



*Trial 2020/21*

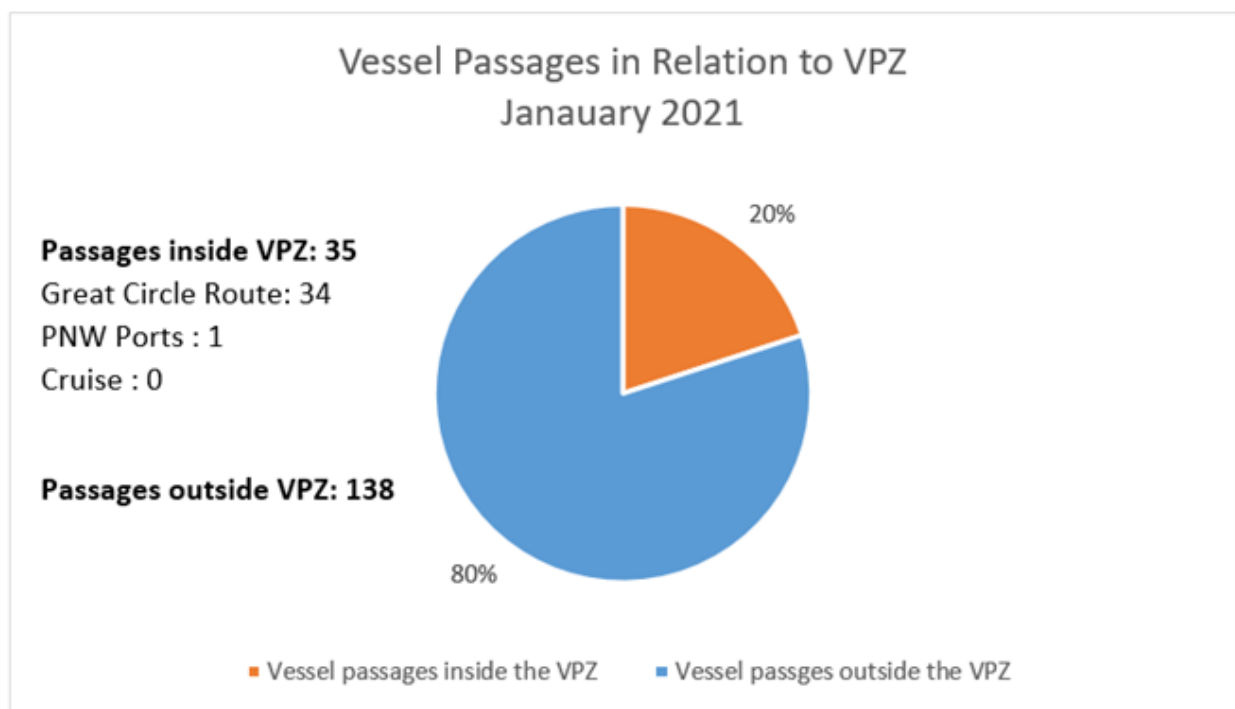
## **VOLUNTARY PROTECTION ZONE FOR SHIPPING**

### *Progress Report*

#### **January 2021 Progress Report**

Vessel traffic monitoring information for the [Voluntary Protection Zone \(VPZ\) for Shipping on the West Coast of Haida Gwaii](#) is provided through the [Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness](#) system and the Pacific Safety Initiative (US). The trial VPZ asks vessels to observe a minimum distance of 50 nm from the west coast of Haida Gwaii<sup>1</sup>. For the purpose of data collection vessel traffic is monitored to a distance of 200 nm.

During the month of January 2021, **173** commercial vessel transits were observed within the trial area. Of these, **138** transits, representing **80%**, took place outside the VPZ.



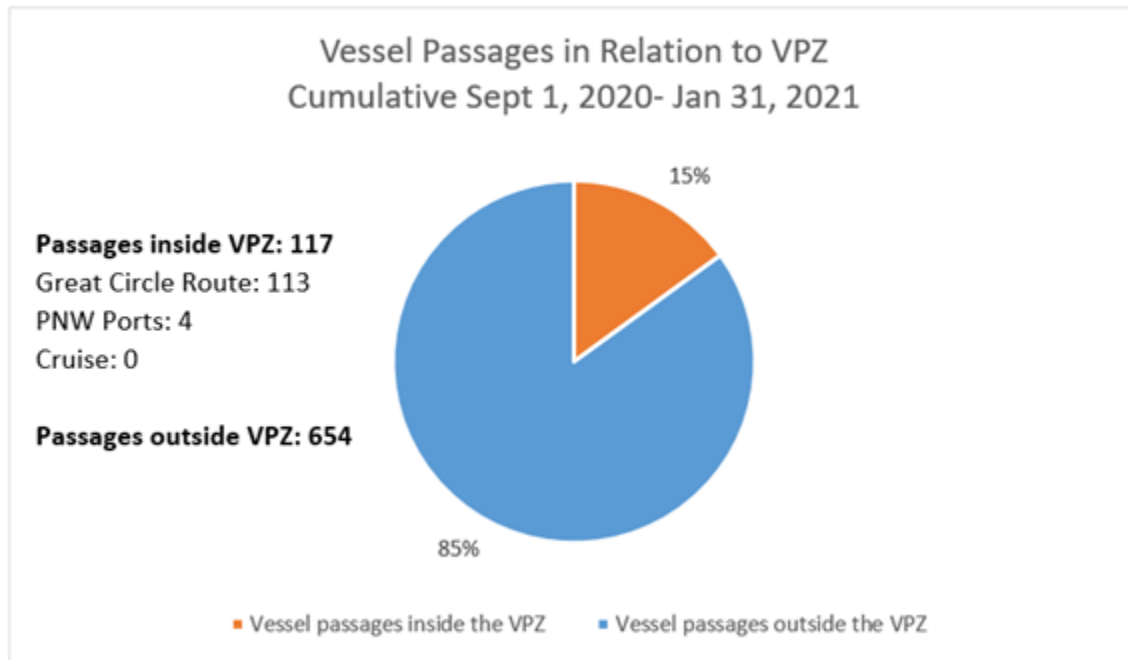
<sup>1</sup> Commercial vessels over 500 gross tonnage are asked to observe a minimum distance of 50 nm with the exception of vessels transiting between Pacific Northwest ports, which are asked to observe a minimum distance of 25 nm, and cruise ships which are asked to observe a minimum distance of 12 nm. Fishing vessels, and tugs and barges are not included in the trial.



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### **January Weather**

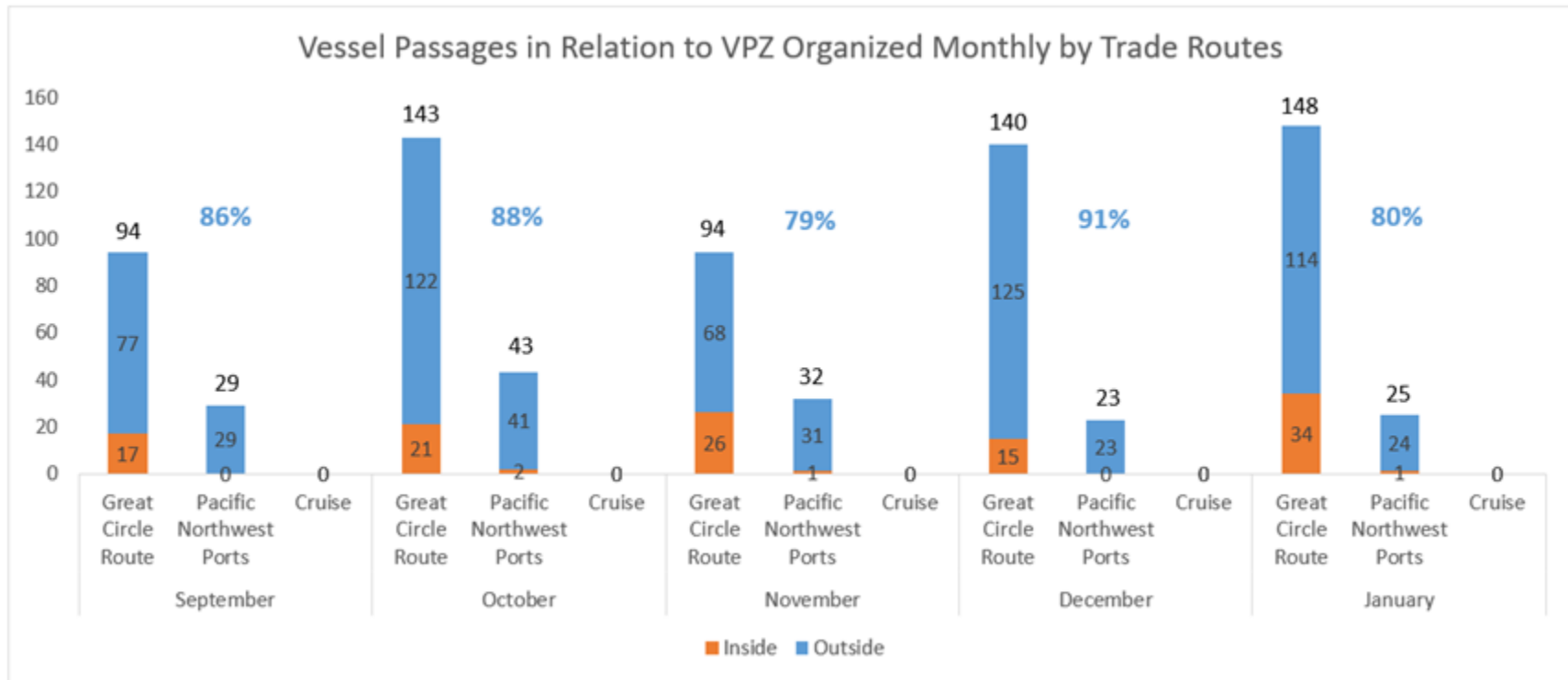
There were particularly strong weather systems near Haida Gwaii and across the Pacific throughout January. In some instances, vessels may have entered the VPZ to avoid adverse weather. The committee is analyzing weather data and communicating with Mariners to understand how January weather affected traffic patterns.



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#### Information and Questions

For more information on the trial, please visit [haidagwaii-vpz.ca](http://haidagwaii-vpz.ca). If you have questions please contact [info@haidagwaii-vpz.ca](mailto:info@haidagwaii-vpz.ca).

**We want your feedback!** If you are a mariner operating a commercial ship over 500 gross tons that transits along the west coast of Haida Gwaii we are interested in hearing from you. Please fill out a short survey by clicking [here](#).