



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications**

File Reference: *TERR19/0020-30*

Mr Rick Wilson MP
Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

**STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SUMMARY REPORT: CHRISTMAS ISLAND
STORMWATER, LANDSLIDE AND ROCKFALL MITIGATION WORKS PROJECT**

Dear Mr Wilson

This letter is to inform the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works of the nature and extent of community consultation undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) as part of the Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project (the Project). This Project comprises of upgrading drainage infrastructure in the Island's Drumsite Precinct to reduce local flooding and stormwater discharge down onto Flying Fish Cove, adjacent to the wharf. The Project also upgrades landslide protection barriers in Flying Fish Cove.

The aim of the consultation is to ensure the community and stakeholders were:

- well informed about the Project's details; and,
- provided the opportunity to raise concerns or seek further information such that, where feasible, the Department could address these in the Project.

The Department's stakeholder and community consultation activities, listed below, were delivered in accordance with the Project's community engagement strategy. These activities included:

- Stakeholder and Community Consultation Report at [Annexure A](#) outlining key stakeholder engagement activities including community consultation held on Christmas Island between the 23rd and 27th June 2021. This report also contains copies of the 'featherboards' that were used for consultation and a copy of the Indian Ocean Territories Administrator's Community Bulletin dated 18 June 2021 notifying the Christmas Island Community of the proposed works and inviting the community participate in the consultation session.
- Provision of a dedicated webpage on the Department's website outlining the Project, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Process, Community Consultation and drawings of the proposed scope of works and an invitation to request further information regarding the project via email address ffclmpconsultation@infrastructure.gov.au . To date, no emails have been received. This is the link to the webpage

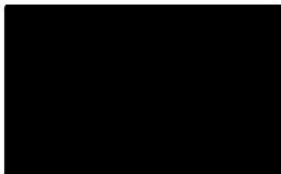
<https://www.regional.gov.au/territories/Christmas/projects/stormwater-landslide-rockfall-mitigation-project.aspx>

- Correspondence from our Assistant Minister the Hon. Nola Marino MP to Warren Snowdon MP occurred on 28 June 2021 advising of the proposed Project. To our knowledge, no return correspondence has been provided from Mr Snowdon's office.

The Department's consultation on this Project began in 2017 with initial concept design and investigations of the Drumsite Stormwater and in 2019 for the landslide barriers. The recent consultation was impeded by COVID-19 travel restrictions with only minimal representation from the Project team able to attend. The Department undertakes to continue engagement with the community if the Project is expedited.

The Department has not been made aware of any objections to the proposed works.

Yours sincerely,



Aaron O'Neill
Assistant Secretary
Indian Ocean Territories
Territories Division
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

2 August 2021

Annexes:

- A. Christmas Island Stormwater Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project – Stakeholder and Community Consultation Summary Report – July 2021

**Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development
and Communications**

**Christmas Island Stormwater,
Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation
Works Project**

**Stakeholder and Community
Consultation Summary Report**

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

Document Verification

Job title		Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project		Job number	
Document title		Stakeholder and Community Consultation Summary Report		File reference	
Document ref					
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1		Description	Draft 1 issued for GHD input, Appendix A and B provided as separate attachments.		
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		Name	Arup	Arup	Arup
		Signature			
2		Filename	210727_FFC Stormwater and Landslide Upgrades Stakeholder Consultation Report – GHD Comments.docx		
		Description	Addition of GHD comments.		
			Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
		Name	GHD	GHD	GHD
3		Filename	210729_FFC Stormwater and Landslide Upgrades_Stakeholder Consultation.docx		
		Description	Review and acceptance of GHD comments, Draft issue to Jacobs and Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications for review.		
			Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
		Name	Arup	Arup	Arup
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			Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
		Name	Arup	Arup	Arup
		Signature			
Issue Document Verification with Document <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

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1 Overview

From 22 June through to 27 June 2021, Arup and GHD undertook consultation activities on Christmas Island in relation to the Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project. The consultation was to key on-Island stakeholders and to members of the general public. This document is designed to provide an overview of these consultation activities and feedback received.

The overall aim for this engagement was to consult and collaborate with key stakeholders on Christmas Island and increase community awareness of the project scope, minimising risks and the possibility of objections to the project design and proceedings.

The goals of the June engagement activity, were to:

- Inform the community about the project planning.
- Seek community feedback on the proposed project's mitigation solutions.
- Consult with key stakeholders on Christmas Island about the project and interface with their business/operation on Island.
- Continue to build the relationship with key stakeholders, including members of the Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA) and specifically the Emergency Management Committee.

The principles of our engagement were to:

- Be comprehensive, fair and reasonable.
- Be clear in our communications with the community.
- Have clearly and transparently considered and addressed any concerns as far as is possible.

2 Summary Consultation

Date	Time	Stakeholder	Attendees	Discussion Overview and Sentiment
23/06/2021	8.30am	Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA)	4	Sentiment: Positive
23/06/2021	11.30am	Administrator Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands	4	Sentiment: Positive
23/06/2021	2.00pm	Shire of Christmas Island	3	Sentiment: Positive
23/06/2021	3.30pm	Water Corporation of WA (WaterCorp)	3	Sentiment: Positive
23/06/2021	4.15pm	Indian Ocean Territories Power Services (IOTPS)	3	Sentiment: Positive
24/06/2021	8:30am	Christmas Island Phosphate	4	Sentiment: Positive
24/06/2021	1.30pm	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (Parks Australia)	4	Sentiment: Positive
24/06/2021	3:00pm	Christmas Island Community Information and Display session	3	Sentiment: Positive
25/06/2021	9:30am	Emergency Management Committee (EMC)	15	Sentiment: Neutral
27/06/2021	2:30pm	Hon. Nola Marino MP	5	Sentiment: Positive
02/07/2021	9:30am	Indian Ocean Territories Administration - Corporate Office and Lands / Records	3	Sentiment: Positive

A number of meetings were held with key stakeholders on Christmas Island over the 23, 24, 25 and 27 June 2021. Feather boards were on display at each session and were used to help guide attendees through the current and proposed works, and to help facilitate discussions about possible opportunities and areas of concerns.

A summary of each of these meetings can be found in Section 3 Key Stakeholder Consultation.

3 Key Stakeholder Consultation

Meeting 1: Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA)

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 8:30am – 9:30am

Venue: Christmas Island Department Main Office

Attendees: Alan Hudson (IOTA), Bradley Stringer (IOTA), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD)

Summary:

Stormwater Remediation:

- IOTA queried how long it would take for the basins to drain, and it was confirmed that the stormwater will drain away within 2 hours.
- IOTA indicated that there may need to be some adjustments made to the landslide alarms as they are going off too frequently. This is a part of a separate but related scope of works for stormwater flow monitoring to inform landslide warning alarms.
 - Historically unusual flows have been recorded coming intermittently from the Christmas Island Phosphates outlet.
 - It was confirmed that the Stormwater Monitoring System alarms will be adjusted post completion of the proposed Stormwater and Landslide works.
 - It was confirmed that the sensor (at the Shire Office location) will be replaced to improve the monitoring reporting in this area.

Landslide Mitigation:

- Options of stone pitch facing, grassed and gabion style facing were presented. Gabions were preferred by IOTA.
- IOTA preferred that the proposed revegetation plant selection for areas disturbed as a part of the landslide mitigation works are not too vigorous. Particularly that vegetation be used to soften the proposed berms on the residential side, but that the escarpment side of the berms are kept visible for maintenance purposes (this will mean slashing and/or spraying).
- IOTA indicated that the community are likely to be accepting of the project.
- Low maintenance solutions are preferred.
- IOTA requested that once service relocation plans and the project programme have been firmed up to please issue them a copy for review and their records.

Meeting 2: Administrator Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 11:30am – 12:30pm

Venue: Administrator's Office Boardroom

Attendees: Natasha Griggs (CI Administrator), Belinda Vanzundert (IOTA), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD)

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided and no major concerns were raised.

Stormwater Remediation:

- A query was raised about whether the George Fam Incline would continue to be able to be used as a public access way once the stormwater works occur, or whether this project would present an opportunity to make the walking track safer for pedestrians.
 - It was noted that the surface of the incline is slippery and queried whether the stormwater works would worsen this situation.
 - It was queried whether it should be blocked from public access.

Landslide Mitigation:

- Options of stone pitched facing, grassed and gabion style facing were presented. Gabion or grassed facing was preferred.
- Requested that the project team make contact again once the programme for construction works is confirmed to try to coordinate with the timing with annual community events including Cove Day, Territory Week, Sea Week, Anzac Day and the Cove Marathon where possible.
- Removal of storage sheds was discussed and identified as an item that will need to be progressed prior to any construction works commencing. IOTA were generally supportive of this.
- Removal of dumped cars and break up and removal of the 100m³ boulder that fell in March 2021 were also noted.
- A query was raised regarding completion of pre and post condition assessments to road pavement and kerbing adjacent to berm upgrade works.

Meeting 3: Shire of Christmas Island

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 2:00pm – 3:10pm

Venue: Shire of Christmas Island Offices

Attendees: Graeme Hedditch (Shire of Christmas Island), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD)

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater Remediation:

- A general overview was provided of the proposed Stormwater works and the proposed works near the Shire offices. Positive feedback was received from the Shire.
- Discussed permits and approvals required with associated works.

Landslide Mitigation:

- Options of stone pitched facing, grassed and gabion style facing were presented. Gabion facing was preferred.
- It was noted that the endemic vine will stay green year around and likely overtake all other revegetation growth.
- It was noted that the last wet season was a difficult wet season for the Island with weather conditions resulting in 4 (four) supply freight ships not being able to dock and offload.
- SoCI indicated that the \$1000/month leasing arrangement for use of the Westpac Car park for a laydown area would still be applicable for the next stage of the landslide works.

Meeting 4: Water Corporation WA

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Venue: Water Corporation Office

Attendees: Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD), Andrew Scott (Water Corp)

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater Remediation:

- Water Corporation provided an update about current and future planned infrastructure upgrades on Island including the possible new watermain on Murray Road
- New planned new fibre optic and power services are also proposed to be installed around Murray Road in the Northern Drumsite area.

Landscape Mitigation:

- Water Corporation indicated there is a local event held 3 (three) times per year in the Kampong where a water slide for the children is set up behind Post Office. The fire hydrant in Westpac car park area will be needed to be accessible for these events.
- Once service relocation plans and the project programme have been firmed up, Water Corporation requested to please issue them a copy for review and their records.

Meeting 5: Indian Ocean Territories Power Service (IOTPS)

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 4:10pm – 5:00pm

Venue: Water Corporation Christmas Island Office

Attendees: Ian McKendrick (IOTPS), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD),

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater Remediation:

- Discussion about current and future/newly planned IOTPS Power infrastructure on Island and possible interfaces with the project at the Nursery Road / Culvert and Murray Road and CIP's site access.
- It was noted that CI-Fi are also working to try to obtain an easement over part of the George Fam incline to ensure access to a proposed fibre optic cable they would like to install in the area.

Landscape Mitigation:

- IOTPS requested that a formal request be issued regarding confirmation of the ownership of street lighting in the Kampong to make sure that approvals for relocations are progressed through the right channels.
- IOTPS confirmed that relocation of the electrical ring main in the vicinity of the proposed works will be completed post construction of the works currently on site.

Meeting 6: Christmas Island Phosphate (CIP)

Date: 24 June 2021

Time: 8:30am – 9:30am

Venue: Christmas Island Phosphate Offices

Attendees: Joy Wickenden (CIP), Scott de Kruijff (CIP), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD)

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

CIP requested electronic copies of the feather boards be provided to them for information and internal circulation.

CIP highlighted that accommodation, car hire and supply of parts to CI has been challenging with the increase tourist demand to travel to the Island and impact on supply chains during the Covid-19 period.

CIP further indicated that they have an annual maintenance period in January / February that they will be flying in 20 – 25 people to complete routine maintenance which may exacerbate the issue.

Stormwater Remediation:

- CIP indicated that there is a stormwater pipe discharging from behind the school that is causing erosion to occur beneath CIP's phosphate conveyor in the area. It was considered that installation of a cable (by others?) through that area disturbed the existing stormwater and is causing the issue.
- The Northern Drumsite upgrade works will be located within CIP's lease. CIP indicated that for safety reasons there is one way access only allowed at the top of the proposed basin. GHD are to confirm if this has been allowed for in the design.
- CIP indicated that CI-Fi have requested a Right of Way to allow for installation of a new antenna/tower in the area where a new bund to help guide stormwater is proposed.
- CIP confirmed that the George Fam Incline becomes a "no go" area in wet weather events because of safety issues.
- CIP requested copies of the rainfall monitoring data above their workshop and in the vicinity of the Christmas Island High School.

Landscape Mitigation:

- Options of stone pitched facing, grassed and gabion style facing were presented. Gabion facing was preferred as they look and feel more secure / reassuring.
- CIP indicated that the Kampong community see the area behind the existing berms as their area for gardens and at times, waste disposal. Gates will be essential to try to prevent continued public access.

Meeting 7: Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (Parks Australia)

Date: 24 June 2021

Time: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Venue: Department of Parks Christmas Island Offices

Attendees: Kerrie Bennison (Parks), Tricia Ho (Parks), Effie Fox (Arup), John Mackay (GHD).

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater Remediation:

- Parks requested confirmation of what type of grass / plants will be used for basin in Northern Drumsite. GHD noted that this would be in consultation with Parks.
- Parks queried whether the proposed basin in the CIP lease area will have stone pitched walls (similar to a previously constructed basin behind the hardware store). This was not preferred.
- Parks queried who is responsible for completing maintenance to the proposed basins to prevent overgrow clogging capacity.
 - It was also queried how long until the proposed basin in the CIP lease area would require clean out, and who would be responsible for doing this.
 - Agreement needs to be in place for ongoing maintenance.
- Parks indicated that many people use the George Fam Incline as a walking path and queried whether there would be an impacts to this use as a result of the project.

Landscape Mitigation:

- Options of stone pitch facing, grassed and gabion style facing were presented. Gabion facing was preferred.
 - Noted that vegetation maintenance would be an essential consideration if revegetation was proposed to help soften the berm structure's visual appearance.
- Parks indicated that allowance must be made for Jalan Pantai to be closed, and for a possible site shut down to occur during the crab migration and spawning events respectively. Dedicated raking teams will be necessary to make sure the crabs are not impacted by the proposed works.

- Parks indicated that they are satisfied with the level of involvement with the current construction project and requested provision of the final details proposed for the crab redirection flashing/ proposed solution for the berms.

Meeting 8: Emergency Management Committee (EMC)

Date: 25 June 2021

Time: 9:30am – 11:00am

Venue: Emergency Management Committee Control Room

Attendees: Don Bridges (Toll Airport Manager), David Price (SoCI CEO), Alan Hudson (IOTA Operations), Natasha Griggs (IOT Administrator), Bradley Stringer (IOTA Emergency Management Officer), Scott de Kruijff (CIP Resources Manager), Jadranka Matijas (IOTA Director), David Robertson (Linx Port Manager), Ian Pinnager (Royal Australian Navy, OIC, LSE-CI), Emma Howard (Indian Ocean Territories Health Service, A/HSM), Scott Burger (Australian Federal Police, OIC CI), Andrew Scott (Water Corporation - Operations Manager), Ian McKendrick (IOTPS Manager)

Apologies: Kerrie Bennison (Parks Manager) and Steve Gillow.

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater Remediation:

- A query was raised about stormwater discharge near the Territory Day Park (TDP) from the Central Drumsite as it impacts on the new walking track upgrades works.
- A query was raised about whether stormwater modelling has been performed to confirm whether there are any impacts on Tai Jin House, the Smith Point Wastewater Treatment Plan, Fuel Depot and associated infrastructure.
 - It was also noted that the headwall down where the oil pipes run (to the south of TDP) has been washed out in large stormwater events in the past.
- The existing basin located in the Southern Drumsite at the back of the Christmas Island High School was identified as having issues with erosion and debris build up.
 - It was also noted that the existing culvert in that location has filled and blown out/been damaged previously.

Landscape Mitigation:

- AFP were interested in the management of the Boat Ramp access in the construction works that area currently on site.
- The Committee were generally supportive of the removal of the storage sheds, and indicated that the safety risk and messaging needs to come across clearly in any community communications.
- There was a query relating to reuse of some of the existing materials (in the berms predominantly) to construct the new berms.

- The final detail for the crab routing / flashing solution was requested to be forwarded to the Committee once confirmed.
- The Committee advised that updates have been made to the EMC's Rockfall Risk Management Plan to reflect findings / actions post the March 2021 Rockfall Event and the document has been issued for endorsement. A copy of the endorsed plan was requested by Arup.

Meeting 9: Hon. Nola Marino MP, Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories

Date: 27 June 2021

Time: 2:30 – 3:00pm

Venue: Administrator’s Office Boardroom, and on site at the March 2021 Rockfall.

Attendees: Nola Marino MP, Sophie Beeton (Minister Marino’s Advisor), Natasha Griggs (Administrator), Jadranka Mathias (IOTA), Bradley Stringer (IOTA Emergency Management Officer), Effie Fox (Arup).

Summary:

- A general project overview and update on the current construction works, proposed stormwater and landslide mitigation works, community consultation findings and a brief regarding the March 2021 Rockfall event was provided.
- A query was asked about whether it would be possible to use scanning to map the underground aquifers, and to divert the stormwater runoff upslope into them to be used for stormwater harvesting and / or to provide water security.
- A query was asked about the ability to reuse some of the materials on site.

Meeting 10: IOTA - Corporate and Lands / Records

Date: 2 July 2021

Time: 9:30 – 10:30am

Venue: Administrator's Office Boardroom, and on site at the March 2021 Rockfall.

Attendees: Stephanie Ong (IOTA), Stephen Elliot (IOTA) and Effie Fox (Arup)

Summary:

A general project overview and update on the current construction works was provided.

Stormwater:

- The route of the Territory Day Park refurbished walking tracks can be provided on request to allow the stormwater outfall flow route to be checked.
- In the Central Drumsite, a future possible round about is proposed at the intersection of Sun Mai Low and Murray Road / Lam Lok Loh. This upgrade is proposed in 18 months to 2 years' time.
- Northern Drumsite CiFi easement request was noted for their antennae and power at the Murray Road and CIP entrance.
- It was confirmed that under the Local Government Act, the maintenance of the proposed new basins would be by the Shire of Christmas Island.
- A query was raised about the assumed hardstand catchment area and what development scenario the basin volume calculations were based on, and whether the sizing is future proofed for the 2050 Structure Plan?

Landslide:

- A query was raised regarding children potentially wanting to climb the gabion facing in the area where the existing basketball court is.
 - The possibility of a future community art project for the area was noted.
- A query was raised regarding the suitability of Christmas Island's rock / soil for use to construct the proposed berms.
- A copy of the existing underground services pick up in the Kampong using Ground Penetrating Radar was requested when complete.

4 Summary of Community Consultation

A community information display was held on at the Christmas Island Recreation Centre on Thursday 24 June 2021 between 3:00pm to 5:00pm. This information session was a 'drop-in' style with project information poster on boards were on display to depict project details to attendees. These posters are shown in Appendix A.

A Community Bulletin was distributed by the Christmas Island Administrator's Office on the 18 June 2021 to the community encouraging them to attend the information display, as shown in Appendix B.

Attendance at the information session included three members from the public.

The comments received included:

- Two out of three indicating that the gabion facing would be preferred, the third person didn't indicate a preference.
- A query being raised about mosquito breeding potential in the proposed new drainage basins.
- A query was raised about the potential for impacts on the heritage listed Christmas Island Club.
- A request to communicate with the broader community via the Christmas Island Blackboard (the physical one at the Gaze Road roundabout, and the online Facebook version)
- The Cove to Club, Cove Day, Territory Week, Sea Week and Sunday (recreational fishing access) were noted as potential annual events to be aware of when planning the construction works.
- A request was made to make sure that the proposed construction works are respectful of Mosque Prayer times.

At the consultation session, attendees were invited to provide their contact information so their comments could be recorded in writing

5 Appendix A: Consultation Supporting Resources

Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project
Submission 1 - Supplementary Submission 2

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and
Communications

Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project
Stakeholder and Community Consultation Summary Report

Flying Fish Cove Berm Replacement



There have been multiple landslides at Flying Fish Cove over the past five years.



These landslides occurred following heavy rains and from stormwater runoff from Drumsite Precinct.

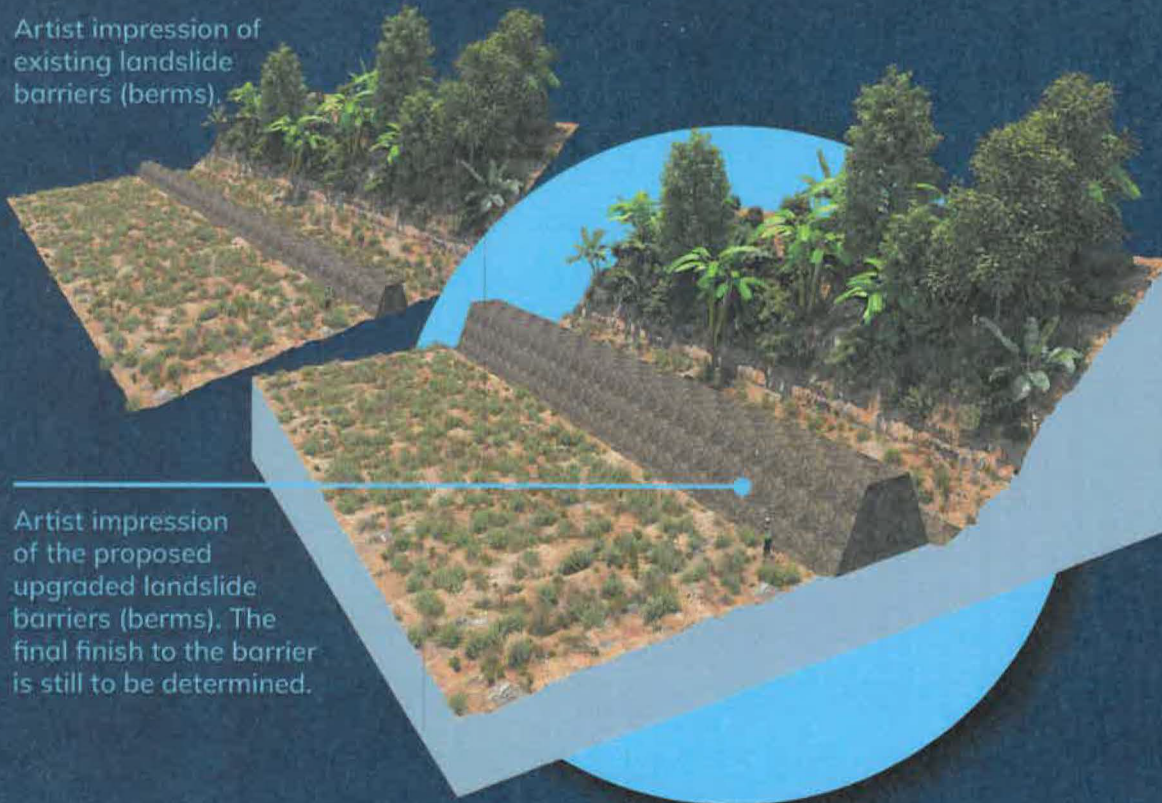


The stormwater run off and landslides have damaged the existing protection barriers.



The ageing and damaged protection barriers (berms) at the Kampong Precinct are proposed to be replaced.

Artist impression of existing landslide barriers (berms).



Artist impression of the proposed upgraded landslide barriers (berms). The final finish to the barrier is still to be determined.



Flying Fish Cove Rockfall Fence Replacement



Seven rockfall fences and five berms protect the Kampong at Flying Fish Cove.



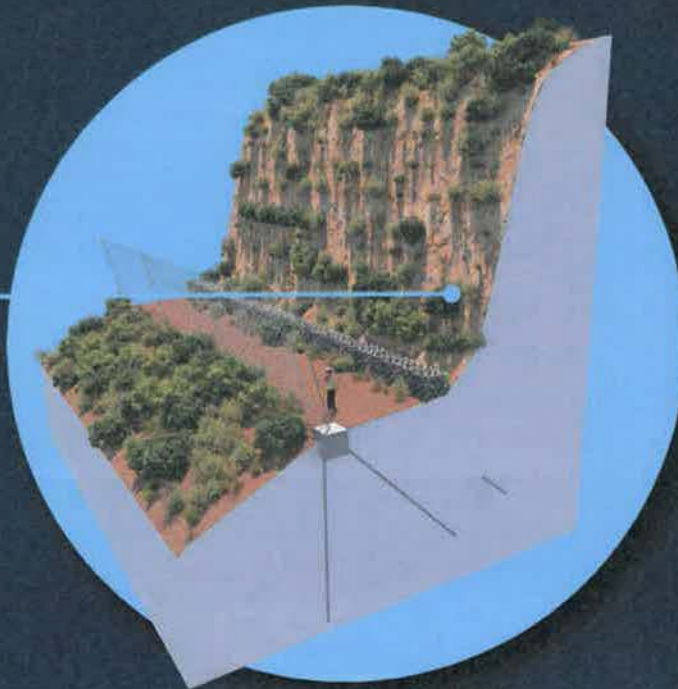
The fences and berms protect critical infrastructure on Christmas Island including residential unit blocks.



The current condition of the rockfall fences is poor.



The rockfall fences are past their design life and need to be replaced.



Artist impression of replacement rockfall fences.



Drumsite Stormwater Drainage Upgrades

Northern Drumsite



Northern Drumsite - Incline



Central Drumsite



Southern Drumsite



Christmas Island Stormwater and Landslide Mitigation Project

Flying Fish Cove Sites

- A** Site A - Boat Club Car Park
 - B** Site B - Marine Building
 - C** Site C - Block 413
 - D** Site D - Block 409
 - E** Site E - Madrasa / Shop
 - F** Site F - Block 403
 - G** High School
 - H** Drumsite Village
 - I** Christmas Island Phosphate workshops
 - J** Phosphate Conveyor
- Site A, B and E fences (Early works package, currently underway)
— Site C, D and F fences (Proposed works)
— Rockberms Demolition and Replacement (Proposed works)

General Site Layout And Catchments

- Christmas Island Phosphates (CIP) Area
- Northern Drumsite
- Central Drumsite
- Southern Drumsite
- Proposed Drainage Pipes
- Proposed Watermain
- Proposed Drainage Basins



Drumsite Northern Basin – Artist Impression Only



6 Appendix B: Community Bulletin



Natasha Griggs

Administrator of Christmas Island
Administrator of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands



Community Bulletin

Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Works Project update

Number: A27/2021

Date: 18 June 2021

The Australian Government is continuing to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of Christmas Island residents and visitors, with works to replace three of the existing protective fences and berms across Flying Fish Cove progressing.

The recent rockfall event in March reminded us all of the importance of fit-for-purpose infrastructure to safeguard the community from future events.

The Australian Government is working closely with specialised engineers on the works and it is critical that residents and visitors in the Kampong residential and recreational areas understand the risk of land slippage and rockfall, and evacuate the area immediately if alarms are sounded or if asked to do so. No access behind berms or fences is permitted. For the safety of the community, the existing site fencing will remain in place as an ongoing measure of protection, with residents and visitors unable to access the construction site at any time.

The Government is investing \$28.9 million to replace the existing remaining fences and berms as well as installing fit-for-purpose stormwater management in the Drumsite area, to manage the risks of storm water, flooding, landslide and rockfall on Christmas Island. These works are to ensure that Flying Fish Cove remains a safe destination to live, work and visit over the coming decades.

As required for projects of this nature, a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works hearing on the proposed works will take place in August 2021, with further community consultation taking place on island this week as part of the Public Works approval process:

Information Display and drop-in session for the Christmas Island Stormwater, Landslide and Rockfall Mitigation Works Project

3pm – 5pm, Thursday 24 June 2021, Function Room 1, Christmas Island Recreation Centre

I encourage you to drop by and speak with representatives from the Department and the engineering consultants to find out more. If you require any further information regarding the works, please contact the Department's project team, via a dedicated email address: ffclmpconsultation@infrastructure.gov.au

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