

Point Richards Boat Ramp Upgrade

April 2022

Better Boating Victoria is funding the delivery of the Point Richards boating facility upgrade. Stage 1 works to add 50 additional boat/trailer parking bays has been completed. Stage 2 involves the of construction of a rock groyne to the west of the boat ramp. Works are due to commence in May 2022 and are expected to finish by mid-2022.

Point Richards boating facility upgrade: Stage 2 Construction

Better Boating Victoria (BBV) is collaborating with Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management (Bellarine Bayside) to deliver the upgrade of the Point Richards boating facility. As part of Stage 2 works, a rock groyne is to be constructed to the west of the ramp.

The rock groyne has been designed to decrease the amount of seagrass build-up at the boat ramps, reducing closure to ramp lanes throughout the year whilst the seagrass is removed. A contract has been awarded by Bellarine Bayside and construction works will begin from early May 2022. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 12-14 weeks.



What's been happening?

Stage 1 of the upgrade was completed in late August 2021. The upgrade provided 50 additional car & trailer parking spaces, improving traffic flow around the ramp and increased formalised parking.

Stage 2 involves the of construction of a rock groyne to the west of the boat ramp to reduce build-up of seagrass at the ramp.

Detailed designs have been prepared and necessary environmental and cultural heritage permit and approvals have been obtained

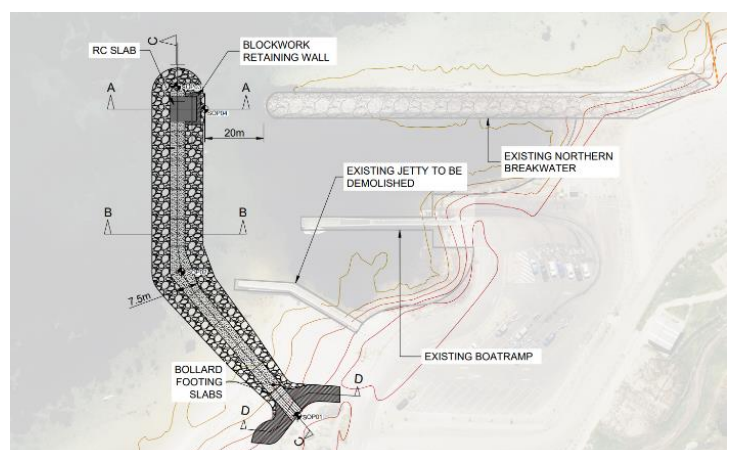
Extensive consultation with traditional owners, community members and local user groups has been undertaken, including numerous Bellarine-based angling and boating clubs, Portarlington Community Association, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and City of Greater Geelong.

What happening next?

Construction works will commence in early May 2022 is scheduled for completion in mid-2022. The contractor will commence site establishment and construction activities shortly.

BBV will continue to update boaters and the local community on any specific impacts to access at the ramp as the project progresses.

For more information and project updates go to our website at <https://betterboating.vic.gov.au/ramp-upgrades/point-richards-stage-2/>



FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the Point Richards boating facility getting an upgrade?

The Victorian Government identified Point Richards as a priority for upgrade as part of its \$47.2 investment to make recreational boating easier and cheaper. The upgrade to the Point Richards boating facility is occurring in two stages, with the carpark completed in 2021 followed by the rock groyne works in mid-2022.

Which contractor has been awarded the works?

A specialised marine rock moving company 'Dirt, Rock, Civil' has been awarded the contract and will complete works on behalf of Bellarine Bayside.

When is construction due to start?

Works are due to commence in early May 2022. Project completion is expected mid-2022.

Will I be able to use the boat ramp when construction is taking place?

Due to safety reasons and the nature of the construction works, the boat ramp is anticipated to be closed for approximately 10 weeks. Better Boating Victoria will work with the facility manager and contractor to minimise the closure impacts.

Where can I launch and retrieve my boat if the ramp is unavailable?

The nearest boat ramps include:

- Clifton Springs Boat Ramp, Jetty Road 10.2km,
- Indented Head Boat Ramp, Wrathall Reserve, 10km,

For more information on local boat ramps please visit: <https://geelongaustralia.com.au/boating> or download the [FREE Boating Vic app](#).

Can I still access the sailing club and Miniature railway?

Yes, access to both of these destinations will be provided during construction works.

Will I still be able to use the bike/foot path?

Once construction has commenced a site fence will be established to limit public access to the works area. However, the bike/foot path will be diverted safely around the site compound and clearly signposted.

Will the new rock groyne impact seagrass and sand accumulation along the Ramblers Road foreshore?

Detailed coastal processes modeling has been completed by coastal engineers. The rock groyne will **not** have a wider impact on the nearby beaches and foreshore reserves.

What will impact of the groyne have on vessel navigation?

As part of the groyne design, a full aid to navigation assessment has been completed. Access will now be from the north-west, marked by buoys.

Will seagrass continue to build up on nearby beaches?

Yes – seagrass meadows offshore will continue to deposit seagrass along the nearby beaches and foreshores. This naturally occurs seasonally in response to weather events. The rock groyne will reduce build up seagrass at the boat ramp. All design works are based on the results of detailed coastal processes modelling undertaken to better understand the issues associated with the seagrass build up currently impacting the ramp.

Will dredging at the boat ramp still be needed?

Yes, due to the dynamic nature of coastal processes at Point Richards, sand movement will continue to occur at the boat ramp. The design allows for a long-reach excavator to access the rock groyne to complete maintenance dredging of the channel entrance when required.

Will we get regular updates to let us know how the project is progressing?

For regular updates and more information please go to: <https://betterboating.vic.gov.au/ramp-upgrades/point-richards-stage-2/>

Need more information?

Find out more about the government's recreational boating initiatives at www.betterboating.vic.gov.au

