



## Port Welshpool Harbour Local Port Area Plan - Information Sheet



### **Have your say. Help create a sustainable local port precinct. Share your ideas on the future of Port Welshpool Harbour.**

Gippsland Ports, the local port manager, is developing a Local Port Area Plan (Plan) for the Port Welshpool Harbour. This will help guide the safe operation, use and sustainability of the harbour into the future.

The plan is being developed under the Victorian Government's *Sustainable Local Ports Framework*. This framework guides port facility planning and prioritises investment where it's needed most.

The final plan will consider changing local conditions, the needs of users, and the community's preferences for enhancing the local port area.

It will also consider options to improve safety and access for commercial and recreational vessels.

### **Consultation**

In 2023, Gippsland Ports consulted with harbour users, interest groups, commercial operators, industry representatives, government officials and members of the community to help develop a draft plan.

The first stage of consultation included:

- A community drop-in session and public meetings at the Port Welshpool Ferry Terminal building, giving people the chance to engage directly with Gippsland Ports, sharing what they valued most about the port, and sharing their thoughts on infrastructure and user needs.
- Information sharing with commercial operators, industry representatives, berth holders, the Coast Guard, Port Welshpool community groups and government agencies.
- Meetings with people and businesses who use the Marginal Wharf, Fishermans Jetty, and Ferry Terminal Jetty, including commercial operators and berth permit holders. These conversations

focused on operations, services, access requirements, and a broad range of ideas were put forward for the future of the precinct.

- Meetings with Roll-on Roll-off Berth commercial operators, including vessel and transport operators. These conversations focused on discussing operations, services, access requirements, and a broad range of ideas were put forward for the future of the precinct, and
- Briefings to South Gippsland Shire Council, the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action, and the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation.

## **About Port Welshpool Harbour**

Port Welshpool Harbour plays a crucial role in a wide range of commercial and recreational activities.

Harbour facilities and activities include trade with King Island and Flinders Island, boat launching and retrieval, commercial fishing and charter operations.

The harbour also supports refuelling, transport operations, transient and permitted berthing, vessel refuge, maintenance and repair while also hosting the state's coast guard and supporting other port operations.

Significant investments have been made to the Port Welshpool Harbour over many decades - dating back as far as the 1850s.

These investments have aimed to meet the changing needs of both commercial and recreational users.

However, a significant portion of the existing port infrastructure is nearing the end of its service life. With changing demand, the development of a new plan to shape the future of the harbour has become a priority.

## **Port operations**

Gippsland Ports's operations are undertaken from its depot next to the Marginal Wharf.

Public and port facilities include the Breakwater, Roll-on Roll-off Berth, Slipway and Slipway Jetty, Ferry Terminal Jetty, Marginal Wharf and Fishermans Jetty.

South Gippsland Shire Council is responsible for managing the facilities located next to the harbour.

These include boat launching ramps, associated jetties, on-land infrastructure, the Ferry Terminal building, carparks, and operational access to port facilities.

Vessel access is constrained by tides, with the harbour currently having a depth of approximately three metres at the Marginal Wharf, but is shallower in some areas reaching 1.7 metres.

## **Have your say**

The draft Plan is now available for feedback.

Users of the harbour and the local community can have their say via Engage Victoria until Wednesday, 4 September 2024.

Website: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/port-welshpool-harbour-local-port-area-plan>

Gippsland Ports will consider all feedback in preparing the final Port Welshpool Harbour Local Port Area Plan.

## **For further information**

Email: [feedback@gippslandports.vic.gov.au](mailto:feedback@gippslandports.vic.gov.au) Website: [www.gippslandports.vic.gov.au](http://www.gippslandports.vic.gov.au)



**LEGEND**

- 1 Breakwater (GP)
- 2 Roll On Roll Off (RORO) Berth (GP)
- 3 Boat Launching Ramp (SGSC)
- 4 Boat Ramp Jetty (SGSC)
- 5 Slipway (GP)
- 6 Slipway Jetty (GP)
- 7 Depot Compound (GP)
- 8 Ferry Terminal Jetty (GP)
- 9 Marginal Wharf - Maintenance Area (GP)
- 10 Marginal Wharf - Light Unloading Area (GP)
- 10 b Marginal Wharf - Heavy Unloading Area (GP)
- 11 Marginal Wharf - Berthing Area (GP)
- 12 Fishermans Jetty (GP)
- 13 Ferry Terminal Building (SGSC)
- 14 Carpark (SGSC)
- 15 Carpark (SGSC)
- 16 Public Reserve (SGSC)
- 17 Volunteer Coast Guard Building (VCG)



**GIPPSLAND PORTS**  
**PORT WELSHPOOL MARINE PRECINCT**  
 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Date: November 2022
Drawing No: PWMP-EC_1
Revision: -
Sheet Size: A3
Scale: NTS





**GIPPSLAND PORTS**  
PORT WELSHPOOL HARBOUR  
STUDY AREA

Date: November 2022  
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