

Coffs Harbour Northern Breakwater Upgrade

June 2015

The Northern Breakwater

The upgrade to the Coffs Harbour northern breakwater will increase public safety and reduce the frequency and severity of damage inflicted on moored vessels and infrastructure by storms.

The breakwater is also an important tourism asset with more than 100,000 people using the northern breakwater to access Muttonbird Island every year. The works are part of the NSW Government's significant investment in regional coastal infrastructure.

The new wall will increase the level of protection to people, property and boats at the Coffs Harbour marina by preventing waves overtopping the breakwater.

A contract has been awarded to local company FM Glenn to manufacture 1,200 concrete blocks as part of the future upgrade to the Coffs Harbour northern breakwater.

The concrete blocks that weigh 12 tonnes each are known as Hanbars and will eventually be placed along the Northern Breakwater as part of the wall upgrade.

The manufacture of the Hanbars will take up to 26 weeks and cost \$2.5 million.

The design is being finalised with works on the breakwater scheduled to commence in early 2016.



The Work Plan

The work proposed for the northern breakwater will be carried out in three key construction stages.

Stage 1 will extend the Marina Boardwalk along the inner face of Coffs Harbour northern breakwater from the most eastern Marina Pontoon to Muttonbird Island to allow safer access for people.

Casting of the concrete ("Hanbar") armour units and placement at the Northern Breakwater would also allow an alternative for people to access Muttonbird Island during the construction of Stage 3.

Stage 2 will widen the breakwater so that larger construction equipment can access the breakwater for Stage 3 works.

When completed, the stage 2 widening will provide safe pedestrian access from Veterans Park and North Wall Beach through to the breakwater and access to Muttonbird Island and the harbour.

Stage 3 consists of placement of concrete Hanbars to protect people and infrastructure at the more exposed eastern end of the breakwater.

Access to eastern breakwater would be maintained during the construction phase of the Hanbar casting including pedestrians and emergency vehicles but some of the car park maybe taken up by the casting yard.



Preserving the view

A key objective of the design is to not impact on existing views.

The area adjacent to the Boat Marina between the Fish Co-op and Muttonbird Island is subject to large waves.

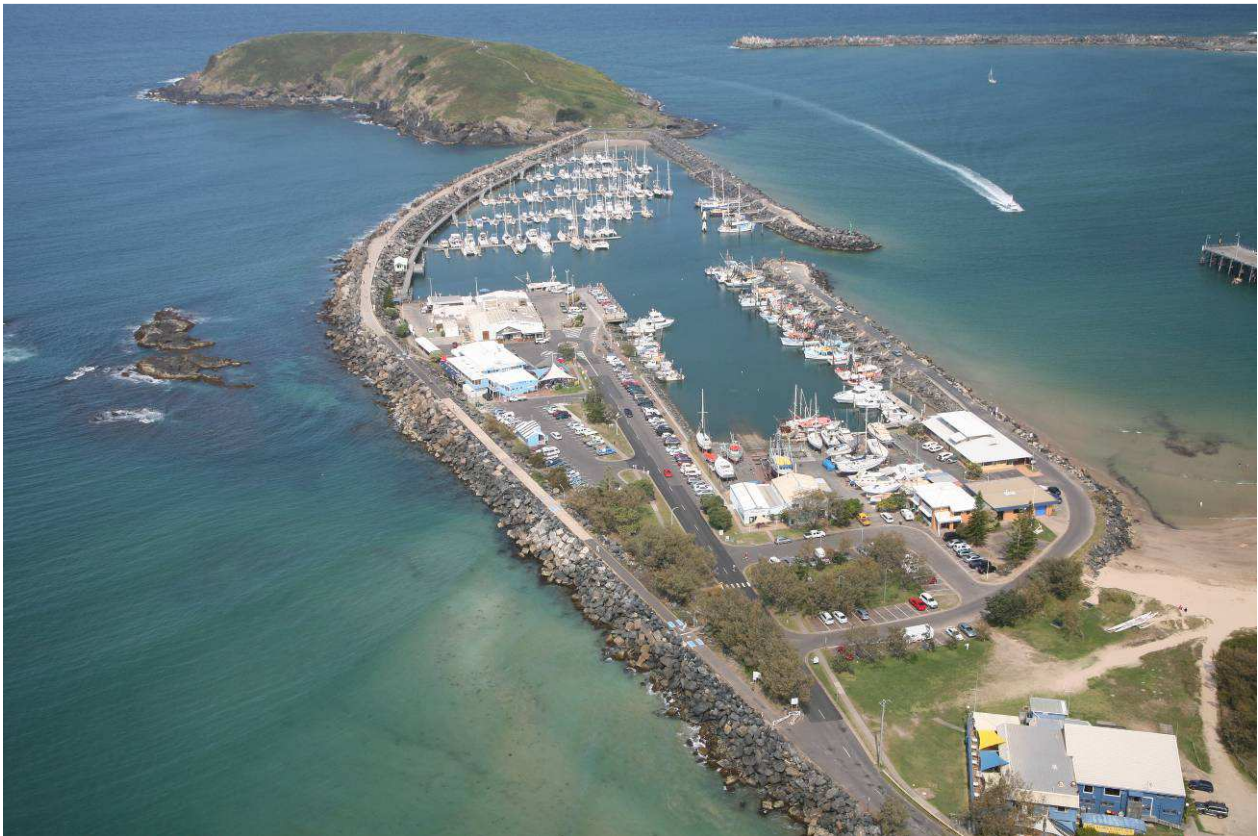
The proposed use of a Toe berm at the base of the existing wall along with re-armouring the batter with concrete Hanbar blocks will raise the height of the existing crest by around 0.75 metres. The height of the Hanbars will be 0.5 - 1.5 metres above the new height of the walkway. This will not impact on the views to the north from the cafes and restaurants located along Marine Drive.

This is lower in height than the Hanbars at the eastern breakwater where overtopping from the predominant S / SE swells coming from deeper water requires a higher wall to reduce wave impact.

The crest in the section from the beach, along the breakwater to the Fish Co-op will be widened but not raised to provide additional protection and safer access.

The increased width will enable a footpath to be installed along the water's edge opposite the yacht club and along the breakwater towards the Fishermen's Co-Operative.

The breakwater access will improve public access for all users. Walkers, surfers and fishermen as well as National Parks, customs, emergency staff and boat owners will all benefit from improved access the marina and/or Muttonbird Island.



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