



Construction on the Mallacoota Ocean Access Boat Ramp at Bastion Point has suffered a minor setback thanks to a weekend storm (right), compared to its usual state (left). (PS)

Bastion Point storm damage

The partly constructed Mallacoota Ocean Access Boat Ramp has survived a significant weekend storm primarily unscathed.

Some minor damage occurred to the breakwater core, which is currently unprotected until the final armour rock layers are placed on the crest of the structure.

Some local residents reported "huge seas shifting large boulders from their placement positions into the ocean".

East Gippsland Shire director operations Chris Waites said

project contractor GPM Constructions estimates repair works to be completed over a two-day period with the project remaining on schedule for an October completion.

Mr Waites, however, said construction of the boat ramp was progressing well.

"The contractor directed effort in the initial stages to constructing the access road between the proposed ramp and the upgraded car and trailer parking area. In parallel, the vegetation removed for the

parking area was completed in accordance with the native vegetation management plan," Mr Waites said.

"The most recent stage of construction has seen the start of a key element of the project, the protective breakwater. The breakwater is approximately 75 per cent complete.

"The contractor will now construct temporary 'fingers' to gain access to install channel markers (navigation aids). The fingers will be constructed from the same material that was used to form the core of the

breakwater and will be removed as navigation aids are completed / installed."

Mr Waites said the community advisory committee for the project continues to meet on a monthly basis.

"These meetings have proven valuable in providing a conduit between the community and the project management / construction team. Outcomes have included improvements to road safety, modifications to optimise accessibility and a focus on environmental compliance," he said.

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