

Rhyll Boat Ramp Upgrade

Frequently Asked Questions

March 2022

Stage 2 construction works are due to begin shortly for the Rhyll Boat Ramp upgrade.

Better Boating Victoria together with Bass Coast Shire Council are delivering an important upgrade to the Rhyll boat ramp.

The Rhyll boat ramp is one of six boating upgrades being delivered as part of the Victorian Government's unprecedented investment in recreational boating.

To minimise impact on the peak boating season, the project is being delivered in two stages. Stage 1 works were completed in September 2021. Stage 2 works will begin in late February 2022 and run through to September 2022. The boat ramp will be closed for the duration of Stage 2 works.

What will the project involve?

The project involves replacing the existing three-lane facility with a boat ramp extending deeper into the bay allowing all-tide operation, two new fixed and floating pontoon jetties, new fish cleaning tables(s??) and car park upgrade.

What's happened already?

Stage 1 works were completed last year and involved upgrading the ramp's western car park to create larger car and trailer parks.

What's happening next?

Stage 2 works will begin from February 28 and will include:

- Replacing the existing three-lane boat ramp and extending the lanes deeper into the water to allow for all-tide access
- Installing two new fixed and floating pontoon jetties
- Upgrading the main car park and resealing entire surface.
- Fish cleaning tables

Monthly updates will be provided on the Bass Coast Shire Council website.

Who is managing this project?

This project is being delivered by Bass Coast Shire Council.

In addition, Bass Coast Shire are coordinating regular meetings with a Community Reference Group made up of key stakeholders from the local community. The role of this group is to provide feedback on issues relating to the upgrade.

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

Due to the type of works, access to the boat ramp cannot be provided during construction. Works are due to commence at the end of February 2022 in June and the facility will be open again in early September.

Where can I launch and retrieve my boat while the Rhyll boat ramp is closed?

The nearest boat ramps are located at Newhaven, Cowes, and Corinella. For more information on local boat ramps please visit <https://www.boating.vic.gov.au>

How will the upgrade improve congestion issues in Rhyll?

New extended pontoons and redesigned carpark will facilitate more efficient launching and retrieval. In addition, we've added a dedicated boat preparation lane. This will increase the efficiency at which traffic flows and vessels can be launched and retrieved, reducing queuing.

Will the playground and shipwrecks be impacted?

Bass Coast Shire Council will be installing a new play space concurrent with the facility upgrade.

Following the maritime archaeologist's investigation in 2020, the 'Genista' and 'Ventnor' were found at depths that mean they won't be impacted during the upgrade construction works and permit to proceed with works has been granted by Heritage Victoria.

Will I still be able to use the playground during construction?

No. Once construction has commenced a site fence will be established to limit public access to the works area. This closure is necessary to ensure everyone's safety during construction. Pedestrians will be diverted around the work site.

Will the environmental values of Western Port be protected?

The contractor will develop an environmental management plan to ensure that the construction works do not impact the environment. Furthermore, a Maritime Archaeological component of the Heritage Impact Statement was prepared together with an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study. Council will ensure the recommendations in these reports are applied to the design and construction, including the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* consent process, to ensure the environmental and cultural heritage values of the area are protected.

How are you going to protect the marine environment during construction?

The construction contractor has prepared an Environmental Management Plan to ensure the upgrade is undertaken in an environmentally sensitive manner strictly in accordance with all environmental regulations and industry best practice.

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

Monthly updates will be provided on the Bass Coast Shire Website. For more FAQs and updated information please go to: www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/rhyllboatramp

Need more information?

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

