

# DARWIN SHIP LIFT FACILITY

## Project Bulletin June 2025




















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

The ship lift facility 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  Underway	Progress	Target completion
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
Delivery of sheet piles complete		100%	March 2025
Quarry material stockpiling underway from May 2024		Ongoing	Ongoing
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
Landside building construction starts (Administration Building)		0%	July 2025
Procurement for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reinforcing steel and concrete supply</li> <li>precast stormwater drainage and other precast elements</li> <li>structural steel supply and fabrication</li> <li>electrical services supply and installation</li> </ul>		90% 95% 85% 40%	Q3 2025
Detailed design for Ship Lift Platform		95%	Q3 2025
Backhoe dredging with BHD Woomera progress		50%	Q3 2025
Land reclamation progress		37%	Q4 2025
Caisson construction to form the seawalls progress		2 - 4%	Q2 2026
SPMT system engineering, procurement and construction		45%	Q3 2026
Heritage interpretive signage project progress		15%	2026
Gain Defence Qualification for the facility		15%	2026
Ship Lift Facility operational in stages		10%	2026 - 2027



# Progress continues on caisson construction

Progress is continuing to construct the caissons that will form the seawalls for the Darwin Ship Lift Facility.

So far 3 caissons have been constructed out of the 47 caissons that will help form the facility.

The caissons are constructed using a template that is lowered onto the sea floor, secured using 4 spud piles and then long lengths of sheet piles are lifted by a crane into the template. This creates a circular structure with a hollow basin inside that is filled with self-compacted rock backfill.

Installation of the first caisson on the project site is pictured above right and below is a photo of the 3 caissons installed to date.

A 450 tonne crane barge has been mobilised to construct caissons from seaside, which will form the seawall that supports the ship lift system (see artist impression image right).

A second caisson template is being mobilised to construct more caissons. Construction of the caissons is anticipated to be completed in Q2 2026, subject to progress.

