

# Environmental impact assessment

Information Sheet | August 2023

## PROPOSED MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE CASUARINA BOAT HARBOUR AND KOOMBANA BAY, BUNBURY, WA

### ABOUT THE PROJECT



Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront (TBW) is a State Government-led project that is transforming underused areas into thriving destinations.

The original vision for the project was unveiled to the public in October 2015 and was well supported by the community. The first two stages are largely complete. These stages incorporate the Koombana foreshore revitalisation, Dolphin Discovery Centre redevelopment, reconstruction of the Jetty Road causeway, and Casuarina Drive redevelopment.

The first phase of TBW Stage 3 (TBW 3.1) is subject to environmental approvals at both State and Federal levels.

The Koombana Bay Marine Structures strategic proposal is for the construction and operation of small craft marine infrastructure in Bunbury. This strategic proposal identifies three future proposals:

The Koombana Bay Marine Structures strategic

- Casuarina Boat Harbour breakwater
- Koombana Bay Sailing Club marina
- Dolphin Discovery Centre finger jetty.

The construction of the future proposals will be undertaken in stages. The proposed marine infrastructure will be located adjacent to, or proximate to existing infrastructure in Koombana Bay.



### Highest level of assessment

An environmental assessment is being carried out to identify all potential impacts from the construction and operation of the marine-based structures proposed for TBW 3.1.

A six-week public comment period was conducted as part of the environmental review. This public comment period was 15 May to 26 June 2023.

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) will undertake a detailed assessment before finalising a recommendation to the Minister for the Environment. This recommendation will determine whether the Koombana Bay marine structures strategic proposal should be given environmental approval, and if so, what conditions should apply.

Have your say: [www.swdc.wa.gov.au/waterfront](http://www.swdc.wa.gov.au/waterfront).

A State Government project



## TIMELINE

Environmental Scoping Document ✓

Submit to EPA to endorse for public comment ✓

Public comment period ✓

Response to submissions ✓

# COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An environmental assessment is being carried out to identify all potential impacts from the construction and operation of the Koombana Bay marine-based structures proposed for TBW Stage 3.1.

The marine structures proposal is subject to an EPA formal level of assessment, set at the level of Strategic Public Environmental Review.

Detailed technical studies have been undertaken as part of the comprehensive environmental impact assessment process initiated in 2015. These include:

### Benthic Communities and Habitat

- > EPA Objective: To maintain the geophysical processes that shape coastal morphology so that the environmental values of the coast are protected.
- > Benthic communities are biological communities that live in or on the seabed.
- > Impacts to benthic communities and habitats will be minimised and managed through the implementation of the Marine Construction Monitoring and Management Plan (MCMMP).

### Coastal Processes

- > EPA Objective: To maintain the geophysical processes that shape coastal morphology so that the environmental values of the coast are protected.
- > The implementation of an approved Management Plan will ensure that operation of the marine structures, which will lead to minor alteration to coastal processes, will not result in long-term negative impacts on the Koombana Bay foreshore environment.

### Marine Environmental Quality

- > EPA Objective: To maintain the quality of water, sediment and biota so that environmental values are protected.
- > Impacts to the marine environmental quality will be minimised and managed through the implementation of a project specific Dredge Spoil Disposal Management Plan (for Casuarina Boat Harbour only) and MCMMP.

### Marine Fauna

- > EPA Objective: To protect marine fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.
- > Proposed management measures will include methodologies that reduce underwater noise generation; marina fauna (dolphin) monitoring undertaken by dedicated marina fauna observers; and ongoing education of boat users regarding impacts of vessel movements on marine fauna.

Note: See Table 5 in the SPER document for an overview of the impact mitigation framework applicable to Benthic Communities and Habitats.

More info available at:

[www.swdc.wa.gov.au/waterfront](http://www.swdc.wa.gov.au/waterfront) or [tbw@swdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:tbw@swdc.wa.gov.au)