



CATCHMENTS TO COAST COMMITTEE MEETING

26 June 2024



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

ONE – CENTRAL COAST IS THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) FOR THE CENTRAL COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

ONE – CENTRAL COAST DEFINES THE COMMUNITY'S VISION AND IS OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE

ONE – CENTRAL COAST BRINGS TOGETHER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SET KEY DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES

One - Central Coast will shape and inform Council's business activities, future plans, services and expenditure. Where actions are the responsibility of other organisations, sectors and groups to deliver, Council will work with key partners to advocate on behalf of our community.

Ultimately, every one of us who live on the Central Coast has an opportunity and responsibility to create a sustainable future from which we can all benefit. Working together we can make a difference.

RESPONSIBLE

WE'RE A RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED TO BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND DELIVERING A GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE IN ALL OUR INTERACTIONS.

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision making and expenditure, particularly around the delivery of essential infrastructure projects that increase the safety, liveability and sustainability of our region. We're taking a strategic approach to ensure our planning and development processes are sustainable and accessible and are designed to preserve the unique character of the coast.

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

G2 Engage and communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on trust, transparency, respect and use community participation and feedback to inform decision making

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

All council reports contained within the Business Paper are now aligned to the Community Strategic Plan. Each report will contain a cross reference to a Theme, Focus Area and Objective within the framework of the Plan.

The infographic details the following structure:

- THEME: BELONGING**
 - Focus Area: OUR COMMUNITY (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
 - Focus Area: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE (Objectives: G5, G6)
- THEME: SMART**
 - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (Objectives: C1, C2, C3, C4)
 - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (Objectives: O1, O2, O3, O4)
- THEME: GREEN**
 - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (Objectives: E1, E2, E3, E4)
 - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (Objectives: R1, R2)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
 - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
 - Focus Area: BELONGING THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE (Objectives: I1, I2, I3, I4)
 - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: S1, S2, S3, S4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
 - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY (Objectives: P1, P2, P3, P4)
 - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: S1, S2, S3, S4)
 - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (Objectives: L1, L2, L3, L4)



Meeting Notice

**The Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting
of Central Coast Council
will be held in the Committee Meeting room, 2 Hely Street,
Wyong and Remotely - Online,
on Wednesday 26 June 2024 at 3:00pm,
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

1 Procedural Items

- 1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest..... 4
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2 Reports

- 2.1 Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item).....23
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- 2.4 General Business.....35

Peter Sheath
Chairperson

**1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies,
Disclosure of Interest (cont'd)**

**1.1 INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY, APOLOGIES,
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Chairperson

Welcome to Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play.

We pay our respects to Darkinjung country, and Elders past and present.

We recognise the continued connection to these lands and waterways and extend this acknowledgement to the homelands and stories of those who also call this place home.

We recognise our future leaders and the shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

1.2 PREVIOUS BUSINESS: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES, REVIEW ACTION LOG

Chairperson

Attachments

- 1** MINUTES - Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting - 20 March 2024 D16116751



Central Coast Council

Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Held Remotely - Online and in the Daisy Meeting Room
2 Hely Street, Wyong

20 March 2024

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Ian Carruthers
Doug Darlington
Graham Hankin
Andrew Jones
Michael Kilp
Adrian Williams
Samantha Willis
David Mylan

Status

Present (online)
Present (in person)
Present (in person)
Present (online)
Present (online)
Present (online)
Present (online)
Present (online)

External Agencies

Troy Gaston, University of Newcastle
Stephanie Lyons, NSW Department of Planning and Environment
Simon Walter, NSW Transport
Chris Drummond, Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
Sian Fawcett, Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
Michael Campbell

Status

Present (online)
Present (online)
Present (online)
Apology

Staff

Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management
Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast
James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure

Status

Apology
Present (online)
Present (online)
Present (in person)
Present (online) For Item 2.4
Present (online) For Item 2.4
Present (in person)
Present (in person)

Peter Sheath, Chairperson

Sharon McLaren, Corporate Planning and Reporting

Merindah Overhall, Innovation and Performance Partner, Corporate Planning and Reporting,
Briony Stiles, Civic Support
Rachel Gibson, Civic Support

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

The Acting Chairperson, Peter Sheath, declared the meeting open at 3:05pm

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest

3:05 pm

The Acting Chairperson, The Chair, introduced himself and declared the meeting open at 3:05pm.

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log

3:06pm

The committee confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

[Catchments to Coast Meeting Minutes 13 December 2023](#)

Note: Reports 2.2 of the previous minutes The minutes say that the committee note the report, yet there was no report the Ettalong dredging. Graham Hankin notes that the report has been deferred until the 20 March 2024 meeting.

The Chair take minutes as accepted.

The outstanding action item log was reviewed and updated.

Updates are included in the Action Log below.

REPORTS

2.1 Update on Coastal Operations (Standing Agenda Item)

3:14pm

The Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure spoke to the written report and presentation.

The Chair opened the floor for any questions.

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

The following clarifications were made to queries from the Committee members:-

- The quantity of sand removed in the recent Entrance channel works was 3000 cubic meters.

Resolved

That the Committee note the information in the report.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item)

3:27pm

The Section Manager Catchments to Coast spoke to written report and presentation.

He opened the floor to questions from the Committee.

Committee Member (DD) asked the Chair if he may speak to the Long Jetty stormwater water quality issue, and noted:-

- 6 months has passed since meeting with Council compliance officers (ECS) and provided them the information of what the hydrocarbons were.
- 12 years has passed since the issue was first brought to Council.
- Expects that there should be a program and timetable issued regarding something positive that will be done about the issue.
- The members of the Long Jetty Water Watch group are disappointed that the source of the hydrocarbon has not yet been identified.

The following clarifications were made to queries from the Committee members:-

- Confirmation that there is more work to be done.
- Sampling methodology will be discussed with ECS internally.
- There is a number of known potential sources. Some of those include known leaking diesel fuel stations that are currently being regulated by the EPA. Others where there could be diesel tanks, but that aren't being regulated and aren't known whether they're leaking or not, but they're a whole range of sources.
- Suggestions of utilising the Universities professionals and facilities were raised.
- Suggestions to employ an engineering solution to catch the water and soak up the pollutant. Confirmed that there has been previous drain investigations up that drain.
- Confirmation that Section Manager Catchments to Coast will be further investigating with Water and Sewer, how they're tracking in terms of their audits and whether or not the high risk mains have been completed or not. May have a more detailed update for the next meeting.
- In regard to the Salvinia infestation in Wyong River: Confirmation that Water and Sewer are currently leading the weed removal project. It is a process of waterborne

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

removal at the moment. He noted that it is pretty thick upstream and not just on the edges. It is estimated to take 4-6 weeks.

- In regard to Open Coast CMP workshops: the details of proposed workshops, whether focus or area based, will be considered.

Resolved

That the Committee note the report.

2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item)

3:55pm

The Chair spoke to presentation. Will take the report as read, and will move through Terrigal Lagoon flood impact slides.

The Chair opened the floor to questions. There were several clarification questions that were addressed.

Resolved

That the Committee note the report.

2.4 Community Strategic Plan

4:31pm

Innovation and Performance Partner, and the Section Manager, of Corporate Planning and Reporting, and spoke to presentation.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from the Committee. There were no questions raised.

2.5 Review of the Central Coast Waterways Report Card 2022/23

4:39pm

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

Committee Member spoke to the report.

The following clarifications were made to queries from the Committee member (MC):-

- The Section Manager Catchments to Coast advised that the Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (MER) that council follows and the sampling is undertaken by NSW Government and has a strict guideline. The reference and link to MER report card is on the Council website. It is not meant to be an ecological report for Wyee bay. Meant to be a general for study up and down the coast. We can look at that and make it clear what it is and what it isn't.
- Committee noted that it is an important topic, what is ecological health versus environmental health. Suggestions made that the Council could be in a position to reach out to community and ask what they want in a report card. Ben could discuss what Council could do with the resources they have.

ACTION 48: The Section Manager Catchments to Coast will provide an update to the MER program at the next meeting.

2.6 MIDO Presentation - Ettalong Dredging Project

4:55pm

Mr Simon Walter spoke to the presentation. Apologies on behalf of David Hopper.

Mr Simon Walter opened the floor to questions from the Committee.

Committee Member noted that University of Newcastle originally did mapping of soft coral and dredging is right where soft Coral should be, When it comes to reaching out to potential stakeholders, please include University of Newcastle.

Mr Simon Walter noted that they have engaged a contractor for the ecological assessments there, they haven't been undertaking any as they need the right conditions an right tides etc to identify them. Please reach out to Simon with the with contact details .

2.7 General Business

5:03pm

The Chair opened the floor for any general business.

No general business was raised.

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

The Meeting concluded at 5:04pm.

The next meeting date is 26 June 2024.

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
8	22/09/2021	Updates about Airport Masterplan and related matters to be communicated to members as part of ongoing consultation.	Unit Manager Economic Development and Property	<p>Response from Unit Manager Economic Development and Property emailed to members 14 February 2022</p> <p>10/05/2022: PS – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the EPD section (via the AG)</p> <p>29/3 – No further update on this item.</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – Request the attendance of Unit Manager ED&P to present to the Committee.</p> <p>13/12 – Update on the Airport Master Plan provided to committee members.</p> <p>13/12 – C2C & COSS Committee members were provided with power point presentation</p>	13/12/23 - Complete
13	8/12/2021	Staff to get advice from Water and Sewer about works in Avoca Lagoon and report back to members when	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 10/05/2022: BF – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the W&S section (via the AG) 1.9km of sewer re-lined in</p>	29/3/23 – Complete

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		appropriate.		<p>the Avoca area. 14/12/22 – Update provided at Item 7.</p> <p>13/12 – Update was provided to Committee members by Ben Fullagar</p> <p>13/12 – Presentation provided to committee members by Lisa Martin</p>	
14	08/12/2021	Staff to bring updates on relevant policies and DCP review to group when available.	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	<p>DCP review is still deferred. Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting</p> <p>2/3/22 – Peter Sheath advised Planning team can't provide update on DCP currently, but Flood Planning team are focusing on updating Flood Policy</p> <p>29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath)</p> <p>Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>Report included in today's agenda. 10/05: PS – nothing further to report, quick verbal update</p> <p>1/06: No finalised policies or DCP chapter. Drafted flood policy update – reviewed and additional information. New Sea Level Rise</p>	20/3 – Complete

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

				<p>policy. LGA wide chapter in Development Control Plan to be developed. Public exhibition will occur for any policies.</p> <p>13/9 – item to be addressed at today’s meeting.</p> <p>13/12 – Update provided in meeting. Action 4</p> <p>20/3/24 – update provided</p>	
17	02/03/2022	Info from MIDO regarding scope of dredging works to be shared with members	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>10/05: BF – will reach out to MIDO to get an update (website with contact details). AW to follow up the process for circulating information to members prior to the meeting (and then for the meeting itself)</p> <p>10/08: BF to follow up circulation of information via the AG.</p> <p>14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.</p> <p>29/3 – Update as included on agenda at today’s meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – Included in today’s agenda. The Chair recommends to the Committee to complete action and note that Ben has provided an update today. A new action item will request a single action for MIDO updates. Refer to New Action Item 36.</p>	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

21	02/03/2022	Update on draft Flood Policy to be provided at next meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	<p>29/3 – Peter Sheath to provide update - item on agenda at today's meeting and further update to be provided at the next Committee meeting regarding the work undertaken / progress of the Policy. Item included in today's agenda.</p> <p>10/05: PS – defer item/update to the following meeting – verbal update to be given</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – action item addressed at today's meeting. The Chair requested the action item stay open.</p> <p>13/12 – Update provided in meeting. Action 45 and 46 created.</p> <p>20/3/24- An update was provided in Item 2.3 of the agenda.</p>	Complete
26	29/3/2023	Options in relation to CMP engagement with Community members. Discussion of preferences, time and availability, online, focus group workshops, community drop in	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>To be clarified by SM Catchments and Coast at next meeting</p> <p>13/9 – The Chair advises the action to be completed and a general update is to be provided at each meeting going forward.</p>	Complete

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		sessions – or ‘all of the above’?			
28	29/3/2023	YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) website to be updated with current timeframes and information regarding CMP's.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Item to be addressed at today's meeting 13/9 – Ben advised the action item is expected to be updated at the end of October.	Completed
30	29/3/2023	Options to be explored in relation to distribution of the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	13/9 - Action item completed, this is part of the Governance process of Council and Civic Support staff will continue to provide presentations with the minutes of meetings.	Completed
34	14/6/2023	Queries regarding ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong and request for information regarding other vessels using the channel and request for executive summary of the MIDO meeting being held on Thursday 15 June.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/9 – The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		Action: Summary of MIDO meeting to be provided to Committee members.			
35	14/6/2023	Dredging works - Transport for NSW (TfNSW) has information on their website regarding tender for Swansea Channel works. Establishment of a similar type page for Ettalong Channel works is to be explored. Action: Council staff to request MIDO consideration of this.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/9 - The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed
36	14/09/2023	MIDO Update – Dredging Works, Ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong	Dave Hopper	12/12 – Dave hopper is not in attendance today – dredging has been completed by MIDO can be discussed today by Ben Fullagar	Completed
37	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team to review the recent earthworks carried out at 20 Jack	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	CX raised 230921 – 000047 Update as of 7 November 2023: Officer has undertaken an inspection and has	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		Grant Ave, Warnervale to ensure that the works are compliant with appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls.		<p>been reviewing the considerable number of documents associated with consents for the site to determine exactly where the development currently stands. Officer has been in contact with the applicant of the development and is liaising with other Council staff prior to determining action.</p> <p>20/3/24 – Service request has been made and have had it updated. Action to be marked Complete.</p>	
38	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team in regards to the knocking down of paperbark areas on the skirted corners around Jack Grant Drive.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	<p>Complete – Advisory Groups sent email to committee on 1/11 with response:</p> <p>On 6 September 2023 Councils Natural Environments Compliance Officer attended the site to investigate the unlawful vegetation removal, upon investigating it was noted the area that has been cleared was value mapped. As such Central Coast Council is not the authorised regulatory authority, the complaint was referred to Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) with reference number report case #202305409.</p> <p>Further enquiries should be referred to DPE.</p>	Complete
39	14/09/2023	Michael Kilp to provide photos to the Chair of a gate knocked open and truck allegedly carrying	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	<p>CX raised 230928-000305</p> <p>Update as of 8 November 2023: Illegally dumped tyres off St Johns Road, Jilliby</p>	Complete

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		<p>out possible illegal dumping onto a higher catchment area in Porters Creek. Chair to subsequently raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team to investigate the dumping; ECS also to investigate if contractors on the AV Jennings Rosella Rise subdivision (south of Warnervale Road, and west of Virginia Road) ensure contractors are applying relevant sedimentation and erosion controls.</p>		<p>were taped and referred to waste for removal and disposal, an inspection of the street on 8/11/2023 reveals the tyres have been removed.</p> <p>Photograph supplied showing a tipper truck within a construction site at Rosella Rise was determined to NOT be conducting unlawful activity. Officer was unable to locate any dumped waste and requested additional information relating to the whereabouts of such waste, officer has had no further correspondence.</p>	
40	13/09/2023	<p>The LJ19 Taskforce, which includes representatives from Council EMU and ECS as well as Long Jetty WaterWatch Group, propose to meet in October to review the</p>	<p>Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast</p>	<p>13/12 – Update was provided as to current status. See action’s 43 & 44</p> <p>20/3/24 – Update was provided. Meeting had been held in Oct 23</p>	Complete

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

		report findings. The taskforce will also invite a DPE representative – Chris Drummond. An update will be provided to the Committee in December.			
41	13/12/2023	To provide fact sheets on wetlands, studies to provide some insight as to what is in the CMP prior to going on public exhibition – Ben Fullagar	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	9/02: Stage 2 Technical Studies will be included on Council's YVOC website as they are completed 20/3/24 – Update to be provided at the time CMP goes on Public Exhibition.	Complete
42	13/12/2023	NSW Marine Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) be invited to present to the committee on community dredging early next year	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	9/02: Ben to contact MIDO to see if a representative is available to attend and present at the next C2C Committee meeting 20/3/24 – Update was provided in Item 2.6 of the agenda.	Completed
43	13/12/2023	Request update from Council's Compliance team for Long Jetty Waterworks Group on progress of LJ 19	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	9/02: Pending update from Compliance 20/3/24 – Update was provided in Item 2.2 of the agenda.	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

44	13/12/2023	Amendment to previous minutes – LJ19 To investigate the diesel pump which was out of service and wrapped up in black plastic is on the corner of Elsiemer St and Central Coast Highway Long Jetty.	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	9/02: As above 20/3/24: Compliance team has been advised of information from last meeting. Mark Action as Completed.	Completed
45	13/12/2023	Monitor for proposed flood studies for the Lagoons for the purpose of a storm surge	Peter Sheath - Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management	9/02: To be revisited during the confirmation of previous minutes 20/3/24 – Update was provided in Item 2.3 of the agenda which completes Action.	Completed
46	13/12/2023	Agenda Item for next meeting in 2024 Wamberal Beach Terminal Protection project update – discussion of flood studies of the Lagoon for the purpose of a storm surge	Peter Sheath - Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management	9/02: Item to be tabled at the next committee meeting of 20/03 20/3/24 – Update was provided in Item 2.3 of the agenda which completes Action.	Completed

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 20 March 2024 cont'd

47	13/12/2023	The Entrance Channel – organise an onsite meet in early February. Invite the Administrator to attend	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	9/02: Onsite meeting has been scheduled with the Local MP, Administrator, Director EP, UM EM, staff and community members for 12/02/24 20/3/24 – Confirmed on-site meeting was held and was successful.	Completed
48	20/03/2024	Agenda Item for next meeting Review of the Central Coast MER Program	Ben Fullagar – SM Catchments to Coast		Pending



Item No: 2.1
Title: Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item)
Department: Environment and Planning

26 June 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16229767
Author: James Lawson, Section Manager. Environmental Management
Executive: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)

Recommendation

That the Committee note the information in the report.

Report purpose

To provide information on the Coastal and Catchment Operations to the Catchments to Coast Committee.

Executive Summary

This report to the Catchments to Coast Committee provides information on the following projects:

- Wrack and Algae Collection
- Beach maintenance and Coastal Lagoon openings
- The Entrance Channel works

Background

This report provides an update on Council's Tuggerah Lakes wrack and algae collection program, Council's beach maintenance activities and Coastal Lagoon openings as well as The Entrance Channel works.

Current Status

The report provides a status report on the wrack and algae collection, general beach maintenance activities and Coastal Lagoon openings and The Entrance Channel works.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

Report

Wrack and Algae Collection

Wrack and algae collection includes the requirement to improve public amenity of the shoreline, maintain and enhance the health of the lake ecosystem, and reduce social impact of wrack and algae on public and private foreshores in the Tuggerah Lakes. Central Coast Council's Wrack and Algae Collection is undertaken by Australian Environmental Services under contract until 29 August 2024. Council staff also assist by removing wrack and algae from drying pads and transporting to Council's Green Waste facility located at Buttonderry Waste Management Facility. A total of 4949m³ of material has been collected during 2023-24 up to April 2024, compared to the KPI year to date target of 4167m³ based on a 5000m³ yearly total. A presentation will be provided to the committee showing the annual cumulative volume of wrack removed by month from 2013-14 to present.

Beach Maintenance activities and Coastal Lagoon Openings

Beach cleaning of high-profile beaches via a mechanical beach rake and manual hand picking concluded at the end of April coinciding with the end of Council's Lifeguards summer season, with Council staff now focusing on winter routine beach maintenance activities to a range of beach infrastructure such as beach accessways.

The Central Coast's four coastal lagoon systems (Wamberal, Terrigal, Avoca and Cockrone) are a significant geographic feature of the region. They are a highly valued natural resource and support a network of significant ecological communities as well as a diverse range of recreational uses. Council intervenes to open these lagoons when water levels reach a trigger level and when the lagoons are closed to reduce the risk of flooding. Since the last Catchment to Coast Committee meeting held on 20 March 2024, Council opened the following lagoons.

<i>Date Opened</i>	<i>Name of Lagoon</i>	<i>Trigger Level</i>
4 April 2024	Terrigal	1.23m
5 April 2024	Wamberal	2.40m
6 April 2024	Avoca	2.09m
6 April 2024	Cockrone*	2.53m
8 April 2024	Terrigal	1.23m
20 April 2024	Terrigal	1.23m
1 May 2024	Terrigal	1.23m
1 May 2024	Wamberal	2.40m

*Note: Opened by community

According to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) records, Gosford received 305mm of rain during April 2024, with over 240mm recorded for the period from 3 to 6 April 2024, and as of 29 May 2024 received 245mm of rain, resulting in the triggering of lagoon trigger levels requiring intervention.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

The Entrance Channel Works

As reported to the previous Catchment to Coast Committee meeting on 20 March 2024, Council carried out pre-emptive flood mitigation works on 20 February 2024 at The Entrance Channel including secondary pilot channel preparation works involving construction of a 40m pilot (secondary) channel through the berm, with the end plug to the ocean kept in place, following the earlier removal of the endangered migratory Little Terns fencing.

Below is a timeline of events (as outlined on Council's website) from the severe weather event in relation to The Entrance Channel, noting that the BOM Norah Head weather station recorded over 380mm of rain during April 2024.

Thursday 4th - Saturday 6th April 2024

The BOM issued a severe weather warning for high rainfall for large parts of NSW, including the Central Coast and in accordance with the Entrance Management Procedure Council placed machinery resources required for entrance works at Karagi Point.

There was then a forecast prediction for a 25% chance of water levels reaching the 1.3m AHD trigger point within the next 4 days. As a result, the pre-flood Entrance Management Procedure was enacted which included pre-flood berm preparation to widen the throat of the primary channel north of the rock shelf to increase flow of water out of the lake.

Council's procedure typically requires a 1.3m lake height to establish optimal water pressure to maintain flow through a secondary pilot channel. However, considering conditions, Council chose to open the secondary pilot channel by removing the plug at low tide 12:30pm on Saturday.

At this time lake levels were about 0.8m. The primary channel and secondary channel were now both open.

Sunday 7th – Wednesday 10th April 2024

The high tide and wave action each night pushed significant volumes of sand into the secondary channel, and the lake waters were not high enough to have sufficient pressure to push this sand back out.

Works were conducted by Council crews at low tide on Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with machinery successfully increasing the depth of the secondary pilot channel and re-opening it on each occasion.

At this time, the lake height was between 0.88m-0.92m and the primary channel was open. The secondary channel was closing over each night and then been reopened.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

Thursday 11th – Sunday 28th April 2024

Lake levels remained below the minor flood threshold of 0.9m with no forecast predictions for this threshold to be exceeded and no justification for Council to conduct further works.

Lake levels remained at the higher end of the normal range, causing nuisance inundation to low lying areas and taking longer than normal to recede due to factors such as the alignment of the primary channel over the rock platform (due to impacts of the rock groyne) and lake levels not being high enough to create enough pressure to maintain the secondary channel in an open state.

Monday 29th April – Friday 3rd May 2024

Rainfall forecasts predicted a wet weather event for the following weekend so pre-emptive works were again commenced, exceeding the requirements of our Interim Entrance Management Procedure.

Excavators and bobcats successfully removed sand from the end of the sand spit, increasing the width of the primary channel and encouraging flows to the north of the rock platform.

Council crews also constructed a new version of a secondary pilot channel, modified based on the outcomes of the works conducted in early April. This pilot channel is aligned at a 45-degree angle across the sandspit and has plugs on both the lake end and the ocean end to prevent wave overtopping and shoaling.

Finally, crews also dug a new ebb channel parallel to the sand spit, removing sand that had been pushed into the lake by ocean forces earlier in April.

Monday 6th – Thursday 9th May 2024

The secondary pilot channel was opened by removing the plugs on Monday once lake water levels reached an adequate pressure for the opening to be successful. Minor infilling of the channel occurred during the overnight high tide but was dug out on Tuesday morning and has remained open and flowing to the ocean from that time to now.

Strong outflows have successfully created significant increases to the depth and width of the secondary channel on an ongoing basis and the lake water levels are steadily dropping, even with large volumes of water continuing to flow into the lake from the catchment.

Dump trucks joined the excavators and dozers on the beach this week to relocate the sand that had been cleared from the primary and secondary channels. This sand is being taken off the sand spit to reduce the risk of it being displaced back into the channel and is being used to provide additional reinforcement against erosion to North Entrance beach, including near Hutton Road and the carpark.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

Consultation

Consultation in relation to the wrack and algae collection program has been undertaken with users of the Tuggerah Lakes estuary including the local residents and community organisations, as well as relevant State Government agencies.

Consultation in relation to The Entrance channel works has been undertaken with members of the Catchment to Coast Committee, general community as well as relevant State Government agencies.

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

The recommendations of this report do not have any material financial implications for Council.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 3: Green

Choose Focus Area

G-F1: Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.

Risk Management

Nil

Options

Nil

Attachments

Nil

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)



Item No: 2.2
Title: Update on Coastal and Estuary Management
(Standing Agenda Item)
Department: Environment and Planning

26 June 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16228586
Author: Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast
Manager: Peter Sheath, Unit Manager, Environmental Management
Executive: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)

Recommendation

That the Committee note the report.

Report purpose

To provide an update on Council's coastal and estuary management activities and programs.

Executive Summary

The report outlines Council's progress on the following:

- Coastal Management Programs update (CMPs).
- Open Coast CMP detailed update.
- Wamberal Beach coastal protection works development application.
- Update on works in Terrigal and Lagoon catchments.
- The Entrance Beach Groyne – Impacts to Coastal Processes, Entrance Management and Flood Risk Management.
- Overview of the Waterways Report Card and MER ecological monitoring program.

Update on Coastal Management Programs (CMPs)

An update on progress for the following CMPs will be presented during the committee meeting:

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

- Hawkesbury Nepean CMP (with five other partner councils);
- Open Coast CMP;
- Coastal Lagoons CMP;
- Tuggerah Lakes CMP; and
- Lake Macquarie CMP (with Lake Macquarie City Council).

Open Coast CMP

Council is focusing on the completion of the Open Coast CMP later in 2024 to lodge for certification with the NSW Minister for the Environment following consideration by the new Council in October 2024. A detailed update of the recent community engagement and program will be presented including:

- Updates to the Your Voice Our Coast page,
- The social pinpoint page where the community can leave comments on the interactive map,
- The completion of 6 community pop up events and 2 target consultation sessions, and
- Program of communication and engagement activities planned for the remainder of Stage 3 and 4.

Wamberal Beach coastal protection works development application

Council has information available on the website including detailed FAQs to help provide further information for the community on the development application and assessment process. See <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/environment/coastlines/coastal-zone-management/coastal-erosion>

Update from Water and Sewer on works in Terrigal and Lagoon catchments (action 13)

Council continues to assess and repair/reline sewer infrastructure in the Terrigal Beach and Coastal Lagoons catchments. An update on the latest inspection and relining statistics will be presented at the Committee meeting.

The Entrance Beach Groyne – Impacts to Coastal Processes, Entrance Management and Flood Risk Management

In 2017 the NSW Government constructed a rock groyne on the Entrance Beach to the south of the entrance to Tuggerah Lakes against the advice from Central Coast Council and the (previous) NSW Coastal Panel at the time. The NSW Coastal Panel recommended that the groyne be viewed as:

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

"in the context of a short-term (say 10 year) trial with appropriate monitoring in order to highlight and re-dress any unintended adverse outcomes that might arise from the placement of a groyne structure in this location"

In response to Council's concern, Transport for NSW's Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office engaged the services of coastal engineers to complete another round of monitoring which resulted in the completion of 'The Entrance Groyne Impact Assessment: Addendum 2', Salients 2024.

Since the construction of the groyne in 2017, Council staff have observed the following adverse impacts progressively over time correlating with depletion of the average pre-groyne profile and conditions:

- Increased and continued erosion and recession of the southern shoreline north of the structure. This has only been limited by a seawall constructed by Council in 1999 intended to stabilise Marine Parade.
- Increased exposure and risk of failure to Council's seawall and subsequently the community as its design relied on stabilisation of the dune to limit exposure to only during the most severe coastal storms.
- Significant adverse changes to the local sediment transport and entrance processes as the typical pre-groyne formation of a tombolo is now absent. This process was essential in keeping the channel positioned and flowing north of the rock shelf during constricted states, where it could effectively scour northwards during flood events.
- The deficit of sand north of the groyne, and resultant absence of a tombolo, subsequently results in the channel flowing further southwards through a severely constrained and unfavourable position north of the groyne but south of the rock shelf during constricted states. This has not been observed historically (pre-groyne) and significantly impacts Council's ability to successfully manage the entrance for flood mitigation purposes.
- Since Tuggerah Lakes flooding in February 2020 and subsequent flooding there has been an increased need for entrance management operations to help train the entrance further to the north away from the rock shelf and groyne so that it can then scour into a wide and deep channel. Previously the need to have to intervene was very rare, normally only associated with managing a complete entrance closure.
- It is now more difficult and requires significantly more effort to redirect flow to berm areas where it can scour effectively. It's suspected this constrained position may increase flood risk, peak flood levels and durations of elevated water levels where it cannot be successfully adjusted.
- Reduced public access, amenity and safety along the shoreline northwards of the groyne.
- A risk to the public traversing the structure or using it recreationally. At present there are no signs identifying ownership and the hazards the structure presents. Council has been required to place temporary signage attempting to reduce access to unsafe areas. Numerous stockpiled rocks leftover from construction on the groyne require relocation due to proximity to unstable slopes.

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

- Reduced capability of lifeguards to monitor and respond to events north of the groyne from the Surf Life Saving Club and Lifeguard Tower. Traditionally, the channel has been a busy area in terms of rescues being required and this impacts both response time and equipment that can be used.

The uncertainty relating to the full extent and significance of longer-term adverse impacts and what actions the NSW Government will take for rectification is now impacting the delivery of state supported grant projects; the *Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study Review* and the *Tuggerah Lakes Coastal Management Program*. These are intended to set the long-term strategy for the coordinated management of the coast and floodplain and their reliability is critical for all involved stakeholders.

It is the view of Council staff that the impacts are, on balance, adverse and that the trial be concluded, with the groyne removed to reinstate natural processes. Council has written to the NSW Minister for Transport and Minister for the Environment expressing the views of Council staff.

Overview of the Waterways Report Card and MER ecological monitoring program

The Central Coast waterways report card compares current ecological health with ideal estuary health and can be used to track changes over time. The program is designed to be consistent with the NSW Natural Resources Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) Program and to address locally relevant issues. Council engages the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEE) to undertake the monitoring on behalf of Council. By following the MER protocols, waterway ecological health can be compared to other estuaries throughout NSW. The scientists from DCCEE measure turbidity, chlorophyll-a and seagrass depth range at each of the sampling sites. This informs Council and community about how the ecosystems are performing in response to catchment pressures. The results are compared to established trigger values for each estuary type – lake, lagoon or back dune lagoon – and are used to calculate the report card grades. Ecological health does not refer to environmental health issues such as drinking water quality, safety for swimming, heavy metal contamination, disease, bacteria, viruses or ability to harvest shellfish or fish. This is outlined on the Waterways Report Card.

A presentation on estuary monitoring using the NSW MER program will be provided at the meeting. The Waterway Report Card for 2022-23 for Central Coast estuaries and an overview of the NSW MER program is outlined on Council's website here: [Estuaries, lagoons and wetlands | Central Coast Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/estuaries-lagoons-and-wetlands)

2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

This report is provided as information to members of the Committee and does not contain any material financial implications. The programs described in this update are included in Council's adopted 2023-24 budget.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 3: Green

Choose Focus Area

G-E2: Improve water quality for beaches, lakes and waterways by minimising pollutants and preventing litter entering our waterways.

Risk Management

There are no material risks associated with the report. Risks associated with individual projects described in the report are addressed as part of the management of those projects.

Options

This report is for information only. There are no relevant options.

Attachments

Nil.



Item No: 2.3
Title: Update on Flood and Stormwater Management
(Standing Agenda Item)
Department: Environment and Planning

26 June 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16228591
Author: Peter Sheath, Unit Manager, Environmental Management
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)
Executive: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)

Recommendation

That the Committee note the report.

Report purpose

To provide an update on the following flood and stormwater management activities:

1. Status of current flood projects
2. Flood grant applications

Report

1. Status of current Flood Projects

An up-to-date presentation of project status will be provided at the meeting.

The Narara Creek Floodplain Risk Management Plan final report has not yet been delivered and so a presentation has been deferred to the next Catchment to Coast Committee meeting in June 2024.

2. Flood Grant Applications

The annual NSW Floodplain Management Program grant scheme for 2024-25 was open for submissions until 16 May 2024. Council submitted applications for the following projects:

1. Gosford Overland Flood Study Review - \$165,000
2. Adaptation Planning for Chittaway - \$98,000
3. Mangrove Creek & Mooney Creek Catchments Flood Study - \$120,000

Assistance under the program is \$2 from government for every \$1 provided by Council.

2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item) (cont'd)

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

This report is provided as information to members of the committee and does not contain any financial implications. The programs it describes are included in Council's adopted 2023-24 budget.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 4: Responsible

Choose Focus Area

G-F4: Address climate change and its impacts through collaborative strategic planning and responsible land management and consider targets and actions.

Risk Management

Nil Impact

Options

The report is for the information of the committee only. No alternative options are provided.

Attachments

Nil.

2.4 GENERAL BUSINESS

ALL

Attachments

Nil.