



Biodiversity

Osborne Submarine Construction Yard Project

About the Project

The Australian Submarine Agency (ASA) has entered into an agreement with the Minister for Environment and Water to undertake a Strategic Assessment under Part 10 of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This fact sheet explains the Biodiversity considerations to be included as part of the Strategic Assessment.

Australia will begin building its first SSN-AUKUS in Osborne, South Australia by the end of this decade. Construction will be supported by an expansion of the existing Osborne Naval Shipyard Area to support the facilities and infrastructure required to build the first SSN-AUKUS, referred to as the Submarine Construction Yard (SCY).

The preferred site for the SCY is situated north of the existing Osborne Naval Shipyard on the Lefevre Peninsula, approximately 19 km north of Adelaide in South Australia. Osborne will be the home of Australia's next generation submarine build and will become one of the most advanced technological hubs in the world.

Over the next few years, it is estimated at least \$2 billion will be invested in South Australian infrastructure. At its peak, the design and build of the infrastructure for the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard is expected to employ up to 4,000 workers – almost double the workforce forecast for the Attack Class program.



Looking north over the Lefevre Peninsula (Source: ANI)

The ASA is committed to the sustainable development of the SCY, through consideration of the biodiversity values of the Lefevre Peninsula and surrounds.

Where is the SCY planned to be located?

The preferred location for the SCY is on the Lefevre Peninsula next to the existing Osborne Naval Shipyard. This land was previously prepared for industrial development.

What is biodiversity?

Biodiversity refers to plants, animals and the habitats in which they live. Biodiversity values refer to the importance of having a variety of different plants, animals, and ecosystems.

What is the environment like within the SCY?

The SCY is predominately cleared land, except for patches of low shrubs present along constructed stormwater basins. Biodiversity surveys of the SCY have identified habitats for plants and animals including birds, reptiles and other species occur along the stormwater drains and the shoreline, particularly where these are connected to vegetation.



What biodiversity values are in the region's surrounding areas?

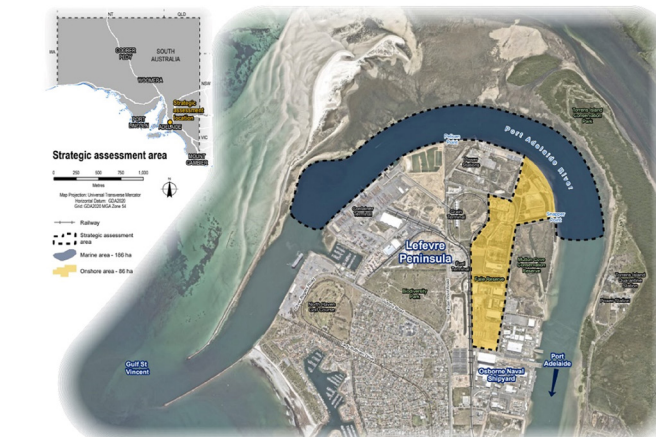
Conservation reserves have been established by the South Australian Government to protect the biodiversity values of the region. These include the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary and the conservation reserves within the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary - Winaityinaityi Pangkara. Other areas on the Lefevre Peninsula that contribute to biodiversity include Mutton Cove and Biodiversity Park.

What assessments have been undertaken for biodiversity?

The ASA has conducted a number of biodiversity surveys to identify the species of plants and animals and habitats present within the SCY. More information regarding the results of these surveys will be available in the Report.



The Strategic Assessment considers potential impacts on existing local environments, such as nearby Falie Reserve (pictured). (Source: GHD).



Map of the Strategic Assessment area.

How will impact to biodiversity be considered?

Potential impact to biodiversity as a result of construction and operation of the SCY will be assessed in the Report.

The Report will address the Terms of Reference developed by Department of Climate Change Energy, the Environment and Water and the ASA in relation to the Strategic Assessment Agreement under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

The Report will provide a thorough assessment of any impacts that may occur during construction and operation of the SCY. The Report will also include proposed mitigation methods and offset measures for identified impacts.

Will existing conservation efforts on the Lefevre Peninsula be considered?

The ASA is aware that the community has been involved with conservation efforts on the Lefevre Peninsula. These conservation efforts have contributed to the biodiversity values of the area, and, as such, would be considered in the Report.

Will the community get to have a say?

The community will be invited to review and provide comments on the draft Report during the public comment period.

ASA is holding series of community information sessions to provide the community with information and opportunity to provide feedback on the Strategic Assessment. We encourage the community to share local insights, feedback and ideas during our community information sessions. Details of upcoming information sessions can be found at www.asa.gov.au

ASA is committed to ensuring interested stakeholders and the community are both heard and informed.

Where can I find more information?

Further information can be found at www.asa.gov.au. For all enquiries about the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard Project, please email the Australian Submarine Agency at asa.osborne.enquiries@defence.gov.au