

July 2019

CHANNEL OPTIMISATION PROJECT

UPDATE 6

Dredge Commencement Date

Jan de Nul's dredge Niccollo Machiavelli is currently undertaking dredging in Port Hedland and will mobilise to Broome when this work is completed. The dredge has been delayed in Port Hedland due to weather and shipping, however, based on best forecasts the dredge is expected to commence dredging at Port of Broome in early September.

Pipe discharge at Port of Broome

In preparation for the dredging component of Kimberley Ports Authority's (KPA) Channel Optimisation Project (COP), Jan de Nul unloaded approx. 400m of floating pipeline in Broome. Two large pontoons used to control the floating pipeline and dispersal of the dredged material were offloaded and moored in readiness for the dredge's arrival.

Port Pile Works Complete

Over four sets of neap tides KPA's contractor TAMS removed seven piles, relocated navigation aids and completed a berth clean-up to remove debris from the intended dredge area in advance of the dredges arrival in port.

Marine Fauna Observer Training

KPA has engaged Nyamba Buru Yawuru to provide Marine Fauna Observers (MFOs) during dredging. MFO training was held in April for two Yawuru country managers and four KPA employees. The training covered the key responsibilities, reporting requirements, exclusion zones for marine fauna and information on species identification. The MFO role is required under KPA's Sea Dumping Permit (No.SD2018/3742) and Dredge Environmental Management Plan (DEMP), and is an important control to ensure no negative interaction with marine fauna during dredging.

Baseline Marine Water Monitoring

Baseline marine water monitoring was carried out by BMT (KPA's COP Environmental Representative) and data is being analysed to inform the requirements of in-water plume monitoring to be used during the COP (e.g. sampling locations, trigger criteria).





Frequently Asked Questions

Will I be able to see the dredge plume from the shoreline?

It is anticipated that areas directly surrounding dredging and disposal activities will have a visible plume that may be seen from the shoreline (Zone of High and Moderate Impact; Figure 1). The plume extent and intensity is expected to reflect the short duration and limited volume of material to be dredged, sediment is anticipated to settle quickly.

What monitoring will occur during the dredging?

KPA's environmental monitoring requirements are stipulated in the DEMP approved by state and federal regulators ([https://www.kimberleyports.wa.gov.au/News-and-Media/Community-News-\(1\)/Channel-Optimisation-Project-Dredging-Environmental](https://www.kimberleyports.wa.gov.au/News-and-Media/Community-News-(1)/Channel-Optimisation-Project-Dredging-Environmental)). Some of the environmental management and monitoring activities KPA will undertake include:

- MFOs monitoring and recording marine fauna near dredging and disposal activities;
- In-water plume monitoring and visual plume observations to ensure the dredge plume is within modelled predictions;
- Vessel crew monitoring the dredge plume and surrounding environment to ensure minimal impact to the marine environment and fauna; and
- KPA's project manager BMT will audit the dredge process, ensuring works are compliant with the DEMP and Sea Dumping Permit.

If marine fauna are sighted in close proximity to the dredge, work vessel or disposal site, or if the turbidity (dredge plume) exceeds the maximum target criteria, operations will stop and the situation assessed before resuming.

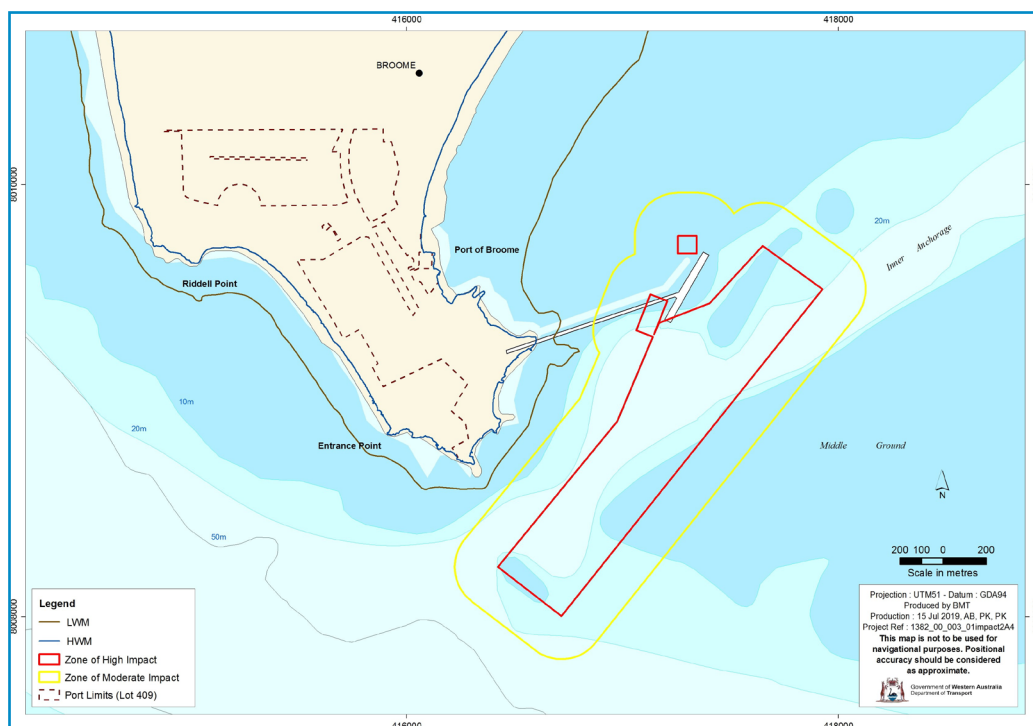


Figure 1 Defined zones of high and moderate impact for the proposed dredging and disposal

Source: BMT (2018)

If you have missed KPA's earlier updates on COP, please visit KPA's website: ([https://www.kimberleyports.wa.gov.au/News-and-Media/Community-News-\(1\)/Channel-Optimisation-Project-update](https://www.kimberleyports.wa.gov.au/News-and-Media/Community-News-(1)/Channel-Optimisation-Project-update))

If you require further information contact KPA on:

(08) 9194 3100 | info@kimberleyports.wa.gov.au | www.kimberleyports.wa.gov.au