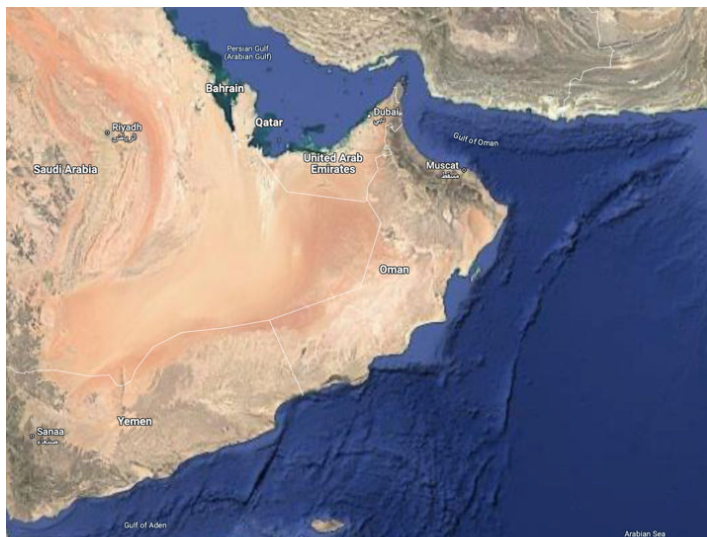


## Maritime Advisory – Iran / Israel (24 June 2025)

### Overview

The regional threat level remains **ELEVATED** for vessels operating in or transiting through the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Northern Arabian Sea due to growing geopolitical tensions and a rapidly evolving security environment. The nearly two-week conflict saw tensions significantly escalate between Iran and Israel, with US involvement intensifying the situation. As of 24 June, the impact on shipping operations remains relatively limited and vessel traffic remains largely unaffected – the Strait of Hormuz remains open with maritime traffic flows continuing. **These conditions could change quickly and vessels transiting or planning to transit the region in the coming days are advised to assess the security situation prior to entering the area, should be prepared to act on short-notice intelligence, and should ensure that crew are briefed on potential escalation scenarios.**



### Review of Recent Developments

- Geopolitical Situation
  - Since 13 June, Iran and Israel have been actively exchanging military strikes, escalating regional instability.
  - Between 21 – 22 June, the US confirmed strikes on three Iranian nuclear facilities – Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan – a major escalation with direct consequences for regional security.
  - In response, on 23 June, Iran fired missiles at the US Al Udeid Air Base in Doha, Oman. No casualties were reported, though several Gulf states temporarily closed airspace, signalling rising tensions.
  - On 23 June, US President Donald Trump announced a ceasefire agreement between Israel and Iran. As of 24 June, the fragile ceasefire appears to be in place.
- Maritime Impact (as of 24 June)
  - Strait of Hormuz
    - Remains open with no current interruptions to vessel traffic though situation remains fragile and subject to rapid change.
    - On 23 June, Iran's parliament passed a motion to close the Strait of Hormuz in retaliation for US strikes at the weekend; final decision pending the Supreme National Security Council – closure of Strait remains a credible threat.
  - Electronic Interference
    - Persistent GNSS disruption reported in the Strait of Hormuz, originating from the Port of Bandar Abbas and in the Central Arabian Gulf which appears to be excessively affected.
  - Operational Changes and Observations:

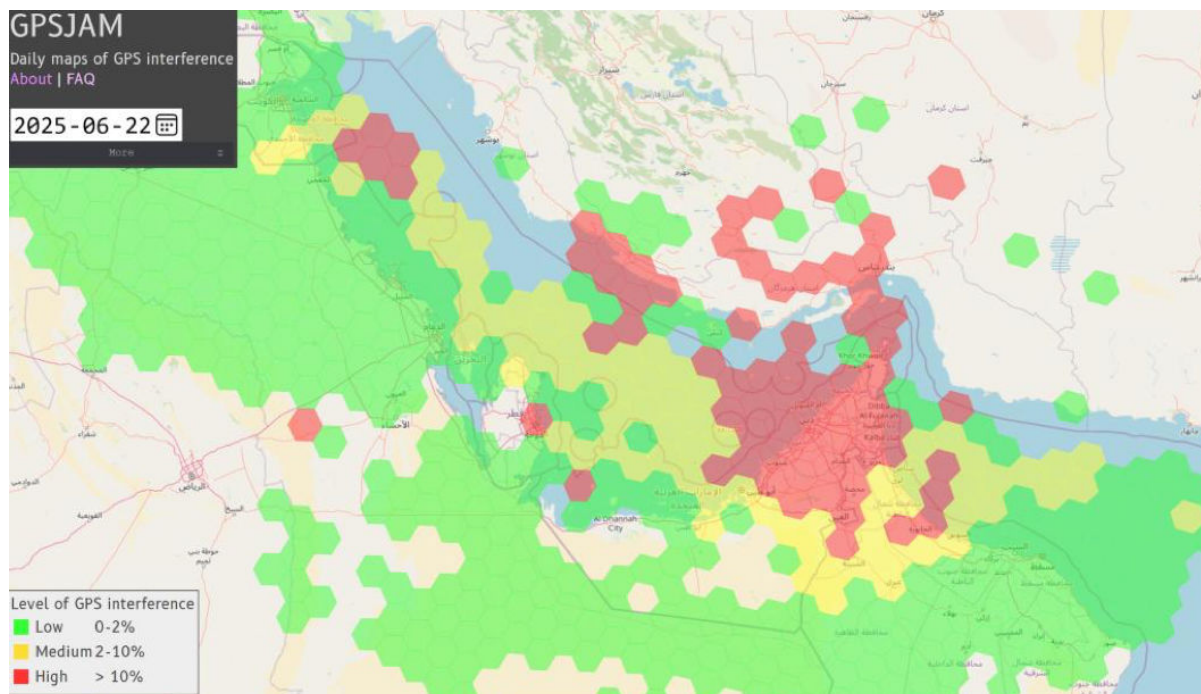
- Increasing number of vessels opting for daylight transits of the Strait of Hormuz
- Rising ship congestion reported in areas near Dubai and the southern Gulf of Oman

## Current Situation

- Threat Level as of 24 June 2025: **ELEVATED**
- Key Drivers:
  - Ongoing regional conflict – Strikes between Israel and Iran continue to take place, with US strikes at the weekend further complicating the situation.
  - Potential for retaliation by Iranian state or non-state actor, including the Houthis – elevated in the wake of US strikes at the weekend.
  - Strategic vulnerability of the Strait of Hormuz – remains open however Iranian authorities are examining options for a potential closure

## Current Maritime Conditions

- Arabian Gulf, Northern Arabian Sea: Ports remain open with no disruptions reported
- Israel: Ports remain open and operational
- Strait of Hormuz: Open and navigable; vessel movements ongoing without disruptions; reports of vessels moving only during daylight hours
- As of 24 June, UKMTO continues to receive reports of electronic interference stemming from the vicinity of Port of Bandar Abbas, in the Strait of Hormuz and several other areas in the Arabian Gulf (see image below)



SOURCE: UKMTO / JMIC Advisory Note

## Risk Outlook

- The security landscape is fluid and may deteriorate rapidly with little warning
- As of 24 June there has been no direct targeting of commercial vessels however,
  - Risk cannot be completely ruled out
  - Increased vigilance is recommended, particularly when transiting the Strait of Hormuz
- Potential threat scenarios
  - Strait of Hormuz remains a strategic chokepoint and any closure or disruption would have significant global implications, including for commercial shipping and global energy
  - Potential for strikes and other attacks targeting commercial shipping in the region, particularly vessels linked to Israel, US and other Western states.

## Recommendations

- A threat and risk assessment should be carried out prior to entering the Arabian Gulf and all necessary security and risk mitigation measures should be implemented while transiting in the region. The situation in the region remains fluid and the security environment could rapidly change, close attention to the ongoing situation is advised in order to adequately adapt to altering threats.
- Vessels should ensure that communication equipment is manned and functional at all times; should remain aware of the possibility of electronic interference and be ready with alternative options in the event that navigation aids fail.
- Vessels transiting this region are advised to maintain close contact with regional maritime security centres, including UKMTO and MSCIO, and should monitor official government and military advisories.
- Vessels should report any unusual activity or security incidents to UKMTO throughout the established Voluntary Reporting Scheme.
- Shipping companies are advised to apply BMP MS and should review contingency plans for routing, crew safety and welfare, and emergency response in the event that there is a significant regional escalation.
- When sailing through the above mentioned areas, adhere to the highest level of security measures and limit the number of crewmembers on deck during the voyages due to the elevated risk of casualties from missiles and drone strikes.