

Fact Sheet | Eden Breakwater wharf extension project

July 2017 Update

Dredging begins

Over the next few months the community of Eden will see the dredging equipment move into the Snug Cove.

This marks the start of the \$44 million project that includes a new wharf and associated infrastructure for cruise ships to berth within Snug Cove.

Jointly funded by the Australian Government (\$10 million), New South Wales Government (\$32 million) and Bega Valley Shire Council (\$2 million), this project is an important multi-government initiative to drive economic diversity in the region.

Work will commence in August 2017, with the dredging and associated scour protection works expected to be completed by February 2018, with a 24 hour, seven day a week schedule.

The dredging contract has been awarded to Heron Construction Ltd, an experienced operator in Australia and New Zealand for more than 50 years.

Heron Construction plan to use a back hoe dredge with two split hopper barges to remove the material from the Snug Cove berth pocket.



A typical back hoe dredge that may be used in Eden
(Source: www.heronconstruction.co.nz)

Up to 231,500 cubic metres of sand and rock will be dredged out of Snug Cove to create a berthing pocket approach channel.

To accommodate cruise ships with an overall length up to 325 metres at the new wharf, there will be a minimum clear depth of 10.5 metres when finished.



A typical split hopper barge assisted by a tug boat
(Source: www.heronconstruction.co.nz)

The material dredged out of Snug Cove will be disposed of at a dedicated offshore disposal site, which is approximately six nautical miles off the coast.

This disposal location was previously used by the naval wharf dredging program and is managed by the Australian Government.



Typical scour protection being lowered into position
(Source: www.subseaprotectionsystems.co.uk)

The dredging works will also include installing 4,000 square metres of scour protection to protect the finished wharf from the turbulence created by cruise ship propulsion systems.

Marine structures

Once dredging in Snug Cove has been completed, the work on the marine structures can begin.

The marine structures are shown in the artist's impression below and include:

- an extension of the existing breakwater wharf to a length of 110 metres
- installation of three mooring dolphins and two berthing dolphins

- installation of three new land side mooring bollards within the current breakwater wharf area
- installation of minor services including lighting, power and potable water, and navigation aids.

Tendering for the marine structures contract closed on 23 June 2017, with work expected to begin in early 2018.



Artist's impression of the finished wharf extension and three mooring and two berthing dolphins

The planning process

The project was declared as State Significant Infrastructure by the NSW Minister for Planning in 2016, which means extensive environmental studies are done before planning approval is granted.

Development consent is required before any work starts. Consent is provided by the Department of Planning & Environment and takes into account public submissions and matters raised by other agencies including the NSW Environmental Protection Authority, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Office of Environment & Heritage, NSW Health and Bega Valley Shire Council.

A dredge licence will be issued by the Environmental Protection Authority after the development consent is received.

This will be the last licence required as all others, including a referral decision under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and a Sea Dumping Permit, have been issued.

For more information

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