

Vasse Diversion Drain Sandbar Opening Trial

Revitalising Geographe Waterways



This notice is a courtesy to inform local residents that a trial opening of the Vasse Diversion Drain sandbar to improve water quality is scheduled for the week beginning 11 February 2019.

When?

It is expected that works will take 2 days during the week beginning 11 February. Water Corporation will be carrying out the work.

Why are we opening the sandbar?

We are opening the sandbar to increase flushing of the drain with seawater to improve water quality and visual amenity. At this time of year, most of the Vasse Diversion Drain ocean outlet closes up between the drain and the ocean, reducing water flow in this section of the drain.

How will the public be affected?

Impact to the public is expected to be minimal. A section of beach in front of the drain will be closed to the public while works are underway. Excavators and loaders will be used on site and a public exclusion zone of approximately 100m will be in place on the beach in front of the drain while works are underway.

Alternative access

The footbridge located approximately 100m up the drain from the ocean provides alternative access while the works are underway or if water levels are too high to cross over once the sandbar is opened.

Conditions on the beach will change after the sand bar is opened. Care should be exercised if crossing due to deeper water and increased water movement.



Vasse Diversion Drain sandbar and outlet

Notification of Works

GeoCatch



Monitoring and water quality

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation will be undertaking water quality monitoring in the drain before and after opening the sandbar. A monitoring transect, and two sampling sites will be established: one near the ocean outlet and the other near the Bussell Hwy bridge across from the high school. The water quality data collected will be used to determine the benefit of opening the outlet in future years.

Feedback

We would encourage you to provide feedback on this trial to help us assess the benefits of the sandbar opening. GeoCatch has created a simple online survey for the public and local residents to provide feedback here www.rgw.dwer.wa.gov.au/rethinking-drainage.

Who is delivering the project?

This trial is part of a series of initiatives to Revitalise the Vasse Diversion Drain to improve water quality, visual amenity and livability. The project is part of the state government funded Revitalising Geographe Waterways program. GeoCatch is leading this project in partnership with the Water Corporation, City of Busselton and Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

If you have any questions regarding the trial please contact GeoCatch on 9781 0111 or geocatch@dwer.wa.gov.au, or visit the Revitalising Geographe Waterways website www.rgw.dwer.wa.gov.au/rethinking-drainage.



Water quality monitoring transect and two sampling site locations



Revitalising Geographe Waterways

VASSE taskFORCE