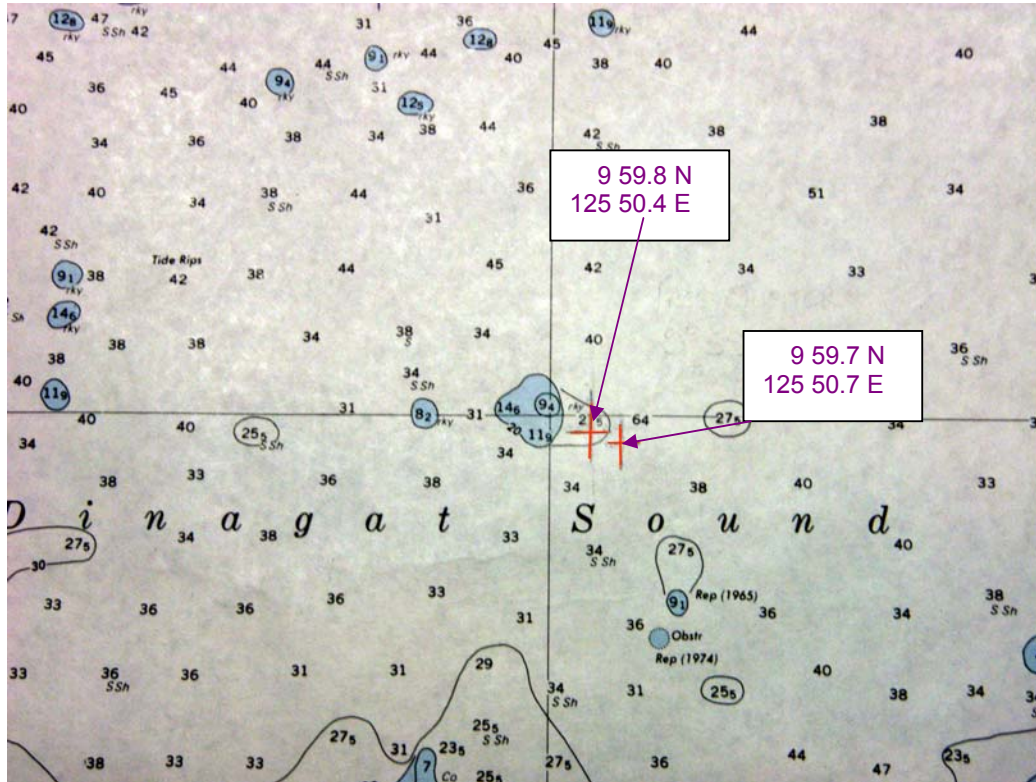
The grounding sites are

First grounding **09 59.8 N 125 50.4 E**
23rd September 2007

Second grounding **09 59.7 N 125 50.7 E**
21st October 2007



Details of grounding area



American Chart 92110, all depths in meters

There is a marked shoal showing a depth of 9.4m at 10 00.0 N 125 50.0 E, the two groundings occurring 5 cables and 7 cables SE of the shoal.

A Notice to Mariners (NM) is about to be promulgated by the Hydrographic Office (United Kingdom) Admiralty Notice to Mariners 5035/07 concerns this shoal and is published in weekly no 45/07 Chart BA 4475.

We have also updated the Philippines National Mapping & Resource Information Authority Coast and Geographic Survey Department.

Again Masters who are loading in this vicinity and on departure, transiting Dinagat Sound should exercise extreme caution.

For additional information on Nickel Cargo and the port of Surigao contact either andymalpass@skyinet.net or mis@pandiman.com

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