



Coffs Harbour Dredging

Have your Say

October 2025



Transport for NSW is committed to improve and sustain accessibility to key coastal locations, river entrances and local waterways to improve navigation for commercial and recreational vessels.

Dredging is an important waterway management activity that assists in maintaining navigation channels and provides access to maritime infrastructure that is otherwise restricted by natural sand shoaling.

In this update

Find out about:

- Have your say during October 2025
- The proposed dredging operation
- Information sessions
- How to provide your feedback
- Next steps.





Have your say

Transport for NSW has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) that will give us environmental approval to dredge when needed for the next 10 years in Coffs Harbour.

Your feedback will inform the project

We have been working with the local council and other agencies during the development of the REF and we would now like your feedback on proposed future dredging operations for Coffs Harbour.

The REF describes the key features of a dredging project and assesses the potential environmental and social impacts during construction and operation.

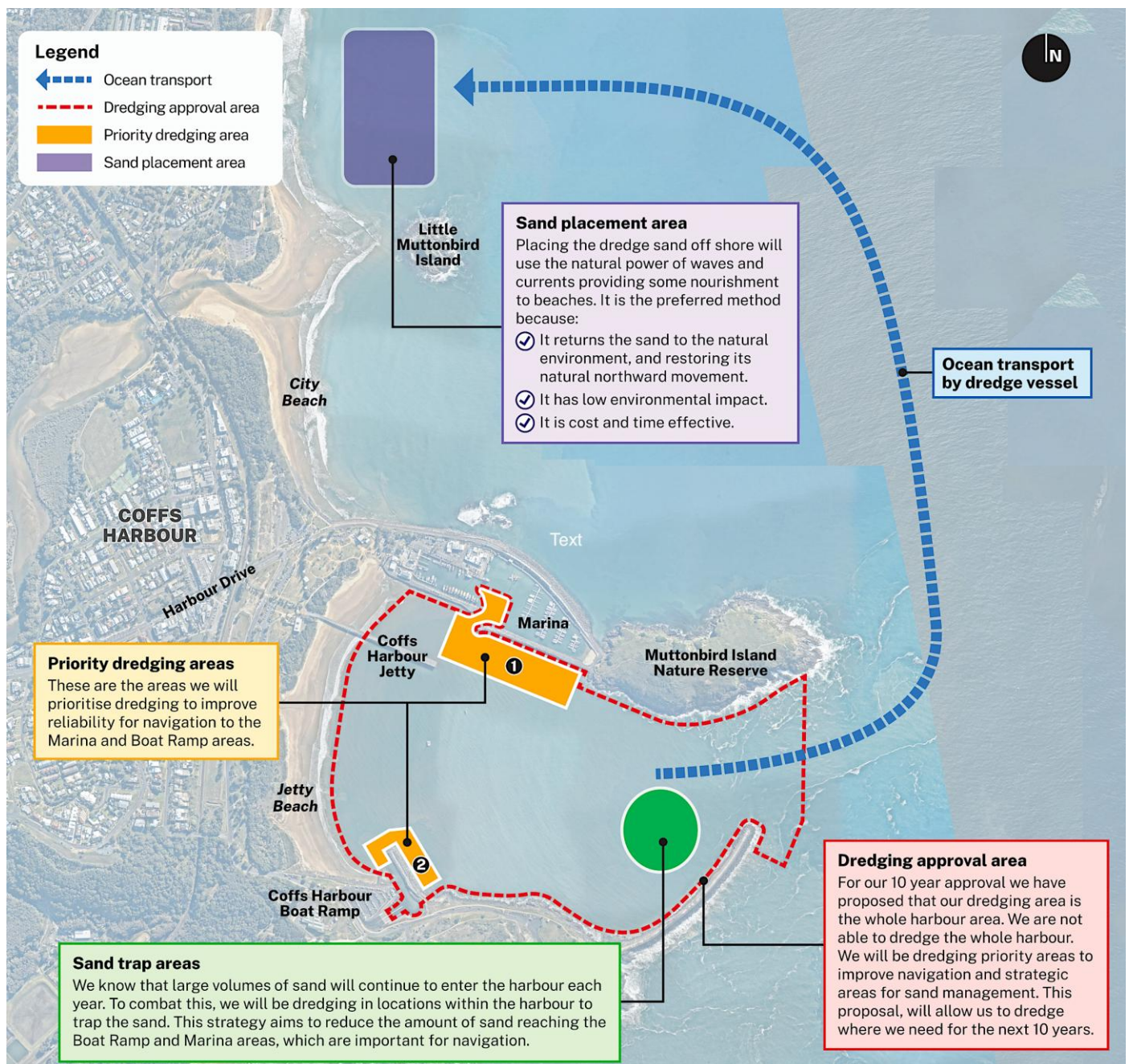
Your feedback will help finalise our plans and the REF. We will then review all feedback and share a Submissions Report with the results.

The proposal

We are proposing a 10-year dredging program to maintain the depths within the harbour, particularly for the entrances to the Coffs Harbour Marina and Boat Ramp. This will help keep these important boating facilities navigable and accessible. Key details of the proposal are:

- An initial dredging campaign in early 2026 to remove a minimum of 100,000 cubic metres of sand. More sand may be removed subject to infilling rates and available funding
- Maintenance dredging every 1-3 years depending on how fast the sand builds up and available funding to remove about 100,000 cubic metres each time.
- Dredging the Marina channel to a depth of -4.5 metres LAT (Lowest Astronomical Tide).
- Dredging the Boat Ramp channel to -2.5 metres LAT.
- Placing the dredged sand offshore, about 150 metres north of Little Mutton Bird Island and 100 metres from the Park Beach shore.

Coffs Harbour Dredging Map



Sand Management

Coffs Harbour is a challenging environment for sand management due to the large volumes of sand that enter the harbour. Included in the REF we have completed a sand management study. It shows that, as part of the natural coastal sand movement approximately 150,000 cubic metres of sand moves northward from Boambee Beach annually. Of this volume, it is estimated that 100,000 cubic metres of sand enters the harbour and is prevented from moving northward along the coast.

The evolving harbour design, which saw in 1924, the completion of the northern breakwall. Soon after, in 1927 the southern reclamation was finished. Then 1946, the southern breakwall was built. These changes have affected how sand moves around the area, leading to a build-up in the harbour. Our project aims to dredge sand from the harbour and return it back to its natural northward movement.

It is not possible for us to dredge the whole harbour. Our main objective for dredging is to maintain safe navigation to critical boating infrastructure. At Coffs Harbour we will also be trialing a method of targeted removal, creating “sand traps” to assist with impacts to navigation at the Marina and Boat Ramp.

Next steps



Develop environmental approval (REF)

March – October 2025

WE ARE
HERE

Have Your Say - Seek community feedback on 10-year environmental approval

13 October – 3 November 2025



Publish the Submissions Report

Late 2025



Start first dredging campaign

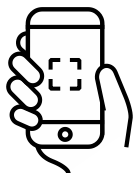
First half of 2026



Finish first dredging campaign

First half of 2026

How to Have Your Say?



Scan the QR code to Have Your Say via a quick survey on our 10-year dredging proposal.

Or you can email us your feedback and comments. Alternatively, you can call us and speak to one of our staff members.

View the REF

Give us your feedback on our dredging proposal. The REF will be on display at the following locations from **Monday 13 October 2025** until **Monday 3 November 2025**:

- **Harry Bailey Memorial Library**, Yarrila Place, Level 2, 27 Gordan Street, Coffs Harbour
- **Toormina Library**, Minorie Drive, Toormina
- **Woolgoolga Library**, Ganderton Street, Woolgoolga

You can also view and download the full REF from our project website.

Information Sessions

We will be available for you to drop by to chat with the project team at **Coffs Harbour Yacht Club**, Ground Floor Meeting Room at 30 Marina Drive, Coffs Harbour, on the following dates:

- **Monday 20 October**, 3 pm to 6 pm
- **Tuesday 21 October**, 11 am to 2 pm



Contact us



Project Info line **1800 271 100**



dredging@transport.nsw.gov.au



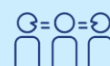
To give your feedback go to:
haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/coffs-harbour-dredging



MIDO Dredging
Locked Bag 5100
Rozelle NSW 1450



Visit our website for more information go to:
www.transport.nsw.gov.au/coffs-dredging



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