



Department of
Transport

Project Updates

Fascine Entryway Project



Welcome!

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](#).

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.



New Floating Pens in Carnarvon Boat Harbour

A new pen set in the Carnarvon Boat Harbour is being built to provide ocean access for vessels while a sustainable long-term solution is progressed.

Planning of the pen set is now complete and tenders have been received for the construction project which is expected to be awarded in May 2021. A total of 16 new pens are planned, as well as relocation of trapped vessels and pen-fee relief for relocated vessels meeting certain conditions.

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



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 that end, DoT's survey team collected survey data of the Fascine entrance four times in 2020, and will continue to collect data throughout 2021.

The information will help test the preferred East Channel, shown here, and other potential alternatives options to re-establish Fascine access.

All the options are now the subject of a coastal processes study and hydrographic data will help address the key questions including the stability of a new channel in such a dynamic area and the likely maintenance dredging requirements.

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



Metocean data collection critical

A good understanding of the wave and current climate at the Fascine entrance is also critical when determining a sustainable long-term access solution for the Fascine .

As there is no historic wave or current data in Carnarvon available, DoT's oceanographic team has deployed instruments at various locations around the Fascine entrance to collect wave, current and water level data. The data is being used in technical studies underway.

An initial finding of interest to locals boaties is that low tide within the Fascine occurs around 1h after low tide in the Carnarvon Boat Harbour while high tide occurs at the same time at both locations!



Environmental studies

Opening up the Fascine will need a significant amount of dredging so DoT is already taking the first steps towards the required environmental approvals.

Environmental studies have started, assessing what fauna and flora may potentially be impacted by any dredging operations. This includes mapping of the seabed habitat and a survey of migratory birds in the area.

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