

# Have your say – Crowdy Head Boat Harbour proposed infrastructure upgrade



Artist impression of the concept design for Crowdy Head Boat Harbour infrastructure upgrade

The NSW Government is delivering major improvements to maritime infrastructure and facilities statewide, to help the boating and wider community safely access, use and navigate our inland and coastal waters.

## Background

Transport for NSW is seeking your feedback by **1 July 2022** on the proposed upgrade of the infrastructure in Crowdy Head Boat Harbour.

The NSW Government recognises the continued need to support the renewal and upgrade of boating infrastructure and facilities throughout the state.

Crowdy Head Boat Harbour is an important harbour on the mid-north coast for boat users, as it is a safe and accessible harbour with no river mouth or coastal bars to cross. The western jetty (Jetty 2) has been out of service since 2010 and with the eastern jetty (Jetty 1) nearing the end of its useful life, it is in need of some major maintenance or should be replaced.

In December 2020, the NSW Government announced \$2 million of maritime stimulus funding to replace the Crowdy Head Boat Harbour Jetty.

## Crowdy Head Boat Harbour



Crowdy Head Boat Harbour Concept Design

## Benefits of the project

The project aims to deliver:

- Improved accessibility and safety for vessels using Crowdy Head Boat Harbour
- Increased safety for users of the harbour by upgrading infrastructure to meet relevant modern design standards and requirements
- Improved community access and use of the harbour.

## What are we proposing?

The objective of the project is to improve safety and accessibility for users of the harbour by upgrading the main harbour jetty (Jetty 1) and removing the decommissioned jetty (Jetty 2). Our project proposal includes:

- Removal of the concrete Jetty 1 structure and replacement with a new floating pontoon structure
- The new Jetty 1 will provide 18 vessel berths serviced with individual water and electricity supply. The concept design accommodates various vessel sizes and includes one temporary or short-term berth to be used for overnight stays or distressed vessels
- Removal of the already decommissioned Jetty 2
- Dredging of the harbour to improve navigation and clearance depth for vessels.

## Review of Environmental Factors

The project is in early stages of planning and development. A concept design and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) has been developed and we are now seeking your feedback on the project.

The REF is a planning document which looks at the concept design and construction impacts in more detail. The document includes an assessment of the existing environment and expected impacts of the project, including heritage, traffic, visual, noise and vibration impacts during construction.

The REF is now available for you to view on our web page. Hard copies will also be available for you to view at the Crowdy Head Surf Club, the Harrington Library and MidCoast Council Office.

There are many factors that make the construction of the Crowdy Head Boat Harbour challenging, including working in a tidal and marine environment. Of particular note some of the features outlined in the REF include:

### Community access during construction

The project team will work with Marine Rescue and other commercial operators to maintain access to the boat ramp and harbour during construction.

From time to time, for safety reasons, there may be intermittent closures of the boat ramp or areas of the harbour as needed. We will notify you of this prior to any changes.

### Identification of marine animals and plants

We are aware that Crowdy Head Boat Harbour, like most harbours become home to a range of marine plants and animals. As part of the REF, underwater inspections and investigations were undertaken to identify these. Of significance during the field investigations, two Olive Ridley Turtles, which are a vulnerable species, were observed.

We also included animals that were not observed during the field investigations but noted that they are likely to live there based on habitat evidence such as the White's Seahorse, which is also considered a vulnerable species. Management of the marine animals and plants is outlined in detail in the REF, with several mitigation measures that would be implemented on the project, including:

- Develop a Marine Ecology Management Plan, which will include;
  - An animal relocation plan
  - Divers to inspect water and relocate any animals prior to construction
  - Installing seahorse hotels are commonly used on maritime projects to provide new habitats and homes for seahorses as part of the relocation plan
  - We have limited the dredging area away from critical seagrasses and habitats along the breakwall and will carry out dredging with a method that will reduce impacts to the seabed and result in less turbidity
  - Silt curtains to limit the extent of any turbidity that could be generated.

With mitigations in place, the REF noted that it is unlikely for this project to significantly impact threatened species listed as likely to occur, including Marine Turtles, White's Seahorse, and the Black Rock Cod.

### Dredging activity

The last major dredging activity was completed in 2010. We will be completing the dredging of the harbour as part of this project.

The concept design demonstrates the dredging area we are proposing. We are looking at providing a safe vessel clearance of between 2.6 and 3.0 meters. The dredging for the boat ramp is carried out by MidCoast Council, which is why it is not included in our dredging area.

Dredging will be carried out early in construction after the removal of Jetty 1 and 2. The predicted amount of sand to be removed from the harbour during this dredging activity is up to 12,000 cubic metres.

The REF looks at a number of potential sites for sand placement. Our preferred location is the southern side of Crowdy Head (back crowdy) near the cliffs, where dredged sand has been placed previously.

### Project timing

The proposed upgrade will take about six months to complete, weather and tides permitting. We expect construction to start once all project approvals are gained, and a contractor has been appointed. We will keep you informed of the progress of these activities and the start of construction.

### Construction hours

The work hours during construction will be **7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturday**. Work outside of these hours would only occur to allow for tidal conditions and with relevant approvals, and we will notify you before any work outside the standard hours occurs.

## Information sessions

We will be hosting information sessions for the community to meet with the project team and ask questions at the following locations:

Crowdy Head Surf Life Saving Club,  
557 Crowdy Head Road, Crowdy Head

- **Wednesday 22 June 2022**  
**between 1pm and 6pm**

Harrington Memorial Hall,  
2 Pilot Street, Harrington

- **Thursday 23 June 2022**  
**between 1pm and 6pm**

There will be no presentation, so you can drop in anytime during the sessions above and ask any questions.

## Have your say

The proposal for the Crowdy Head Boat Harbour infrastructure upgrade is now on public display until **Friday 1 July 2022**. Feedback received during the public display period will help Transport for NSW understand what is important to the community. It will also help in preparing plans for managing impacts during construction and will be updated in the REF. Please provide your feedback via:

- NSW Government Have your say page:  
Visit: [nsw.gov.au/have-your-say](https://nsw.gov.au/have-your-say)
- Email: [crowdyheadjetty@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:crowdyheadjetty@transport.nsw.gov.au)
- Phone: **1800 973 343** (toll free)
- Crowdy Head Boat Harbour Infrastructure Upgrade Maritime Branch, Transport for NSW  
33 James Craig Road  
Rozelle NSW 2039

Have  
your say

## Project timeline



June 2022  
22.112

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## Next steps

Feedback received on the project, its concept design and REF will be carefully considered as part of the project approval and in the detailed design for the project. We will also develop a submissions report and publish the outcome of the have your say process.

We will be continuing with early planning and development. This includes:

- Complete the have your say process
- Complete and publish submissions report
- Seek approval for the project to proceed
- Seek tenders for construction.

Construction will only start once all approvals have been finalised and a determination on the project has been made by Transport for NSW.

## Frequently asked questions

A full list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is available to view on our website.

## Contact us

If you would like more information about the project or would like to be added to our distribution list to receive email updates on the progress of the project please contact our project team:

-  **1800 973 343** (toll free)
-  [crowdyheadjetty@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:crowdyheadjetty@transport.nsw.gov.au)
-  [nswroads.work/crowdyhead](https://nswroads.work/crowdyhead)
-  **Crowdy Head Boat Harbour Infrastructure Upgrade Maritime Branch, Transport for NSW  
33 James Craig Road  
Rozelle NSW 2039**



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