Iron Ore Wharf To Be Demolished

A $6.4 million tender has been awarded to demolish the old Iron Ore Wharf and associated facilities at Fort Hill as part of the ongoing development of the Darwin Waterfront Precinct.

Infrastructure Minister Delia Lawrie today said fencing, bollards and superficial structures are currently being removed from the wharf.

"The Waterfront development will deliver more housing, recreation and tourism and business opportunities for the Territory and help increase economic activity," Ms Lawrie said.

"Steelcon Constructions (NT) Pty Ltd has won the $6.4 million tender to remove the wharf and work will take place progressively over 12 months.

"The Iron Ore Wharf is long passed its prime - it's no longer used or feasible to retain due to the condition of the structure – so it will be removed.

"The steel in this massive structure won’t go to waste – 90 per cent will be recycled and the remainder will be re-used.

"The concrete removed from the facilities will be crushed and re-used as landfill.

"Today Steelcon is removing the wharf conveyor system support structure by crane, before it starts removing the wharf deck and pylons".

No explosives will be used and the wharf will be removed using mechanical equipment.

The conveyor system, the ship’s loader and the redundant building structures on the Fort Hill site will also be removed.

All work will ensure minimal disruption to the Bluebird wreck, an old fishing trawler sunk during Cyclone Tracy used today for diving which is located near the wharf.

The Iron Ore Wharf was built in 1967 when the port was expanded to facilitate the export of iron ore, which ended in 1974 with Cyclone Tracy.

Following the transfer of industrial port activities to East Arm Wharf the Iron Ore Wharf has been used infrequently in recent years.

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