

Silt curtain installed in Sydney Harbour for Barangaroo's Headland Park marine construction works



Computer generated image of the barge that will facilitate Barangaroo's Headland Park marine construction works, including the creation of a northern cove (also pictured).

A six-metre-deep silt curtain has been installed around the Barangaroo headland as part of major marine works to be carried out by Headland Park construction partner, Boulderstone.

The geotextile curtain is the first of two to be installed during the life of the six-hectare Headland Park construction project including a northern cove, due for completion in 2015. The 420-metre long barrier is demarcated in the water by special markers and will provide a marine exclusion zone as well as turbidity control for construction works, including the demolition of existing caissons. Additional turbidity control will be provided by two moveable internal curtains, both 30 metres in length.

A second 405-metre-long curtain will be installed in 2013 to coincide with the relocation of Sydney Ports' Overseas Passenger Terminal to White Bay. The majority of the caisson demolition will be land based with a Heavy lift Barge (pictured) used to remove the surplus section of the caisson itself.

"This is a very unique and exciting stage of the Headland Park construction which involves some world-class techniques," said Barry Murphy, Boulderstone's Project Director for Barangaroo's Headland Park.

"In addition to deploying some of the most sophisticated techniques, tools, and environmental controls, the curtains will ensure that construction works are carried out without interruption to day-to-day harbour operations and access to the Foreshore Walk continues for the entire duration of the project.

"By providing turbidity control the curtains will also minimise environmental impacts on surrounding neighbours," Mr Murphy said.

Designed by world-renowned landscape architect, Peter Walker, Headland Park will provide space for recreation, expression, celebration, and community against a naturalistic setting featuring more than

75,000 native Sydney flora, bush walks, grassed areas, lookouts, walking and cycle paths, and the new northern cove. Unique tidal rock pools created from sandstone excavated from the Barangaroo site will also feature, offering the closest connection to Sydney Harbour that any foreshore park ever has.

“As Sydney’s latest precinct and a vital new extension to the CBD, Barangaroo offers a myriad of features and benefits by way of its unique design, including the naturalistic absolute foreshore that Headland Park and the northern cove are set to offer,” said John Tabart, CEO, Barangaroo Delivery Authority.

“Following three years of pre-construction planning we are thrilled to have reached this very exciting and important stage of the Headland Park construction,” said Mr Tabart.

Barangaroo is named after the second wife of cross-cultural envoy Bennelong and was once the hunting and fishing ground of Australia’s Gadigal people. Rich in Aboriginal and European settlement history Barangaroo will offer a versatile and exciting connection to Sydney Harbour’s green headlands and the CBD.

The Barangaroo precinct, designed to feature more than 50 per cent public open space, also includes the southern commercial and residential development and a central civic area for which a master planning team will be announced next month.

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