

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the Rhyll boating facility getting an upgrade?

Based on advice from various stakeholders including the boating community, the Victorian Government identified six facilities that need priority upgrades - Rhyll, Hastings, Mordialloc, Queenscliff, Point Richards and the Cowes Jetty.

These locations are popular boating facilities that need to meet future recreational boating demands and more pressure as Melbourne's population grows.

What does the Rhyll boating facility upgrade project involve?

The project involves replacing the existing facility with a three (3) lane boat ramp extending deeper into the bay allowing all-tide operation; two new fixed and floating pontoon jetties; car park upgrade and other land-side infrastructure.

Who is managing this project?

This project is being delivered by Bass Coast Shire Council.

Council is committed to ensuring that the project attracts companies that utilise local content with relevant expertise.

A Project Control Group (PCG) has been convened to provide guidance on the project. The PCG includes representatives from Council, Better Boating Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Maritime Safety Victoria, Parks Victoria and Victorian Fisheries Authority.

In addition, Better Boating Victoria have established 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.

Can I contact the Reference Group?

The following members of the Community Reference Group can be contacted for information on the project:

Albert Abram – Rhyll-Phillip Island Angling Club
zorkalva@outlook.com
0413 034 701

Steve Walker – Boating Industry Association of Victoria
steve@biavic.com.au
0466 918 368

Cheryl Overton – Rhyll Slipway Trust
rhyllslipway@outlook.com
0427 680 483

Jim Kiley – Rhyll Community Association
rhyllcommunityassociation@outlook.com

Mark Membrey – Commodore, Rhyll Yacht Club
Mark.membrey@hotmail.com

Linda Marston – Island Voice
linda@marston.com.au

How much is the project costing?

It is anticipated delivery of the entire upgraded facility will be in the order of \$4.5 million.

Funding is from the State Government's investment into boating in Victoria. Better Boating Victoria is overseeing the government's boating commitments and is working with Council to deliver the project.

Can I see the plans?

Plans are available to view online at:

<https://betterboating.vic.gov.au/ramp-upgrades/rhyll/>

or

[Rhyll Boating Facility Upgrade | Bass Coast Shire](#)

What stage is the project at?

Completed:

- Better Boating Victoria commissioned a specialist port and coastal engineering firm to develop concepts that the community were consulted on.

- Assessment to identify Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage values
- Maritime archaeological excavation to uncover and identify the shipwreck known as ‘Ventnor’
- Diver Survey to investigate the shipwreck known as ‘Genista’
- Geotechnical and site investigations and survey to inform the design

Underway:

- Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA) awarded contract for detail design of ramps, fixed and floating pontoon jetties, car park upgrade and other land-side infrastructure
- Orchard Design have been appointed to lead playspace design

When will construction start?

There will be two construction windows aimed at minimising disruption to boating and Snapper fishing season.

Stage 1 - on site works are planned to be undertaken between June and August 2021, pending approvals

This work will focus on the car park reconfiguration.

Stage 2 - will involve the marine component – jetties, pontoons and boat ramp lanes. These works will be programmed for delivery in February/March 2022 and completed prior to August 2022.

These timeframes are subject to potential delays from the weather and environmental conditions.

Where can I get updates on the project?

Visit Council’s website at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/rhyllboatramp for the latest updates.

Is this boat ramp going to have a webcam?

Yes – it went live in December 2020.

A livestream of the Rhyll boat ramp is available, giving boaters a better view of the conditions before they hit the water. The ramp and carpark images are available on the Boating Vic app and website at www.boating.vic.gov.au.

You can access real-time footage of the boat ramp and the car park, at the same time as local weather details which will help boaters to be better prepared and make safer decisions.

Will the ramps be open for snapper fishing season?

All possible measures are being considered to schedule the upgrade works around the Snapper season to keep the ramps open during the 2021 and 2022 seasons.

Alternative boat ramps are available during the construction window periods.

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

During each construction stage the entire boat launching facility, including the boat ramps and car park, will be closed until the works are complete for that stage. This closure is necessary to make the most of the window between the close and open of the Snapper season and to ensure everyone's safety during construction.

What about the businesses that are directly affected?

Council officers are working with the community and businesses to minimise impacts and identify transition arrangements.

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

Site Locations can be found on this link

<https://www.boating.vic.gov.au/ramps/>

The nearest boat ramps include:

Cowes Boat Ramp – at the end of Anderson Road

Newhaven Boat Ramp – at the end of Seaview Street

Corinella Boat ramp – at the end of Peters Street

Other boat ramps in the area:

Inverloch Boat Ramp at Port of Anderson Inlet – The Esplanade
Mahers Landing – Mahers Landing Rd, Inverloch
Tooradin Boat Ramp – at the end of Mickle Street
Hastings Boat ramp – on Marine Parade

I've got a commercial vessel where do I launch?

See above for launching options.

How are you going to manage the environment and cultural heritage issues?

A Maritime Archaeological component of the Heritage Impact Statement was prepared together with a preliminary Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study.

Council is currently working through the recommendations in these reports, 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 company will be required to prepare 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.

When is the next Drop-in Information session?

The next Drop-In Information session is planned for mid-April 2021 (date to be decided) at the Rhyll Angling Club Shelter.