

COMMUNITY UPDATE 8

Breakwater Construction

September 2021

The breakwater construction is progressing well at Ocean Reef Marina. Two local WA businesses – WA Limestone and Italia Stone Group, are undertaking the works. They recently reached a key milestone with half the total length of the breakwaters now constructed. Once complete, the new breakwaters will be approximately two kilometres long and up to 18.5 metres high from the ocean floor. Breakwater construction is expected to be complete by mid-late 2022.



Southern breakwater – August 2021

Extraction activities at Byford and Neerabup quarries are ongoing, providing 950,000 tonnes of granite and limestone for the breakwaters.

Truck volumes are now at their peak, with approximately 20 trucks per day making around 200 trips to and from the two breakwater sites.

Recent project highlights

Breakwater viewing areas

Two new viewing areas have been installed to the north and south of the marina site.

The northern viewing area is located approximately 250m north of Resolute Way, along the coastal path. The southern viewing area is in line with Swanson Way, around 350m south of the breakwater.

The viewing areas offer a broad view of the breakwater progress, and provide locals and visitors with information on the construction process and marina, including stories and memories from Traditional Owners that will be interpreted in the development.

Local school engagement

On 8 September, the project team welcomed Year 11 students from Ocean Reef Senior High School to participate in a site excursion. The marine science students learnt about the project scope and activity on site being delivered by a team of technical specialists and professionals across a variety of fields including engineering, property development, project management, environmental approvals, and community relations. The students also toured the breakwater sites by bus. A special thanks to the staff and students for their interest in the project and participation.



Students visit the new northern breakwater

**Feb-March
2021:**
Site
preparation,
clearing and
earthworks

**Apr 2021-
Sept 2022:**
Construction of
the two
breakwaters

Early 2022:
Removal of the
existing
breakwaters

Late 2022:
Breakwaters
completed

Abalone growing on the breakwaters

In the last few months, marine engineers have identified numerous abalone habitat growing on the inner and outer sections of the northern breakwater. The breakwater appears to have created an artificial reef for the abalone. The abalone spawning period commenced as of 1 June and concludes on 31 October.



Abalone growing on the breakwaters

Mitigating potential impacts

We understand some of our neighbours are experiencing impacts from construction. We are committed to working with the contractor to reduce these impacts as much as possible, while still allowing construction to progress.

Limestone blasting process

As a part of the quarrying at Neerabup, blasting takes place to mine the limestone. The blasting process includes using “signal tubes” drilled into the rock and across the blasting surface. Although the Contractor is removing the majority of the signal tubing both at the quarry and at the breakwaters, we are aware that small amounts have been found on nearby beaches. The signal tubing is safe to touch, and the project has engaged local suppliers to walk the surrounding beaches six times a week to collect any excess, as well as other general rubbish unrelated to the works. The project team will continue to work closely with local stakeholders, including Department of Water, Environment and Regulation, to mitigate these impacts.

Dust and vibration

In July 2021, vibration monitoring was undertaken between the two breakwater sites, and nearby properties. The monitoring results confirmed all activity was well within the industry guidelines. Although some minor, intermittent vibration may be perceptible at nearby residences, the results confirmed levels that were safe for surrounding properties.

To help mitigate potential dust from the sites, a new coating of hydro-mulch was applied to the northern breakwater sand stockpiles in early September. A wheel washer is also in use for truck and vehicles leaving the sites, and the roads are cleaned regularly by a street sweeper.

Truck movements and safety

All trucks travelling to and from the breakwater sites are using approved routes. Details of these approved routes are available on the project webpage. The Contractor holds ‘Toolbox Sessions’ with its workforce, and regularly reminds drivers about their safety obligations, including in school zones and not overtaking cyclists travelling along Ocean Reef Road. Main Roads Transport Officers regularly inspect trucks accessing the sites to ensure compliance.



Transport Officer inspecting a truck at the northern site

Working with the community

Construction Working Group Meeting

A Construction Working group meeting was held on 26 May. The group was presented the latest information on the project, and discussed key project challenges and opportunities with the team including safety on nearby roads, traffic management, and mitigation for potential dust, vibration and environmental impacts. The next meeting is anticipated in October and will include a site tour for members.

Stay up-to-date

Once the new breakwaters cross, work will commence on removing the current harbour breakwaters. This is anticipated to commence in early 2022.

Truck volumes are also likely to decrease later this year.

We will continue to provide regular updates to surrounding residents on the breakwater works and what to expect as construction progresses. The breakwater construction webpage will be updated as new information becomes available at yoursay.developmentwa.com.au/ocean-reef-marina. For further information on the breakwater works or to speak to someone about the project, please call our information line on **1800 943 121** or email us at oceanreefmarina@developmentwa.com.au

KEEP IN TOUCH

Please contact our community information line or get in touch by email if you have any questions or concerns regarding construction works. Register to stay informed on our website and get in touch through our Ocean Reef Marina project channels.



1800 943 121



oceanreefmarina@developmentwa.com.au



Developmentwa.com.au/oceanreefmarina



@oceanreefmarina



Yoursay.developmentwa.com.au/ocean-reef-marina