



APRIL 2025
INFORMATION SHEET



Transforming
Bunbury's
Waterfront

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



High-Level Environmental Assessment Approval Secured

The first phase of TBW Stage 3 (TBW 3.1) has been 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:

- Casuarina Boat Harbour breakwater and associated marine facilities (Department of Transport - DoT)
- Koombana Bay Sailing Club (KBSC) marina
- Dolphin Discovery Centre (DDC) finger jetty.

A comprehensive environmental impact assessment was carried out to identify all potential impacts from the construction and operation of the marine-based structures proposed for the three future proposals under TBW 3.1. The detailed technical studies that have been undertaken include Benthic Communities and Habitat, Coastal Processes, Marine Environmental Quality and Marine Fauna.

A six-week public comment period was conducted as part of the environmental review from 15 May to 26 June 2023. Throughout this time the TBW project team conducted various information sessions, presentations, displays, webinars, and newsletters to provide information and be available for questions on the project.

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) then commenced a formal detailed level of assessment set at the level of Strategic Public Environmental Review (SPER) which included a public appeals process. A recommendation was finalised to the Minister for the Environment and approval was granted via a Ministerial

Statement issued on 28 June 2024. This statement details required environmental management plans and monitoring, compliance and other mandatory conditions.

Each of the three future proposal proponents listed above (DoT, KBSC, DDC) must then seek approval from the EPA for their specific proposal, which draws from the June Ministerial Statement. The Casuarina Boat Harbour breakwater and associated marine facilities future proposal was submitted in July 2024 and achieved final approval in August 2024. Preparatory works have begun including water quality monitoring and debris clearance (where the foundation of the breakwater will be).

The EPA website details the full process undertaken for the SPER and has a comprehensive list of the studies undertaken and the conditions imposed in the Ministerial Statement.

To find out more visit: epa.wa.gov.au/proposals/koombana-bay-marine-structures

Or the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront website for links to the EPA site swdc.wa.gov.au/project/transforming-bunburys-waterfront

A State Government project



Government of Western Australia
Department of Transport





Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment

An environmental assessment was 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 was subject to an (EPA) formal level of assessment, set at the level of Strategic Public Environmental Review (SPER).

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



Benthic Communities and Habitats

EPA OBJECTIVE:

To protect benthic communities and habitats so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.

- > 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 the 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 addressed minimised and managed through the implementation of a project specific Dredge Spoil Disposal Management Plan (for Casuarina Boat Harbour only) and CMP 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.