



## Exmouth Boat Harbour

# Project fact sheet

The Exmouth Boat Harbour was officially opened on 13 September 1997. The harbour concept originated in 1987, as a means of developing the local economy after the United States Defence personnel departed from the nearby communications station. The original plans were for a Coral Coast Marina, which became the Exmouth Boat Harbour over the ten year development period.

The DoT is the authority vested with responsibility for Exmouth Boat Harbour. For several years the Exmouth Boat Harbour has been operating at full capacity and while different trends are experienced among the respective maritime industries the demand for harbour berthing facilities remains at a level that cannot be met.



The operational focus of the harbour is changing, with a reduction in the fishing industry operations and an increase in demand from recreational and commercial industries. Interest has been expressed from larger recreational and commercial vessels that cannot currently access the harbour.

Demand for harbour and associated infrastructure has increased significantly over the past five years at Exmouth from both recreational and in particular, commercial users servicing the resources sector. Due to these increases Exmouth Boat Harbour is now one of the DoT's busiest maritime facilities.

The harbour was initially planned to service the fishing, charter and recreational fleet operating out of Exmouth. However, with the introduction of the resources sector as an additional user, the harbour is now at capacity and the use of the service wharf has changed to that of a small port with cranes and containers regularly working over the wharf. DoT has been working closely with the Shire of Exmouth, Gascoyne Development Commission (GDC), the Exmouth Chamber of

Commerce and Industry (ECCI) and local operators to develop an expansion plan to cater for the current demands and anticipated growth.

The Port of Dampier remains the main port in WA for servicing the offshore industries and with the current and continued growth offshore, pressure to identify new berthing and harbour support facilities along the north west coast is mounting. Exmouth is ideally positioned geographically to provide new infrastructure for the offshore industry with close proximity to the offshore development and the protection offered by the waters of the Exmouth Gulf.

Exmouth township is continuing to expand and the development of the Resort and the Exmouth Marina Village residential and canal system have contributed to demands to accommodate larger recreational, charter and deep sea sport fishing vessels at the Harbour.