

MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 17 March 2021
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.00pm

The following members were present:

Clr Patricia White – Chairperson
Clr Mark Kitchener
Clr Kaye Gartner – (remotely)
Clr Nina Digiglio – (remotely)
Jackson Green – (remotely)
Adam Crossley
Michael Brungs
Dirk Treloar
Allan Carle

Also present:

Phil Costello – Director City Development
Phil Hansen – Acting Manager, Environmental Services
Nigel Smith – Coastal Coordinator
Leslie Reid – Natural Resources Officer
Carla Ganassin – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Fisheries (remotely)
Sam Davis – Manager, Jervis Bay Marine Park (remotely)
Cherie Parmenter – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (remotely)

Adam Crossley gave the Welcome to Country.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Monica Mudge and Daniel Wiecek (DPIE).

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Michael Brungs / Dirk Treloar)

That the Minutes of the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee held on Monday 30 November 2020 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS

SC21.1 Update on the Coastal Management Programs (CMPs)

HPERM Ref:
D21/95889

Nigel Smith summarised Table 1 in the report, which gave the status of Council's Coastal Management Programs.

- In process: Lake Conjola Estuary
- Awaiting Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (DPIE) to advise of grant funding: Shoalhaven Coastline, Jervis Bay, Sussex Inlet / Swan Lake Berrara, St Georges Basin, Lower Shoalhaven River.
- The remainder have not yet commenced.

With regard to the grant applications, Cherie Parmenter (DPIE) confirmed that as of this meeting no feedback had as yet been received.

Nigel Smith identified the CMPs most at risk of delay as being the Open Coast and Jervis Bay, as well as Lake Conjola, as they are due by end of this year. Those due for completion in 2022 should be deliverable within the timeframe.

Cl White noted the earlier meeting of the North and Central Coastal Management Advisory Committees has discussed adding a timeline into the reports.

Adam Crossley asked whether Jerringa Tribe and the Local Aboriginal Land Council are on the list of stakeholders, and how they will be consulted when work is to commence. Leslie Reid confirmed that Council is engaging with all appropriate identified stakeholders as part of the overall stakeholder engagement plan. Staff will pre-circulate the list to the Committee to ensure no one is missed.

Leslie Reid explained the draft action plan set out in Table 2 of the report. Staff will work with Royal HaskoningDHV and final draft will be made available to the Committee.

Clr Gartner asked about the bush fire impacts on estuaries in relation to the bushfire recovery action plan. Cherie Parmenter advised this is another grant-funded project being conducted jointly with Eurobodalla and Bega Councils. A consultant is looking at modelling/mapping to identify where the highest risk areas are, and there will be an implementation plan on where work needs to be directed. Clr Gartner noted the fire impacts have led to increasing levels of erosion and ash deposits; it is important not to miss this information in understanding of coastal processes and how fire impacts them.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report on the status of the Coastal Management Plans for information.

RESOLVED (Michael Brungs / Allan Carle)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report on the status of the Coastal Management Plans for information.

CARRIED

SC21.2 Update on Lake Conjola CMP**HPERM Ref:
D21/65284**

Nigel Smith provided an update. The presentation is attached to these Minutes.

Royal HaskoningDHV commenced works in February 2021. Currently the project is at Stage 2.

In relation to the technical analysis examples, Dirk Treloar recommended that when compiling water quality data, not to rely solely on Aquadata. He advised that bore holes are key to understanding what is happening with nutrient plumes, and the radial outflow around the trenches. Nigel Smith agreed and advised this had been noted in the Scoping Study.

Adam Crossley asked about the opening. Nigel advised the entrance management policy will be reviewed as part of the CMP process.

Stage 3 includes seeking ideas from the community. The Communication and Engagement Plan is a living document.

Nigel shared the draft project schedule, which is updated by the consultant on a monthly basis. This can be circulated to the Committee. The most significant delay is with the draft finalisation gazetting process of this CMP, the stage at which it is reviewed by the agencies. After that the CMP comes to Council for ratification and then submitted to Government, after which it is implemented.

Adam Crossley asked whether cultural significance data is reflected in the document. Nigel clarified that when looking at the management objectives for the Entrance this will be proposed to the consultants as a key objective.

Dirk Treloar asked whether the agencies are aware that Lake Conjola does not have a licence to open in a flood event.

Cherie Parmenter advised that some of the final stage is around checking and ensuring the CMP meets all the legislated mandatory and statutory requirements; this is a review process and this accounts for part of the delay. Ideally the consultants will ensure they meet all the requirements.

Carla Ganassin (DPIE Fisheries) requested opportunities during Stage 2 for agency members to review the draft reports. Nigel Smith advised the Stage 2 findings are planned to be reported to this Committee, and agency input is invited as part of the Committee. Nigel will check with Greg Britton (Royal Haskoning) whether the Committee may have access to review the reports as they are being drafted.

Information Session

The inception meeting had been held in February, and it is hoped to have an initial consultation on 30 March, comprising a drop-in Information Session from 3pm to 6pm at Lake Conjola Community Centre. The consultants will be present. The Committee discussed the timing of the 30 March session, and whether it should be held later.

Clr White suggested staff could attend the CCB meeting on 12 April to give a presentation. She also recommended not commencing a session before 4.00pm.

Phil Costello (Director City Development) recommended making contact with the community as soon as possible.

Clr Gartner noted that not everyone attends the CCB meetings and asked that this be an additional engagement to the separate drop-in session.

Greg Britton of Royal Haskoning will be present in the area on 30 March, hence the original schedule – to be confirmed if he is available on 12 April.

Staff confirmed there will be subsequent information sessions for stages 2 and 3.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report regarding

the update on the Lake Conjola CMP.

RESOLVED (Dirk Treloar / Michael Brungs)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report regarding the update on the Lake Conjola CMP.

CARRIED

SC21.3 Project Brief Structure for Coastal Management Programs

**HPERM Ref:
D21/95819**

Nigel Smith advised the period on the CMP Project Briefs has been extended to 29 March.

Clr White suggested that to encourage feedback an Executive Summary could be added to the start of each document.

Cherie Parmenter agreed that much of the content is included for legislation reasons and is “dry”.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

RESOLVED (Allan Carle / Dirk Treloar)

That the Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

Greg Britton, Royal Haskoning, will be asked to provide update to next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.11pm.

Clr Patricia White
CHAIRPERSON