



MEDIA RELEASE

23 February 2023

Huon Valley Council secures funding for Shipwrights Point Floating Fishing Pontoon

Council's application for grant funding to support the replacement of the Shipwrights Point Floating Fishing Pontoon was successful.

A total of \$150 000 was awarded to the project under the Better Fishing Grants. The grant will partially fund the project.

Council is pursuing other grant opportunities to assist in funding the project, and will themselves be contributing to the final balance.

The project proposes to replace a popular timber jetty that was frequently used for recreational fishing within the Shipwrights Point Regatta Ground.

"The original jetty collapsed suddenly in February 2022 and there has been continuous appeal from the community to rebuild the structure," Huon Valley Mayor Doyle said.

"Council owns 18 marine facilities within the Huon Valley and is acutely aware that building and maintaining jetties and boat ramps is costly. It is therefore crucial to strategically locate these facilities at sites that will attract the most usage and address the highest needs of our community."

Council is advised by their Marine Facilities Development Advisory Committee (MFDAC) consisting of members with extensive combined knowledge and experience in boating and fishing. The MFDAC is guided by Huon Valley Marine Facilities Development Strategy.

The Shipwrights Point Regatta Ground jetty was a strategically important structure and popular public asset. For this replacement project, Council's MFDAC has



recommended a concrete floating pontoon system as the structure provides deep-water access for larger vessels and is a popular fishing location.

“The floating pontoon will accommodate people of all ages and abilities by enabling the safe movement of passengers into and out of vessels. It will also provide a stable structure for shore-based fishing. It is durable and low maintenance, and will suit the conditions of the site.”

The pontoon will offer a shore-based fishing opportunity for all, including families and those without means or physical ability to participate in fishing from a boat.

Community engagement will commence towards the end of this financial year, prior to the finalisation of design details.

For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300