GOSFORD CITY COUNCIL



TERRIGAL LAGOON FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN



NOVEMBER 2001

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The State Government's Flood Policy is directed at providing solutions to existing flooding problems in developed areas and to ensuring that new development is compatible with the flood hazard and does not create additional flooding problems in other areas.

Under the Policy, the management of flood liable land remains the responsibility of local government. The State Government subsidises flood mitigation works to alleviate existing problems and provides specialist technical advice to assist Councils in the discharge of their floodplain management responsibilities.

The Policy provides for technical and financial support by the Government through the following four sequential stages:

- 1. Flood Study
 - determines the nature and extent of the flood problem.
- 2. Floodplain Management Study
 - evaluates management options for the floodplain in respect of both existing and proposed development.
- 3. Floodplain Management Plan
 - involves formal adoption by Council of a plan of management for the floodplain.
- 4. Implementation of the Plan
 - implementation of flood mitigation works and measures to protect existing development,
 - use of development controls and planning measures to ensure new development is compatible with the flood hazard,
 - amendments to relevant Local Environmental Plans to reflect Council's flood policy and development controls.

The Terrigal Lagoon Floodplain Management Plan constitutes the third stage of the management process for Terrigal Lagoon and its catchment area. This study has been prepared for Gosford City Council by Webb, McKeown & Associates and provides the basis for the future management of flood prone lands adjacent to Terrigal Lagoon.

The Plan was largely undertaken in accordance with the NSW Government's 1986 Floodplain Development Manual. This manual was superseded by the Floodplain Management Manual which was introduced in January 2001 when this present report was nearing completion. The terminology and approach used in this report largely relate to the 1986 manual. In some places the updated terminology has been introduced, and carried through to the Plan.

SUMMARY

Terrigal Lagoon has a catchment area of approximately 9.5 square kilometres and lies wholly within the boundaries of Gosford City Council. The area of the lagoon is approximately 0.3 square kilometres. Flooding of roads and residential areas within the catchment has occurred on a number of occasions in the last 20 years.

In the Terrigal Lagoon Flood Study (Stage 1 of the floodplain management process) a WBNM hydrologic model and a RUBICON hydraulic model were established and used to determine the design flood levels in the lagoon and adjoining floodplain. The design flood levels are a combination of rainfall induced and ocean induced inundation. The Terrigal Lagoon Floodplain Management Study (Stage 2 of the management process) used the design flood levels determined in the Flood Study to define the extent of the existing flood problem within each of the following floodplain management areas (shown on Figure 1).

	Floodplain Management Areas
1.	The lagoon water body
2.	Bundara Avenue
3.	Northern End of Ocean View Drive bridge
4.	Southern Shore of the lagoon
5.	West Arm (west of the Willoughby Road bridge)
6.	Farrand Crescent
7.	Ogilvie Street
8.	Golf Course
9.	Windsor Road
10.	Upstream of Willoughby Road causeway
11.	Upstream Catchments

Approximately 160 buildings (predominantly residential) would be inundated above floor level in a 1% AEP rainfall induced event causing up to \$3 million of tangible damages. A range of floodplain management measures were canvassed to mitigate the effects of rainfall induced inundation. In addition a range of development options were evaluated and criteria for future development of the catchment defined. The effects of ocean induced inundation cannot be realistically mitigated.

Following detailed consideration of the social, economic, environmental and hydraulic factors it was concluded that protection would not be provided to all existing buildings inundated above floor level in the 1% AEP rainfall induced event. Apart from the high cost of mitigation works and the likely social impact, the main reasons for this are that Council is not preventing further development or re-development in these areas, the area is low hazard with relatively easy access to high ground, in time redevelopment will reduce the number of affected buildings, and the depth of inundation is shallow for many buildings.

This Floodplain Management Plan represents Stage 3 of the floodplain management process and provides an overall plan of management for the floodplain. It incorporates the principles of Rivercare and Ecologically Sustainable Development as well as the results of recent estuarine and coastal studies. This Plan incorporates a range of floodplain management measures to provide the optimal degree of protection within the constraints of practicability and cost effectiveness. Some components of the Plan apply to the whole floodplain within the study area while others relate to the specific areas.

Floods larger than the 1% AEP will occur and these floods should be considered in assessing access to new developments and in developing local emergency plans. Notable recent examples of historical floods larger than the 1% AEP in NSW are Dapto in 1984, Coffs Harbour in 1996 and North Wollongong in 1998.

An indicative cost to Council for implementation of the Terrigal Lagoon Floodplain Management Plan is \$57 000 to \$107 000 with an annual cost of \$18 000 (some components have not been costed). The net present worth of the reduction in flood damages cannot be accurately quantified for all the proposed works as many of them do not result in a tangible benefit. Intangible flood damages (anxiety, flood hazard, etc.) will also be reduced, and would therefore increase the benefit/cost ratio if quantified.

The key features of the Plan are:

- the 1% AEP flood was adopted as the Flood Standard in the Floodplain Management Study. This term has now been superseded with the introduction of the 2001 Floodplain Management Manual and the Flood Planning Level (or **minimum** floor level for buildings) has been adopted as the 1% AEP level plus 0.5 m. As noted above, larger floods than the 1% AEP will occur and it is recommended that, if possible, floors are raised above this minimum requirement,
- definition of the 1% AEP and 1% AEP + 0.5 m flood extents and identification of properties subject to minimum floor level requirements,
- criteria for the future development of the upper catchment determined. These will ensure that the volume of runoff and peak flows are not increased significantly downstream and the impact on water quality and sedimentation is minimised,
- Council will implement a procedure for increased maintenance at the entrance and a more formal system of opening the entrance. The objective will be to ensure that the beach berm is maintained at a maximum of 1.7 mAHD (the design crest level at the time of the flood is assumed to be 2.4 mAHD and reflects the build up of sand prior to the flood peak),
- a priority listing of floodplain management measures for the overall catchment (Table 1),
- ten separate floodplain management areas were defined (Table 2) and a priority listing of floodplain management measures developed (Table 3). The eleventh area - Upstream Catchments, has not been examined in detail as part of this Plan. However, controls on the development of land within this area have been included,
- limited filling of the floodplain surrounding the lagoon will be permitted (for building pads or on land up to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to adherence to Council's guidelines,

- Council will provide information and education to the local residents in order to ensure that flood damages in the future are minimised,
- further data are to be collected and studies conducted to increase our understanding of the system behaviour and improve the accuracy of the design flood levels,
- the possible impact of the Greenhouse Effect will be monitored and works and measures undertaken if required,
- Council supports any measures undertaken by public authorities which will increase the amount of flood warning time available to the residents,
- Council will introduce design standards and provide advice to new developments regarding the effects of ocean inundation,
- floods up to the Extreme Flood (an event of unknown AEP greater than the 1% AEP and less than the PMF) have been considered.

 Table 1:
 Measures which Apply to the Entire Study Area

Measures	Comment	Cost	Benefit/Cost Ratio	Priority
Amend S149 Planning Certificate Database	Council will update the S149 Planning Certificate database to include the latest information regarding flooding.	Undertaken by Council	Not quantifiable	High
Provide Information/Education	Will ensure future damages are minimised (examples provided in Appendix B).	\$5000 p.a.	High (not quantifiable)	High
Design Floor Level Policy	Floor levels of all new residential buildings are to be at a minimum of 0.5 m above the 1% AEP flood level.	Undertaken by the Developer	Not quantifiable	High
Limit Increase in Density of Development on the Floodplain	Dual occupancies, granny flats, subdivision or medium density use would increase the number of residents on the floodplain and thus the number of people at risk.	Nil	Nil	Modium
Flood Warning and Evacuation	The Local Emergency Management Committees are to review and update their procedures based on the information provided in this study.	Low	High	
Review Flood Policy	A number of issues have been raised in the Floodplain Management Study. These will be reviewed and if appropriate the Flood Policy and LEP revised.	Undertaken by Council	Not quantifiable	Mealum
Collect more Data	Install and maintain additional water level recorders. The data from future floods should be collected and analysed to increase understanding of the system behaviour and ensure accuracy of the design flood levels.	\$2000 p.a.	Nil	Medium
Alterations to the Floodplain	Council will ensure that the effects of alterations to the floodplain (such as filling, fencing, buildings) are considered during the approvals process (to be documented in the Flood Policy). Generally fill up to 0.2 m above the let out level and for building pads will be permitted.	Undertaken by Council	Nil	Medium
Incorporate Floodplain Management Plan within the Integrated Planning Framework	This Plan should be adequately incorporated into Council's land use planning process.	Undertaken by Council	Nü	weatum
Greenhouse Effect	Council will prepare a bi-annual report outlining the current state of knowledge and potential impacts upon flooding. If appropriate the Flood Policy will be amended.	Undertaken by Council	Nil	Low
Catchment Treatment	Will not reduce the existing flood problem. Advice can be provided by Council to ensure that future works do not exacerbate the flood problem.	Undertaken by the Developer	Low	Low
On-Site Detention	The use of OSD to control increases in flows on small creeks and drains, as well as limit water quality degradation, is supported where it can be applied in a cost effective manner.	Undertaken by the Developer	Nil	Low
Impact of Flooding on Flora, Fauna and the ecological regime of the lancon	Council is to review relevant local information as it becomes available.	Undertaken by Council	Nil	Low
Maintenance of Creek	Council will review their maintenance program to address the issues raised.	Undertaken by Council	Nil	Low
Hazard Reduction at the Willoughby Road Crossing	Upgrading the crossing would cost of the order of \$200 000 and cannot be justified in the short term. A review of the sign posting and highlighting the potential hazard in the educational material should be undertaken.	Unknown	Not quantifiable	Low
House Raising	No catchment wide system is proposed but if applications are made these will be considered.	Approximately \$40 000 per house	Low	Low

Area (excluding Area 11)		No. of Bulldings Inundated * Above Floor Level in the		1% AEP Flood Level (mAHD)	Property Type	Hazaro Rating at the 1% AEP Level	
		1% AEP Flood	20% AEP Flo <u>od</u>				
1.	The lagoon water body	nil	nii	2.9 (rainfall) 3.3 (ocean)	Water	High	
2.	Bundara Avenue	88	64	2.9	Residential	Low	
3.	Northern End of Ocean View Drive Bridge	20	7	3.3 (ocean induced)	Residential and Commercial	Low High fronting the lagoon due to ocean inundation	
4.	Southern shore of the Lagoon	8	3	2.9	Residential and Commercial	Low	
5.	West Arm (west of the Willoughby Rd bridge)	0	0	2.9 to 3.6	Open Space	Low	
6.	Farrand Crescent	16	14	2.9	Residential	Low	
7.	Ogilvle Street	2	1	2.9	Residential	Low	
8.	Golf Course	3	2	2.9 to 4.5	Golf Course	High in Floodway Low elsewhere	
9.	Windsor Road	16	1	2.9 to 4.5	Residential	Low	
10.	Upstream of Willoughby Road causeway	4	2	4.6 to 6.4	Rural Residential	High in Floodway Low elsewhere	
		157	94		and the second second		

Table 2: Floodplain Management Areas

Based upon the flood levels prior to introduction of Council's proposed upgraded entrance management policy. Appendix B of the Floodplain Management Study lists the surveyed floor levels.

Table 3:	Measures for each Floodplain Management Are
Table 3:	Measures for each Floodplain Management P

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	Area	Measure	Cost	Benefit/Cost Ratio	Priority
1.	The lagoon water body	Implementation of an entrance management policy (Appendix A).	\$10,000 p.a.	>10	High
	Buodara Avenue	Undertake a local drainage study.	\$7 <u>,</u> 000	n/a	
3.	Northern End of Ocean View Drive Bridge	Ocean inundation effects are to be addressed by a qualified engineer experienced in coastal matters. Special design provisions regarding ocean inundation.	Borne by the Developer Borne by the Developer	Unknown	High
4.	Southern shore of the	None	n/a	1//4	
	Lagoon		n/a	n/a	n/a
5.	West Arm	None	n/a	n/a	n/a
6.	Farrand Crescent	None	n/a	n/a	n/a
7.	Oglivie Street	None	n/a	n/a	n/a
8.	Golf Course	None from local	Not costed	n/a	Some
9.	Windsor Road	Reduce the possibility of the levee being	\$50,000 to	Unknown	High Remainder Low
		overtopped. Audit and maintain the levee.	\$100,000 \$1,000 p.a.	Unknown	High
10.	Upstream of Willoughby	None	n/a	n/a	n/a
11.	Road causeway	Development will be considered in the upstream catchments subject to detailed evaluation of the possible impacts on water quantity and water quantity	n/a	en e	High
		Total Cost	\$57,000 to \$107,000 and \$11,000 p.a.		



Lowered entrance berm before a channel was cut.

Bulldozer excavates a channel in the berm.



A narrow channel is eroded as outflow occurs.

The channel widens to its full width.



The mouth of Terrigal Lagoon is open to the ocean.

GLOSSARY

Taken from the 2001 Floodplain Management Manual

LE Jackson Drobobility (AED)	The chance of a flood of a given or larger size occurring in any
Annual Exceedance Probability (ALL)	one year usually expressed as a percentage. For example, if
	a neak flood discharge of 500 m ³ /s has an AEP of 5%, it means
	that there is a 5% chance (that is one-in-20 chance) of a peak
	flood discharge of 500 m ³ /s or larger occurring in any one year
	A common national surface level datum approximately
Australian Height Datum (AHD)	A common national surface for or cardinate in the
	The long torm average number of years between the
Average Recurrence Interval (ARI)	accurrence of a flood as big as or larger than, the selected
	occurrence of a nood as big do, of larger than, areat as, or
	event. For example, noods with a deciding of the share
	greater than, the 20 years ART hood over this occur of expressing the
	once every 20 years. Arris another way or expressing an
	The land area draining through the main stream, as well as
Catchment	the land area draming though the main substant at
	tributary streams, to a particular site. It diways relates to an
	area above a specific location.
Discharge	The rate of flow of water measured in terms of volume per dim
	time, for example, cubic metres per second (1175). Discharge
	is different from the speed of velocity of now, which is a
	measure of how fast the water is moving for example, metres
	per second (m/s).
Flood	Relatively high streamflow which overtops the hardra of
	artificial banks in any part of a stream, river, estuary, lake of
	dam, and/or local overland flooding associated with flagor
	drainage before entering a watercourse, and/or coastal
	inundation resulting from super-elevated sea levels and/or
	waves overtopping coastline detences excluding tsunami.
Floodplain	Area of land which is subject to inundation by floods up to and
	including the probable maximum flood event, that is, flood
	prone land.
Flood Fringe Area	The remaining area of flood prone land after floodway and flood
· · · · · · ·	storage areas have been defined.
Flood Liable Land	Is synonymous with flood prone land (i.e. land susceptible to
	flooding by the probable maximum flood (PMF) event). Note
	that the term flood liable land now covers the whole of the
	floodplain, not just that part below the flood planning level, as
	indicated in the 1986 Floodplain Development Manual (see
	flood planning area).

	The area of land below the flood planning level and thus subject
Flood Planning Area	to flood related development controls. The concept of flood
	planning area generally supersedes the "flood liable land"
	concept in the 1986 Floodplain Development Manual.
	Concept in the roce ricesphere provide and freeboards selected for
Flood Planning Levels (FPLs)	Are the combinations of nood levels and include and in
	planning purposes, as determined in floodplain risk
	management studies and incorporated in noouplant risk
	management plans. The concept of flood planning levels
	supersedes the "standard flood event of the first edition of the
	NSW Government's Floodplain Manual.
Flood Proofing	A combination of measures incorporated in the design,
	construction and alteration of individual buildings or structures
	subject to flooding, to reduce or eliminate flood damages.
Elood Prone Land	Is land susceptible to flooding by the probable maximum flood
	(PMF) event. Flood prone land is synonymous with flood liable
	land.
Flood Storage Areas	Those parts of the floodplain that are important for the
Flood Storage Areas	temporary storage of floodwaters during the passage of a flood.
	The extent and behaviour of flood storage can increase the
	severity of flood impacts by reducing natural flood attenuation.
	Hence, it is necessary to investigate a range of flood sizes
	hefore defining flood storage areas.
	Those areas of the floodplain where a significant discharge of
Floodway Areas	mose areas of the noodplain more a cising aligned with
	water occurs during noods. They are areas that, even if
	naturally defined channels. Thouways are discussed with the
	only partially blocked, would cause a significant rediction
	of flood flow, or a significant increase in nood levels.
Freeboard	A factor of safety typically used in relation to the setting of neor
	levels, levee crest levels, etc. It is usually expressed as the
	difference in height between the adopted flood planning level
	and the flood used to determine the flood planning level.
	Freeboard provides a factor of safety to compensate for
	uncertainties in the estimation of flood levels across the
	floodplain, such as wave action, localised hydraulic behaviour
	and impacts that are specific event related, such as levee and
	embankment settlement, and other effects such as
	"greenhouse" and climate change. Freeboard is included in
	flood planning levels.
	Term given to the study of water flow in waterways; in
Hydraulics	particular, the evaluation of flow parameters such as water level
	and velocity
	Term given to the study of the rainfall and runoff process; in
Hydrology	particular, the evaluation of peak flows, flow volumes and the
	derivation of hydrographs for a range of floods.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Invation by local runoff rather than overbank discharge from
Local Overland Flooding	inundation by local runon ratio than overbank destary or here
	a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam.
Local Drainage	Are smaller scale problems in urban areas. They are outside
	the definition of major drainage in this glossary.

Mainstream Flooding	Inundation of normally dry land occurring when water overflows the natural or artificial banks of a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam.
Mathematical/Computer Models	The mathematical representation of the physical processes involved in runoff generation and streamflow. These models are often run on computers due to the complexity of the mathematical relationships between runoff, streamflow and the distribution of flows across the floodplain.
Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)	The largest flood that could conceivably occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum precipitation. Generally, it is not physically or economically possible to provide complete protection against this event. The PMF defines the extent of flood prone land, that is, the floodplain. The extent, nature and potential consequences of flooding associated with the PMF event should be addressed in a floodplain risk management study.
Runoff	The amount of rainfall which actually ends up as streamflow, also known as rainfall excess.

TERRIGAL LAGOON FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

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GENERAL MEASURES FOR THE FLOODPLAIN

Proposed floodplain management measures applicable to all flood prone lands within the study area are discussed below and listed in Table 1.

Amend S149 Planning Certificate Database

Council will ensure that all S149 planning certificates are issued in accordance with the design flood level data contained in the Flood Study (as amended to take into account the Entrance Management Policy - Appendix A).

The notification will include all properties with land inundated in the 1% AEP flood + 0.5 m (Flood Planning Level). Council will amend the notification if the resident can provide information from a Registered Surveyor to show that the land is above the designated level. Council will also consider notifying all flood prone landowners (up to the PMF or Extreme Flood if the PMF not known) advising them that their property is flood prone. If additional flood or ground level data become available these will be used to update the database where appropriate. Council will review the extent of land affected after any works (filling) that might change the design flood level.

Provide Information/Education

Providing information and education to floodplain users has been shown to reduce damages and the risk to life. The costs and resulting benefits are difficult to quantify, however it is generally accepted that these measures have a benefit/cost ratio greater than one. The cost to provide a notice with Council rates is \$5000 per annum.

The ways and means of disseminating information should be documented by Council. Examples of the possible types of procedures are provided in Appendix B and the established database of flood affected owners can be used to distribute material. It is proposed that Council and the relevant State Government authorities will be involved.

Design Floor Level Policy

All future residential floor levels will be a **minimum** of 0.5 m above the 1% AEP flood level. The freeboard (0.5 m) is to allow for wave action, local hydraulic effects and uncertainties in the understanding of flood behaviour. At this time the freeboard does not include an allowance for a possible rise in flood levels due to the Greenhouse Effect. Council is to monitor the available information and advice from the relevant bodies. Consideration will be given to increasing the freeboard if predictions for a sea level rise are verified. Larger floods than the 1% AEP will occur and if possible a higher floor level should be adopted. This policy will ensure that all future residential buildings do not experience above floor inundation in a 1% AEP event. Design floor level requirements for extensions to existing residential developments will be considered on their merits. Proposed non-habitable residential floor levels, such as laundries or garages, below the 1% AEP flood level + 0.5 m will be assessed on their merits.



There will be an additional cost to developers to implement this measure but it is considered that this will be outweighed by the elimination of most future tangible flood damages up to the 1% AEP flood level. The design floor level requirement for residential buildings is to be specified by Council in Australian Height Datum to the nearest 0.1 m.

Council will review its requirements for non-residential buildings as it is not always economic, practical or necessary to construct these above the 1% AEP level. The adopted policy should be documented by Council.

Limit Increase in Density of Development on the Floodplain

An increase in the density of development on the floodplain (dual occupancies, granny flats, subdivisions, medium density) will increase the number of residents "at risk" during a flood. This will place additional strain on the emergency services which cannot be justified.

Flood Warning and Evacuation

Flood warning can provide sufficient time for residents to minimise flood damages and risk to life. The more warning time available the greater the benefit. There is no specific flood warning system for Terrigal Lagoon and such a system could not be justified because of the short response time of the catchments. Council supports the continued investigation of the "Ready-Set-Go" or any other such state or local flood warning procedure and will supply any information which will assist in this regard.

The Local Emergency Management Committee's Local Disaster Plan (Flood Sub-Plan) is to be reviewed and updated to include the latest information on design flood levels and roads, houses and other facilities which will be flood affected.

Revise Flood Policy

Council will review its Flood Policy in the light of the findings of the Floodplain Management Study. The main issues include:

- design floor level policy (discussed previously),
- floor levels for extensions,
- floor levels for non-habitable residential rooms,
- flood evacuation plans,
- controls on fencing, garages and other minor structures which affect the free flow of runoff across the site,
- controls on filling on the floodplain (discussed in later paragraph).

Collect More Data

The understanding of flood behaviour relies heavily on information obtained from previous floods. To date in the study area this has largely come from people's recollections and from debris marks picked up after the event and Council's record book. There are several pluviometers within or near to the catchment and these provide an adequate definition of the rainfall but there is a need to better define future flood levels.

An automatic height recorder and a staff gauge are located at the Ocean View Drive bridge. These need to be complemented with other recording sites to obtain an adequate profile along the creeks. It is proposed that Council and/or other public authorities install and maintain additional flood monitoring equipment. The most cost-effective procedure is to install approximately 5 maximum height recorders located at regular intervals along the system. These are relatively inexpensive and easy to install and maintain. An indicative cost of the program is \$2000 per annum.

Following a future flood the data should be evaluated and used (if appropriate) to adjust design flood levels. A Post Flood Evaluation and Review Program is presented in Appendix C.

Alterations to the Floodplain

Filling or other works on the floodplain can affect flood levels. Filling below the let-out level of 1.2 mAHD will result in minimal loss of temporary floodplain storage and for this reason is permitted subject to environmental considerations. In order to allow these low lying properties to adequately drain when the water level is near the let-out level, filling will be permitted to a level of 0.2 m above the let-out level.

Filling apart from that described above is not recommended. However, it may be permitted if the proponent provides plans which satisfy the following requirements:

- a cut and fill approach is preferred whereby there is no reduction in the temporary floodplain storage capacity,
- the fill does not impact upon environmentally sensitive areas,
- the fill does not affect the pattern of local runoff and/or divert flow elsewhere,
- the filling is not within a defined floodway,
- modification of the foreshore is not permitted,
- the filling does not act as a levee, i.e. the loss of floodplain storage volume is not greater than the volume of the fill. Filling to construct a levee will require a detailed hydraulic investigation,
- any large scale filling project (greater than 1000 m³) will require a detailed hydraulic investigation and will be treated on its merits taking into account the cumulative effects from all developments,
- there is suitable justification for the importation of fill. For example fill to raise the floor level will generally be permitted under the floor area of the building, including the garage and laundry. Fill (and associated excavation) to raise the level of the tees or greens on the golf course will be considered on their merits,
- the batter slopes should not be flatter than 1 vertical to 6 horizontal,
- minor importation of fill for landscaping or such like is acceptable and does not require Council approval,

filling will generally not be permitted if it is to be used to increase the density of residential development or on an access road. The latter will only be considered if it results in flood free access (1% AEP event) to the main road and beyond.

Council should carefully record, monitor and control future development on the floodplain and request that the proponent (including Council or any public authority) submit appropriate technical information on the hydraulic and environmental impacts of the proposal. Detailed consideration must be given on the possible impacts on local runoff and flow paths. Any proposed development in a Floodway will require a rigorous hydraulic investigation. Council has copies of the hydrologic and hydraulic models used in the Flood Studies and where possible these should be utilised to evaluate potential impacts. Council will monitor the cumulative effects of filling and development on the floodplain and the possible impact on the frequency of Lagoon openings. There is no cost to Council from this policy.

Integrated Planning

The Floodplain Management Plan should be incorporated into the land use planning process. Specific recommendations include:

Development control and approval policies relating to flood prone land should refer to the Plan as a matter to be taken into consideration when determining applications under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Local Government Act 1974,
 the Plan should be considered when preparing Management Plans for community land as required under the Local Government Act 1979.

Council should also consider its policy with regard to flood prone land above the Flood Planning Level.

Greenhouse Effect

There is concern that the increasing amounts of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere may be raising the average earth surface temperature. As a consequence, this may affect the climate, the mean sea level and the entrance conditions.

The impact of a Greenhouse induced sea level rise on the estimated flood levels is discussed in Section 6.4.4 of the Floodplain Management Study. The best estimate of the projected sea level rise by the year 2050 is 0.2 m with a range between 0.07 to 0.39 m. A rise in sea level of say 0.3 m in the absence of a change in the design beach berm level would cause approximately a 0.02 m in the 1% AEP level in the lagoon. However, a rise in sea level may translate to a similar rise in the beach berm level. If this was to occur there would be a corresponding rise in the 1% AEP design flood level (rainfall induced). This would impact on development around the lagoon foreshore unless the beach berm could be lowered. Lowering the dune further however, would appear to be impractical, particularly if the sea level rise was greater than 0.1 m.

Under the present policy floor levels are required to be 0.5 m above the 1% AEP flood. A small increase in the flood levels due to Greenhouse could be accommodated in the present 0.5 m freeboard. However, if the sea level continued to rise as predicted over the next fifty years then at some point in time consideration would need to be given to including an additional "Greenhouse" freeboard allowance. Alternatively, a freeboard allowance of say 0.2 or 0.3 m in addition to the present freeboard of 0.5 m could be considered in anticipation of any predicted sea level rise.

Rather than increase the freeboard allowance at this stage Council is to monitor the available information and advice from expert bodies and prepare a bi-annual summary report. The Flood Policy should be reviewed in light of this information. Any future change in policy would particularly apply to the areas near the lagoon entrance. This review will be carried out by Council officers and has not been costed. Consideration should be given to including an additional "Greenhouse" freeboard allowance of say 0.3 m.

Catchment Treatment

Developments over a catchment have the potential to increase runoff and flood levels downstream as well as sedimentation, erosion and water quality problems. Council should ensure that, as far as possible, future development in the catchment occurs in a manner which will minimise the increase in runoff and affectation on water quality, sedimentation and other processes.

On-Site Detention

Council may impose on-site stormwater detention and retention (OSD) requirements on land which is being developed or redeveloped. This policy ensures that future development will not increase flood levels downstream. The policy will not reduce existing flooding or drainage problems.

Impact of Flooding on Flora, Fauna and the Ecological Regime of the Lagoon

There is concern in the community that management (or not) of the lagoon entrance is detrimental to the flora and fauna. Council should monitor the situation and review any relevant information as it becomes available.

Maintenance of Creek System

Council will review its maintenance program in the light of issues raised in this study. Attention will be given to clearing culverts, drainage lines and inlet pits and controlling noxious vegetation.

Hazard Reduction at Road Crossings

The Willoughby Road crossing is inundated even in minor freshes and in large floods it is a high hazard floodway. Depth indicators are provided. This road is not required as a flood evacuation route as there are several other alternatives. In the long term in conjunction with road upgrading works the existing roadway could be raised to provide access in (say) a 1% AEP event. An

approximate order of cost is \$200 000. In the interim Council will review the signposting and highlight the potential hazard in educational material.

House Raising

Council supports the use of house raising to reduce flood damages. However, because of the large number of houses involved and the fact that very few houses have been inundated in the last 20 years, a catchment-wide raising policy is not proposed. Preliminary investigation suggests that only 25 buildings which are inundated in the 1% AEP event are suitable for raising. Of these only 2 are likely to have a benefit/cost ratio greater than 1, and only 8 greater than 0.4. Experience in other areas indicates that many residents are not willing to have their homes raised.

AREA 1: THE LAGOON WATER BODY

1.1 Description of the Problem

This area (approximately 30ha) is a high hazard floodway and includes only the areal extent of the lagoon at normal water level (say 1.0 mAHD). As there are clearly no buildings within this area there are no flooding problems. Generally at this level there are few exposed mud flats and the majority of the area is therefore water. The two bridges which cross the lagoon are clear of the 1% AEP flood level and have adequate waterway capacity. The major issues in this area are water quality, sedimentation, visual quality, and the possible impacts of development, including dredging and recreational usage.

1.2 Discussion

The peak flood levels in the lagoon are influenced by a number of factors relating to rainfall, ocean conditions and entrance berm conditions. The berm conditions at the outlet and in particular the height of the berm are the dominant factors. The entrance closes as a result of coastal action but is opened (artificially or naturally) as a result of heavy rain over the catchment. If this did not occur significant overbank inundation of land and buildings would occur. Council has a policy (since the 1970's) of lowering the berm and initiating lagoon openings to limit the extent of inundation. In summary it says that Council will employ an excavator to "open" the entrance when the lagoon level reaches the let-out level (1.2 mAHD). The berm is also not allowed to build up to a high level; if it did it would be very difficult for Council to initiate an opening at the let-out level.

The Greenhouse Effect has the potential to impact upon the design flood levels by elevating ocean levels and raising the long-term berm level. Flood levels (rainfall induced) will rise if the design berm level rises in response to the Greenhouse Effect.

Reducing the impact of ocean inundation for areas near the lagoon entrance is not realistically achievable, as it would involve some form of barrier at the entrance. This would increase rainfall induced flood levels and be socially and environmentally unacceptable.

1.3 Description of the Proposal

It is proposed that Council will introduce a more formal policy for maintaining and opening the entrance berm. This will include:

- introducing an entrance opening/maintenance procedure to be adhered to by Council's overseers,
- ensuring that the berm is generally maintained at a maximum height of 1.7 mAHD,
- maintaining a comprehensive record of all berm lowerings and openings,
- undertaking further studies to assess the adequacy and efficiency of the adopted opening/maintenance procedure and the accuracy of the design flood levels,
- ensuring that any factors (man-made or natural) which may affect the hydraulics of the opening are adequately monitored,

- consideration given to installation of a water level rise alarm system to reduce the delay from the time the lagoon reaches the let-out level to the time of the mechanical opening of the lagoon. The alarm signal would warn Council's Overseer and this would allow the initiation of a mechanical opening,
- undertaking a bi-annual review of the latest information regarding the Greenhouse Effect and its implications for floodplain management.

1.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

Design flood levels for the lagoon (rainfall induced) were calculated in the Flood Study assuming a berm level of 2.5 mAHD at the time of the event, resulting in an estimated 1% AEP level of 3.0 mAHD. This level is much higher than Council's maintenance level of approximately 1.2 mAHD to 2.0 mAHD and reflects the impact of coastal process during the build up of berm height in a major rainfall event. It has been assumed that implementation of Council's improved berm management policy (included as Appendix A) will reduce the berm level at the time of the flood from 2.5 mAHD to 2.4 mAHD. This would result in a 0.1 m reduction in flood level (rainfall induced) for a 1% AEP event (i.e. from 3.0 to 2.9 mAHD) as shown in the following table with commensurate reductions for the Extreme and 2% AEP events.

If the annual cost of monitoring and maintaining the beach berm is (say) \$10 000 this gives an indicative benefit/cost ratio of 10. The policy only lowers flood levels arising from rainfall induced flooding. For certain ocean inundation events the measure may increase flood levels. Further research is required in this area. There are social and environmental concerns with this measure and these have been addressed at public meetings and with community groups. Overall the benefits (reduction in flood level in all events to all properties adjoining the lagoon) outweigh the disbenefits (possible increase in ocean inundation in some events. This will only apply to properties between the bridge and the ocean). However, the system must be continually monitored to ensure that if any issues arise these are quickly addressed. This procedure will ensure that Council is able to modify their maintenance strategy (where appropriate) in response to changes in the knowledge of the processes involved.

The timing of management activities on the entrance berm will be determined by the weather and coastal conditions. For this reason Council may delay the activities until conditions are safe.

Installation of an alarm system may cost \$5000 with a maintenance cost of 5% per annum.

Γ	Flood Level (mAHD)			
	Rainfall	Induced #	Ocean Induced*	
Event	Existing	Proposed	Existing	
Extreme	3.2	3.0	Unknown	
1% AEP	3.0	2.9	3.3	
2% AFP	2.9	2.8	3.2	
5% AEP	2.8	2.8	3.1	
10% AFP	27	2.7	3.0	

- # The **Existing** rainfall induced level data were taken from the *Terrigal Lagoon Flood Study Table* 8 and the **Proposed** from the *Terrigal Lagoon Floodplain Management Study Section* 5.2.3.
 - The ocean induced levels only apply to the area downstream of the Ocean View Drive bridge and were taken from a report titled *The Entrance Dynamics of Wamberal, Terrigal, Avoca and Cockrone Lagoons*, prepared by Australian Water and Coastal Studies Pty Ltd in November 1994 (refer Figure 12 of the report).

1.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- The beach berm is to be managed in accordance with the Council policy for Terrigal Lagoon (Appendix A). In severe weather conditions management provisions may have to be delayed until conditions are safe.
- The possible impacts of the Greenhouse Effect or other man-made or natural factors which may affect the hydraulics of the opening will be monitored (included under measures applicable to the entire study area Table 1).

1.6 Priority of Work

Implementation of the berm management system is of high priority due to the relatively small cost and the significant benefit to the local residents. AREA 2: BUNDARA AVENUE

2.1 Description of the Problem

This area is bounded by Lake View Road, Ocean View Drive and Lumeah Avenue. The majority of this land was filled in the 1960's for residential development. North of Lumeah Avenue the land rises steeply and is not flood prone. There are approximately 180 lots containing a residential building within this area. The lowest floor level is at 1.8 mAHD. The majority of the buildings are less than 30 years old and comprise a mixture of brick and non-brick buildings. The residents generally enjoy a scenic outlook over the lagoon and have ready access to the lagoon and the ocean.

Flooding from lagoon inundation and as a result of inadequate local drainage has occurred on roads and private property in the past. There are no long term accurate records of above floor inundation but respondents to a questionnaire indicated that at least 13 buildings have experienced above floor inundation. As a result of the number of buildings with relatively low floor levels (88 below 3.0 mAHD) this area will experience considerable damage in both small and large floods.

The area is classified as low hazard flood fringe. There is pressure for further development and filling within the area.

2.2 Discussion

The land is inundated even in small (50% AEP) floods as a result of a combination of inadequate local drainage and elevated lagoon levels. Levees and house raising are the only measures which would eliminate the flood problem. Levees were evaluated but rejected for both social and economic considerations. House raising has already been undertaken in the area and is encouraged. However in many cases it may be more economical to rebuild at a higher level. Lowering the design rainfall induced lagoon flood levels through introduction of an entrance management policy (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem for existing and future development.

Flooding and inconvenience resulting from inadequate local drainage may be alleviated by local drainage works. These works would need to be examined in a local drainage study.

2.3 Description of the Proposal

A local drainage study should be undertaken to assess the problem and suggest solutions. Catchment wide flood mitigation measures such as flood warning or house raising will also benefit this area.

Further filling of the floodplain to provide building pads (or to fill land to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) will be permitted subject to the guidelines provided in the general measures. These and other measures are discussed in the general measures applicable for the floodplain.

2.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

The cost of the local drainage study will be approximately \$7 000. It is not possible to determine a benefit/cost ratio as the benefits are largely a reduction in intangible damages. There are no social, environmental or hydraulic impacts of the proposal.

2.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- A local drainage study is to be undertaken.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
 - the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

2.6 Priority of Work

The local drainage study is a high priority item as it is a relatively low cost measure which may provide significant benefit.

AREA 3: NORTHERN END OF OCEAN VIEW DRIVE BRIDGE

3.1 Description of the Problem

This area comprises the residential subdivision generally bounded by Terrigal Lagoon to the west and south, the Pacific Ocean to the east and to the intersection of Lake View Road and Ocean View Drive in the north. There are approximately 50 flood prone lots within this area. The majority of these are residential lots, but include the Clan Motor Lodge and a shop. The lowest floor level in this area is at 2.3 mAHD.

The residents of this area have ready access to the beach and have scenic views across the lagoon, similar to the Bundara Avenue area. This area differs from the Bundara Avenue area (Area 2) as:

- there have been few reported inundation problems (none of above floor inundation of residential buildings),
- ponding of local runoff does not appear to occur as there is a reasonable fall in ground level from the east (Pacific Street) to the lagoon,
- the southern part of this area (facing the lagoon) has been affected by waves running into the lagoon from the ocean. This is shown on photographs of the Motor Lodge and Ocean View Bridge taken in the 1970's and earlier. Ocean (and wave) inundation effects therefore need to be considered.

As a result of the number of buildings with relatively low floor levels (20 below 3.0 mAHD) this area will experience considerable damage in both small and large floods.

The area is designated as low hazard flood fringe except for the northern shore facing the lagoon which is affected by ocean inundation and is high hazard. The design ocean inundation levels are higher than the design rainfall induced levels (refer Area 1 and Key Map) in this area.

3.2 Discussion

Measures to reduce the effects of ocean inundation are not proposed, as implementation of such measures would exacerbate the rainfall induced flood levels. Nevertheless advice (when available) should be provided by a qualified engineer experienced in coastal matters regarding ocean inundation and building standards for new developments along the foreshore. Levees and house raising are the only measures which would eliminate the flood problem. Construction of a levee was evaluated but rejected for both social and economic considerations. House raising is supported but preliminary inspection suggests that few houses are suitable. Lowering the design lagoon flood levels (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem (rainfall induced). A local drainage study is not recommended as there appears to be adequate local drainage.

3.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

Residents along the northern shore of the lagoon adjacent to Ocean View Drive bridge are at risk of ocean inundation and will have their S149 certificates encoded accordingly. All new buildings constructed within approximately 100 m of the northern shore of the lagoon (likely maximum extent of ocean affectation) will be designed to ensure that they can withstand the effects of ocean inundation. The "Clan" motel should have its own evacuation plan (suggested details are provided in Appendix E).

3.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

The additional cost to satisfy the ocean inundation requirements will be borne by the developer. There are no social, environmental or hydraulic impacts of the proposal.

3.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- The effects of ocean inundation are to be addressed by a qualified engineer experienced in coastal matters.
- New buildings within 100 m of the northern shore of the lagoon are to be subject to special design provisions to dissipate forces from ocean inundation.
- General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
 - the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

3.6 Priority of Work

Investigation of the ocean inundation effects and the associated special design provisions are high priority.

AREA 4: SOUTHERN SHORE OF THE LAGOON

4.1 Description of the Problem

This area comprises the southern shore of the lagoon from the Ocean View Drive bridge, along Terrigal Drive to Brunswick Road near the western extremity of the lagoon. There are approximately 50 flood prone lots. The majority of these lots are residential, but include two service stations, a Fire Station, a Scout Hall, a Visitors Centre, the Terrigal Pacific Motel and the Terrigal Hotel Complex as well as a few vacant lots. The majority of the buildings have floor levels above 3.0 mAHD. The lowest residential floor level is at 2.7 mAHD. The residents generally face north and enjoy a scenic vista across the lagoon.

No flood problems have been reported in the area. The area is designated low hazard flood fringe and the area is not influenced by ocean inundation effects. Local drainage does not appear to be an issue in this area.

4.2 Discussion

Levees and house raising are the only measures which would eliminate the flood problem. Levees were evaluated but rejected for both social and economic considerations. House raising is encouraged but there appears to be few suitable buildings. Lowering of lagoon design flood levels (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem.

4.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures for this area are proposed. The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

4.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

An appraisal is not required.

4.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures for this area are proposed.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,

- filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
 - the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

4.6 Priority of Work

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Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 5: WEST ARM (WEST OF WILLOUGHBY ROAD BRIDGE)

5.1 Description of the Problem

This area comprises the lagoon and floodplain west of the Willoughby Road bridge to Brunswick Road, excluding the lots along the Terrigal Drive (included in Area 4). The residents generally have a pleasant vista comprising lagoon, bush and ocean outlooks.

This area is designated as low hazard flood storage apart from the floodway containing the unnamed creek exiting under Terrigal Drive. There are no buildings inundated above floor level in a 1% AEP event and no reported flood problems. A major part of this area is designated as SEPP.14 Wetland No. 910.

5.2 Discussion

Floodplain management measures were not investigated for this area.

5.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

5.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

An appraisal is not required.

5.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures are proposed.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
 - the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

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5.6 Priority of Work

Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 6: FARRAND CRESCENT

6.1 Description of the Problem

Farrand Crescent is a small cul-de-sac situated on the western side at the intersection of the north and west arms of Terrigal Lagoon. Previous reports indicate that part of the land upon which Farrand Crescent is located has been filled. This area also includes four lots on Willoughby Road, situated between Farrand Crescent and the Willoughby Road bridge.

All of the 18 lots in Farrand Crescent are residential buildings with a mix of single/two storey and brick/non-brick construction. The four lots in Willoughby Road include a sewage pumping station, a church and a hall. The majority of the buildings have floor levels below 3.0 mAHD and a number have floor levels less than 2.5 mAHD. The lowest floor level is at 1.9 mAHD. At least three buildings have experienced above floor inundation. The residents enjoy a pleasant vista over the lagoon towards the beach.

Local drainage and ocean inundation are not a problem. This area is designated as low hazard flood fringe.

6.2 Discussion

Levees and house raising are the only measures which would eliminate the flood problem. Levees were evaluated but rejected for both social and economic considerations. House raising is encouraged and may be viable for two non-brick houses. Lowering of lagoon design flood levels (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem.

6.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

6.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

An appraisal is not required.

6.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures are proposed.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,

- where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
- filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
- the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

6.6 Priority of Work

Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 7: OGILVIE STREET

7.1 Description of the Problem

The eastern side of Ogilvie Street comprises approximately 25 lots adjoining Terrigal Lagoon. The lots are all over 50 m in length (east-west). The land falls steeply from high ground (up to 10 mAHD) along Ogilvie Street towards the lagoon. All the buildings are located on the high western side of the lots close to Ogilvie Street. The majority of the buildings have floor levels above 4.5 mAHD and are not flood affected. There are 4 buildings with floor levels lower than 3.5 mAHD with the lowest being at 2.6 mAHD. Only two of these are inundated above floor level in a 1% AEP event. These residents all enjoy panoramic lagoon and ocean views.

The area is designated as low hazard flood fringe.

7.2 Discussion

Levees and house raising are the only measures which would eliminate the flood problem. Levees were evaluated but rejected for both social and economic considerations. House raising is unlikely to be economic (one house suitable) due to the relative infrequency of inundation. Lowering of lagoon design flood levels (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem.

7.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. The general measures of the floodplain are applicable. It is preferable that all future development be located on the high ground within the property.

7.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

An appraisal is not required.

7.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures are proposed.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,

the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

7.6 Priority of Work

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Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 8: GOLF COURSE

8.1 Description of the Problem

The majority of the floodplain of the North Arm of the lagoon is the golf course and is an excellent example of flood compatible land use. Potential flood prone lots within this area are the 9 residential lots and the Terrigal Memorial Country Club located on Dover Road west of Lumeah Avenue, 11 lots in and around Selma Close and 5 lots at the corner of Willoughby Road and Beaufort Road. This area also includes the lots on the western side of Plymouth Drive, although all these buildings are located on high ground. Lots on Windsor Road are discussed in Area 9 - Windsor Road. Part of the area is designated as SEPP.14 Wetland No. 908.

The area is designated as low hazard flood fringe with the exception of the creek through the golf course which is a high hazard floodway (the zone encompassing approximately 20 m on either side of the creek). There are no reports of above floor inundation but the golf course is frequently inundated and also experiences frequent water logging problems.

8.2 Discussion

This area is influenced by backwater from the lagoon and runoff from the North Arm which meanders through the golf course. House raising is not possible as the buildings inundated are of brick construction. Lowering of lagoon design flood levels (refer Area 1) will reduce the flood problem.

8.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

8.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

An appraisal is not required.

8.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures are proposed.
 - General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,

- filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
- the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

8.6 Priority of Work

Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 9: WINDSOR ROAD

9.1 Description of the Problem

Windsor Road is situated on the northern bank of the North Arm of Terrigal Lagoon. A number of houses on Windsor Road (southern side) which back on to the golf course have experienced flooding of their yards. The houses on the northern side of the road are on higher ground and have floor levels above 3.2 mAHD. Two concrete floodways (between No's. 26/28 and No's. 42/44) take local runoff from Windsor Road, between the houses, and on to the golf course. The inverts of the floodways are at 2.0 mAHD and 2.2 mAHD respectively. The houses on Windsor Road are all modern brick homes (generally single storey) and have pleasant vistas of the golf course. They are unsuitable for house raising due to their brick construction. The flood gradient along the North Arm is influenced by the level in the lagoon. The lowest floor level is at 2.8 mAHD and there are approximately 20 buildings with floor levels below 3.5 mAHD.

Flooding from local runoff has occurred on several occasions in the last 10 years (reaching 3.0 mAHD in Windsor Road). The number of houses inundated above floor level in the past is unknown (probably three). This area is designated as low hazard flood fringe except for the concrete floodways which are high hazard floodway. A levee (constructed in 1978) located along Willoughby Road and downstream provides partial protection from inundation from the North Arm.

9.2 Discussion

The flood problem results from a combination of local catchment runoff and overbank flow from the North Arm. A range of floodplain management measures were evaluated including stream clearing, sealing the entrances to the buildings, maintenance and upgrading of the existing levee (Appendix D) and investigation of the local drainage (Appendix D). It was concluded that the levee could be overtopped upstream of the road crossing and runoff enter along Windsor Road. This should be rectified. The local drainage investigation determined a program of measures to reduce tangible and intangible flood damages. The other measures were not found to be viable.

9.3 Description of the Proposal

Initial actions should be taken to reduce the risk of the Willoughby Road levee being overtopped. These are described in Appendix D. This will be followed by an audit and maintenance program for the levee to ensure that the levee crest is maintained at the required level (say 0.5 m above the 1% AEP flood level) and that the levee is of a satisfactory standard (as detailed in Appendix D). Council will also investigate the roadway leading to 189 Willoughby Road to ensure that it does not unduly divert floodwaters into Windsor Road. Measures to alleviate and control local catchment runoff are proposed as detailed in Appendix D. The general measures for the floodplain are also applicable.

9.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

The estimated cost of the proposed works are:

- reduce the possibility of overtopping of the levee \$50 000 to \$100 000,
- measures to control flooding from local catchment runoff (Appendix D) not costed,
- audit and maintenance of the levee \$1 000 per annum.

A benefit/cost analysis of upgrading the levee has not been undertaken at this stage as it will depend upon the outcome of the proposed program of works (Appendix D).

9.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- Implement the program of works for the levee as outlined in Appendix D.
- Implement the measures to control flooding from local catchment runoff (Appendix D).
- Initiate an audit and maintenance program for the levee.
- General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly over the remainder of the lot (to 0.2 m above the let out level or higher) subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures,
 - the entrance opening/maintenance procedure (Area 1) will reduce design flood levels by up to 0.1 m.

9.6 Priority of Work

Some of the measures to control local catchment runoff and reduce the possibility of the levee being overtopped are high priority (refer Appendix D). Audit and maintenance of the levee is medium priority.

AREA 10: UPSTREAM OF WILLOUGHBY ROAD CAUSEWAY

10.1 Description of the Problem

Upstream of the causeway on Willoughby Road the North Arm divides into two branches. The northern branch heads north under The Entrance Road and thence westward to Brush Road. There it traverses a number of large rural-residential blocks with habitable floor levels above 6.0 mAHD.

The southern branch is ill-defined and passes through rural lots with a few recently constructed brick houses, all of which have floor levels above 5.0 mAHD. The residents enjoy rural bush views and are surrounded by vegetation.

This area is designated as low hazard flood fringe except adjoining the creek which is high hazard floodway. There are no reports of above floor inundation.

10.2 Discussion

Flooding in this area is not influenced by the water level in Terrigal Lagoon and results from runoff exceeding the capacity of the creek. The most viable floodplain management measure to protect the flood prone buildings is sealing of the entrances to the buildings. This should be undertaken at the owner's expense.

Future development (fences, filling, etc.) within the area has the potential to constrict the floodplain, reduce the available floodplain storage and increase flood levels upstream.

10.3 Description of the Proposal

No specific floodplain management measures are proposed for this area. Sealing of the entrances to buildings is recommended but will be done at the owners expense. Advice will be provided by Council outlining the types of works permitted in the floodplain (fences, buildings). Further filling of the floodplain to provide building pads will be permitted subject to guidelines provided in the general measures for the floodplain. As access to these properties can be a problem during a flood (and for evacuation) consideration will be given to construction of an elevated access road (depending upon the hydraulic impact). The general measures for the floodplain are applicable.

10.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

Not applicable.

10.5 Concise Description of the Plan

- No specific measures are proposed.
- General measures for the floodplain:
 - all new buildings and major extensions to be constructed above the minimum floor level (MFL). This is a minimum requirement and a higher floor level is encouraged (to prevent inundation in floods greater than the adopted standard),
 - raising of all existing buildings with floor levels below the MFL is encouraged,
 - where possible buildings should be constructed on the high part of the property outside the floodplain,
 - filling may be permitted under the plan area of the dwelling and possibly for the provision of access depending on the hydraulic impact and subject to the guidelines provided in the General Measures.

10.6 Priority of Work

Not applicable as no specific measures are proposed.

AREA 11: UPSTREAM CATCHMENTS

11.1 Description of the Problem

Upstream of the immediate floodplain of the Lagoon there are a number of contributing catchments. There are pressures from private developers and Government bodies to develop parts of these catchments. Analysis undertaken as part of the Floodplain Management Study indicated that upstream development could affect flood levels and water quality in the downstream management areas, unless controls on upstream development were implemented.

11.2 Discussion

Urbanisation of the upper catchment is inevitable as the demands for development increase. However, controls on the type and extent will minimise the impact on downstream floodplain occupants. The controls should be used to limit any increase in the quantity of the flows and any adverse water quality implications from flows entering the Lagoon.

11.3 Description of the Proposal

Urbanisation of the upstream catchment will only be permitted if downstream flooding and water quality are not adversely affected. Prior to approval of a significant development, a Hydraulic Assessment report must be undertaken to demonstrate that these conditions can be achieved in an ecologically, social, environmentally and economically sustainable manner.

11.4 Social, Economic, Environmental and Hydraulic Appraisal

The proposed conditions will be implemented by the Developer in a manner which does not adversely affect others.

11.5 Concise Description of the Plan

 Development will be considered in the upstream catchments subject to detailed evaluation of the possible impacts on water quantity and water quality.

11.6 Priority of Work

This work is considered high priority and should be implemented immediately.



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APPENDIX A: COUNCIL'S ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

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OPENING OF COASTAL LAGOONS

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DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

POLICY OBJECTIVES

To mitigate flooding by opening the coastal lagoons in a manner which minimises the impacts on the environment of the coastal lagoons and the surrounding areas.

POLICY STATEMENT

- 1 This Policy relates to Terrigal, Wamberal, Avoca and Cockrone Lagoons.
- 2 Council will arrange the opening of the coastal lagoons in accordance with the requirements of the Coastal Lagoons Floodplain Management Plans and the Coastal Lagoons Management Plan.
- 3 Lagoons will be opened in accordance with the following procedure.

PROCEDURE FOR THE OPENING OF THE COASTAL LAGOONS

INTRODUCTION

Lagoon opening using mechanical means and the subsequent breakout and drainage of the lagoon has been developed as a management method following extensive study and consideration of lagoon ecology, flood behaviour and flood management and long term water quality issues.

Openings between July and October will have optimum benefits in regard to the recruitment of commercial fish species, however this will be weather dependent.

OPENINGS

Terrigal, Wamberal, Avoca and Cockrone Lagoons have marked level heights at various points around the shores. These levels show the critical heights above which local residences and property may be flooded. Once the water reaches these levels, the lagoons **must** be opened. The let out levels are shown on the attached schedule.

SANDBAR LOWERING

As heavy rain occurs, there is a possibility that lagoons can quickly fill and exceed the heights at which the lagoons are let out. In order to control this eventuality, the flood management plans for the lagoons have calculated levels at which the sandbars of lagoons should be retained in order to allow the lagoons to let themselves out should severe floods occur. The levels at which the sandbars should be kept are indicated in Table 1.

SAFETY

Suitable signs and barriers are to be erected at the time of opening and maintained during the initial run out period.

There will be times when the sandbars need to be excavated but the sea conditions are so large that working on the sandbars would be dangerous and contravene occupational safety provisions. In these circumstances the work shall be delayed until the tide and sea state have moderated to a point at which the work can be safely carried out. However, due to the flooding that is likely to occur, any delay should be kept to a minimum.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

The following environmental considerations have been identified by the Coastal Management, Lagoons Management and Coastal Planning Committee, and are included in the opening procedures.

- * When opening Avoca Lagoon, Council should consider the time at which the lagoon is opened. It should reach a maximum run out velocity towards the top of the ocean tide so that the scouring of the opening is minimised. The purpose of this consideration is so that the width to which the entrance scours is kept to a minimum to enable the lagoon to quickly close and prevent the lagoon from being open for too long a period. This is considered reasonably critical at Avoca because of the huge extent of mud flats which are exposed with a high velocity run out. This can result in long term odour problems for the nearby residents if the lagoon does not close off quickly.
- * When openings are made in the lagoons, they should be made in a central area of the sandbar. The intent is to try to avoid a meandering outlet which in the past has caused difficulty to either bank of the outlet channel if it tends to meander when it runs out heavily. Openings offset from the centre seem to encourage meandering or scouring which could be problematic to nearby property.
- * Avoca Lake (at least) has a population of the endangered Green and Golden Bell Frog (*Litoria aurea*). Lagoon opening has the potential to disrupt breeding efforts of this species as the peripheral breeding sites prematurely drain when the lagoons are opened. Where possible, pending lagoon opening is to be notified to Council's Environment Program and NPWS with sufficient notice to ascertain breeding status and salvage strategies where necessary.

MONITORING OF LEVELS

During periods of rain, residents may telephone Council staff to request the lagoon to be let out, fearing flooding. Many of these calls may be premature but need to be checked. Listed below in this procedure are the contacts for the lagoon releases and the lagoon level telephone monitor numbers.

The Construction Section at Erina Depot monitors the lagoon levels continually and generally lagoon levels should not reach the "call out stage" via the "on call duty system" without responsible staff being aware of the water levels. However, each lagoon level may be checked if required by calculating the difference between the let out level listed below and the current lagoon level gained by telephoning the lagoon in question.

Example:

- 1 Telephone Terrigal and you are given a height of say 1.205.
- 2 Deduct 1.205 from the let out level height of 1.230.
- 3 The calculation gives you the measurement of 0.025 which informs you that the current lagoon level is only 25 mm below the let out level.

If the telephone monitoring system fails the responsible person shall arrange for visual monitoring to guard against water levels rising above the let out levels.

The sandbar heights will be monitored visually using sighting aids with a maximum interval between inspections of 2 weeks. More regular inspection shall be carried out in wet weather or heavy sea conditions.

WHO TO NOTIFY

Advice of the impending opening is to be given to:

- A The local Fisheries Officer for any or all lagoons opened.
- B The Central Coast District Office of National Parks and Wildlife Service for the impending opening of Wamberal Lagoon, and for Avoca Lake due to the presence of a population of the endangered Green and Golden Bell Frog (*Litoria aurea*).
- C Lifesavers, if they are on duty at the time of the impending opening, shall be notified.
- D Council's Environment Program in regard to which lagoons have been opened, and the time they were opened.

The details of the openings are to be recorded in the 'Lagoon Book' at Erina Depot.

DELEGATION

Arrangements for the carrying out of the opening of the Coastal Lagoons are delegated to the General Manager.

TABLE 1

LET OUT LEVELS, SANDBAR HEIGHTS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR CURRENT WATER LEVELS				
LAGOON	LET OUT LEVEL m AHD	SANDBAR HEIGHT m AHD	TEL NO (INTERNAL USE ONLY)	
TERRIGAL	1.230 m	1.7 m	4384 2992	
WAMBERAL	2.400 m	2.6 to 2.7 m	4384 3561	
AVOCA	2.090 m	2.7 to 2.8 m	4382 3247	
COCKRONE	2.530 m	3.3 to 3.5m	4382 3263	

OTHER INFORMATION

RELEASE OF LAGOONS - JOB NUMBERS

TERRIGAL LAGOON
COCKRONE LAGOON, COPACABANA
WAMBERAL LAGOON
AVOCA LAGOON

(Min No - 4 October 1968) (Minute No 515/88 - 21 June 1988). (Minute No 1085/89 - 26 September 1989) (Minute No 547/94 - 14 June 1994) (Minute No 322/96 - 23 April 1996 - Review of Policies) (Minute No 201/99 - 26 October 1999) (Minute No 239/00 – 26 October 2000 – Review of Policies)

APPENDIX B: METHODS OF DISSEMINATING FLOODING INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITY



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APPENDIX B: METHODS OF DISSEMINATING FLOODING INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITY

METHOD	COMMENT
Letter/Pamphlet from Council	These may be sent (annually, bi-annually) with the rate notice or separately. A Council database of flood prone properties/addresses makes this a relatively inexpensive and effective measure. The pamphlet can inform residents of subsidies, changes to flood levels or any other relevant information.
School Project or Local Historical Society	This provides an excellent means of informing the younger generation about creeks and flooding. It may involve talks from various authorities and can be combined with water quality, etc.
Annual Display at (say) Council Offices, Library, Schools, Local Fairs	This is an inexpensive way of informing the community and may also be combined with related displays.
Historical Flood Markers or Depth Indicators on Roads	Signs or marks can be prominently displayed in parks, on telegraph poles or such like to indicate the level reached in previous floods. Depth indicators on roads advise drivers of the hazard.
Articles in the Local Newspapers	Ongoing articles in the newspapers will ensure that the problem is not forgotten until the next flood occurs.
Collection of Data from Future Floods	Collection of data assists in reinforcing to the residents that Council is aware of their problem and ensures that the design flood levels are as accurate as possible. A Post-Flood Evaluation Program (Appendix C) documents the steps to be taken following a flood.
Notification of 149 Certificate Details	All property owners should be notified if they are flood affected. Future owners are advised during the property searches at the time of purchase provided they obtain all parts of the Certificate.
Type of Information Available	A recurring problem is that new owners consider they were not adequately advised that their property was flood affected on the 149 Certificate during the purchase process. Council may wish to advise interested parties, when they inquire during the property purchase process, regarding flood information currently available, how it can be obtained and the cost.
Establishment of a Flood Affectation Database	A database would provide information on (say) which houses require evacuation, which roads will be affected (or damaged) and cannot be used for rescue vehicles, which public structures will be affected (e.g. levees overtopped, sewer pumps to be switched off, telephone or power cuts). This database should be reviewed after each flood event. It could be developed by various interested authorities (SES, Police, Council).
Flood Preparedness Program	Providing information to the community regarding flooding informs it of the problem. However, it does not necessarily adequately prepare people to react effectively to the problem. A Flood Preparedness Program would ensure that the community is adequately prepared. The SES would take a lead role in this.
Foster Community Ownership of the Problem	Flood damage in future events can be minimised if the community (residents, owners, Council and other public authorities) is aware of the problem and takes steps to find solutions. For example, Council should have a maintenance program to ensure that the openings of culverts, etc., are regularly maintained. Residents have a responsibility to advise Council if they see a maintenance problem such as broken flap gate or blocked drain. This approach can be linked to water quality, coastal, estuarine or other water related issues.

APPENDIX C: POST FLOOD EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROGRAM

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APPENDIX C: POST FLOOD EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROGRAM

C1. GENERAL

Design flood levels are provided in the *Terrigal Lagoon Flood Study*. Copies of this report are held by Gosford City Council and the Department of Land and Water Conservation. The design levels were largely obtained from hydraulic modelling and historical data. Due to the paucity of historical data the design levels have a stated accuracy of ± 0.4 m. The accuracy of the design flood levels can be improved with further flood and rainfall data to confirm the calibration of the computer models. The following procedure has been developed to ensure that the information available from future floods is accurately obtained and analysed.

C2. PROCEDURE

Step 1 - Future Flood: If the lagoon level exceeds 2.0 mAHD data should be collected.

Step 2 - Collect Peak Levels: Creek levels and times should be recorded during the event if possible by SES, Council employees or local residents. It is imperative that the peak height of the flood be marked immediately following the event either from debris marks or eyewitness reports. Debris marks can be lost within hours of the peak as a result of wind, rain or human interference.

Council should despatch personnel to cover the length of the creeks (on both banks) to identify, mark and photograph debris. The levels can be picked up later by a surveyor. The data should be recorded in a report showing the photograph, time of recording (if during the flood) and level to AHD. Council should consider if a circular or notice in local papers is warranted to obtain further information.

Step 3 - Buildings Inundated: If floodwaters enter buildings, the occupier should be interviewed to provide a preliminary indication of the damages, peak level and to obtain photographs. The floor level database used in the Floodplain Management Study indicates which buildings are likely to be flooded in a given event.

Step 4 - Reports from Authorities: Council should obtain written reports from various sections of Council, the SES and any other relevant public authority on the flood. Data should be obtained from the automatic water level recorder and peak water level recorders. These data can be obtained at any time although if they are collected soon after the event they can be used to identify and correct any gross errors in other data. If new gauges are subsequently installed, data should also be collected from these.

Step 5 - Major Floods: Flood levels which indicate an AEP of greater than 10% AEP should be used to re-examine the calibration of the hydrologic/hydraulic models. Data from any other floods which have not previously been analysed should be included in this re-examination.

Steps 6 and 7 only apply to floods with an AEP greater than 10% AEP.

Step 6 - Rainfall Data: Council should make enquiries as soon as possible with Bowling Clubs, Golf Courses or any other possible sources to obtain all available rainfall data. Rainfall data from the Department of Land and Water Conservation and Bureau of Meteorology gauges is continuously recorded and can be readily obtained at any time. If warranted, additional rainfall information can be sought from residents at the same time as flood data are requested.

Step 7 - Hydrologic/Hydraulic Modelling: The new data should be run through the WBNM and RUBICON models. If the models do not produce satisfactory results then all available information (including that from floods used in the Flood Study) needs to be considered to see if the model parameters should be changed. Any changes would lead to a revision of design flood levels. A report should be produced documenting the results and any adjustments made to Council's Floodplain Management Plans and S149 Certificates.

APPENDIX D: INVESTIGATION INTO FLOODING AT WINDSOR ROAD, TERRIGAL

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APPENDIX D: INVESTIGATION INTO FLOODING AT WINDSOR ROAD, TERRIGAL

D1. BACKGROUND

Windsor Road, Terrigal, is located to the north of Terrigal Lagoon. It has a local catchment area to Windsor Road of approximately 18.9 hectares and comprises of mostly residential properties and roadways. Flooding of Windsor Road can occur as a result of elevated lagoon levels, intense rainfall over the local catchment or a combination of both. The Terrigal Lagoon Floodplain Management Study addressed the effects of elevated lagoon levels and this present study has undertaken a preliminary investigation into the effects of intense rainfall over the local catchment. The main aims of this present study were to identify the cause of the past flooding problems and provide a preliminary review of available floodplain management measures as well as provide an assessment of the levee adjacent to Willoughby Road.

D2. FLOODING FROM LOCAL DRAINAGE - SUMMARY

Local inundation in the low points can occur as a result of surface runoff generated by intense short duration rainfall over the local catchment. A number of floodplain management measures were investigated. Resident interviews indicate that they do not perceive flooding on Windsor Road as a major concern. The last significant event where a house was affected occurred in 1990, but there have been no problems since. Based upon the available information and the likely hazard, major capital expenditure cannot be justified for measures such as upgrading the existing drainage system.

The following measures are recommended, in approximate order of importance:

- review of development control procedures to ensure that future development will not exacerbate the problem or increase flood damages. This may require controls on the placing of fill and construction of fences together with the establishment and maintenance of overland flow paths,
- regular maintenance of the existing drainage system (clean pits and pipes regularly and ensure that the channels are well maintained),
- liaise with the golf club to ensure that the watercourses are maintained,
- monitoring of all future flood events (possibly with a questionnaire immediately after the event),
- undertake works to improve the entrances to the channels,
- flood proofing of houses. Initially this will require liaison with the residents and a detailed building inspection.

D3. ASSESSMENT OF THE LEVEE ADJACENT TO WILLOUGHBY ROAD -SUMMARY

Survey of the levee was undertaken which indicated that overtopping is likely to occur in the 10% AEP and greater events. A visual inspection of the levee showed that it is likely to experience "low spots" due to erosion or vegetation removal.

Failure or overtopping of the levee will result in increased flood damages (inundation of buildings and increased risk to life) in Windsor Road.

It is recommended that action be taken to upgrade the levee to a higher engineering standard. At this stage the following actions (prioritised) should be considered and from this a preferred strategy adopted. The attached figure details the available survey and the likely change in extent of inundation following the proposed levee upgrading works.

High Priority

- Liaise with the Golf Club to establish their plans for the course immediately downstream
 of Windsor Road.
- Install maximum height gauges to ensure that in future events the flood gradient in this area is accurately recorded.
- Establish whether the private high level access track across the North Arm is appropriate. Lowering the track would reduce flood levels upstream whilst raising the entrance would eliminate the major low point.
- Determine if hydraulic investigations have been undertaken for the earthworks within the floodplain (house construction) immediately downstream of The Entrance Road.
- Ascertain why slashing of the vegetation has recently (1999-2000) occurred upstream of the private access track. This is likely to have a large impact upon the assumed Manning's 'n' values of the North Arm.
- Establish who owns or maintains the earthen levee.
- Review Council records to see if design plans are available.
- Seek the residents views on the likely visual and social impacts of raising the existing earthen levee (public meeting or questionnaire).

Medium Priority

- Review the design flood height data and establish whether further survey and modelling should be undertaken to more accurately establish the hydraulic gradient.
- Undertake benefit/cost analysis to determine the viability of levee upgrading.
- Prepare a preliminary design to raise the levee to (say) the 1% AEP level + 0.5 m. Detailed survey will be required.



APPENDIX E: TYPICAL FLOOD EVACUATION PLAN

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APPENDIX E: TYPICAL FLOOD EVACUATION PLAN

A Flood Evacuation Plan (FEP) provides one of the most cost effective and successful means of mitigating tangible and intangible flood damages. It has no environmental and few social adverse impacts. Generally FEP's are used for non-residential buildings but can also be applied to single dwellings or in a generic form to all householders via the progress association or such like. The following list provides the key elements of a FEP.

TYPICAL FLOOD EVACUATION PLAN

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN:

Advise of the potential for flooding.

List what actions should be undertaken in the event of an impending flood.

Advise who should be contacted for further information or can provide assistance during a flood.

Relate the predicted level of the flood to the premises.

Advise the types of hazards for the range of flood events.

Advise of actions to be undertaken following the flood.

INFORMATION GENERALLY REQUIRED ON THE PLAN:

Name of Business (if applicable), description of location (nearest cross roads) and building.

Name, Address and contact numbers of occupier.

Name, Address and contact numbers of owner.

Primary and Secondary contact - Name and Address.

Nature of development, activity and number of occupants.

Historical flood data (if available).

Flood and Hazard category for the range of flood events.

Types of materials kept on premises.

Flood protection devices and emergency equipment kept at premises.

What assistance will be required (evacuation, sand bags).

POSSIBLE ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE EVENT OF A FLOOD:

Listen to the local radio.

Secure personal papers, high value items, memorabilia (photographs) and office records. Install shutters or seal vents.

Raise carpets, furniture and stock.

Remove equipment and vehicles (if possible).

Evacuate occupants to the designated safe point.

Advise the SES.

Turn of power/gas/electricity and the main valves of the water supply.

Collect items likely to be washed away.

Raise poisons or chemicals.

TYPICAL FLOODEVACUATION PLAN

ACTIONS DURING THE RECOVERY PHASE:

Check with the SES or Police first.

Have electrics and gas fixtures checked by qualified personnel.

Beware of snakes and spiders.

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Beware of the health risk of walking or working in muddy water.

Plan which items should be cleaned first.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

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End of Report