



Department of
Transport

Project Updates

Fascine Entryway Project



Progress continues

Progress is being made on a number of fronts as the Department of Transport (DoT) works to resolve long-term access issues at the Fascine.

Since our inaugural update in March, a contract has been awarded for new pens in the Carnarvon Boat Harbour and a number of studies have advanced. These studies not only provide updated data and information for ongoing investigations and also safe navigation, but confirmed a shorter environmental approval process for the project.

DoT is committed to providing the community with information about the Fascine Entryway Project and hopes you will share this email with other stakeholders and urge them to [register](#) for future updates.



Contract awarded for new Carnarvon Pens

Work has started on detailed design and construction of 16 new floating boat pens at Carnarvon Boat Harbour as investigations continue to find a sustainable long-term solution to Fascine access issues.

Following a successful tender process, SMC Marine has been contracted to deliver a concrete floating pen set to accommodate 16 vessels up to 15 metres long, with the works expected to take around seven months to complete.

More information can be found on the [DoT website](#). If you haven't already, register your interest in a new pen [now](#).



Metocean data collection

A good amount of data has now been collected from instruments deployed at various locations around the Fascine entrance.

The wave, current and water level data is being used in technical studies underway and includes wave measurements during Cyclone Seroja.

Measured waves off Carnarvon are not usually much higher than half a metre. However, during the passing of Cyclone Seroja in April, waves heights of 2.7 metres were recorded.

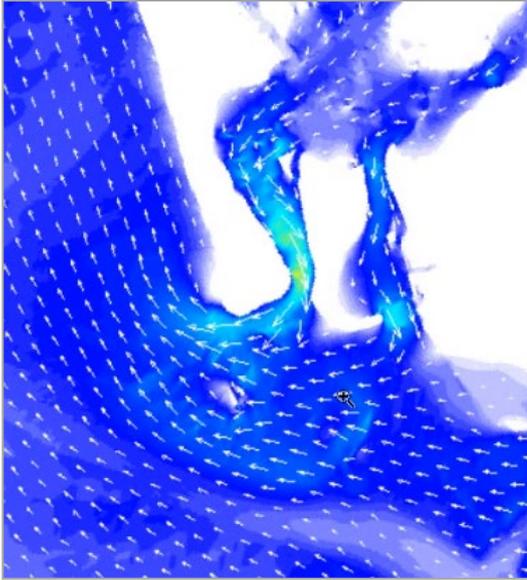


Hydrographic survey work continues in 2021

Understanding how, and how fast, changes in the Fascine entrance occur is key in identifying the most sustainable location for a new entrance channel. To assist our understanding, DoT's hydrographic survey team has surveyed the Fascine entrance seven times since 2020 and continues to do so every few months.

The data is being collected both from the water – with a survey vessel at high tide, and from land – with a survey buggy at low tide, as well as on foot or by kayak in less accessible areas.

To assist those currently navigating the Fascine entrance the latest survey results are available on the [DoT website](#).



Technical Studies

Any permanent solution to the Fascine access issue may involve an ongoing requirement for dredging and potentially a training wall.

A coastal processes study is underway to understand how creating a new channel would impact tidal flows and sediment dynamics in the Fascine entrance. The study will also try to predict how the Fascine entrance might evolve over time.

Another study is identifying the most suitable dredging methods and areas to dispose the dredged material. A possible location for dredged material is on the Fascine shore, along Harbour Road. Investigations are underway to estimate how much of the dredged material might be suitable for land reclamation and how the land could best be used.



Environmental studies

A study of migratory birds in the area has been completed. The study concluded that due to the minimal direct impact of the project on roosting areas or significant habitat areas, Commonwealth environmental approval isn't needed. This is good news for the project as it shortens the environmental approval process.

Bird counts from the study will be added to the database of Birdlife, the largest Australian bird conservation organisation.

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In August 2020 as part of the \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Transport (DoT) was allocated \$7 million to resolve the Fascine access issues at Carnarvon.

DoT is working with the Gascoyne Development Commission, the Shire of Carnarvon and the Carnarvon Yacht Club to progress the project for the community of Carnarvon, the region and the State. A detailed description of the various elements of the project can be found on the project website

We hope this update has been helpful to you and that you will share this email with others who can subscribe by [contacting the project team](#).

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