
Minutes of the 1st meeting of the
Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee
Thursday 27th August 2009
Mooney Mooney Workers Club

ATTENDANCE

Arthur Michos	NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change
Stan Rees	Land and Property Management Authority
Andrew Fenwick	Fenwicks Marina
Mike Fish	Community Representative
Emma Collins	Community Representative
Alex Muir	Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority
Rolf Norington	Hawkesbury River District Fishermans Co-operative
Melissa Frater	Community Representative & Bridge to Bridge Rep
Melanie Field	NSW Food Authority
Axel Van Zelewski	Community Representative
Mary Howard	Community Representative
Harry Recher	Community Representative
Wendy McMurdo	Chair - Hornsby Shire Council
Peter Coad	Hornsby Shire Council
Kristy Guise	Hornsby Shire Council
John Stubbs	Broken Bay Oysters
Anna Rubio	Community Representative
Ingrid Sigovia	Community Representative
Tim Macdo nald	Gosford City Council
Peter Draper	Gosford City Council
Steve Diffey	Sydney Water Corporation
Jim Lloyd	Community Representative
John Andrews	Community Representative
Justin Pigneyguy	Hawkesbury River Commercial Boating
Darryl Lennox	NSW Maritime Authority
Simon Rowe	Oceanwatch

APOLOGIES

David Booth	Community Representative
Scott Carter	Innovation and Industry NSW
Gosford Councillors	Councillor representation is to be determined at the 22/09/2009 meeting of GCC.

ABSENT

Mick Smart	Vice Chairperson- Hornsby Shire Council
Steve Russell	Community Representative/ Hornsby Shire Council
Peter Bergman	NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change

1. WELCOME

Cllr McMurdo welcomed the new committee.
Brief introduction from each member.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No pecuniary interests declared.
Pecuniary interests are to be declared in relation to specific agenda items.

Action 20091: Team Leader - Estuary Management to distribute Hornsby Shire Councils advice on pecuniary interest to committee members.
Forwarded by Rolf Norington, seconded by Justin Pigneyguy.

3. PRESENTATION

Peter Coad presented an overview of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Program and the development of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Plan.

Discussion held regarding collaboration with the Office of the Hawkesbury Nepean

Action 20092: Team Leader - Estuary Management to contact Marie Abood of the Office of the Hawkesbury Nepean to discuss potential collaboration and invite them to attend the next LHEMC meeting.
Forwarded by Jim Lloyd, seconded by Tim Macdonald.

4. PROGRESS REPORTs

Hornsby Shire Council

Peter Coad – reported on the projects currently being undertaken as part of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Program.

Category	LHEMP Strategy	Project Description	Partners
Capital Works	13a 13b 15a 15d	Capital Works Program to rehabilitate foreshore areas and undertake estuarine education initiatives	HNCMA, DECC
Capital Works	2s	Foreshore Cleanup to remove rubbish illegally deposited	HNCMA, Dept of Corrective services
Capital Works	3c	Crosslands Masterplan Implementation	HNCMA
Capital Works	3c,4a, 15d	Improvements and consolidation of recreational fishing sites along Singleton Road	DECC
Capital Works	2s	Derelict Boat Removal from Sandbrook Inlet	HNCMA, DECC, Dept of Lands, NSW Maritime
Capital Works	12cc	Kangaroo Point Pumpout	
Education	6h, 12k, 13b	Marine Pest Education Days at Mooney Mooney and Brooklyn	HNCMA, NSW DPI Fisheries
Education	15f,15d	Estuary Open Day at Fenwicks Marina	HNCMA, NSW DPI Fisheries, Fishcare Volunteers, Houseboat Association, Estuary Prawn Trawl and Estuary General, Broken Bay Oysters, NSW Maritime Authority, NSW Water Police, Volunteer Rescue Association, Brooklyn Soccer Club
Education	15d	Still Creek Landcare support	HNCMA
Education	15i	World Migratory Bird Day	DECC
Education	7c, 15a, 2m	Seagrass communities mapped on boat user maps	NSW Maritime, NSW DPI
Education	2w	Seagrass Marker Buoys deployed within Brooklyn Harbour	HNCMA, NSW Maritime
Research	12z	Brooklyn STP monitoring	Bioanalysis, University of Sydney
Research	12hh	Remote Probes monitoring	Manly Hydraulics Laboratory
Research	5e	QX monitoring	Broken Bay Oysters
Research	5c, 9d	Benthic habitat mapping and geomorphic characterisation	HNCMA, NSW DPI Fisheries
Planning	9a,1b, 1g, 1i	Translation of current planning instruments into the Standard LEP Template	HSC Town Planning Services
Planning	1a	Land Capability Assessment	CSIRO
Compliance	7j,12v,15b	On site disposal education for riverside settlements	HNCMA, HSC Environmental Health and Sustainability

Discussion was held with regard to these projects which lead to the proposal of the following actions;

Action 20093: Team Leader – Estuary Management to distribute information to the community regarding the works being carries out at Singleton Mill Rd.
Forwarded by Mary Howard, seconded Rolf Norington.

Action 20094: All committee members to provide the Team Leader Estuary Management (Peter Coad) with relevant details to form an email network for the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Program.
Forwarded by Mike Fish, seconded by Justin Pigneyguy.

Gosford City Council

Tim McDonald reported on the projects currently being undertaken on the lower Hawkesbury estuary.

- Revegetation works are being undertaken at Derubbin Reserve with rock fillets created to prevent further erosion of the foreshore.

- Bush regeneration works at Patonga wetland midden

Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority

Alex Muir reported on the projects currently being undertaken on the lower Hawkesbury estuary.

Category	LHEMP Strategy	Project Description	Partners
HNCMA projects	13a, 2n	Weed Management in Riparian Areas	Gosford City Council
HNCMA projects	13a	Mooney Mooney Foreshore rehabilitation	Gosford City Council
HNCMA projects	12cc	Twin-Beaches Toilet installation	DECC
HNCMA projects	1l, 2p, 6e, 13a, 2q, 2n, 2k, 15d, 6h	Tide to Table- linking land management practice and fish habitat across the estuary	Oceanwatch, NSW Department of Industry and Investment, Broken Bay Oysters, Community, others
HNCMA projects	15d, 6h	Waterwatch in the Gosford LGA- supporting community water quality monitoring initiatives	Coastal Environment Network
HNCMA projects	15d, 6h	Community Seagrass Monitoring	Coastal Environment Network, Hornsby Shire Council
HNCMA projects	13a, 2n, 2q	Bitou bush control on the Department of Sport and Rec land Juno Point	Greening Australia, Department of Sport and Recreation
HNCMA projects	6e, 6h	Mangrove Mountain Sustainable Horticulture - Project Officer to work with farmers to develop more sustainable farming practices - Training and demonstration sites Quality assurance and environmental management	NSW Department of Industry and Investment, landholders, horticultural industry and community
HNCMA projects	2n, 13a, 2p, 2q	River restoration and wetlands program	

Discussion was held with regard to current knowledge of fish stocks and recreational fishing effort in the estuary. Rolf Norington provided an overview of the current commercial fishing situation in the Hawkesbury.

Action 20095: Team Leader - Estuary Management to contact Aldo Steffe for an update on recreational fishing surveys relevant to the Hawkesbury River.
Forwarded by Mike Fish, seconded by Jim Lloyd.

Action 20096: Team Leader - Estuary Management to contact a relevant NSW Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries representative for information regarding the future management of disused oyster leases.
Forwarded by Mike Fish, seconded by Ingrid Segovia.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

- DECC estuary project application status
Hornsby Shire Council was successful in securing three grants through the Department of Environment and Climate Changes Estuary Management Program for the 2009/2010 period.

Terms of reference for the committee were noted in the Appendices of the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Plan for the information of members.

- Future Meetings

Motion 20097: For Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee meetings to be held at Mooney Mooney Workers Club, with the option of meeting at other locations as required.

Forwarded by Rolf Norington, seconded by Jim Lloyd. Carried Unanimously.

Motion 20098: For the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee to meet quarterly, with a review after 6 months.

Forwarded by Steve Diffey seconded by John Andrews. Carried unanimously.

- Contact and information distribution

Action 20099: Team Leader – Estuary Management to distribute Lower Hawkesbury Estuary Management Committee member contact details to all members.

Forwarded by Andrew Fenwick, seconded by Rolf Norington.

- Other business

Action 200910: For David Miles to replace Mel Steiner as the Boat Owners Association representative.

Forwarded by Melanie Field, seconded by Mike Fish.

Meeting closed at 20:40.