

The Hon Andrew Stoner MP Deputy Premier of NSW

Minister for Trade and Investment Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW WATERFRONT STRUCTURES TO MAKE LAKE ILLAWARRA MORE ACCESSIBLE

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services Andrew Stoner said a \$520,000 program of waterfront works was about to get underway along the shores of Lake Illawarra.

Mr Stoner said the upgrades to jetties, fishing platforms and boat ramps would improve waterway access for everyone who uses the popular lake and its surrounds.

"New lower landings on the jetties will make them more accessible to people with disabilities and people using smaller water craft and rowing vessels," Mr Stoner said.

"The new \$170,000, double-lane boat ramp in Skiway Park, Oak Flats will alleviate congestion and improve boating access.

"And a new fishing platform at Windang will benefit children and persons with disabilities who find it difficult to fish from the foreshore." he said.

Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources, Troy Grant, said most of the work is due to get underway in July and August.

"These improvements showcase the NSW Government's commitment to coastal infrastructure and the people of the Illawarra," Mr Grant said.

"A number of controls will be implemented during construction of the works to minimise impacts on the environment and users of the adjoining foreshore reserves," he said.

Mr Grant said the works include:

- \$170,000 in modifications to make new lower landings on existing timber jetties at Boonerah Point, Mt Warrigal and Griffins Bay (King St) and Warrawong.
- A new double-lane boat ramp in Skiway Park, Oak Flats, to relieve congestion while boaters launch or retrieve vessels and a new block retaining wall, bitumen roadway and pathway
- Construction of a \$180,000, 25m-long, fishing platform at Judbooley Parade foreshore at Windang with steps to allow access to the sand flats at low tide

 In addition to the timber platform, a fish cleaning table will be installed at the Judbooley site as well as improved pathway access along the foreshore, additional park seating, lighting, bank protection and artwork.

Mr Grant said the jetty modifications and ramp construction would commence in July and are expected to be completed by September 2012.

He said funding for both jetty upgrades was divided equally between the NSW Better Boating Program and the Lake Illawarra Authority.

"The ramp project is in partnership with Shellharbour City Council and NSW Roads and Maritime Services," Mr Grant said.

Mr Grant said construction work on the fishing platform will commence in August and is expected to be completed by late September 2012.

"The recreational fishing platform is being built in partnership with Wollongong City Council and is part funded through the Department of Primary Industries Recreational Fishing Trust," he said.