



Gold Coast Waterways Authority

Shaping our waterways – 2018



2018 has seen GCWA continue to develop and enhance the role we play in planning, managing and protecting our iconic waterways.

The Gold Coast has a population of almost 600,000 and some experts are now forecasting that the population could grow to 1 million by 2034. As well as a growing population, we have also seen continuing solid growth in watercraft ownership in recent years, with almost 5,000 additional registered vessels since 2012.

As an organisation we are taking action to meet these future challenges. During 2017-18 we established a Planning and Innovation team to step up planning for the future against the backdrop of the increasing popularity of the waterways and the effects of climate change. The team's remit is a simple but critical one – to help shape the future of the waterways in a sustainable way.

A key strength of Gold Coast Waterways Authority is we are locally responsive and accountable. Decisions are made as close to stakeholders as possible and we are committed to engaging with our stakeholders and communities across the Gold Coast to better understand and respond to their needs.

Our engagement with the Gold Coast has helped define our work program and we can point to significant successes in 2018 as detailed in the following pages.



Marine Stadium, The Spit, Main Beach

While we are proud of our progress and successes, we know there are long-term challenges that lie ahead of us and we look forward to a busy and rewarding 2019.

Dredging

the Gold Coast waterways



We've committed over \$15m across the next four years to our dredging program to ensure we maintain safe navigational access to Gold Coast waterways.

In 2017-18 important dredging works were carried out in North Channel, Labrador Channel and Canaipa Passage. These projects alone saw almost \$1.5 million invested into maintaining and improving safe navigational access in the Broadwater and across our waterways.

Dredging of Canaipa Passage was finished under budget and ahead of schedule due to favourable weather conditions and GCWA's streamlined project delivery processes.

More than 11,000 cubic metres of material was removed from Labrador Channel and used to replenish the foreshore at Anglers Esplanade. North Channel works saw over 35,000 cubic metres of material dredged and placed on the northern foreshore of Wavebreak Island to ensure the beach is protected from erosion and can continue to be enjoyed as a popular boating destination.

Over the coming years, more dredging will be carried out in the Coomera River, at Jacobs Well, Jumpinpin, Main Channel, Nerang River, North Channel, South Channel, South Wavebreak Island and West Crab Island.

GCWA's Waterways Management Program details planned investment over the coming years.

The Coomera Dredge Sediment Management Facility is the first of its kind on the Gold Coast and will see material dredged from the Coomera River potentially reused for a wide range of uses.

The new facility will secure the 2,500 jobs currently provided by the Gold Coast Marine Precinct along with certainty of access and safe navigation for vessels and the future of this world-class industry.

It will support further industry growth by enabling larger vessels to access the services provided by the Marine Precinct.

The facility will help minimise potential environmental impacts by managing the fine, silty mud sediment found in the upper sections of the Coomera River that is not suitable for riverbank or beach replenishment – extraction of this sediment from the Coomera River is essential to maintain safe and appropriately deep navigational channels and improve water flow for flood mitigation.

GCWA has consulted widely with the local community, commercial enterprises, residential estate managers and Coomera River residents.

Once constructed the facility will be available for use by organisations and businesses that undertake dredging in the area including GCWA, local government, local industry and owners of waterfront residential estates.

| Coomera | Dredge Sediment Management Facility



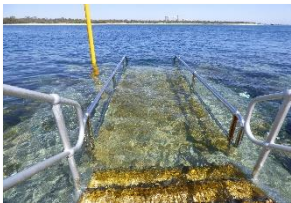
Completion of construction of the facility is expected by February 2019 with the initial dredging campaigns to be completed by June 2019.

Revitalisation of Doug Jennings Park | The Spit |

“What we hear most commonly is that people already love Doug Jennings Park but that these projects have made it even better.” - Hal Morris, CEO



- 📍 **New amenities block**
- 📍 **Emergency access stairs – North and South**
- 📍 **Seaway Kiosk toilets upgrade**
- 📍 **Rehabilitation of Moondarewa Spit**
- 📍 **Upgrade of Ring Road**
- 📍 **Additional formalised carparking**
- 📍 **New park benches and picnic tables**
- 📍 **New footpath and cycle paths**



Shaping our waterways ~ 2018

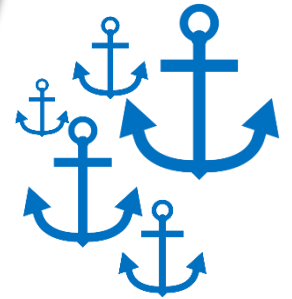


Over \$4.7million has already been spent on improvements to the park over the last three years and the latest upgrades see another \$1,020,000 invested in the popular day trip destination.

Throughout all four stages of the upgrades, GCWA have continued to engage with community groups and members of the public to make sure the projects have delivered what Gold Coasters really want.

The most recent works deliver a major upgrade to the road between Seaworld Drive and Moondarewa Spit including additional formalised car parking.

Engaging with our community



Meet The Board sessions are held regularly throughout the Gold Coast to provide community members with the opportunity to provide their input on planning for the waterways now and into the future.

GCWA attends various community open days and boat shows to provide information and answer questions on a range of waterways issues. In October 2018, the very first Summer Safe Boating Open Day was held at GCWA's Main Beach marine base and focused on advice and awareness for the busy season ahead.

The Spit Masterplan process is giving a strong voice to the community on what its aspirations are for the future of this unique area. GCWA is listening closely to these views as this will influence our input into the Masterplan and future plans for revitalisation of The Spit.

Operational achievements for 2017-18

- Creation of a Planning and Innovation team that is focussed on developing and delivering innovative policies for the long-term sustainable management of our waterways.
- Implementation of the new *Speed Limits and Behaviour Management Strategy 2018-2020* following extensive stakeholder consultation and attracting strong community support.
- Significant and ongoing monitoring program to ensure improved waterways management including monitoring of 624 vessels and the issue of 148 removal notices with a compliance rate of 99%.
- Successful delivery of the Aids to Navigation work program which contributes to the safe use of the waterways through servicing and maintenance of over 2,000 beacons, buoys and marine signs.

Significant projects completed in 2017-18

Project	Completed	Investment
Doug Jennings Park upgrades Stage 3	December 2017	\$2,040,000
Doug Jennings Park upgrades Stage 4	November 2018	\$1,020,000
Muriel Henschman Pontoon Replacement	July 2017	\$170,000
Seaway Southern Emergency Access Stairs	September 2017	\$127,000
Sand Bypass System Electricity Efficiency Review	September 2017	\$2,400,000
Sand Bypass System Green Energy Investigation	March 2018	\$87,000
Sand Bypass System Green Energy Stage 1	December 2018	\$350,000
Dredging Projects:		
Labrador Channel	July 2018	\$350,000
North Channel	June 2018	\$450,000
Canaipa Passage	November 2018	\$600,000



“We’re looking forward to continuing to secure the future of our city’s waterways in 2019 and beyond”



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