

COMMERCIAL BULLETIN

MAST

MARINE and SAFETY TASMANIA
making boating better

Welcome to Issue 13 of MAST's Commercial Bulletin

2024 Facilities Engineering Audit

This regular, three-yearly engineering condition audit and revaluation program will commence in December 2024 and will include all of MAST's portfolio of 63 marine structures, including 39 jetties, 16 boat ramps and 8 breakwaters/training walls. The audit complements the regular quarterly inspections undertaken by MAST staff.

Underwater assessments will be conducted by a dive team, while engineers will conduct inspections of all above-water components. These inspections are important as they identify defects and allow MAST to compile a remedial maintenance plan for the next three years. The audit also provides the necessary information to determine the residual life of each structure as well as a revaluation of each asset.

This work ensures that facilities are well-maintained and are replaced when required.



Aids to Navigation Upgrade - Blackman Bay (Marion Bay Narrows)

Mariners will soon be able to navigate in Blackman Bay at Dunalley more safely with solar-powered navigation lights scheduled to be installed on a number of existing unlit navigation piles. The Sealite SL70 solar lights have a range of between 2 and 3 nautical miles and will assist those vessels transiting from the nearby Dunalley Jetty and Boomer Bay boat ramp to the Marion Narrows at times of reduced visibility.

Vessels are often transiting this area around sunrise and sunset, particularly in summer months when checking cray pots. MAST does not recommend crossing the Narrows in darkness.

AMSA Lifejacket Campaign

In Tasmania, the importance of wearing lifejackets when out on the water is well established due to legislation implemented by MAST in 2001. These requirements to wear a lifejacket are still in effect today and apply to all vessels in Tasmania, including commercial vessels, less than 6 metres whilst they are underway.

AMSA has recently commenced an Australia-wide campaign relating to lifejacket safety. This campaign reminds commercial vessel operators of the AMSA requirement for a risk assessment to be undertaken for lifejacket wear on all commercial vessels, regardless of their size.

MAST supports AMSA's campaign but reminds commercial operators with vessels less than 6 metres, that it is a requirement to wear a lifejacket in Tasmanian waters.

St Helens Training Wall

A program of rock armour repairs has recently been completed on the St Helens Training Wall. The remediation works have included installing additional toe and mid-batter rock at approximately 13 locations along the length of the training wall, ensuring its integrity.

The access track on top of the wall has also been upgraded, with 40mm material spread and graded across the track and the shoulders where it interfaces with the top of the wall.

Additional rock has been transported to the site and stockpiled for future repairs.



St Helens Training Wall

Extension to Freemans Jetty, Coles Bay

An extension to the busy Freemans Jetty at Coles Bay has recently been completed.

The 17.0m extension provides additional berthing space and incorporates wave deflection panels that provide improved protection to the adjacent boat ramp and pontoon. The additional berthing space is significant, especially for single operators, given that much of the parking is a long distance from the ramp and the previous jetty was at capacity from a mix of recreational users and small eco-tourism vessels.

The Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) contributed \$100,000 toward the extension, reflecting the use of the facility by the PWS-licensed tourism operators. The extension is a designated loading and unloading area, meaning that these vessels will not be able to berth for extended periods to attract trade, but can temporarily berth to pick up and drop off passengers.



Freemans Jetty - Coles Bay

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