

Cape Gloucester area boat ramp

Frog Rock option

Project background

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) intends to build a new or upgraded boat ramp in the Cape Gloucester area in partnership with Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC).

There has been consistent demand over the years for a new or upgraded boat ramp in the Cape Gloucester area.

The *Recreational Boating Facilities Demand Forecasting Study 2017* recommended a new boating facility in the Cape Gloucester area as a high priority for the WRC area. The Queensland Government has provided \$1.4 million towards a new or upgraded boat ramp in the area, allowing TMR to partner with WRC for project delivery.

Detailed investigations have been undertaken on three shortlisted sites which have been subjected to hydrographic survey to assess their viability:

- Black Currant Island
- Dingo Beach
- Frog Rock on the west coast of Cape Gloucester.

Key features of a Frog Rock boat ramp

An new boat ramp at Frog Rock would be located on the western side of Cape Gloucester about 800m south of the Cape Gloucester Beach Resort (refer Figure 1).

A possible boat ramp at this location would involve:

- a two lane boat ramp approximately 40m long extending to 0.5m below LAT (Lowest Astronomical Tide).
- a short causeway and turning area at top of the ramp
- a car trailer park for 45 vehicles.

Key pros

- Good natural protection from both SE and NE winds (better than Black Currant Island or Dingo Beach).
- Natural deep water close to shoreline – no dredging required.
- In-water works can be delivered within TMR's \$1.4 million budget.
- No mangrove communities impacted.
- Ramp won't interrupt sediment flows due to the existing natural groyne effect of the small rocky point known as Frog Rock.
- Some access road upgrades are already planned.

Key cons

- Approximately 4.5km away from Hideaway Bay.
- Accessed by a currently unsealed hilly gravel road that requires upgrading by WRC/ developers.
- WRC would need to purchase privately owned land to build a car-trailer park.
- Ramp site is located in a Fish Habitat Area A and within the Edgecumbe Bay Dugong Protection Area.
- The adjacent beach is rocky and boaties would need to use the boat ramp itself as a queuing facility.
- Reduction in visual amenity.

Frog Rock location overview

The Frog Rock location would have sufficient land-based area (presuming land can be acquired) and be sheltered from the south-east prevailing wind and wave actions. Water depths are good for all-tide boat access. The site is a reasonable distance from existing communities compared with other coastal boat ramps. It is considered to be a good option especially if the access road from Hideaway Bay is upgraded.

Have your say

The Department of Transport and Main Roads would like to hear from the local community to understand your views about where the new all-tide boat ramp should be located.

Community consultation is open from 14 May to 14 June 2018.

For more information on this project or to have your say:

- **visit** www.tmr.qld.gov.au/CapeGloucester to complete the online survey and review technical studies undertaken to date
- **email** your comments/questions to BoatingInfrastructure@tmr.qld.gov.au
- **phone** (07) 3066 4025
- **post** your feedback to:
Department of Transport and Main Roads
ATT: Boating Infrastructure team
GPO Box 1549
Brisbane QLD 4001

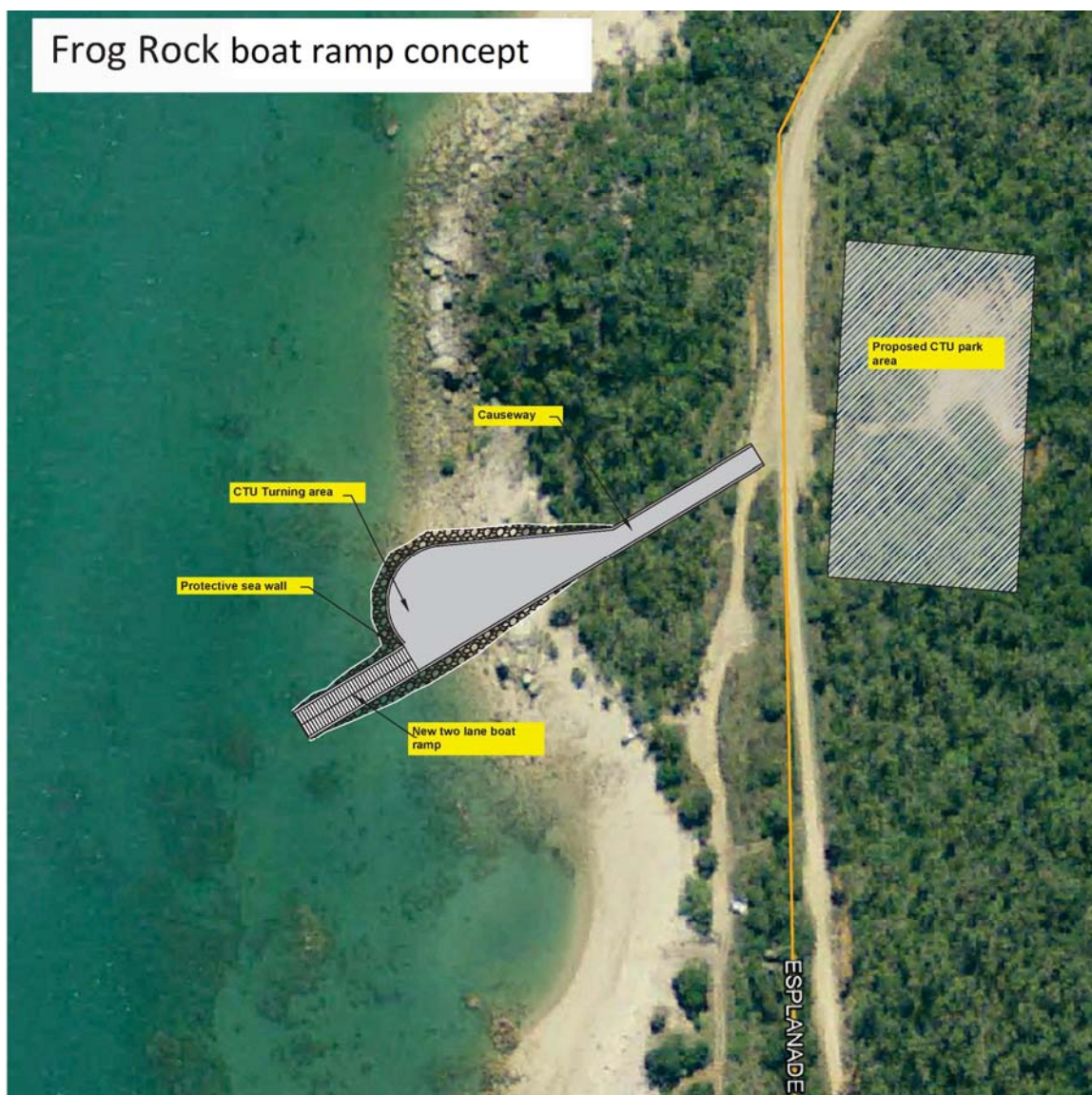


Figure 1: Proposed concept design for Frog Rock