

Bowen State Boat Harbour Master Plan

Guiding the long-term future of Bowen State Boat Harbour over the next 15 to 20 years.

Project timeline

- **Stage 1: Evidence base**
  Completed
- **Stage 2: Draft Master Plan**
  Completed
- **Stage 3: Feedback and review**
  Open until 8 December 2026
- **Stage 4: Final Master Plan**
  Expected early to mid-2027

Project overview snapshot

Bowen State Boat Harbour is one of eight State Boat Harbours owned and managed by the Queensland Government, providing sheltered access to Port Denison and the Coral Sea for recreational boats, yachts, seafood operators and maritime businesses.

Maritime Safety Queensland has prepared the Bowen State Boat Harbour Draft Master Plan (draft Master Plan) to respond to ageing infrastructure, growing tourism and recreation demand, coastal hazards and the need to use harbour land more efficiently.

Key benefits for the community

- Strengthen the working harbour
- Enable economic growth
- Improve waterfront access
- Renew ageing infrastructure
- Protect the coastal environment

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What is the Master Plan?

The Bowen State Boat Harbour Master Plan (Master Plan) will guide the long-term future of the harbour as a working maritime asset, a recreational boating destination and part of the Bowen foreshore.

Technical investigations and early engagement with harbour tenants, Whitsunday Regional Council, chambers of commerce, and government and community representatives have informed the draft Master Plan.

What does the draft Master Plan propose?

The draft Master Plan sets out a vision, five strategies and five precincts for the harbour. Proposals include:

- An additional two-lane boat ramp, a second pontoon and more car-trailer unit parking
- A continuous waterfront promenade, new open space, and street upgrades along Starboard Drive and Henry Darwen Drive
- Expanded boat maintenance and repair services, including a Marine Industry precinct for marine trades and larger-scale repair
- Opportunities for tourism, dining and marina businesses, and more berths as demand grows
- Enhancement of wetlands around the harbour, with potential walking trails and lookouts.

Next steps for the Master Plan

Once finalised, the Master Plan will be a guide for future decisions about land use, leasing, investment and infrastructure at the harbour. Proposed initiatives would be delivered in stages, each subject to further investigation and funding through private or public investment.

Feedback on the draft Master Plan will be considered alongside technical investigations to help inform the final Master Plan. A summary of community feedback will be published with the final Master Plan.

How to have your say

Read the draft Master Plan and provide feedback through the online survey or send a written submission by email or post.

Online: www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/BowenStateBoatHarbourMasterPlan

Feedback closes:
11.59pm Tuesday 8 December 2026

Community drop-in sessions

There is no formal presentation, so come along any time during a session to talk with the project team and learn about the draft Master Plan. Session details are available on the online feedback page.

Stay up to date

Search on tmr.qld.gov.au:
'Bowen State Boat Harbour Master Plan'

Email: bhsp@msq.qld.gov.au

Call: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Post: Bowen State Boat Harbour Master Plan
Department of Transport and Main Roads
GPO Box 1412, Brisbane QLD 4001

If you require translation or support services to access the documentation, please contact the project team on **13 QGOV (13 74 68)** (9am – 5pm Monday to Friday).

For more information and to have your say, **scan the QR code.**

www.tmr.qld.gov.au/BowenStateBoatHarbour

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