

APRIL 2023

PROJECT UPDATE

Causeway Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridges Project

Early works have commenced in preparation for the construction of the two bridges with active sites on McCallum Park, Heirisson Island and Point Fraser.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Fact Sheet

We recognise that the project site holds strong cultural significance to Aboriginal people. We acknowledge the importance of ensuring the cultural heritage values of the area are respected, protected, and celebrated.

A fact sheet has been developed which provides an overview of the history of the location, engagement with the Matagarup Elders Group and the cultural themes guiding the project. [Click here to view the fact sheet.](#)

History

The site of the existing Causeway traffic bridge has been a significant crossing point over the Swan River since well before the arrival of colonists in 1829. The shallow flats in the vicinity of what is now known as Matagarup (Heirisson Island) provided a natural junction to traverse between the northern and southern banks of the river.

60,000 BP
People of the Noongar nation occupied the South West of Australia for at least 60,000 years.

1616-1829
European exploration

1616
Dirk Hartog exploration of the WA coastline.

8,000 to 12,000 years ago
Nyitiny (Cold Times). The most recent Ice Age caused the sea levels to rise. Tasmania separated from the mainland, New Guinea from Cape York, and islands off the coast of Western Australia emerged, including Ngooloomayup (Carnac), Wadjemup (Rottnest) and Meeandip (Garden).

Environmental Management

To facilitate the safe construction of the bridges, some vegetation on Heirisson Island and Point Fraser must be removed. The Causeway Link Alliance is committed to minimising vegetation clearing, repurposing any trees removed and replanting at a ratio of three to one. This will result in a long-term increase in native tree species, which over time will form a large canopy that will support native birdlife and minimise water use.

A fact sheet has been developed which provides an overview of how the Alliance is mitigating and managing environmental impacts. [Click here to view the fact sheet.](#)



Further information

To stay up to date with the project, subscribe to email notifications via our project webpage at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/causeway-path/. We also have a 24/7 project information line that can be contacted on 138 138 or email enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au.