



Manning Estuary Coastline and Catchment Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Thursday 20 August 2015 at 8am

in Council's Administration Centre

Welcome and apologies: Cr Robyn Jenkins, Shaun Reynolds, Bill Nelson, Elaine Pearce

Endorsed by consensus

Present: Cr David Keegan (Acting Chair), Richard Pamplin (GTCC), Paul De Szell (GTCC), Ric Slatter (OEH), Kirsty Hughes (MCW), Mayor Paul Hogan, Silas Sutherland & Dave Hopper (Crown Lands), Greg Crisp (oyster/fisherman representative), Andre Uljee (Maritime), Adam Nixon (FIMG – Harrington)

Previous Minutes:

Endorsed (Greg Crisp/Mayor Paul Hogan)

Business Arising:

Nil

Correspondence:

Nil

General Business:

- a. Manning Point spur wall – Dave Hopper

Dave advised that Crown Lands (Newcastle) are intending to re-attach the spur wall to the land as soon as possible. Short term solution is sand nourishment at land end – currently working with FIMG regarding use of their dredge following environmental assessment (REF). Long term solution will also be investigated by Crown Lands.

Greg Crisp advised that the dredge requires substantive maintenance before it can be used again which will delay this project (up to 2 months). Dave Hopper is investigating other sources of sand though it is likely that the dredge will be the only way to nourish the wall with sand.

Action: it was decided that a timeline be prepared that shows the work on the spur wall as well as the other studies being undertaken in this location (flood study, southern training wall study, beach erosion study) to portray the amount of effort currently being expended on this entrance. The timeline will be distributed by Richard Pamplin to the committee to finalise and then a media release issued to inform the community of this work. (Richard Pamplin/Greg Crisp).

b. Estuary Management Plan status update

GTCC: advised that the preparation of a Local Strategy is underway which will identify areas for intensification of development taking into consideration environmental constraints. A number of projects are underway that relate to riverbank stabilisation and a Harrington Foreshore Concept Plan is being prepared.

MCW: advised that preparation of an Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan is underway and community consultation has occurred (over 500 surveys completed) and stakeholder consultation is continuing.

Action: it was agreed by consensus that Richard Pamplin will forward a link to the document so that everyone with a responsibility for actions against their agency/group can input their changes direct. The updated document will be provided to the next MECCAC meeting seeking endorsement as the annual update.

Meeting closed at 8:47 am

Future Meetings: 19 November

Members Reports

DRAFT



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**MANNING ESTUARY COASTLINE AND CATCHMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Department of Primary Industries - Lands REPORT (August 2015)**

New Licences

The NSW Department of Primary Industries - Lands has abolished 'Letters of Authority' for new *Crown Lands Act 1989* s 1A and 1B Licences - currently being introduced. These Licences will be for short-term, simple processing, low impact proposals only, and will have an up to two years duration. There will be no fee upon application however the Licence may attract a short-term Licence fee, once processed. The Taree Office will update the next MECCAC meeting on details regarding the new Licences. Note: applicants will still need Public Liability Insurance and to be able to indemnify the Crown, as well as be responsible for maintenance of the authorised works. If groups or individuals are carrying out works currently on Crown land without an authorisation, please email: cl.licencesandsearches@crowland.nsw.gov.au

Other

Illegal native vegetation clearing - Old Bar (Manning Entrance State Park)

Illegal vegetation clearing has been done recently (and previously) by persons unknown, in a patch of vegetation behind the dune next to Ungala Road in Old Bar. Native trees and vines were poisoned, trimmed, cut down and piled up at the site. Much of the vegetation within the patch is listed as Littoral Rainforest (Federally and State Protected). Such clearing opens up canopy and increases 'edge effects' - which have negative impacts on such important and rare vegetation communities. A number of persons are authorised to do weed control work in the patch, however anyone witnessing clearing of native vegetation within this patch are encouraged to contact Tina Clemens on 6591-3572.

Illegal dumping and Fire ignition - Mudbishops Road (Manning Entrance State Park)

Illegal dumping (car) and fire ignition (burnt dune vegetation) have been noted at a site just east of Mudbishops Road. The vehicle has been removed by Greater Taree City Council. The Manning Entrance State Park is looking at measures to prevent further such activities at the site.

Illegal native vegetation clearing - Dawson River (Cundletown)

Illegal native vegetation clearing was done on a Crown reserve, on the Estuary at Cundletown, in December 2014. The illegal clearing included damage to Marine Vegetation. DPI - Lands is currently rehabilitating the site by excluding persons (fencing & signage) from slashing the site; and by carrying out weed control and replanting. The site is just over half a hectare in area, and included soil disturbance during the illegal native vegetation clearing episode.

Fox Control project

The Manning Entrance State Park Trust and Harrington Beach State Park Trust ask that the community complies with Fox Baiting and no Dogs signage in place. Failure to comply with these signs may lead to penalties, and may bring serious harm to domestic dogs (by way of 1080 Fox bait poisoning), or to Endangered and Migratory Shorebirds that use parts of the coast locally between August and April each year.