

Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 24 March, 2025
Location: Jervis Bay Room, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.00pm

Please note: Council's Code of Meeting Practice permits the electronic recording and broadcast of the proceedings of meetings of the Council which are open to the public. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your image and/or voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

Agenda

1. Meeting Conduct Statement
2. Acknowledgement of Country
3. Apologies
4. Confirmation of Minutes
 - Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee - 15 January 2025.....1
5. Declaration of Interests
6. Reports
 - SC25.1 Adoption of the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program5
7. General Business

Membership

Clr White (Chairperson)
All other Councillors (Non-voting members)
CEO or nominee (Non-voting member)

Community representatives:-

Monica Mudge
Jackson Green
Adam Crossley
Michael Brungs
Dirk Treloar
Allan Carle

Government Agency representatives:-

Local Aboriginal Land Council
NSW State Emergency Services
Department of Planning, Environment and Industry (DPIE)
Other relevant Government Agency representatives

Quorum – Three (3) provided that a minimum of one (1) Councillor as the Chair or Acting chair and two community representatives are present.

Note: Any non-voting Councillor in attendance at any Committee Meeting may act as an alternate voting member in circumstances where achievement of a quorum is required, noting that this doesn't apply when quorum specifies the quorum to require community member attendance.

Purpose

The principal objective of the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee is to assist Shoalhaven City Council in the development and implementation of one or more Coastal Management Programs for the southern area of the Council. This will need to be in accordance with the NSW Coastal Management Manual. The southern area applies to the following coastal areas and estuaries:

- All Council managed beaches from Lake Conjola entrance in the north, reaching to the southern boundary of the Shoalhaven LGA in the south – North Durras Beach.
- Lake Conjola
- Narrawallee Creek
- Mollymook
- Ulladulla
- Burrill Lake
- Lake Tabourie
- Lake Willinga
- Shoalhaven Urban and Rural estuaries

Role

- a) To assist the Council in the development and implementation of the CMPs for the areas relevant to 'Purpose' (see above).
- b) To assist the Council monitoring and assessing the effectiveness of the CMPs during and after their implementation.
- c) To assist the Council by providing input into known coastal event(s) and erosion behaviour; and
- d) Facilitate broader community consultation and participation in coast and estuary management through informing and liaising with member community groups.

MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 15 January 2025
Location: Jervis Bay Room, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.02pm

The following members were present:

Clr Patricia White – Chairperson
Clr Selena Clancy
Ms Monica Mudge – (Remotely) – left at 5.45pm
Mr Michael Brungs
Mr Dirk Treloar
Mr Allan Carle

Others present:

Mr Bruce Gibbs – Acting Director City Development
Mr Shane Pickering – Acting Manager Environmental Services
Mr Nigel Smith – Lead Coastal Management
Mr Mark Stone – Lead Floodplain Management
Ms Carla Ganassin – Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development - Fisheries
Mr Greg Britton – Royal Haskoning
Mr John Bucinskas – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Ms Barrina South – Heritage NSW
Ms Amanda Pollock – SES

Apologies / Leave of Absence

An Apology was received from Clr Wilkins.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Clr White / Dirk Treloar)

That the Minutes of the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee held on Monday 5 August 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declaration of Interests

Nil

REPORTS

SC24.3 Adoption of the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program

HPERM Ref:
D24/477320

A presentation was provided to the Committee by Mr Greg Britton - Royal Haskoning. The presentation will be sent via email to the committee members.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee endorse that the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program (CMP) is provided to Council for adoption and submission to the relevant NSW Minister for certification.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Committee defer this item and:

1. Seek further advice and provide a report back to the Committee on:
 - a. The recommendations discussed and
 - b. The role of an Advisory Committee.
2. Advise Council they do not support this recommendation to endorse the CMP in its current form.

CARRIED

POST MEETING NOTE:

Following the presentation, the Committee discussed their concerns endorsing the CMP in its current form. The Committee discussed alternate recommendations on this item and received advice from Council to defer this item to a future meeting to seek clarification on the discussed alternate recommendations in line with the role and purpose of the Committee.

The Committee noted the following concerns:

- Dredging of Lake Conjola as an entrance management activity
- Community concerns
- Costings and funding
- Extensive approvals process
- Not including dredging to maintain a permanently open entrance

On 11 February 2025 an email was provided to the voting members in response to some concerns raised at the meeting, the email addressed parts 1 a) and b) of the above resolution and stated:

Dear Southern CMP Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you to follow up on the Southern Coastal Management Program (CMP) Advisory Committee meeting that was held in Council's Nowra Administration building on Wednesday 15 January 2025.

There were a number of detailed discussions that were had at this meeting, particularly in relation to the potential role of dredging at the Lake Conjola entrance through the CMP and Entrance Management Policy (EMP), and the roles and responsibilities of an advisory Committee to Council per the existing Terms of Reference.

Regarding dredging, Council staff provided in writing via e-mail after this Committee meeting some additional draft text that is proposed to be included in the Lake Conjola CMP. This additional text describes how Council will consider dredging outside of the CMP. This e-mail correspondence is attached for reference.

Overall, the following approach is proposed:

- Lake Conjola CMP: Council is seeking endorsement from the Committee for the Lake Conjola CMP to be endorsed for adoption by Council. This includes the additional draft text that is proposed to be included in the Lake Conjola CMP which describes how Council will consider dredging outside of the CMP. As discussed, the NSW Coastal Management Framework does not support dredging to keep Lake Conjola Entrance permanently open, and this was not supported by the NSW Government agencies.
- Lake Conjola EMP: The EMP appendix will also be removed (de-coupled) from the CMP, and this will be separately reported to Council, seeking its endorsement. It is noted that the updated EMP provides Council with significantly improved options for entrance management, especially when utilised in collaboration with the proposed Lake Conjola Total Flood Warning System (TFWS).
- Lake Conjola entrance dredging: Council and the State Government will continue to monitor and explore opportunities for dredging separate to both the CMP and EMP, as its own individual and ongoing investigation.

A number of common issues were raised in the CMP consultation and the Committee meeting regarding management of flood events and the affordability of and access to flood insurance. It was highlighted that the community are wanting reduced impacts from smaller, more frequent flood events, but appear to understand and acknowledge that entrance management would be ineffective in infrequent large flood events. It is noted that it is these infrequent larger flood events (typically the 1 in 100 Annual Exceedance Probability) that the insurance industry focus on and the only effective approach to these insurance concerns is the planned relocation and/or raising of existing low-lying buildings and assets. Hence, no EMP Council adopts will have any effect on insurance premiums in Lake Conjola.

Following the certification of the Lake Conjola CMP, adoption and implementation of the updated Lake Conjola EMP and implementation of the proposed TFWS, Council can seek further grant funding to revisit the Lake Conjola Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan with the view to identify contemporary flood mitigation measures which are supported by the Lake Conjola community, aim to reduce the flood affectation of existing low-lying buildings and assets, and would assist with affordability of flood insurance when effectively implemented.

Regarding the roles and responsibilities of an advisory Committee, advisory committees are common and usually have the power to make recommendations but not to make decisions. The recommendations of advisory committees can assist a council in making informed decisions on complex matters. The Committee only have powers to make recommendations on matters for which they have been expressly granted delegation via their Terms of Reference, or, are of a minor administrative nature (for example, meeting times and procedural matters). The Terms of Reference for the Southern CMP Advisory Committee can be found online [here](#).

If the Committee is happy with the additional text for the Lake Conjola CMP and understands their roles as an advisory Committee for Council, a written response via e-mail from each Committee member supporting this **by 26th February 2025** could negate the requirement for another in person, formal Committee meeting to be called. If such a response is received this would be considered an e-mail meeting, and Council would then prepare a report to be tabled at its Ordinary Meeting (OM), seeking the support of Council to adopt the CMP so it can be submitted to the relevant State Government Minister for Certification. A separate report will also be tabled to OM, seeking the adoption of the Lake Conjola EMP.

If the Committee requests a formal, in person Committee meeting, a time can be scheduled at the earliest opportunity.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 6.04pm.

Clr Patricia White
CHAIRPERSON

SC25.1 Adoption of the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program

HPERM Ref: D25/82747

Department: Environmental Services

Approver: Lindsay Usher, Acting Director - City Development

Attachments: 1. Final Draft Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program - Full Document (under separate cover) [↗](#)

Purpose:

To present to the Southern Coastal Management Program (CMP) Advisory Committee (the Committee) the Lake Conjola CMP. The CMP is being presented to the Committee to request its endorsement for Council to adopt the CMP and for the CMP to subsequently be submitted to the relevant NSW Minister for certification, and then gazettal (pending certification).

Summary and Key Points for Consideration:

The Lake Conjola CMP has been developed in accordance with the legislative requirements and framework developed under the *Coastal Management Act 2016* (NSW). The development of the CMP has followed the required staged process and has involved the consideration of historical studies, completion of additional technical studies, and extensive consultation with the community and key stakeholders. The CMP comprises a program of integrated management actions responding to identified risks and opportunities that are to be implemented over a forward 10-year management timeframe under several overarching strategies. There are 51 management actions to be delivered through Stage 5 (Implementation) of the CMP.

A Business Plan has been developed that outlines the key components of the funding strategy for the CMP to implement the management actions, including the cost of proposed actions, proposed cost-sharing arrangements, and other potential funding mechanisms. Delivery of the CMP is estimated to cost \$12.2 million (2024 dollars) over 10 years, with approximately \$4 million of this funding proposed to be coming from Council.

Following the completion of the public exhibition of the CMP (25 October to 25 November 2024) (as required under legislation), the CMP was finalised and was presented to the Committee on 15 January 2025. Following this meeting, and as advised by Council to the Committee via email correspondence on 11 and 20 February 2025, Council will amend the CMP to include a revised approach to how entrance management is discussed and incorporated in the CMP for the Committee's consideration. This approach is outlined below.

Council is presenting the CMP and the recommendations regarding entrance management to the Committee to gain their support before the CMP is presented to Council to request their adoption. Following this, the CMP is required to be submitted to the relevant NSW Minister for certification before Council can gazette the CMP and then commence Stage 5 (Implementation).

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee endorse the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program (CMP) and endorse that the updated document is provided to Council for adoption and submission to the relevant NSW Minister for certification.

Options

1. As recommended.

Implications: Endorsing Council's adoption of the CMP will support the finalisation and certification of this document, and subsequent implementation by Council. This CMP provides an integrated and strategic approach to the management of the Lake Conjola coastal zone consistent with the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 2016* and has integrated community feedback following substantial consultation. Council has amended the CMP to remove the draft Entrance Management Policy (EMP) and included additional text describing how Council will consider dredging of the entrance outside of the CMP, which includes ongoing monitoring by Council and the State Government to identify opportunities for dredging independent of the CMP framework. With these changes the amended document will be presented to Council for adoption and to gain support in seeking certification of the CMP. Once certified, Council can proceed with the implementation of the identified management actions to ensure the comprehensive, risk-based management and mitigation of coastal hazards within the CMP Study Area to meet the needs of the community.

2. Seek further modification to the draft Lake Conjola CMP.

Implications: Modifications to the draft CMP, if significant, would require further public exhibition and reporting back to the Committee and Council. Under such a scenario, additional Council time and budget would be required for the project team to complete this work, which would delay the implementation of high priority management actions to address coastal hazards. This will also place further demands on community members who have already provided significant input into the development of this CMP. This project has been funded by the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Coast and Estuary Grants Program with a fifty percent contribution by Council. Applications for additional funding and time, if significant, are likely not to be successful due to several variations already approved on this project and is dependent on available funding allocations from the NSW State Government and Council.

Background and Supplementary information

In accordance with the *Coastal Management Act 2016* (NSW) (CM Act), local councils are to prepare CMPs to meet the objectives of the CM Act. The CMP covers and apply to the coastal zone of Lake Conjola – as legally defined in the CM Act and the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021* (RH SEPP). The Study Area for the purposes of the Lake Conjola CMP extends from the entrance of the lake westward to the tidal limit and 500 metres beyond consistent with the mapped Coastal Environment Area as prescribed by the RH SEPP.

The Lake Conjola CMP has been developed in accordance with the CM Act and the staged process for developing and implementing a CMP, as detailed in the NSW Coastal Management Manual. The stages completed to support this CMP include the preparation of:

- **Stage 1 – Shoalhaven Coastal Management Program Scoping Study:** This included a review of relevant background information, a first-pass risk assessment, a data gap analysis, and formulation of a plan for the development of the suite of CMPs covering the Shoalhaven’s coastline and estuaries.
- **Stage 2 – Risks, Vulnerabilities and Opportunities:** This included a detailed assessment of the various threats and risks affecting the environmental, social, cultural, and economic assets and values of Lake Conjola and resulted in the development of the following reports:
 - *Lake Conjola CMP Stage 2: Report A – Environmental, Social & Cultural Assets and Attributes.* Provides a review of the physical and social attributes and assets within the Lake Conjola catchment, as well as noting the various pieces of legislation that afford protection to these attributes.
 - *Lake Conjola CMP Stage 2: Report B – Threats and Risk Assessment.* Describes the range of, extent, and potential impact of threats posed by coastal hazards on the attributes, as well as providing initial consideration of potential mitigation options and actions
 - *Lake Conjola CMP Stage 2: Report C – Entrance Processes and Entrance Management Options.* Provides a review of coastal processes and entrance dynamics, past and current entrance management practices, as well as consideration of potential options for management of the entrance into the future.
- **Stage 3 – Lake Conjola CMP Stage 3: - Identify and Evaluate Options Summary Report:** This included stakeholder engagement and options analysis to identify and prioritise coastal management actions that can effectively address issues and risks, take advantage of new opportunities, and give effect to the objectives of the CM Act.
- **Stage 4 – Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program:** This included the preparation of a draft CMP for public exhibition and the finalisation of the CMP following the exhibition. This document outlines the identified management actions and business plan for their implementation over a 10-year period. It is this document that is being presented to the Committee to endorse Council’s adoption.

The CMP comprises a program of integrated management actions that are intended to address key issues, and harness new opportunities for the management of the Lake Conjola coastal zone. It outlines specific actions that are to be implemented over a forward 10-year management timeframe under several overarching strategies for managing the coastal zone, which include:

- Overarching Local Government Area (LGA) - Wide Management Actions
- Manage Foreshore Areas and Bank Erosion
- Improve Planning and Management Arrangements for the Lake Catchment Area
- Entrance Management Interventions
- Maintain and Improve Water Quality
- Protect and Rehabilitate Estuarine and Riparian Vegetation and Habitat
- Maintain and Improve Recreation and Amenity.

This has resulted in the development of a total of 51 management actions to be delivered through Stage 5 (Implementation) of the CMP over the next 10-years.

A Business Plan has been developed which outlines the key components of the funding strategy for the CMP to implement the management actions, including the cost of proposed

actions, proposed cost-sharing arrangements, and other potential funding mechanisms. Delivery of the CMP is estimated to cost \$12.2 million (2024 dollars) over 10 years, with approximately \$4 million of this funding proposed to be coming from Council.

Sustainable funding and financing arrangements for management actions will be established in consultation with key stakeholders. Funding for management actions may be gained from various sources, including competitive State and Federal Government grant programs and Council's internal funds.

The CMP document is being presented to the Committee to gain their support and endorsement before the CMP is presented to Council to request their adoption. Following this, the CMP is required to be submitted to the relevant NSW Minister for certification before Council can gazette the CMP and then commence Stage 5 (Implementation).

Proposed approach to discussion and incorporation of entrance management in the CMP

At the Committee meeting held 15 January 2025, there were a number of detailed discussions regarding entrance management, particularly in relation to the potential role of dredging at the Lake Conjola entrance through the CMP and Entrance Management Policy (EMP). In response to discussions on dredging, Council staff provided in writing via e-mail additional draft text that is proposed to be included in the Lake Conjola CMP. This additional text describes how Council will consider dredging outside of the CMP framework.

Following this meeting and the provision of the additional text, Council staff provided the Committee with further correspondence via email on 11 and 20 February 2025 regarding the proposed approach to entrance management within the CMP. The following approach was presented:

- Lake Conjola CMP: Council will seek endorsement from the Committee for the Lake Conjola CMP to be presented for adoption by Council. This includes amendments to the CMP to add the draft text regarding dredging which describes how Council will consider dredging outside of the CMP. The NSW Coastal Management Framework does not support dredging to keep Lake Conjola Entrance permanently open, and this was not supported by the NSW State Government agencies.
- Lake Conjola EMP: The EMP appendix will be removed (de-coupled) from the CMP, and the EMP itself will be separately reported to Council, seeking its endorsement. It is noted that the updated EMP provides Council with significantly improved options for entrance management for the purposes of flood mitigation, especially when utilised in collaboration with the proposed Lake Conjola Total Flood Warning System (TFWS).
- Lake Conjola entrance dredging: Council and the State Government will continue to monitor and explore opportunities for dredging separate to the Lake Conjola CMP, as its own individual and ongoing activity.

Internal Consultations

Throughout Stages 1-4 of the CMP development, internal consultation was carried out within Council. This included consultations across and within Council Directorates to obtain feedback on the existing coastal hazards, risks and opportunities within the Lake Conjola coastal zone, as well as the development and implementation of proposed management actions. For actions that involve the construction of new or upgrade of existing Council assets, asset custodians were consulted to ensure integrated and consistent delivery of works across Council. Internal consultations will be ongoing throughout the implementation of the CMP.

External Consultations

Throughout Stages 1-4 of the CMP development, external consultation was carried with a range of representatives from NSW State Government agencies, adjacent local councils and Non-Government Organisations. These included:

- NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)
- NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) – Fisheries
- NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) – Crown Lands and Planning
- Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- State Emergency Services (SES)
- Local Land Services (LLS)
- Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC)
- Jerrinja Tribal Group

Consultations were undertaken to obtain feedback on the existing coastal hazards, risks and opportunities within the Shoalhaven LGA, as well as the development and implementation of proposed management actions. Through this process, external entities provided information to support Council in developing a CMP that meets statutory obligations for the management of the coastal zone within the CMP Study Area. Following the completion of the CMP Public Exhibition Period, Council is currently seeking letters of support from the relevant NSW State Government agencies listed as supporting agencies within the CMP. These letters are required for submission of the CMP for certification by the relevant NSW Minister. To date, all agencies have expressed in principle support for the CMP.

The management actions within the CMP identify where these external entities have been identified as a 'supporting partner' in the implementation of the management actions. Council will continue to engage with these entities throughout the implementation of the CMP and to ensure that the relevant legislation under each of their jurisdictional boundaries is appropriately complied with.

Community Consultations

Stakeholder and community engagement has been implemented progressively through each stage of the CMP. The various engagements were coordinated and developed in line with CMP Engagement Guidelines developed by the NSW State Government (DCCEEW), the Shoalhaven City Council Community Engagement Strategy, and the use of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) guidelines. This included engagement with Traditional Owner Groups, local communities, and public authorities through a range of methods – including workshops, drop-in sessions, surveys, one-on-one meetings and interactive online map-based platforms. The draft CMP document outlines the community consultation process employed throughout the lifecycle of the CMP.

To summarise the feedback received during Stages 2 and 3 of the development of the CMP a 'closing the loop' summary document was prepared and is available on the project *Get Involved* webpage (linked below). The intention of this summary document was to provide responses to all submissions received on the risks, vulnerabilities and opportunities identified by the community for the Lake Conjola CMP, as well as the potential management actions

considered for the CMP. The document outlines how and where feedback had been considered in the development of management actions as presented in the Stage 4 draft CMP document.

The draft CMP was on public exhibition from 25 October 2024 to 25 November 2024 to obtain final stakeholder feedback on the proposed management actions included in the draft CMP. Council is required under the CM Act to publicly exhibit the draft CMP for a period of at least 28 days. The draft CMP was placed on public exhibition for a total of 32 calendar days. The public exhibition process involved:

- Provision of the document electronically on the Shoalhaven City Council *Get Involved* webpage for the project: <https://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/lake-conjola-cmp> and the *Documents on Exhibition* section of the Council website.

Other engagement methods deployed during the Public Exhibition Period included *Get Involved* page posts and updates, direct emails to Council community and stakeholder participation lists, and Council attendance at the Lake Conjola Emergency Management Mini Expo hosted by the NSW Reconstruction Authority on 19 November 2024.

The following summarises the engagement achieved throughout the public exhibition process:

- 222 online submissions on the draft CMP through the *Get Involved* page.

Following the public exhibition period, the draft CMP has been updated based on the submissions received. A response to submissions (RTS) has also been prepared and is available as a supporting document to the final CMP outlining how each submission has been considered in the finalisation of the CMP document.

Policy and Statutory Implications

The CMP has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Coastal Management Framework that is governed by the CM Act. Council has prepared the CMP giving regard to the relevant legislation, environmental planning instruments and statutory guidelines applicable to the coastal zone within the CMP Study Area. Furthermore, as part of the CMP development process, DCCEEW is required to confirm that the CMP satisfies the objectives of the CM Act and the mandatory requirements for a CMP as set out in the Coastal Management Manual. DCCEEW has indicated in principle support for the draft CMP and is currently reviewing the final CMP to confirm that it meets the objectives of the CM Act and mandatory requirements for a CMP.

The CMP has also been prepared considering existing Council Policies for the management of the foreshore and coastal environment including, but not limited to, Council's Tree Management Policy (Public Land) (POL21/51), Vegetation Vandalism Prevention Policy (POL22/24), and the Foreshore Reserves Policy (POL19/76). In addition, the CMP has been prepared giving consideration to Council's suite of CMPs, notably the certified and gazetted Shoalhaven Open Coast and Jervis Bay CMP, to ensure consistent management of the coastal zone throughout the Shoalhaven.

The CMP is considered a 'living document' that is to be reviewed and updated continually throughout its lifecycle. A strategic review of the CMP should occur at least once every ten years to assess the effectiveness of the CMP in achieving its objectives and to incorporate changes, considering new information, legislative and policy changes, and improved understanding of the local coastal processes.

Following the certification of the CMP, existing resolutions from Council meetings relating to coastal management that have been actioned by Council will be superseded, with the CMP to become the overarching strategy for the management of the coastal zone within the Shoalhaven. As outlined above, the CMP has been developed considering Council's

statutory obligations for coastal management as outlined with the CM Act, Council’s existing policies relevant to the coastal environment, best practice coastal management as documented within State guidelines and literature, as well as the outcomes of extensive consultation with the community and NSW State Government agencies over the preceding years. Subsequently, it is considered the CMP should be the primary mechanism for Council to manage the coastal zone of Lake Conjola in an integrated and holistic way.

With the EMP being removed from the CMP, these documents can be appropriately considered separately by Council.

Financial Implications

The CMP has been prepared by Council with funding assistance received from NSW DCCEEW through a Coast and Estuaries Grant. This grant funding has provided a fifty percent contribution from the NSW State Government for the completion of the CMP. Delivery of the CMP is estimated to cost \$12.2 million (2024) over 10 years, with approximately \$4 million of this funding to come from Council, which will be subject to inclusion in the long-term financial plan.

Following the certification of the CMP, Council will be eligible to apply for grant funding for the implementation of management actions through the DCCEEW Coast and Estuaries Implementation Stream Grants. This funding has been specifically created to provide a two-to-one funding ratio for actions within a certified CMP. This grant funding program is contestable, prioritised to Council applications with certified CMPs and subject to NSW State Government funding priorities and allocations. However, the availability of these funding opportunities provides a clear indication of the financial benefits a certified CMP provides to Council for the implementation of the management actions identified through the CMP.

Risk Implications

Consideration of Risk in the CMP process

A First Pass Risk Assessment was completed in the Stage 1 Scoping Study for the Shoalhaven CMPs. This provided a high-level assessment the various issues, vulnerabilities, and opportunities affecting the Lake Conjola coastal zone. The risk assessment was further refined in Stage 2 of the CMP and included an updated and detailed risk assessment of coastal hazards. This involved identifying and assessing risks and benefits to environmental, social, and economic values across the coastline, with the aim of informing the development of management options in Stages 3 and 4.

The risk-based framework applied in Stage 2 involved the completion of a two-step methodology including:

- **Qualitative Threat-Based Risk Assessment**
 - An **outcome**-based approach that reflects the interests of the community and agencies and enables consideration of catchment wide issues that may impact on many assets and attributes.
- **Quantitative Asset-Based Risk Assessment**
 - An **output**-based approach that reflects the interests of Council asset managers and enables consideration of factors impacting on each asset so that accurate forward planning for asset improvement / renewal / removal can be undertaken.

The threat-based risk assessment considered a wide range of threats and the hazards they present. The potential impact of these threats was evaluated for several key interconnected risk assessment themes, comprising public safety, infrastructure, environmental, and public amenity. The broad indicative control measures identified against each risk were used as the

basis for further prioritisation and refinement of management actions in Stage 3 of the CMP process.

As required by the CM Act, the key risks and threats have been considered over a range of timeframes, including the present day, as well as future planning horizons 20 years, 50 years, and 100 years – to account for future climate changes impacts, and the impacts of population growth and future development on the coastal zone.

Risk of not adopting the recommendations of this report

Additional modifications to the draft CMP, if significant, would require further public exhibition of the draft document and reporting back to the Committee and Council. Under such a scenario, additional time and budget would be required for the project team to complete this work, which would delay the implementation of high priority management actions. This project has been funded by the NSW DCCEEW Coast and Estuary Grants Program with a fifty percent contribution by Council. Applications for additional funding, if significant, are likely to be not successful due to several variations already approved on this project and is dependent on available funding allocations from the NSW State Government and Council.

If the EMP and CMP are not de-coupled, Council will be delayed in its ability to implement the greatly improved EMP and hence expose the Community to unnecessary flood risk.