Fact sheet
Dredge Management Plan

Flinders Ports

Outer Harbor Channel Widening Project

ABOUT THE DREDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Flinders Ports is required to implement a Dredge Management Plan (DMP) which identifies the environmental risks associated with the project and how these will be managed and mitigated.

The DMP works in conjunction with the Environmental Monitoring Program – a licence requirement for the ongoing monitoring and survey of environmental factors, such as water quality, before, during and after dredging.

Developed in line with relevant Commonwealth and State legislation, as well as the EPA dredge licence conditions, the DMP is used to manage all activities associated with dredging. It covers the following key areas:

- Environmental, economic and governance context
- The scope of work and dredge methodology, including equipment types. A separate "Dredge Methodology" fact sheet provides further detail
- Environmental risk assessment and associated management framework
- Reporting, quality assurance and control

The full DMP can be found on the Flinders Ports website.

ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

It is important to outline the environmental, economic and governance contexts within which the project operates in order to understand the environmental impacts.

The DMP provides details on:

- The marine environmental system (physical and biological) including currents and water quality, and the ecosystem, i.e. the flora and fauna, as well as the interaction between the two.
- The socio-economic system, including the economic environment and relevant stakeholders integral to the project.
- The governance context, including the legal framework, Commonwealth and State Government legislation local and international laws maritime laws and regulations related to the environment in which the project is to be executed.

Flinders Ports channelwidening@flindersports.com.au 1800 431 317 PO Box 19, Port Adelaide, SA 5015

Environmental Management strategies have been developed for the key environmental risks associated with the dredge works.

The main environmental risks are considered to be:

- Potential impact to seagrass and water quality due to the generation of sediment plumes in the seawater
- Biosecurity risk of introduction of invasive marine species and spread of Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome (POMS)
- Vessel interactions with marine mammals

Management actions are grouped into:

- Management of sediment-related impacts resulting from dredging and dredge material placement activities
- Management of other environmental impacts, including:
  - » Marine mammals
  - » Invasive marine species
  - » Waste and fuel and chemical spills
  - » Noise
  - » Dredge control

Each management action outlines relevant objectives and performance measures and contains specific criteria to achieve these objectives.

By setting objectives and measuring performance, the project seeks to continuously improve the effectiveness of its environmental management actions.

REPORTING

The DMP, together with the Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP), require ongoing monitoring and regular reporting to the EPA on activities relating to the environment as a condition of approvals.

This is detailed in the table to the right.

Item	Content	Document
Prior to dredging		
Baseline water quality monitoring	9 months of monitoring to set final water quality triggers	EMP
Seagrass Survey	Condition assessment of seagrass before dredging	EMP
Dredge Management Plan	Management procedures to minimise environmental impacts during dredging	DMP
Survey for the presence / absence of C. taxifolia	Survey report	DMP
Biosecurity Inspection Certificate	Inspection records	DMP
During dredging		
Zone Validation Monitoring Program	Satellite imagery to show the relative plume extent at a given time	EMP
Water Quality Monitoring Plan	Monitoring at three approved locations	EMP
Water quality data processing and real-time information website	Post data collection processing and website maintenance	EMP
Monthly Zone validation reporting	A method for validating predicted modelling and impact zones	EMP
Vessel-tracking	GPS vessel tracking to publicly document vessel locations	DMP
Post dredging		
Seagrass Survey	Condition assessment of seagrass post dredging (in comparable month to 'before' assessment). Further assessment 2 years after post dredging survey	EMP