

DARWIN SHIP LIFT FACILITY

Project Bulletin April 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	✓ Complete	Progress	Target completion
	🔄 Underway		
Backhoe dredging with BHD Nulla Nulla completed	✓	100%	February 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Woomera starts	✓	100%	February 2025
Design self-propelled modular transporter (SPMT) systems completed	✓	100%	March 2025
Construction of temporary access bunds progress	✓	100%	March 2025
Delivery of sheet piles complete	✓	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
Fabricate SPMT system commences	🔄	0%	May 2025
Detailed design progress	🔄	99%	Q2 2025
Procurement for reinforcing steel, cement and concrete supply	🔄	75%	Q2 2025
Procurement for precast stormwater drainage and other precast elements	🔄	75%	Q2 2025
Procurement for structural steel supply and fabrication	🔄	40%	Q3 2025
Procurement for electrical services supply and installation	🔄	40%	Q3 2025
Preparation for installation of caisson cell sheet piles	🔄	75%	May 2025
Caisson cell construction to start	🔄	0%	May 2025
Landside building construction starts (Administration Building)	🔄	0%	Q2 2025
Detailed design for Ship Lift Platform	🔄	95%	Q3 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Woomera progress	🔄	30%	Q3 2025
Land reclamation	🔄	30%	Q4 2025
Heritage interpretive signage project progress	🔄	15%	2026
Gain Defence Qualification for the facility	🔄	15%	2026
Operational Ship Lift Facility	🔄	10%	2026



\$10.8 million contract awarded to Bhagwan Marine

Bhagwan Marine has been awarded a \$10.8 million subcontract for the Darwin Ship Lift Facility project.

The contract is with head contractor Clough-BMD Joint Venture and includes supplying marine vessels and crew to help construct the marine infrastructure for the ship lift facility.

Bhagwan Marine will supply a specialist Multicat/Anchor Handling Barge to support construction of the caissons, which will form the sea walls of the facility.

The contract is also to supply a crew transfer vessel, tug, modular and construction barges and crew.

This brings the total value of subcontracts awarded to local businesses in the Territory to \$69.6 million for the ship lift facility project.



Above: Progress continues on the land reclamation for the Darwin Ship Lift Facility project with the caisson templates being assembled on site to start building the caissons to form the sea walls.

Below: Progress continues on the dredging program at the ship lift site.

