

Empire Bay Marina and Boatshed

Project Update - April 2021



Project facts

Crown Lands has taken over the care, control and management of the Empire Bay Marina following the cancellation of a private operator's licence due to significant and ongoing breaches.

We are committed to:

- Keeping the public safe by restricting access to the site due to structural defects.
- Undertaking a contamination investigation and remediating the site if required.
- Keeping the public informed about future plans for the site.



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Project update

Crown Lands is undertaking a contamination investigation of the site. Preliminary test results indicated the need for further targeted sampling and testing for antifouling agents (tributyltin), heavy metals, and acid sulfate soils.

Additional testing is ongoing, and a contamination assessment report will be finalised shortly.

Crown Lands will then consider contamination findings and any remediation requirements.

A floating silt curtain will be installed around the site in coming weeks to minimise sediment, debris and other pollutants entering the waterway.

Background

On 8 September 2020, Crown Lands revoked the Empire Bay Marina operator's licence due to significant and ongoing breaches of the licence conditions, and the licence holder's failure to rectify the issues.

Crown Lands has since taken control of the site.

Due to structural defects and other issues, the jetties, walkways and buildings are unsafe. The boat shed poses a safety risk to the public and the site has been fenced off, with access restricted.

Due to the site's history as a commercial marina, with associated slipway and fuel storage, there is the potential for contamination. Crown Lands has engaged a consultant to investigate the site and determine remediation actions that may be required.

What will happen to vessels moored at the site?

Owners of vessels moored at the site have been contacted by Crown Lands and requested to find alternative mooring locations for their vessels. All boats need to be removed to address unlawful occupation, mitigate safety concerns and allow contractors full access to the site.

If vessels are not removed, Crown Lands will commence compliance action on vessel owners including fines.

Consultation

We will continue to consult with relevant stakeholders on the future of this site.

Further updates will be provided shortly and published on the project website:

<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/public/notifications/empire-bay-marina>