

Frances Bay Mooring Basin

Lock Upgrade – Major Closure Dates

Works Update

- On-site works at the lock continues with the sea side and basin side crane pads completed and ready to use to install the new lock gates during the upcoming closures.
- The basin side and sea side gates are about 50% completed.

Programmed Works

- The Darwin Harbour Infrastructure Project team has been working with the contractor to minimise the impacts on lock users as construction works continue on the Frances Bay Mooring Basin lock upgrade, including managing the number and length of time for lock closures.
- During excavation works on the northern side of the lock a number of issues were found with the condition of the tie rods, which stabilise the lock walls. The project team worked with the contractor to develop an engineering solution to avoid having to close the lock.
- This resulted in a change to how the area behind the lock wall could be remediated and a support beam was used to strengthen and stabilise the lock wall. The lock has been made available for users between tides of 4.5 metres to 6 metres.
- The unexpected additional works have extended the time taken to rehabilitate the northern side of the lock and it is anticipated there could be similar issues with the condition of the tie rods on the southern side of the lock. This means each section of the southern lock wall will need to be braced as the southern side is excavated.
- As a result, the **Major Closure 1** from **19 August to 17 September 2023** is to rehabilitate behind the southern wall using bracing from inside the lock.
- This means the contractor will need to install the sea side and basin side lock gates during the proposed **Major Closure 2** in **October to November 2023**. These dates are under review.
- The **Mini-Closure** of the lock from **23 June to 3 July 2023** will still be used to trial the emergency sea side cofferdam gate and relocate the lockmaster's hut.

Lock Closures and Access

Lock access	Detail	Timing	Duration
Lock open	Lock open for users between tides of 4.5 metres to 6 metres	May – August 2023	Current
Mini-closure	Trial the emergency sea side cofferdam gate and re-locate the lockmaster's hut	23 June – 3 July 2023	11 days
Major Closure 1	Rehabilitate behind the southern lock wall	19 August - 17 September 2023	4 weeks
Major Closure 2	Install both new gates (sea side and basin side)	October to November 2023	Under review

- During the closures all vessels cannot enter or exit the lock during these dates. Vessels that wish to remain inside the lock will be permitted to do so for the duration of the closure.
- Lock closure dates have been discussed with stakeholders and the contractor. Lock users are being provided with 8 weeks' notice of the confirmed dates for temporary lock closures via email to the Frances Bay Mooring Basin user group, notices posted on site at Frances Bay and via the project website invest.nt.gov.au/infrastructure-and-key-sectors/infrastructure/frances-bay

Temporary Barge Facilities

- During the lock closures, temporary facilities (similar to past annual lock maintenance closures) to assist vessels handling cargo will be provided at Fisherman's Wharf, including two mooring barges and a mobile crane to load/offload cargo.
 - Transfers from the barges to Fisherman's Wharf will be limited to a maximum aggregate load limit of 2.5 tonnes (loading and unloading).
 - For efficiency, the two barges will remain in place ongoing from the start of the Mini-Closure on 23 June to mid-December 2023, however the crane will only be accessible during the lock closures.
- All bookings onto Fisherman's and Raptis Wharves must be made through the Small Ships Scheduler either by phone or email:
 - Email - SmallShips.Scheduler@nt.gov.au
 - Phone - (08) 8922 0617
- All instructions for using the two temporary barges located on Fisherman's Wharf must be followed and any vessel berthed on Fisherman's Wharf or the barges without prior booking will be asked to vacate immediately.
- Fisherman's Wharf and Raptis Wharf will be closed to the public for safety reasons during the Mini and Major Lock Closures while the two mooring barges and a mobile crane are loading and offloading cargo at Fisherman's Wharf. Temporary fencing and security will be in place to monitor access to the wharf during operational hours.
- If you have any construction related queries, please call 08 8936 5668 or email DHIP.DIPL@nt.gov.au