



## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### Hamelin Pool Boardwalk



*Image – artist impression of the new boardwalk*

#### Background

- In April 2021 Cyclone Seroja severely damaged the timber boardwalk that was built in 1996 to allow visitors to experience the stromatolites whilst having minimal impact on this fragile environment.
- The boardwalk has since been closed due to visitor safety risks and visitor access below the high-water mark has been limited to minimise impacts on sensitive microbial communities.
- The stromatolites and microbial communities found at Hamelin Pool are one of the key values that led to the listing of Shark Bay as a World Heritage Area.
- As the timber boardwalk was nearing the end of its life, marine engineers recommended that it be fully replaced rather than repaired.

#### What's happening with the boardwalk

- In April 2026, the contract to construct a new boardwalk was awarded to SMC Marine WA Pty Ltd.
- The construction timeline to rebuild the boardwalk is 11 months, with the completion date subject to contractor confirmation.
- The new boardwalk will be 30 metres longer than the old one and is designed to allow visitors to fully experience the beauty of this natural wonder.
- During construction of the boardwalk, visitors can still access the area but need to be mindful of their safety and not enter the defined construction site.
- For more information, visit [dbca.wa.gov.au/hamelinpoolrestoration](https://dbca.wa.gov.au/hamelinpoolrestoration) or contact the Gascoyne District Office on 9948 2226.