

# Project Update

July 2019



# Quick facts about the project

Current as at 15 July 2019

49%

Dredging completion

0

Marine mammal incidents



EPA compliance audit completed on 19 June



Live monitoring data available for public viewing

131

Trips to the Dredge Material Placement Area

19

Marine mammal sightings



Anticipated completion date, September 2019 on track



First monthly EPA report (June) completed



Backhoe Dredge 'Magnor'



Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge 'Gateway'



## DREDGING PROGRESS UPDATE

**Dredging began on 7 June 2019 and has remained on track with good progress made over the past six weeks.**

Majority of the dredging to date has been undertaken by the Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge 'Gateway'.

Largest Backhoe Dredge in the world, 'Magnor' arrived on 29 June 2019 and is being used to remove harder material that the Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge cannot remove. The Magnor will conduct a much smaller portion

of the work and can achieve this very efficiently with its ability to remove four times the amount of material as a dump truck in one bucket load.

The project is on track for completion in September 2019.

## MONITORING UPDATE

**Live monitoring data has supported the dredge contractor to manage turbidity levels from dredging throughout the project, ensuring conditions remain within operating limits set by the EPA.**

As expected, there was a rise in turbidity when dredging began, particularly due to weather conditions and from the anticipated disturbance that occurs when dredging.

Weather conditions early to mid July significantly increased the natural levels of sediment in the water. Consequently, turbidity within the dredge area also increased.

The dredge contractor continuously managed levels by moving to other locations in the channel when levels were high or stopped operations for short intervals.

In order to manage the turbidity levels as much as possible and in accordance with EPA licence conditions, dredging stopped when HOLD levels were reached on 19 July. The EPA has acknowledged that the weather conditions affected turbidity levels and that the trigger level exceedance was not wholly due to dredging operations. Further assessment identified that the Magnor was only having a localised impact on turbidity in the immediate

vicinity of the dredge. As such, the EPA approved the Magnor to recommence dredging in some areas.

The Gateway also recommenced dredging with operational restrictions such as having no overflow.

The EPA has conducted one compliance audit and Flinders Ports has submitted the first monthly report as part of satisfying the EPA Licence conditions. The EPA will continue to monitor and review operations throughout the project.

Go to the Flinders Ports website for more details on the EPA's set turbidity criteria, to view a full copy of the EPA monthly report or to access live monitoring data.





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