

DARWIN SHIP LIFT FACILITY

Project Bulletin March 2025

The Northern Territory Government is delivering the Ship Lift to establish Darwin as a thriving maritime services industry hub.

The Ship Lift will establish Darwin as a key maritime maintenance centre in Northern Australia servicing South East Asia, and capitalising on the Territory's strategic position in the Asia Pacific region.

The Defence industry is a key stakeholder and potential future user of the Ship Lift Facility to support naval operations in Northern Australia.

Below is an update on how the Darwin Harbour Infrastructure Project (DHIP) team is continuing to progress the Darwin Ship Lift Facility project.

Ship Lift activity progress

Activity	<div> <div>✓ Complete</div> <div>⚙ Underway</div> </div>	Progress	Target completion
Construction of temporary material offloading facility (MOF) completed	✓	100%	December 2024
Cutter suction dredging completed	✓	100%	December 2024
Procurement for heavy lift crane package completed	✓	100%	December 2024
Further quarry material package contract awarded	✓	100%	January 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Woomera starts	✓	100%	February 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Nulla Nulla completed	✓	100%	February 2025
Design self-propelled modular transporter (SPMT) systems completed	✓	100%	March 2025
Construction of temporary access bunds progress	✓	100%	March 2025
Quarry material stockpiling, land reclamation to build the ship hardstand area and earthworks to level the site to design levels underway from May 2024	⚙	Ongoing	Ongoing
Environmental monitoring water sampling underway from August 2024	⚙	Ongoing	Ongoing
Engage with service providers to disconnect and relocate services	⚙	90%	April 2025
Caisson and piling template system assembled on site	⚙	80%	April 2025
Fabricate SPMT system commences	⚙	0%	May 2025
Detailed design progress	⚙	99%	Q2 2025
Procurement for reinforcing steel, cement and concrete supply, precast stormwater drainage, segmental pavers supply, site storage containers	⚙	75%	Q2 2025
Procurement for steel fabrication, seal and asphalt surfacing, electrical services and materials	⚙	40%	Q2 2025
Procurement process by CBJV for remaining long lead items – tubular piles, structural steelwork and precast concrete elements	⚙	80%	Q2 2025
Caisson construction to start	⚙	0%	Q2 2025
Landside infrastructure construction starts (Administration Building)	⚙	0%	Q2 2025
Delivery and preparation of sheet piles progress	⚙	50%	Q3 2025
Design ship lift progress	⚙	95%	Q4 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Woomera progress	⚙	16%	Q4 2025
Heritage interpretive signage project progress	⚙	15%	2026
Gain Defence Qualification for the facility	⚙	15%	2026
Operational Ship Lift Facility	⚙	10%	2026



\$58.8 million in contracts awarded to local businesses

A total of \$58.8 million in subcontracts has been awarded to Territory enterprises to build the Darwin Ship Lift Facility.

The subcontracts include the supply of quarry materials, surveying, geotechnical services, maintenance, traffic control, construction equipment and civil construction.

So far on the project:

- 21 employees are Indigenous
- 12 subcontracts have been awarded to Indigenous enterprises
- 58% of the workforce are Territory locals
- 688,577 tonnes of quarry rock material has been delivered to the ship lift site at East Arm.



Above and below: Progress continues on the ship lift site.

