



NSW Coastal Council

NSW Coastal Council Meeting – summary minutes

7 December 2021

Meeting was held online.

Coastal Council members in attendance:

- Annelise Tuor, Chair
- Kate Brooks
- Pam Dean-Jones
- Martijn Gough
- Hannah Power
- Shay Simpson
- Bruce Thom

Members were welcomed to the seventh and final meeting of Council for 2021. The main matters for this meeting include an update on Council's 2021-22 Work Plan and preliminary results of the 2021 annual survey of coastal practitioners on the implementation of the Coastal Management Framework. Department Planning Industry and Environment representatives presented on the draft Management Plan for the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network (2021-2031).

Council's 2021-22 Work Plan update

- **Task 1-2021: Provide advice to the Minister as part of the five-year statutory review of the Coastal Management Act 2016.**
Department Planning Industry and Environment representatives acknowledged receipt of the Council's advice and confirmed it will inform the statutory review which is to be completed by June 2022.
- **Task 2-2021: Provide advice on opportunities to improve the coordinated management of estuaries.**
This task has been split into two components to allow for progressive reporting in late 2021 through to mid 2022. Interim findings for the first component, which examines the barriers to coordinated estuary management in NSW, are based on interviews with coastal managers in State and local government and research organisations, supplemented by information gathered from independent research and surveys undertaken by the Coastal Council since 2018. A report on the interim findings with recommendations for short term actions to address known barriers is to be provided to Department Planning Industry and Environment in December 2021.
- **Greater Sydney Harbour Coastal Management Program**
Twenty councils within the Greater Sydney Harbour catchment are collaborating with state agencies to develop a whole-of-system Coastal Management Program (CMP) for Greater Sydney Harbour. At the direction of Minister Hancock, Professor Thom chairs the Steering Committee for the program. The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG), a Regional Organisation of Councils, is project managing the delivery of this CMP.

A successful Coastal and Estuary Grant Program funding bid for CMP planning is supporting data compilation and new research on catchment activities directly affecting coastal waterway health and the needs and priorities of councils in relation to stormwater

and sewerage infrastructure management.

The short film "[Sweet water, salt water, Sydney water. How do we sustain a healthy harbour?](#)" originally developed for the Greater Sydney Harbour Healthy Waterways CMP was shortlisted in the [2021 Global Sustainability Film Awards](#). The annual Global Sustainability Film Awards recognise outstanding films from across the globe that inspire audiences with real world solutions for a more sustainable future in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

- Council's 2021 annual survey of the implementation of the Coastal Management Framework
The Council's 2021 survey of coastal managers and practitioners closed on 19 November 2021. Preliminary results of the survey were presented to Council. This year the survey received over 90 detailed responses from individuals working in local and state government, industry and research sectors on their experience with implementing the coastal management framework which commenced in 2018. Initial findings show that while familiarity with the framework and CMP planning is growing, more guidance is sought by local government on the application of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) and Coastal Management Manual. A report on the survey findings will be submitted to the Minister in early 2022.

Summaries of previous surveys ([2018](#), [2019](#) and [2020](#)) and regular meetings of Council can be found online at the [Coastal Council webpage](#).

Presentation by Department Planning Industry & Environment: Consultation draft Management Plan for the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network (2021-2031).

The NSW Government has released the Draft Management Plan for the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network 2021–2031 and is seeking feedback on the future management of the 5 marine parks along the NSW coast by 31 January 2022 ([weblink for more information](#)). The presentation gave an overview of the draft mainland marine park management plan and stages of consultation. The draft management plan is relevant to local government and their responsibilities in relation to management of the Coastal Environment Area, one of the four coastal management areas identified by the Coastal Management Act 2016 and State Environment Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018.

NEXT MEETING: The first meeting for 2022 is scheduled for 22 February 2022.