

Yorkeys Knob new boat ramp

Project overview

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is progressing the construction of a new recreational boat launching facility at Yorkeys Knob.

The new boat ramp and associated on-land facilities will be constructed on vacant state-owned land outside Yorkeys Knob Boating Club and Half Moon Bay Golf Club, with an access road on state land between the two clubs. The ramp will be built immediately west of the existing harbour at Yorkeys Knob, outside the western marina breakwater.

This new facility will improve safety, reduce existing congestion on nearby roads, and reduce wait times and 'ramp rage', which means more time out on the water for local boaties.

Consultation in mid-2018 provided valuable insights for TMR that were considered during these investigations. This community feedback will continue to inform the detailed design.

Revised concept plan

The revised concept plan in *Figure 1* (page 2) is a result of detailed hydrodynamic modelling to define the best breakwater and boat ramp configuration.

The proposed new access road will be two lanes with a pedestrian walkway positioned to minimise impacts on the existing habitat.

The proposed car-trailer parking area has been developed to provide a maximum number of 165 car-trailer unit parks (CTU) within the project footprint.

This number of CTU parks is an increase above the minimum 90 CTUs discussed during the planning phase. The final number is subject to input from Cairns Regional Council (council) and the detailed design process.

Investigations report findings

The investigations report found no environmental impacts that would negatively influence the feasibility of the project.

The identified impacts can be managed through an environmentally sensitive design and best practice management of construction activities.

The most sensitive environments are mangrove habitat and the adjacent terrestrial areas that will be disturbed by the construction and operation of the access road to the boat ramp facility.

The coastal processes modelling showed that minimal maintenance dredging is likely to be required in the boat ramp basin and access channel to the new facility.

The breakwater configuration has been refined using modelling to minimise siltation and wave action, and integrate effectively with the existing marina breakwaters.

Next steps

- consultation with boat club on breakwater design
- consultation with golf club on fencing design
- further geotechnical and hydrology investigations
- detailed design phase
- environmental approvals
- tendering and construction.

Timeframes

Construction is planned to start in late-2020. This is dependent on several factors including approval permits. Timeframes may change as the project progresses.

For more information

For more information please contact the project team:

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Figure 1 – Yorkeys Knob boat ramp revised concept plan