

## Delays to New Water Parking Bay Development Due to Large Reptiles

The construction of a new water parking bay, specifically designed to accommodate amphibian aircraft and due to be completed in early April, has been delayed due to unexpected interest from locals.

Work on the parking bay commenced in December 2022 and when completed will allow DIA to conduct maintenance, repairs, and testing on up to three amphibian aircraft at one time.

But interest from locals has pushed completion of the project back from the original date of early April 2023.

TT Mickey, General Manager of Darwin International Airport said, "The project has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances."

"Instead of opening a state-of-the-art facility we are searching for solutions to remove a number of large reptiles from our runway."

"At the moment we have 4 or 5 individuals that appear to have made themselves at home and it's going to be tough to re-home them elsewhere; they look pretty comfortable."

TT Mickey went on to say that although a nuisance the reptiles have found support from ADG staff and contractors.

"Our staff and contractors are working around the crocs...we have integrated rosters for lookout duty and feeding into the work program to minimise delays to the project. Additional safety officers have also been engaged for the duration of the project."

"Our staff are becoming quite attached to one of the crocs and have nicknamed him 'Gotcha.'"

"We would like to thank clients and passengers for their patience and apologise for any inconvenience. Their safety is our number one priority."

**(Photos attached)**

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Photo: Jordan Schrapel

Construction of the new amphibian water parking bay has been delayed due to nuisance reptiles.

Link to croc making his way across the runway for a swim

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D5gawDlx1ls&psig=AOvVaw1SM5Y34rhk\\_a27YyZ9SRd1&ust=1680145778254000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAMQjB1qFwoTCIitnPSUgP4CFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D5gawDlx1ls&psig=AOvVaw1SM5Y34rhk_a27YyZ9SRd1&ust=1680145778254000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAMQjB1qFwoTCIitnPSUgP4CFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE)