

Richmond River Coastal Management Program – Protecting our Catchment and Estuary

Stage 1: Scoping Study Supporting
Information: Stakeholder Feedback

November 2021



Disclaimer:

This report has been prepared on behalf of and for the exclusive use of Rous County Council and is subject to and issued in accordance with the agreement between Rous County Council and Hydrosphere Consulting. Hydrosphere Consulting accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for it in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party.

Copying this report without the permission of Rous County Council or Hydrosphere Consulting is not permitted.

Rous County Council has prepared this document with financial assistance from the NSW Government through its Coastal and Estuary Grants Program. This document does not necessarily represent the opinions of the NSW Government or the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Acknowledgement of Country:

Hydrosphere Consulting acknowledges the Bundjalung peoples, Traditional Custodians of the lands discussed in this Scoping Study and pay tribute and respect to the Elders both past and present and emerging of the Bundjalung nations.

Hydrosphere Consulting Pty Ltd
Suite 6, 26-54 River Street
PO Box 7059, BALLINA NSW 2478
hydrosphere.com.au

© Copyright 2021 Hydrosphere Consulting

**JOB 21-016 RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SCOPING STUDY
INTERIM DELIVERABLE 4: STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK**

REV	DESCRIPTION	AUTHORS	REVIEW	APPROVAL	DATE
0	Draft for client review	R. Campbell	K. Pratt	M. Howland	1 Aug 2021
1	Updated with council and DPIE feedback	R. Campbell	M. Howland	M. Howland	11 Nov 2021

CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION 1
- 2. OUTCOMES OF PREVIOUS CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES 1
- 3. SCOPING STUDY CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES 7
 - 3.1 Aims and Objectives 7
 - 3.2 Consultation Activities 7
 - 3.3 Consultation Outcomes 8
 - 3.3.1 Aboriginal community 8
 - 3.3.2 Local Government 9
 - 3.3.3 State Government agencies 9
 - 3.3.4 Industry and community groups 10
 - 3.3.5 General community 11
- 4. REFERENCES 13
- APPENDIX A. STAKEHOLDER CONTACTS REGISTER 15
- APPENDIX B. INITIAL SCOPING WORKSHOP 17
- APPENDIX C. CZMP IMPLEMENTATION REFERENCE GROUP MEETING 19
- APPENDIX D. INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL LIAISON 21
- APPENDIX E. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES 25
- APPENDIX F. ABORIGINAL REPRESENTATIVES 29
- APPENDIX G. COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY AND INTEREST GROUPS 33
- APPENDIX H. WEBPAGE AND MEDIA 35
- APPENDIX I. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK 53

1. INTRODUCTION

Hydrosphere Consulting was engaged by Rous County Council (RCC) on behalf of Ballina Shire Council (BaSC), Lismore City Council (LCC) and Richmond Valley Council (RVC), to prepare the Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study for the Richmond River. This report provides a summary of the consultation outcomes from previous related studies, an overview of the consultation activities undertaken for the Stage 1 Scoping Study and the feedback received. All activities and feedback received by 28 July 2021 has been documented in this report.

2. OUTCOMES OF PREVIOUS CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

The consultation activities and outcomes documented in previous management plans for the study area include:

- Richmond River estuary focus group meeting for the *Richmond River Estuary Management Study and Plan* (Australian Wetlands, 2010) held in March 2008:
 - Focus group held with 10 stakeholders from the Ballina area to discuss issues raised in the Richmond River EPS (WBM, 2006).
 - “Healthy water quality” was ranked as the most important estuary value.
 - Riparian zone integrity - corridor connectivity and vegetation, biodiversity and intergenerational equity were ranked as highly important estuary values.
 - Water quality monitoring data should be made available to the public with benchmarks given to improve the public’s understanding of performance.
 - Need to prepare for climate change to mitigate adverse impacts.
 - Lack of governance and coordination identified.
- Richmond River catchment focus group meeting for the *Richmond River Estuary Management Study and Plan* (Australian Wetlands, 2010) held in March 2008:
 - Focus group held with 17 stakeholders from the Lismore area to consider estuary values and discuss issues presented in the Richmond River EPS (WBM, 2006).
 - Holistic values preferred to specific, ranked individual values.
 - Comments related to:
 - Consideration of waterless sewage systems.
 - Returning floodplain areas to wetland.
 - Off-stream watering points required for stock.
 - More resources to increase community awareness.
 - Reducing sediment runoff from farms and revegetating riparian zones.
 - ‘Landscapes’ included as cultural heritage sites.
 - Need to link cultural values to economic values.

- Link with schools, educational institutions, community groups.
 - Monitoring results reported to community.
 - Future planning to include climate change.
 - Consideration of carbon credits.
- Richmond River CZMP community survey (Australian Wetlands, 2010):
 - 29 respondents, mostly from Ballina (15) and Lennox Head (10).
 - “Habitat and wildlife in waterways and riparian areas” was the highest rated environmental value.
 - Governance issues were identified.
 - Consultation with First Nations people was undertaken as part of the development of the *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary – Volume 2: Estuary Management Study* (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2011) identified information gaps and recurring issues including:
 - Satisfactory resolution of native title claims – there were four native title claims covering approximately 90% of the study area being assessed at the time.
 - Lack of community understanding regarding First Nations fishing rights.
 - Cultural heritage studies have not been completed. All levels of government maintain registers under legislation and ongoing studies aim to improve the Aboriginal heritage listings within the Richmond River.
 - Adoption of cultural heritage sites and artefacts in appropriate registers to ensure long-term preservation.
 - Protection of cultural and heritage items and sites from future activities (e.g. land clearing or foreshore works occurring around the estuary).
 - The *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary – Volume 2: Estuary Management Study* (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2011) found that community education/involvement and capacity building is essential to the success of other management initiatives. It will be important to raise public awareness of the values and sustainable use of the Richmond River estuary through targeted community education programs to give the community an understanding of the true impacts of activities. The existing education programs should be supported through the estuary management planning process.
 - *Review of Governance and Administration Models for the Richmond River – North Eastern NSW* (Stephen Fletcher & Associates, 2013) - consultation with key stakeholders (Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Fisheries, DPI Agriculture, constituent councils, RCC, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (NRCMA), Clarence Valley Council (to compare other models of governance), Ballina Fisherman’s Co-op, Richmond River Canegrowers, Southern Cross University (SCU) and Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)) indicated:
 - The need for better clarification of roles and responsibilities for estuary management and protection was commonly raised by stakeholders and was seen as a major issue to be addressed.

- There is general agreement on the need for a more formal structure for the implementation of the CZMP.
- There is also general concern with the lack of resources available for implementation of actions.
- The benefits of resource sharing to increase co-ordination of activities and to provide combined savings were identified.
- *Richmond River Landowner Riparian Survey* (Bushland Restoration Services, 2014) - a phone survey completed by 56 landowners with frontage to rivers or creeks in the Richmond River catchment:
 - 30 landowners indicated interest in being involved in riparian restoration.
 - Respondents indicated they would be prepared to undertake the following riverbank management activities: weed control (36), bank stabilisation activities (25), native plantings (23), vegetation conservation (31), off stream water (13) and fencing (12).
 - Labour/materials, site visits, information and grant help were identified as incentives which would assist landowners with managing the riverbank.
 - Most respondents indicated willingness to contribute labour and machinery, maintenance and provide access.
- *North Creek CMP Scoping Study* (Alluvium, 2019a) - 2018 online community survey (outside study area for the Richmond River Scoping Study but likely to be included in the CMP):
 - The survey, comprising 13 questions, was available on Council's website between May and July 2018 and distributed through social media platforms with 150 respondents.
 - Primary areas of interest identified were:
 - Overall catchment health (37%).
 - Urban areas, boat ramps, swimming areas (20%).
 - Ross Lane and the Ballina Nature Reserve (12%).
 - 76% of respondents identified 'native vegetation' as a very important catchment value.
 - Five main categories were identified for desired positive changes:
 - Improved environmental protection (24%).
 - Dredging of lower estuary to commence (22%).
 - Improvements in water quality (22%).
 - Drain maintenance (16%).
 - Reduced development (9%).
 - The top six threats to catchment values were rubbish, urbanisation, agriculture, stormwater discharge, loss of riparian vegetation and poor drainage.
 - Siltation and reduced tidal flushing and upstream factors (agricultural runoff, acid drainage and urban pollution) were identified as factors contributing to threats.

- *North Creek CMP Scoping Study* (Alluvium, 2019a) Agency Reference Group meetings were held with various state and local agencies to inform and guide the CMP development.
- *Richmond River Governance and Funding Framework* (Alluvium, 2019b) - stakeholder engagement included:
 - Formal interviews with BaSC, LCC, Kyogle Council (KC), RVC, RCC, Byron Shire Council (BySC) and North Coast Local Land Services (LLS).
 - Informal interviews with OEH, Chair of Marine Estate Management Authority, Chair of State-wide board of LLS, CEO and Chief Scientist of The Nature Conservancy (Australia) and two trustees of the Biodiversity Conservation Trust.
 - Four stakeholder workshops were held with representatives from approximately 50 organisations.
 - Key stakeholder interview outcomes included:
 - Varying catchment values and prevalent 'production vs environment' attitudes, particularly in upstream communities.
 - Existing governance arrangements have 'failed' and no-one takes responsibility for shared problems.
 - Stakeholders affirmed that there is mutual goodwill and unanimously recognise the need for action. It is perceived that a lack of resources and adequate governance is inhibiting strategic action. It was perceived that upstream areas tend to prioritise basic community needs over environmental objectives.
 - Perceived impediments to implementing a new governance arrangement include funding, poor governance, lack of trust, lack of fair distribution of benefits, competing priorities and perceived distribution of potential future benefits.
 - Key messages from interviews included that the Richmond River needs a champion with a clear vision/mandate.
 - Long-term strategic outcomes and values considered most important by key stakeholders included:
 - First Nations culture.
 - Access.
 - Diverse and productive rural industry.
 - Healthy ecosystems.
 - Sustainability.
 - Collaboration.
 - Participation.
 - Cultural and social diversity.
 - Lifestyle and liveability.
 - Prosperity.
 - Intergenerational equity.

- Water security.
- Marine Estate Management Strategy- NSW Water Quality Objectives: public consultation survey (December 2020 – March 2021) – data and reporting not yet available.
- Community surveys are conducted by the local councils to better understand the wants and needs of the community and help the councils determine priorities going forward. The results from the most recent surveys are summarised below:
 - 2017/18 KC community satisfaction survey (Kyogle Council, 2018):
 - 234 households surveyed.
 - Weed control and catchment management were ranked 5th and 6th respectively out of 32 services for importance to the community and ranked 25th and equal last out of 32 services for community satisfaction.
 - More than 30% of survey participants perceived current levels of service for weed management to be getting worse.
 - Weed management and catchment management were ranked 19th and 24th as desired future budget priorities.
 - RVC community research (Micromex Research, 2016):
 - 403 residents participated in the survey.
 - Satisfaction for 'Protecting the natural environment' scored above the median for all services/facilities.
 - 'Riverbanks' and 'Protecting the natural environment' were given a 'very high' overall score for importance. Residents aged 18 - 24 considered 'protecting the natural environment' significantly more important than older age groups.
 - 14% of respondents indicated that 'Natural environment/scenery' was what they most valued about living in the LGA.
 - In response to 'Is there any other projects Council should undertake', 105 (26%) of the 403 respondents answered 'Yes' and 9 of these considered 'Riverbank upgrades' projects should be undertaken. Other projects mentioned were 'Flood management schemes', 'Monitor Richmond River for pollution' and 'Enhance/maintain foreshore'.
 - Scores for both the importance of and satisfaction for 'Protecting the natural environment' had increased since the 2013 survey.
 - BySC community satisfaction survey (Micromex Research, 2020a):
 - 408 survey participants.
 - 5% of participants from Bangalow and 30% from rural areas and small towns villages, the remainder of participants (65%) were from major towns outside the study area for the Richmond River CMP Scoping Study.
 - 5% of respondents believed that 'protection of the natural environment' would be the highest priority issue for the LGA over the next 10 years.
 - 'Coastline management' and 'Vegetation management' ranked 5th and 20th out of 39 services/facilities for importance scoring 89% and 83% respectively.

- 'Coastline management' and 'Vegetation management' were ranked 20th and 25th respectively out of 39 services/facilities for satisfaction scoring 71% and 61% respectively.
- 'Vegetation and weed management' was flagged as an area for improvement due to lower satisfaction and higher importance levels.
- The importance of 'vegetation and weed management' and 'coastline management and planning' were significantly higher compared to 2018 while satisfaction levels were similar.
- LCC Community Survey (Micromex Research, 2020b):
 - 503 residents responded to the survey.
 - 'Protection of the natural environment and wildlife' ranked 10th in facilities/services for importance scoring 85% and ranked 12th out of 36 facilities/services for satisfaction scoring 84%.
 - 'Natural environment and scenery in the area' was valued most about living in the area by 25% of respondents.
 - People aged 18 - 34 scored 'Protection of the natural environment and wildlife' significantly higher for importance than people aged 65+.
- BaSC community satisfaction survey (Micromex Research, 2020c):
 - 505 survey participants.
 - 'Overall health of Richmond River' ranked 5th in services/facilities for importance and 38th for satisfaction out of 41 services.
 - Satisfaction score for the 'Overall health of Richmond River' increased between 2018 to 2020 (2.91 to 3.24 /5).

3. SCOPING STUDY CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

3.1 Aims and Objectives

Stakeholder engagement is a critical component which spans all stages in the production of a CMP. A key role of the Scoping Study is to involve stakeholders and ensure ongoing commitment for the CMP development and implementation. A key outcome will be registrations of interest in the CMP development process and identification of appropriate ongoing engagement methods. The Scoping Study will include preparation of a stakeholder engagement strategy which will carry through to Stages 2 - 5 of the CMP. Stakeholder engagement activities have been undertaken in accordance with the Quality Assurance Standard for Community and Stakeholder Engagement (iap2, undated), the *Guidelines for Community and Stakeholder Engagement in Coastal Management* (OEH, 2018) and *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (OEH, 2010).

The aims of the Stage 1 engagement activities are to inform, consult and involve stakeholders by bringing all interested parties on board early to share information and ideas and identify stakeholders to be involved in the remaining CMP stages. The CMP will cover complex issues and there is a high level of interest in management approaches. It will be important to identify stakeholder interests, opportunities and concerns in the Scoping Study and develop methods of addressing these in later stages of the CMP development.

The consultation activities were designed to obtain the following information:

- Catchment/estuary values and usage.
- Areas of interest/responsibilities.
- Issues to be addressed in the CMP.

The outcomes of the consultation activities will be used in key components of the Scoping Study including the preliminary risk assessment, forward plan and stakeholder engagement strategy. Some stakeholder feedback is specifically relevant to Stage 2 detailed studies, Stage 3 assessment of options and the Stage 4 CMP and should be considered as part of future CMP stages.

3.2 Consultation Activities

Consultation activities undertaken for the Scoping Study (until 28 July 2021) included:

- Development of a stakeholder register (Appendix A) – stakeholders and method/log of contact.
- Initial scoping workshop – discuss scope, methodology, issues, data and activities with representatives of RCC and flood mitigation service delivery constituent councils (BaSC, LCC and RVC) and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Biodiversity Conservation Division (DPIE – BCD) (Appendix B).
- CZMP Implementation Reference Group meeting with councils and agencies (Appendix C).
- Individual council workshops (RCC, BaSC, LCC, RVC, BySC, KC) to discuss key issues to be addressed, challenges and opportunities (Appendix D).
- Liaison with Clarence Valley Council (CVC) (Appendix D).

- Government agencies - official notification of the project and dedicated agency liaison for initial information gathering phases (Appendix E).
- Aboriginal representatives (Appendix F):
 - Potential interested parties were identified through liaison with the constituent councils and Heritage NSW, previous management plans and the governance review.
 - Official notification of the project to known contacts (all potential interested parties identified by Heritage NSW and the councils) and request for feedback and registration of interest in the CMP development process (refer stakeholder contacts register in Appendix A).
 - Public notice in newspapers inviting registrations of interest.
 - Aboriginal advisory group meetings – LCC, KC, RCC.
- Community, industry and interest groups - official notification of the project to known contacts and request for feedback and registration of interest in the CMP development process (Appendix G).
- Development of a project webpage to provide a portal for communication and registration of interest during the Scoping Study and potentially future stages (Appendix H).
- Each of the councils posted a link to the project webpage on their websites and promoted the project and feedback opportunities through social media. BaSC included an article on the project in the community newsletter (30 July 2021).
- A media release was issued on 16 July 2021 on behalf of all councils. Articles were subsequently included in local print media and the project was discussed on local ABC radio with the RCC chairperson.

A detailed workshop will also be held with agency and council stakeholders to review the first pass risk assessment, data gaps and the proposed forward plan.

3.3 Consultation Outcomes

Feedback received from the stakeholders is included in Appendix B to Appendix I and key themes and information provided through the consultation is summarised in the following sections.

The feedback highlights the consultation fatigue resulting from the various strategic planning programs undertaken for the Richmond River. There is also frustration with repeated studies and plans with limited significant on-ground change. This is noted in the consultation feedback from most stakeholder groups.

3.3.1 Aboriginal community

- There is a desire to be directly involved in a meaningful way in management actions, particularly on-ground actions.
- The traditional owners are keen to find employment opportunities for the Aboriginal community in areas of knowledge and expertise. The community should be fairly compensated for work undertaken.

- There is a desire for a greater understanding of connection to country and the importance of water resources in the wider community.

3.3.2 Local Government

- Clarification of study area.
- Consultation approaches.
- Environmental monitoring activities.
- Key issues to be addressed in Scoping Study.
- Potential management approaches.
- Barriers to implementation of improvement projects.
- Governance and administration issues continue to be a key concern.

3.3.3 State Government agencies

National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)

NPWS provided feedback on:

- Significant coastal and catchment reserves.
- NPWS areas of interest and assistance.
- Specific comments and recommendations for consideration in the Scoping Study.
- Detailed feedback was provided on Tuckean Nature Reserve management approaches, river health within reserves and native title.

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands (DPIE – Crown Lands)

- Primary activities and roles are Crown land management, bushfire management/planning, leasing/licensing and reserve management, regulation of domestic waterfront structures and authorisation of activities by third parties under tenures.
- Priorities are working with native title holders in land management, protecting cultural heritage on Crown Land, accelerating economic progress, protect environmental assets, improve and expand green space and build climate change resilience, strengthen and support evolving community connections.
- The Scoping Study should incorporate and acknowledge the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1984* and the *Native Title Act 1993* which provide a framework for recognising the rights and interests of Aboriginal people with respect to certain Crown land.
- Issues to be addressed in the CMP include the rights and values of Aboriginal people and the strategic and integrated management of Crown land.

Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries (DPI Fisheries)

- Acknowledged that the Richmond River catchment has been well studied and the threats and risks to the river and its tributaries are well known.
- DPI Fisheries expects that the CMP Scoping Study would acknowledge these facts, highlight the main threats and risks affecting the study area and outline the ability of the CMP to address these threats and risks.

North Coast Local Land Services

- Provided general information on MEMA projects being undertaken in the catchment (riparian restoration and road sealing).

3.3.4 Industry and community groups

OzFish Unlimited

- Urgent and large-scale change is needed throughout the Richmond River catchment.
- Many of the management objectives in the past Richmond River CZMP have not been met.
- Key issues are drainage works in Tuckean Swamp and agricultural benefits to some landholders but with environmental harm to the broader estuary, water quality (eutrophication, red spot disease, impacts on fish habitat), land use decisions, restoration of floodplain wetlands, backswamps and acid sulfate soils and fish habitat restoration projects.

NSW Canegrowers

- Repeated consultation has not resulted in meaningful outcomes.
- Concern that floodplain agriculture is targeted in the development of future management strategies.
- Management decisions impact on canegrowers income, way of life and health.
- Lack of recognition of skills and knowledge of farmers.
- There are significant barriers to resolution of issues for farmers.
- Members are aware of the impacts of floodplain drainage and have developed guidelines etc. to minimise impacts and ensure compliance.
- Concerned that a “one size fits all” logic is being applied to different sections of the river.
- Barriers to effective drainage management including legislative/regulatory requirements.

Sunshine Sugar

- Primary activities include Broadwater Sugar Mill, lease and management of 600 ha of land planted to sugarcane in rotation with soybean, professional extension services to all cane growers on the Richmond River, studies such as water quality monitoring to support latest research and to enhance the adoption of recommended farming practices based on that research. The overall objective is to

support the sustainability of the industry and to improve and enhance the quality of water leaving sugarcane farms.

- Priorities are protection of agricultural land for agricultural use, floodplain infrastructure management, farm management, riparian zone management, vegetation management, water quality and acid sulfate soil management.
- Issues to be addressed in the CMP include proactive and positive contribution of sugarcane farming to the floodplain management and the effect of changing land use – from sugarcane to tree crops and grazing.

The Casino Food Co-op

- Provided information on Livestock Watering Infrastructure Project, an industry-led initiative focused on providing on-ground infrastructure (e.g. tanks, troughs and fencing) to exclude stock from waterways including objectives, funding, status, in-kind contributions, expected benefits and challenges.

Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network (BRRVLN)

- Provided information on projects undertaken over the last three years in the Richmond catchment.
- No detailed mapping or summary of historical projects available.
- Understanding of project history would be valuable for planning for future investment.

3.3.5 General community

- Poor condition of the river including water quality, vegetation clearing, weed infestation, cattle damage, fertiliser runoff.
- Lack of access to the river for residents and visitors and firefighting.
- Need for buffer zones on riparian land.
- Offers of assistance (with future work).
- Protection and rehabilitation should be priorities.
- Build-up of sand in lower estuary at Ballina, impacts on fish and need for dredging (not part of the study area).
- Impacts of jet skis.
- Residential development and other infrastructure built close to waterways.
- Over-extraction of water from Mulgum Creek weir, impacts of climate change, siltation and weeds.
- Need for action to restore health of the river/catchment.
- Soil erosion in upper catchment and support for farmers to change practices.
- Proposed extraction from Alstonville groundwater aquifers.
- Financial and on-ground support required for landholders for riparian restoration.

Richmond River CMP Scoping Study – Stakeholder Feedback

Many comments were received via the RCC Facebook post. RCC responded by requesting that the comments were made via the webpage feedback form to enable formal capture of feedback.

4. REFERENCES

- Alluvium (2019a) *North Creek Coastal Management Program – Stage 1 Scoping Study*. Report by Alluvium to Ballina Shire Council.
- Alluvium (2019b) *Richmond River Governance and Funding Framework*. A report for the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and supporting local governments.
- Australian Wetlands (2010) *Richmond River Estuary Management Study and Plan*.
- Bushland Restoration Services (2014) *Riparian Restoration Richmond River Catchment: Riparian Survey, Education Kit*.
- Hydrosphere Consulting (2011) *Estuary Management Study*. Prepared on behalf of Richmond River County Council.
- iap2 (undated) *Quality Assurance Standard for Community and Stakeholder Engagement*.
- Kyogle Council (2017) *Trend analysis: Kyogle Council Community Surveys 2007 – 2017*.
- Micromex Research (2016) *Richmond Valley Council Community Research*.
- Micromex Research (2020a) *Byron Shire Council Community Satisfaction Research*.
- Micromex Research (2020b) *Lismore City Council Community Survey*.
- Micromex Research (2020c) *Ballina Shire Council 2020 Community Satisfaction Survey*.
- OEH (2010) *Guidelines for Community and Stakeholder Engagement in Coastal Management and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*.
- OEH (2018) *Guidelines for Community and Stakeholder Engagement in Coastal Management*.
- Stephen Fletcher & Associates (2013) *Review of Governance and Administration Models for the Richmond River – North Eastern NSW*.
- WBM (2006) *Richmond River Estuary Process Study*. Report for Richmond River County Council, Lismore.

Appendix A. STAKEHOLDER CONTACTS REGISTER

Clarence Valley Coastline Coastal Management Program Scoping Study: Stakeholder Register

Organisation	Position	Other group	Consultation	Email sent	Response received	Summary of response	Other correspondence
Local Government							
Rous County Council	NRM Planning Coordinator	CZMP IRG	Project meetings, IRG meetings, RCC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Rous County Council	Natural Resource Officer	CZMP IRG	Project meetings, IRG meetings			refer meeting minutes	
Rous County Council	Floodplain Officer		RCC workshop 26/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Rous County Council	Group Manager Operations		RCC workshop 26/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Rous County Council	Floodplain Engineer					refer meeting minutes	
Rous County Council	Group Manager Planning and Delivery	CZMP IRG	Project meetings, IRG meetings			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	(former) Planning Officer	CZMP IRG	RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Richmond Valley Council	General Manager		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	Director Community Services Delivery		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	Manager Environmental Health and Sustainability		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	Manager Development and Certification		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	Leader of Strategy		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Richmond Valley Council	Environmental Health Officer		RVC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Ballina Shire Council	Manager Environmental Health	CZMP IRG	BSC workshop TBC			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Ballina Shire Council	Environmental Health Officer		BaSC workshop 20/05/21			refer meeting minutes	
Ballina Shire Council	Manager Engineering Works		BaSC workshop 20/05/21			refer meeting minutes	
Ballina Shire Council	Sustainability Projects Officer		BaSC workshop 20/05/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Ballina Shire Council	Stormwater Engineer		BaSC workshop 20/05/21			refer meeting minutes	
Ballina Shire Council	Coordinator Asset Management		BaSC workshop 20/05/21			refer meeting minutes	
Kyogle Shire Council	Senior Environmental Services Officer	CZMP IRG	KC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Kyogle Shire Council	GIS Officer	CZMP IRG	KC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Kyogle Shire Council	General Manager		KC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	
Kyogle Shire Council	Strategic Initiatives Coordinator		KC workshop 6/5/21			refer meeting minutes	AAG meeting and email 10/6/21
Lismore City Council	Environmental Strategies Coordinator	CZMP IRG	LCC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Lismore City Council	Coordinator Open Spaces		LCC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Lismore City Council	Director of Partnerships, Planning and Engagement		LCC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Lismore City Council	Strategic Planning Coordinator		LCC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Biodiversity and Agriculture Project Officer	CZMP IRG	BySC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Coast, Biodiversity and Sustainability Coordinator	CZMP IRG				refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Coast and Estuary Officer		BySC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	various emails
Byron Shire Council	Effluent Management Officer		BySC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Environmental Health Officer		BySC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Project Officer (Aboriginal)		BySC workshop 27/4/21			refer meeting minutes	
Byron Shire Council	Drainage and Flood Engineer						
Byron Shire Council	Infrastructure Planning Coordinator						
Byron Shire Council	Open Space Technical Officer						
Clarence Valley Council	Coast and Environment Officer		General email	28-Apr-21	18-May-21	No concerns	
NSW Government							
DPIE - Biodiversity Conservation Division	Senior Team Leader (Water, Floodplains and Coast)	CZMP IRG	Project meetings, IRG meetings			refer meeting minutes	
DPIE - Biodiversity Conservation Division						refer meeting minutes	
DPIE - Biodiversity Conservation Division	Senior Project Officer – Catchment Governance and Waterway Health (Richmond River)	CZMP IRG	Project meetings, IRG meetings, Governance 28/4/21			refer meeting minutes	ongoing re governance project
DPIE - Biodiversity Conservation Division	Senior Environmental Scientist	CZMP IRG	Meeting 28/4/21	26-May-21	26-May-21	discussion of fish kill risk and why an event did not occur this season. Also management action required to address ASS and blackwater issues	
DPIE	MEMA - Floodplain prioritisation		Teleconference				
DPIE	MEMA		Teleconference				WQO discussion 22/6/21
DPIE	MEMA - Water quality objectives		Teleconference				WQO discussion 22/6/21
DPIE - Environment Energy and Science	Principal Scientist - Place Based Science		Teleconference				MEMA discussions
DPIE-Water	Principal Policy Officer		Email re sugar industry feedback	28-Apr-21			
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Senior Project Officer, Coastal Landscapes	CZMP IRG	General email	7-May-21	26/05/2021	Detailed	RC 19/5/21. Josh provided more contacts
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Manager Landforms and Rehabilitation, Interagency Strategic Working Group	CZMP IRG	General email	7-May-21		no response	
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Floodplain wetland management			9-Jun-21		no response	
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Richmond Area Manager		Teleconference	9-Jun-21		Reserve management esp Tuckean NR and current gaps	refer meeting minutes
DPI - Fisheries	Fisheries Manager, Aquatic Ecosystems (North Coast)	CZMP IRG	General email	7-May-21	23/06/2021	No specific concerns	
DPI - Fisheries			General email	7-May-21		no response	
DPI- Fisheries	Project Coordinator, recreational fishing survey		Call and email request for latest fisheries survey report	4-Jun-21		will advise when report becomes available	
DPI - Agriculture	Macadamia Development Officer		General email	7-May-21		no response	called 23/6/21
DPI - Agriculture	Blueberries		General email	7-May-21		no response	
DPI - Agriculture	Industry Development Officer - Bananas and Avocados		General email	7-May-21		no response	
Transport for NSW	Boating Safety Officer		General email	7-May-21		no response	
DPIE - Crown Lands	Coastal management specialist	CZMP IRG	General email	7-May-21	9/06/2021	refer email	Email from Bryan Green
DPIE - Crown Lands	Senior Porject Officer, Coastal Unit	CZMP IRG	Meetings, general email	7-May-21	9/06/2021	refer email	Email from Bryan Green
Local Land Services	Administration		General email	7-May-21		no response	
Local Land Services	Senior Land Services Officer	CZMP IRG	Meetings	7-May-21	14/07/2021	Projects in catchment	
Local Land Services	Team Leader Operations - Natural Asset Protection	CZMP IRG	Meetings	7-May-21		no response	
NSW Forestry Corporation	Soil and Water Specialist		General email	7-May-21		no response	
Heritage NSW (Dept Premier and Cabinet)			Request for Aboriginal contacts	7-May-21	10/05/2021		
Aboriginal Groups							
NTSCorp	Land Tenure and Notifications Officer		General email cc Rob Appo	7-May-21		no response	
Arakawal (Bundjalung of Byron Bay Aboriginal Corporation (BOBBAC)	CEO		General email cc Rob Appo	10-May-21		no response	
Tweed Byron LALC	CEO		General email cc Rob Appo	7-May-21		no response	
Casino – Boolangle LALC			General email	7-May-21		no response	
Bogal LALC	CEO		General email	7-May-21		no response	
Jali LALC	CEO	RAP Advisory Group	General email cc Rob Appo	10-May-21		no response	
Junbung Elders Aboriginal Corporation			Email (via NTSCorp)	10-May-21		no response	
Western Bundjalung People Part A			Email (via NTSCorp)	10-May-21		no response	
Bandjalang People #1			Email (via NTSCorp)	10-May-21		no response	
Bandjalang People #2			Email (via NTSCorp)	10-May-21		no response	
Bandjalang People of Byron Bay #3			Email (via NTSCorp)	10-May-21		no response	

Appendix B. INITIAL SCOPING WORKSHOP

Agenda and minutes from the workshop 25/3/21

Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study Project inception meeting

Date	Thursday, 25 March 2021
Venue	Wilson Room Rous County Council Administration Centre, Molesworth Street, Lismore
Afternoon tea	1:30pm
Meeting	2:00pm to 4:00pm

Attendees

Rous:	Anthony Acret (AA), Stuart Hood (SH) and Andrew Logan (AL).
Hydrosphere:	Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP)
DPIE:	Ben Fitzgibbon (BF)
Constituents:	Suzanne Acret (SA) (Ballina); Leonie Walsh (LW) (Lismore) and Craig Rideout (CR) (Richmond Valley).

Agenda items		
1.	Introduction	AA
2.	Overview of project team, methodology and program	RC and KP
3.	Consultation activities: – Overview – Aboriginal consultation	RC and KP Discussion - All
4.	Study area definition	RC and KP Discussion - All
5.	Project team site	RC and KP
6.	Council and agency contacts	RC and KP
7.	Data requests	RC and KP
8.	Webpage	RC and KP
9.	Current/recent projects to align with – for example: RRMS, autosamplers, riparian restoration	RC and KP Discussion - All
10.	Communications and engagement	RC and KP Discussion - All
11.	Agenda items for presentation to CZMP meeting for 31 March 2021	All
12.	Other: What haven't we discussed that we should?	All
13.	Next steps	All

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Project inception meeting		
DATE:	Thursday 25/03/21	TIME:	2:00pm to 4:00pm
LOCATION:	Wilson Room, Rous County Council Administration Centre, Molesworth Street, Lismore		
ATTENDEES:	Rous: Anthony Acret (AA), Stuart Hood (SH) and Andrew Logan (AL). Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP) DPIE: Ben Fitzgibbon (BF) Constituent Council representatives: Suzanne Acret (SA) (Ballina Shire Council, BSC) and Craig Rideout (CR) (Richmond Valley Council, RVC).		
APOLOGIES:	Leonie Walsh (LW) (Lismore)		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	Introduction – AA welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the project scope and status.	-	-
2.	SA will commence a 12-month contract with DPIE working on the Richmond River governance project. A new BSC representative will be advised.	AA to confirm BSC contact for the project.	Kerri Watts and Rachel Jenner will be interim contacts.
3.	Overview of project team, methodology and program: a) RC introduced the project team and discussed the methodology including key deliverables (handout). b) The approach for providing interim deliverables was agreed. c) RC went through the project timeline. AA and SH discussed that the grant period for the Scoping Study ended in Dec 2021 and the revised timeline extended slightly beyond this (final in early 2022). BF indicated that it should not be an issue to extend the grant.	-	-

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
4.	<p>Study area definition:</p> <p>a) The study area was discussed including excluded areas and previous delineation of catchments etc.</p> <p>b) The study area includes the Richmond River catchment from upper reaches to the lower estuary but excludes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Urban areas of the lower Richmond River at Ballina which will be included in the Ballina Coastline CMP. → North Creek Catchment - a separate Scoping Study has recently been completed for this catchment. It is planned that Stage 2 and 3 of the North Creek CMP will be completed separately with outcomes for North Creek to be incorporated into the overall RR CMP (Stage 4). → The Evans Head Coastline. <p>c) SA discussed that to be consistent with the treatment at Ballina, Evans Head urban areas should also be excluded from the study area of the RR Scoping Study. This was agreed.</p> <p>d) CR indicated that RVC are unlikely to prepare a CMP for the Evans Head Coastline as coastal risk is assessed as relatively low and the resource requirement for CMP preparation is high.</p> <p>e) RC indicated that Hydrosphere Consulting requires mapping of the North Creek catchment/CMP boundary and the Ballina Coastline CMP boundary to allow for study area mapping.</p> <p>f) BF suggested that Darren Maher at SCU can be contacted for a map of hydrological units/sub-catchments used in the RR Ecohealth Report.</p>	<p>RC to request mapping as required from BSC.</p> <p>Hydrosphere Consulting to prepare a map to define the study area (1st task of Scoping Study).</p> <p>KP to request hydro map from Damien Maher (SCU).</p>	<p>Mapping provided</p> <p>Interim Deliverable 1: Study area and mapping</p> <p>KP requested mapping from Damien who forwarded request to Sara Mika at UNE (Ecohealth). Waiting response after follow-up email sent 7/4/21. Study area mapping is currently being undertaken with publicly available sub-catchment information.</p>
5.	<p>Consultation activities:</p> <p>a) RC provided an overview of planned consultation activities (handout) and noted that Hydrosphere Consulting will request a list of existing contacts from RCC for the project.</p> <p>b) RC discussed proposed Aboriginal consultation methods and raised that some previous projects had limited success in meaningful engagement with First Nations people. RC asked for suggestions to improve consultation approach.</p> <p>c) BF discussed a recent exhibition at the Cape Byron Lighthouse showcasing the work of Uncle Norm Graham collaborating with a landscape architect to create cross-sections of Tallow Creek as a way of communicating story lines and connection to Country.</p> <p>d) SA suggested a project of this type could be proposed as a Stage 2 study.</p> <p>e) BF also mentioned Aboriginal consultation project underway as part of MEMS/DPIE-EES, contact Jocelyn Dela Cruz for more details.</p> <p>f) SH asked about the use of social media to raise awareness of CMP process and ask for input. RC indicated that constituent councils may post on their social media pages and redirect to the project webpage.</p>	<p>Hydrosphere Consulting to request a list of existing contacts from RCC for the project.</p> <p>Hydrosphere Consulting to follow up with Chloe Dowsett at BySC for more information on the exhibition at Byron.</p> <p>AA and RC to follow up with Jocelyn Dela Cruz about consultation activities being undertaken by MEMA.</p> <p>RC to provide some wording for social media posts and link to webpage (as required).</p>	<p>Stakeholder contact register complete.</p> <p>Publicly available videos obtained (Byron exhibition)</p> <p>Meeting with MEMA reps on 26/03/21.</p> <p>Webpage provided. Councils to upload to websites.</p>

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
6.	<p>Sharepoint project team site:</p> <p>a) RC gave a demonstration of the project team site and explained how to upload/download and access info and links.</p> <p>b) Access will be provided to the working group members and all information can be directly uploaded to the page by members.</p>	<p>Hydrosphere Consulting to send an invitation to the working group members to join the project team site.</p> <p>Members to let Hydrosphere know if they would like access for other staff (e.g. mapping staff etc.)</p>	<p>All nominated team members invited.</p>
7.	<p>Data requests: Hydrosphere will submit separate data requests to each constituent council/agency as required. GIS requests will be itemised separately.</p>	<p>Hydrosphere Consulting to submit data requests.</p> <p>Councils/agencies to provide data within 2 weeks.</p>	<p>Data requests sent 8/4/21 to RCC, BySC, RVC, KC, LCC.</p> <p>BaSC request sent 21/4/21.</p> <p>Data provision ongoing.</p>
8.	<p>Webpage:</p> <p>a) RC presented an example project webpage (Nambucca CMP)</p> <p>b) Hydrosphere Consulting will create and host a public project webpage providing project information, feedback form, links and downloads (e.g. background info and reporting as available throughout the project).</p> <p>c) SA suggested and it was agreed that the 'hero' photo on the webpage should be "river-focused" and not a coastline image.</p> <p>d) RC discussed that a lot of the images we currently have are of environmental degradation (e.g. fish kills, ASS scalds etc.) and it would be good to get some scenic shots to balance this out.</p>	<p>Project webpage to be prepared by Hydrosphere Consulting.</p> <p>Councils to include link on their websites.</p>	<p>Webpage provided. Councils to upload to websites.</p>

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
9.	<p>Current/recent projects to align with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) AL discussed the Tuckombil Flood Study that is planned to start soon and run over 6-9 months as a collaborative partnership with RCC and RVC. Cane growers on the floodplain approached RCC about it. b) AA discussed the current DPIE public survey on Water Quality Objectives and the process for collecting information on community values to enable resetting of priorities for waterways. This is being run by DPIE-EES, Rachael Woods and Jocelyn Dela Cruz. The group discussed whether it would be possible/useful to incorporate the survey results into the Scoping Study. BF said he could arrange a meeting with DPIE-EES staff to discuss. c) MEMS projects currently underway were discussed including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Coastal Floodplain Study, Kylie Russell at DPI Fisheries. → EES Risk-based Framework → SCU/Angus Ferguson/Damien Maher working on water quality monitoring in the Richmond. Need to get an update on where this is up to and outcomes expected. → Confirm available studies/information on hydrological/water quality monitoring and modelling. d) RR Monitoring Strategy - a 3-year grant has been provided under the Estuary Grants Program to monitor water quality in the Richmond. This involves autosamplers/ water quality loggers deployed in-situ. Some samplers installed and functioning from Jan 2021 giving real time data on RCC WQ web portal. Several more samplers are planned to be installed shortly. e) SA mentioned a new project about to get underway looking at faecal coliform sources (i.e. animal vs. human). Two sites have been included from the Richmond. f) FNC Regional Water Strategy currently underway which will look at environmental flows. g) RR Water Sharing Plan review currently underway – Jeremy Kinley is the contact for this. h) AA discussed that there is currently very little monitoring of environmental flows and/or water extraction by water users in the catchment and this was a key area they are looking to address. i) BF invited Hydrosphere to visit the EES Alstonville Office to go through historical files stored there. 	<p>AA and RC to follow up with Jocelyn de la Cruz about projects being undertaken by MEMA.</p> <p>Hydrosphere Consulting to follow up with BF regarding files at Alstonville Office.</p> <p>KP to discuss available hydrological/water quality monitoring and modelling studies with Angus Ferguson.</p>	<p>Meeting with MEMA reps on 26/03/21.</p> <p>Meeting with AF complete.</p>
10.	<p>Other: What haven't we discussed that we should?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) BF - Tidal inundation assessment is a starting point to assess risks over the next 50 yrs. If the risks are not considered to be too great then a detailed tidal inundation study may not be required. If the risks are determined to be significant then the Scoping Study will need to determine if a detailed tidal inundation study is needed. b) Bank erosion hazard – Scoping study will assess adequacy of existing information. 		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
11.	Next steps: a) CZMP implementation meeting - 31 March 2021 b) Data requests c) Consultation activities to commence.		

END OF RECORD














Appendix C. CZMP IMPLEMENTATION REFERENCE GROUP MEETING








Agenda and minutes for IRG meeting 31/3/21

Richmond River Estuary Coastal Management Plan Implementation Reference Group

DATE	Wednesday, 31 March 2021		
VENUE	Rous County Council Depot Kyogle Street, South Lismore Join the Teams Meeting (click here to join the meeting)		
MEETING	9:30am to 2:30pm		
Tea/coffee from 9:00am	Morning Tea 11:00-11.15am	Lunch 12.15–12.30pm	

AGENDA

Items				
AA	1.		Attendance and apologies	
AA	2.		Minutes of previous meeting (June 2020) (refer Attachment 1)	1-6
AA	3.		Review of action items (refer Attachment 2)	7
ALL	4.		CZMP Progress reports: Partners to provide an overview of council/agency progress on 2020/21 implementation of CZMP actions/related works in the Richmond River estuary/catchment	
Rous County Council (various)				
SH/AA		 	Action 3a: EcoHealth Monitoring Program – Water quality characterisation/assessment (datalogger sites) (refer Attachment 3) – Floodplain water quality monitoring program	8-9
AL			Action 4a: Identify, prioritise and optimise drains and levees – Flood mitigation asset review	
CC		 	Action 4b: Review floodgate management protocols – Active Floodgate Management Program – Keith Hall Drainage Options Study (refer Attachment 4)	10-19
SH/AA			Action 6b: Identify priority riparian areas and rehabilitate – Funding application (refer Attachment 5)	20
AA			Other RCC natural resource management initiatives (not necessarily part of CZMP implementation but contributing to Richmond River catchment improvement) – RCC CMP 2021-2025 (refer Attachment 6)	21
SA			Ballina Shire Council	
LW			Lismore City Council	
CR			Richmond Valley Council	

Items				
BF			Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)	
BF/SA	5.		DPIE Richmond River Catchment Governance review progress	
KR SM JG	6.		Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028: Update regarding specific scope of work/progress and program for relevant projects in the Richmond River catchment (refer Attachment 7)	22-24
AF	7.		Richmond River Water Quality Monitoring Strategy (refer Attachment 8)	25
RC	8.		Preparation of a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the Richmond River (Stage 1 Scoping Study) (Attachment 9)	26-30
ALL	9.		Other business	
ALL	10.		Next meeting – date and agenda items	

ATTACHMENT 1
**DRAFT Minutes of the Coastal Zone Management Plan meeting of the
Implementation Reference Group (IRG)**
Teleconference
9.30am - 2 June 2020

Attendees

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrew	Logan (AL)*	RCC	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anthony	Acret (AA)	RCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Craig	Rideout (CR)	RVC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leonie	Walsh (LW)	LCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chrisy	Clay (CC)	RCC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ben	Fitzgibbon (BF)*	DPIE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stuart	Hood (SH)	RCC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scott	Johnson (SJ)*	SCU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter	Boyd (PB)	BySC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Judy	Faulks (JF)	KySC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Justine	Graham (JG)	LLS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne	Acret (SA)	BaSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kylie	Russell (KR)*	DPI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael	Wells (MW)	RCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Damien	Maher (DM)	SCU
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emma	Stone (ES)*	RVL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lauren	Dean (LD)	RCC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angus	Ferguson (AF)	DPIE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brenda	Ford (BF)	RCC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shaun	Morris (SM)	LLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan	Yantsch (JY)	DPI

* indicates part attendance.

Agenda Item 1 - Attendance and Apologies

- Attendance: as listed above.
- Apologies: Kerri Watts (BSC)

Agenda Item 2 – Presentation from Scott Johnson and Damien Maher, Southern Cross Geoscience, Southern Cross university (SCU)

- Episodic estuarine hypoxia: resolving the geochemistry of coastal floodplain blackwaters – Summary of project findings* - 40-minute presentation provided. (AA) thanked SJ/DM and SCU for the presentation.

Action 1: *SJ to distribute summary of presentation to attendees [link attached to these minutes]*

- (SA) enquired as to whether there is opportunity to meet more regularly/for more frequent updates on the level of knowledge. Agreed by DM, SJ that a mechanism for researchers sharing knowledge with the group/community would be positive.
- (CC) asked a question about the extent of MBO contribution to blackwater events. And, if you tidally flush drains to reduce MBOs would this substantially reduce blackwater impacts? MBO contribution to blackwater events? (SJ) Indicated that -whilst it does have an effect, overall, MBO is not a major contribution. MBO contribution is during the early stages of a flood – during high velocity stage in first few days of an event. The major blackwater source is

decomposing vegetation in the following days - orders of magnitude difference in contribution.

- (PB) In the past, Catchment Management Authorities issued advice on changing pasture types to various native grasses, a printed guide was available. This was useful and could be done again although there was also acknowledgement that there are practical limitations in being able to change pasture management practices. Changes in land tenure and potential for stewardship payments may also be relevant considerations.

Action 2: *SJ and DM to propose a knowledge sharing group (workshops and/or online)*

Agenda Item 3 – Presentation from Emma Stone, Landcare Coordinator, Border Ranges - Richmond Valley Landcare Network

- (ES) provided a 15-minute presentation on works underway in the upper Richmond River catchment (link to this presentation is attached). AA thanked ES for the presentation.
- (AA) In noting these positive approaches and actions underway, AA asked if there was any overreaching plan for works in upper catchment as there is recognition that acknowledgement of these upper catchment issues/impacts needs to be considered. (ES) Indicated that projects are often in response to community interest. Focus areas are currently at Grevillea and Urbenville over an 8km strategic reach of river – lots of learnings, investigating further funding opportunities. ES agreed that the Landcare Network would like to be able to respond to a broader catchment plan.
- (SA) Indicated that BSC is happy to write letters of support to Landcare for works such as these if asked.

Agenda Item 4 - Minutes of previous meeting

- (AA) Minutes of previous meeting 16 Oct 2019: Minutes included as Attachment 1 of the agenda were adopted.

Agenda Item 5 - Review of Action items

- (AA) All actions complete, provided to group as Attachment 2 of Agenda.

Agenda Item 6 – CZMP Progress reports

RCC

Action 3a: EcoHealth Monitoring Program

- (SH) Provided verbal report providing an overview of the information provided as Attachment 3 to the agenda.

Action 4a Identify, prioritise and optimise drains and levees.

- (LD) Provided update on recent RCC work at Swan Bay. Weed removal and control has occurred. Preliminary investigations of pipe installation at northern end of Swan Bay underway to improve connectivity to river. (BF) suggested that the Coast and Estuary grants be considered if funds are required to progress the project.

Action 4b: Review floodgate management protocols

- (AL) RCC is planning to conduct a top-down review of RCC's flood mitigation role with each constituent: are we doing what we are expected to be doing?; ensuring that our Service Level Agreements with each constituent Council is consistent.

-
- (CC) Active Floodgate Management Plans (AFMPs) – there is a ‘legacy task’ involving review and update of 62 AFMPs require updating. This is a sizeable undertaking as plans need to be updated to reflect new science/understanding, new landholders and new land uses. As plans are completed, they are posted to the RCC website.
 - (CC) Dungarubba AFMP - next for completion: This is a very large (7.5 km) and complex system. Dungarubba drain invert survey to be undertaken – this will pick up bed and bank levels, and side connections to the drain.
 - (CC) Keith Hall floodgate trial has finished. It needs to be acknowledged that there are issues there that can’t be solved by tidal flushing. Exploring options with landholders and BSC.
 - (KR) The MEMS floodplain prioritisation project has been extended to end 2020. Floodgate invert information is a known gap – intended to address this over next 12 – 18 months.

Action 6b: Identify priority riparian areas and rehabilitate.

- (AA) To be discussed later in the agenda.

Other RCC NRM initiatives

- (AA and SH) Provided verbal report providing an overview of the information provided as Attachment 3 to the agenda.

BaSC

- (SA) North Creek Scoping Study completed. It is now comprehensive. Scoping Study to be sent to council in June 2020. Planning to apply for Coast and Estuary grant funding for contributing studies to CMP - including a *North Creek Hydrological Processes Study* (of the Nature Reserve and surrounding floodplain areas). This will include sourcing of LIDAR data for flood modelling, and for improved understanding of water quality interactions/water movement.
- Stage 2 of the CMP process will include a North Creek Dredging Proposal at the request of BSC councillors. This combining of upper and lower catchment modelling in North Creek to happen in next financial year.
- A *North Creek Water Quality Management Study* (estimated at \$150K) will also be completed. This is likely to involve a 12 – 18-month period and include event monitoring – integration with the Hydrological and Hydrodynamic Study/event modelling will be important.
- *Emigrant Creek Riparian Restoration project*: works ongoing - working with LLS over a 2 - 3km reach along both sides of the creek.
- (BF) To assist definition of hydrodynamic modelling requirements suggested that attendees review draft brief(s) and provide feedback for SA.

Action 3: *(All) provide comments to SA regarding North Creek Hydrological Study Brief by 16 June 2020.*

LCC

- (LW) LCC recently launched Round 7 of the Rural Landholder Initiative. 48 project applications including 9 new applications in CZMP area. 12 active projects in CZMP area. Current projects include 3.4 km of riparian area, 6.6 km of stock exclusion, 7.9 ha of weed control.

- Commenced weed control on Industry Partnership project at Golden Grove including weed control, tree planting, baseline measurements of soil characteristics, biodiversity. Working with NCMC on off-stream water projects (not in CZMP area). Field Days are tentatively booked for this year subject to COV19 provisions.
- A number of bush regeneration projects are occurring in LCC urban area.
- Additional landscape hydration training is planned (related to Tarwyn Park Training courses). Tender being prepared for the development of a reliable index/measurement of rehydration conditions / results.

RVC

- (CR) Woodburn and Coraki follow-up works happening. Plantings are well established. Woodburn needs more attention – working with Emma Stone with view to fostering Woodburn Landcare.
- Bushfire recovery grant application successful for Rappville riparian restoration. Aiming to include koala food trees in there as well. Deadline October for works plan. Project valued at \$140 K over next 2 years.
- (PB) Noted that there will be lots of engagement activities occurring once COVID restrictions ease - keep in mind when planning field days.
- (CR) Potential funding shortages at RVC in future for Richmond River restoration works.

KySC

- (JF) Welcomed to group. No additional updates.

BySc

- (PB) Brunswick River is a major focus to Byron at present, with the 'Bringing Back the Bruns' initiative. PB has been raising internally the importance of Wilsons River catchment, with large portion of BSC area located within the headwaters of the Wilsons River.

Agenda Item 7 – DPIE/OEH

- (BF) Update on *Coast and Estuary* grants funding ratios – review completed: Group can refer to Coast and Estuary page for a report regarding proposed changes to the grant - DPIE responded to each item raised. 2:1 funding is one element, not confirmed although discussed in that report. Preparation of CMPs is most likely to have 2:1 funding ratio, other items are still to be determined (e.g., actions under CMPs). More discussion at DPIE about this before August 2020 when next Coast and Estuary round occurs.
- Encourage CZMP group to revisit riparian rehabilitation as a grant application under future Coast and Estuary grants.

Richmond River Governance Update

- (BF) provided update. SA reappointed to progress the project. Options have been put forward, variety of responses. BSC, RCC and LCC opted to support a Richmond Coordinator followed by RCC governance lead. RVC, BySC, KSC supported the resolution in the Final Governance report which was a Richmond Coordinator followed by a LLS or Collaborative partnership lead. Note that everyone agrees with a Coordinator to commence.
- Currently looking for opportunities to start with a coordinator (assessing funding options – part of MEMA Stage 2 funding bid) - will continue to talk with councils and agencies. An update on Governance review to be provided when clarified.

Agenda Item 8 – Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028 updates regarding Richmond River

- (KR) Stage 2 MEMA in process of review - whole NSW budget has been moved back 6 months due to COVID-19 issues.
- Coastal Floodplain Prioritisation project on 7 floodplains progressing (led by WRL), deliverable moved back to December 2020. There will be a formal consultation period with industry and local councils. Issues such as sea level rise and climate prediction are challenging to communicate.
- (KR) Drainage management plans/approvals: this work is moving forward, albeit slowly: looking at various options to achieve environmental outcomes and understanding implications for councils. Formal consultation period still to come.
- (SM) Provided update on Initiative 1 projects addressing diffuse pollutants - unsealed roads, riparian and bank erosion projects. Good outcomes with working with BaSC: 3 km of riparian works completed; 550 m physical erosion control completed. 800 m of erosion control planned for this coming financial year. Log fillet project at Teven an example of successful project with some new methods - undertaken by SoilCon.
- Riparian projects – additional funding allocated to landholders to continue to manage the plantings.
- (JY) Additional funding allocated to implementation of the Risk Based Framework within the Richmond River (AF to advise – refer Agenda Item 9).
- (JY) Clean Coastal Catchments program – successful implementation of 50 grants for integrated orchard management including macadamia farms.
- (JY) Foreshore structures strategy for lower Richmond River – to be out at end of financial year.
- (JY) Marine vegetation strategy – progressing well – Pat Dwyer.
- (JY) Fish Friendly Council workshops - haven't occurred due to COVID-19. There was one at RVC end of last year, was well attended and others will be scheduled soon – planning with LCC.

Action 4: (JY) Conduct fish friendly workshop at LCC when possible

Action 5: (MEMA reps) Project updates to be distributed to AA for sharing to the group.

- (KR) Oyster Reef Restoration Project: mapping of oyster beds/reefs is ongoing – is available for CMPs. There is an Info Sheet regarding this project on the MEMS website. Richmond River is not currently a high priority for oyster reefs due to the risks of survival and recruitment. First oyster reef project completed at Port Stephens recently - 1 ha oyster reef created, and oyster recruitment is happening.

Agenda Item 9 – Richmond River Water Quality Strategy

- (AF) Provided an update of this project funded under MEMS Stage 1 focussed on the Boatharbour to Woodburn reach to understand how contaminants move from the upper catchment to the coastal estate. Intention of this project to measure the outcomes arising from the MEMS Stage 1 erosion control works constrained by the human/financial resources to do this effectively.

Agenda Item 10 – Preparation of a CMP for the Richmond River (Stage 1 Scoping Study)

- (AA) Provided update. Brief close to complete.

Action 6: (All) Provide feedback on CMP Brief to (AA).

- (BF) Discussion of DPIE funding ratio in relation to CMP.

Action 7: (AA) Send email to Grants unit for additional information on funding ratio and potential changes.

- (MW) Questioned council contributions to the CMP/why are certain areas 'excised' from geographic scope. (AA) responded that some issues are best addressed by individual councils – i.e., where issues are clearly under the management of individual councils such as open coasts, and where areas are covered by other CMPs.
- (SA) The Richmond River CMP should not cover coastal inundation of Ballina island for example.
- (BF) The scoping study for the Richmond River should cover risks to the estuary, land use, water quality, current conditions. CMP to highlight the issues, broad guidance for councils to contribute to. Post 2021, Councils require a certified CMP to have implementation actions funded. A planning project can however be funded without a certified CMP in place.

Agenda Item 11 – Potential collaborating / funding applications – riparian restoration

- (JG) Note Fish habitat restoration grant recently announced - available through LLS, due date 17 June. Provides for a 3-year project - can be up to \$100 K per year. More information to be provided when available.

Action 8: (SH) send (JF) previous riparian condition assessment methodology.

- Due to time constraints, discussion of potential riparian restoration funding application to be rescheduled.

Action 9: (SH) to arrange meeting to discuss options with BSC, RVC and LCC representatives.

Agenda Item 12 – Planning of RCC CZMP Expenditure 2020/21

- Provided as Attachment 6 of agenda.

Agenda Item 13 – Other business

- (LD) Thank you to the group for invitation to attend.
- Next meeting date - TBC

Meeting Closed 3:00pm

ATTACHMENT 2

Actions from the June 2020 meeting are provided below.

No.	Action	Status
1.	Action 1: <i>SJ to distribute summary of presentation to attendees [copy attached to these minutes]</i>	Refer Attachment 1 for link.
2.	Action 2: <i>SJ and DM to propose a knowledge sharing group (workshops and/or online)</i>	No further action to date.
3.	Action 3: <i>(All) provide comments to SA regarding North Creek Hydrological Study Brief by 16 June 2020.</i>	Complete
4.	Action 4: <i>(JY) Conduct fish friendly workshop at LCC when possible</i>	TBA
5.	Action 5: <i>(MEMA reps) Project updates to be distributed to AA for sharing to the group.</i>	MEMS Quarterly Snapshot included in previous agenda. Further updates provided in March 2021 Agenda.
6.	Action 6: <i>(All) Provide feedback on CMP Brief to (AA).</i>	Complete
7.	Action 7: <i>(AA) Send email to Grants unit for additional information on funding ratio and potential changes.</i>	Complete
8.	Action 8: <i>(SH) send (JF) previous riparian condition assessment methodology</i>	TBA
9.	Action 9: <i>(SH) to arrange meeting to discuss options with BSC, RVC and LCC representatives.</i>	Complete. To be discussed at Item 4 on today's Agenda.

ATTACHMENT 3**Action 3a: EcoHealth Monitoring Program****– Water quality characterization/assessment (datalogger sites)**

Water Research Laboratory (2020). *Review of Rous County Council Water Quality Monitoring*. Report prepared by D S Rayner, A J Harrison and J Herold (WRL TR 2020/12, July 2020).

Executive summary

Rous County Council (RCC) has committed to automated water quality monitoring in the Richmond River estuary since 2004. The sampling program was implemented to provide information to support planning and management of the estuary. Ongoing, automatic water quality measurements are undertaken at five (5) locations, supported by manual sampling on a weekly interval at six (6) further locations. RRC plans to continue the Rous County Council Water Quality Monitoring Program with support from the NSW DPIE Coasts and Estuary Grant program.

A review of the historical long-term water quality datasets was undertaken to determine how the data collected informed and improved the understanding of floodplain and estuarine processes within the Lower Richmond River. The review was also undertaken to ensure that any future monitoring, while meeting RCC's objectives, also complements other monitoring in the Richmond River estuary. The long-term datasets and monitoring practices were also reviewed to ensure improved data quality in future monitoring programs.

The five (5) continuous monitoring datasets from North Creek, Tuckean Swamp (upstream and downstream of Bagotville Barrage, and Slatteries Drain) and Rocky Mouth Creek were found to have significant data reliability issues. Missing data, instantaneous shifts in parameter value and a lack of metadata (i.e., maintenance records, calibration records and consistent datums) resulted in data and continuous monitoring data at Bagotville Barrage and Rocky Mouth Creek found poor correlation between the observed values, the automatically measured samples observed to be the unreliable dataset.

The six (6) weekly manual sampling datasets collected at Coraki, Swan Bay, Rocky Mouth Creek floodgates, Woodburn, Kilgin, and Bagotville Barrage (downstream) were found to be reliable and within the expected range for each parameter.

Recommendations for the revised monitoring program are listed below. Overall, it is critical that high quality data is collected so that sound, evidence based management decisions can be informed by reliable data. Utilising poor quality data to inform decision making can often cause more issues than if the data was not collected at all. It is therefore preferable to collect high quality data at fewer locations, than lower quality data across more locations.

The recommendations for the water quality monitoring program include:

- Primary continuous monitoring: Five (5) continuous real-time water quality monitoring stations measuring water level, electrical conductivity (EC), dissolved oxygen (DO), acidity (pH), temperature and turbidity at:
 - North Creek at Ross Lane (new site)
 - Downstream of Bagotville Barrage (existing site)

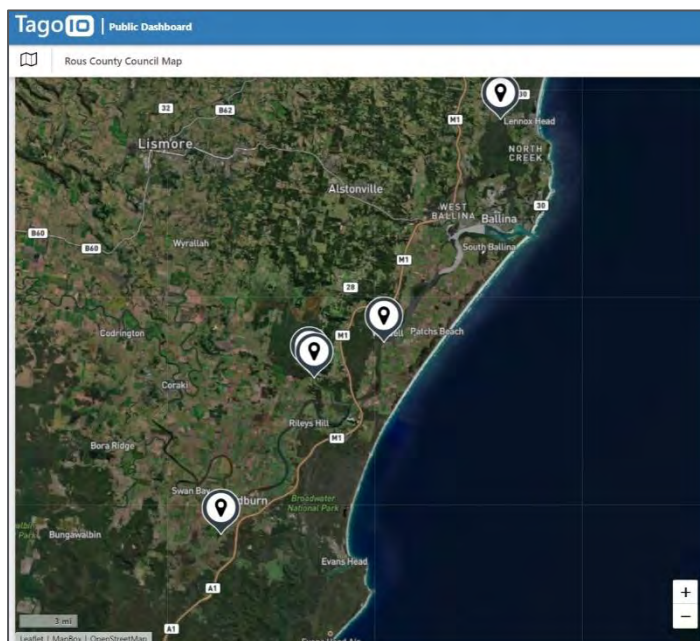
- Upstream of Bagotville Barrage (existing site)
 - Rocky Mouth Creek floodgates (existing site)
 - Bungawalbin Creek at Woodburn Coraki Rd bridge (new site).
- Primary continuous monitoring: Decommission historical North Creek and Slatteries Drain continuous monitoring sites.

Weekly manual sampling: Stop all routine manual sampling and establish secondary continuous monitoring stations.

- Secondary continuous monitoring: Establish two (2) continuous real-time stations (in-lieu of existing weekly manual sampling program) measuring key parameters (EC, temperature and level at a minimum) at locations in the main river channel:
 - Wardell (existing site)
 - Woodburn (existing site).
- Event based monitoring: Establishment of event-based sampling capability including handheld multi-parameter (depth, EC, DO, pH and temperature) water quality meter (minimum one (1) meter), and water level logger instruments (minimum three (3) loggers).
- Flow monitoring (optional): Monitoring of flow at backswamp discharge locations to combine with continuous water quality datasets to determine pollutant flux from different floodplain drainage areas.

[A copy of the full report is available here.](#)

- **Water quality characterization/assessment (datalogger sites)**



[To access the Floodplain Water Quality Monitoring Network, click here.](#)

ATTACHMENT 4**Action 4b: Review floodgate management protocols**

- **Active Floodgate Management Program (AFMP)**
 - The review of Plans continues, with the review of the 25th plan recently commenced.
 - The plans are being brought up to a high standard and often significant issues or constraints are being identified during the review process. As a result the review of Plans takes a lot longer than first thought.
 - However good outcomes are being achieved. The new AFMPs can be accessed on Rous's website, along with the status of the tidal modifications that Council operate. See here <https://rous.nsw.gov.au/active-floodgate-management>

- **Keith Hall Drainage Options Study**
 - RCC and BaSC are jointly conducting a Drainage Options Study at Keith Hall, South Ballina and the project is currently at the mid-way point.
 - The project has included comprehensive landowner engagement, water quality monitoring and surveys of the drainage systems.
 - Water quality monitoring has included the collection of event-based water samples for laboratory analysis. The analysis is comprehensive and is monitoring a range of parameters not usually explored when monitoring floodplain drainage. The laboratory testing is looking for evidence of acid, mbos, blackwater along with nutrients, bacterial (human and animal), tannins and metals.
 - A range of possible changes are now being identified from which four will be chosen for in-depth assessment. The landowners are an important part of the decision-making process and will have input on what four options are selected.
 - Landowner engagement in this system has required a lot of time and effort and has included mainly one-on-one farm visits and discussions. However, the success of the project depends on this level of engagement.
 - You are welcome to share the images John Larson took of Keith Hall with the group.

- **Tuckean Options Study**
 - RCC is a member of the Steering Committee, along with LCC, BaSC, DPI Fisheries, NPWS and EES.
 - The Steering Committee is developing a brief for an assessment of the costs involved with implementing the different management scenarios, the benefit of implementing that and the negative impact on the land.

- **Keith Hall Drainage Options Study (refer attached landholder newsletters)**

ATTACHMENT 5**Action 6b: Identify priority riparian areas and rehabilitate.**

- **A DPI Fish Habitat Action Grant Application was made 30 September 2020 for proposed riparian works at Coraki**

A jointly funded project at the site was agreed as being a good outcome for the available riparian funds, with environmental staff from BSC, LCC, RVC and RCC assessing sites in the lower Richmond for consideration in August 2020.

A Site Action Plan was prepared for the riparian area north and south of Coraki village, when combined the proposed works under the grant would consist of weed control and bush regeneration over a total of 1.3km of riverbank and the planting of 2,500 trees.

ATTACHMENT 6**Other RCC natural resource management initiatives (not necessarily part of CZMP implementation but contributing to Richmond River catchment improvement)**

During 2019/20, RCC – in partnership with key stakeholders – prepared a *Catchment Management Plan 2021 – 2025*. The purpose of the CMP is to set the strategy for the coordinated management of RCC's drinking water catchments for the next 5 years (2020/21- 2024/25). The CMP consolidates and replaces the previous catchment management plans for Rocky Creek Dam (RCD), Emigrant Creek Dam (ECD) and the Wilsons River Source (WRS).

The key focus is to minimise the introduction of hazards to source water by maintaining and strengthening the existing catchment controls and undertaking additional tasks to manage catchment risks. If source water is of a high quality, risks are reduced in all later stages of drinking water supply. Good quality source water requires less complex treatment systems, less chemical additions and reduced cost and energy consumption through treatment processes.

Key initiatives that are underway in 2020/21 are as follows:

- Catchment Landholder Education and Awareness: On-going promotion/ education and awareness building concerning the impact of catchment activities on drinking water quality and the role of all catchment stakeholders in protecting catchments.
- Emigrant Creek: River Reach Plan Audit and Planning: Assess progress/current condition of existing River Reach Plan areas. Audit new areas and prepare property-scale plans for extension of the River Reach Plan works.
- Wilsons River: River Reach Plan Audit and Planning: Assess progress/current condition of existing River Reach Plan areas. Audit new areas and prepare property-scale plans for extension of the River Reach Plan works.

ATTACHMENT 7

Prepared by Shaun Morris:

Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028: Update regarding specific scope of work/progress and program for relevant projects in the Richmond River catchment.

Erosion control sites

Two sites selected; agreements executed with landholders for a minimum target of 750m. Agreement with Soil Con established. Snag hotel construction commenced. Currently rain affected but confident on delivery by 30 June.

Riparian enhancement

Contracts established with Big Scrub Pty Ltd and Ballina Shire Council. All agreements executed with landholders for the target of 5km and works commenced by Big Scrub Pty Ltd. Maintenance is ongoing. RFQ for additional maintenance due for return by 26/3. Currently rain affected but confident of delivery by June 30.

Road works

Agreement with BSC established. 1 of 3 roads completed with works slightly delayed due to poor weather.

Monitoring

RFQ from SCU accepted. Agreement with SCU semi executed. Site Selection almost complete. Methodology confirmed.

Marine Vegetation Strategies (MVS)

Objectives:

- Address the key threats identified in the TARA (altered hydrological conditions, development encroaching on the intertidal leading to clearing, grazing and trampling by livestock and antisocial behaviour i.e. 4wd driving in the saltmarsh). Threats include legacy and proposed impacts.
- Identify priority areas within estuaries, and direct appropriate rehabilitation and offset efforts to the most meaningful locations having considered climate change impacts and existing anthropogenic impacts.
- Maximise resilience of intertidal wetlands. As the intertidal is shifting with sea-level rise, our management unit is shifting, therefore we need to adapt and develop new, more active ways to manage these systems.
- Provide opportunities to reduce red tape for low risk but necessary works i.e. mangrove trimming under power lines, through the development of a marine vegetation safety clearance code.



Progress:

- The MVS is informed by and informs other MEMS Actions, with data integrated across 6 MEMS actions and several government agencies to ensure consistency and accuracy.
- The spatial analysis (biophysical, vulnerability to sea-level rise and anthropogenic exposure) for the Richmond River is completed. The maps and method documents will be released soon for endorsement.
- Preparation of draft Richmond River strategy documents to be released for endorsement by MEMA partner agencies, Councils and MASC.
- Presentation to local Councils, EES and Planning agencies, to inform on the methodological approach, results and application for day to day decision making and to aid the CMP process
- Draft report: "blue carbon storage, preservation, generation and permanency within coastal landscapes across NSW" developed in collaboration with the University of Wollongong.
- Collaboration with QLD Herbarium: Identification of old growth mangrove systems and genetic analysis of mangroves exhibiting colonial features.
- DPI Fisheries is a co-host with Southern Cross University of the Australian Mangrove and Saltmarsh Network conference (24-27th Aug 2021). The conference is an annual meeting to share the latest science, policy and practice relevant to the management of intertidal wetlands in Australia.

Domestic Waterfront Structures Strategies

Objectives:

- Improve community access, environmental outcomes for estuaries
- Streamline the Land Owner's Consent assessment process for domestic waterfront structure proposals
- A new user-friendly 'traffic light' system displayed on online maps
- Provide certainty for landholders, and assist Government agencies to better regulate new structures, and reduce unauthorised structures in collaboration with CMPs

Progress:

- Richmond River & Brunswick River DWS are complete, endorsed by MEMA partner agencies, Councils and MASC
- MEMA sign off for publication March 31st.
- DWS for priority estuaries (12) in NSW being developed in consultation with MEMA partner agencies and Councils.



Clean Coastal Catchments

- Blueberry Nutrition Research Facility @Wollongbar DPI is commissioned
- 5 macadamia erosion mitigation methods under extreme conditions have been tested
- Monitoring of nutrients in leaf, soil and water samples from macadamia and blueberry sites continues
- Macadamia crop nutrition replacement values reported to industry in Australian Tree Crop magazine and MacBulletin
- 50 orchards granted incentives to undertake Integrated Orchard Management by CCC to reduce erosion
- Fertilizer Stewardship Group continues to deliver up to date information on Best Management Practice (BMP) for fertiliser management for intensive coastal agriculture



ATTACHMENT 8

Prepared by Angus Ferguson:

Richmond River DPIE Science MEMS project summary**MEMS PhD program**

MEMA has co-funded a PhD program involving a collaboration between Southern Cross University and the Estuaries and Catchments Science unit (ECS) of DPIE Science, Economics and Insights Division. The PhD program is focussed on filling primary knowledge gaps impeding the development of an ecosystem response model to underpin a Risk Based Framework of the Richmond River. The PhD program is on track to deliver this model by June 2022.

Autosamplers

ECS in collaboration with SCU have developed a cost-effective technology for the automated collection of water samples from streams and waterways. The autosamplers facilitate the simultaneous collection of flow-weighted samples from sub-catchments across the Richmond River catchment, which will greatly improve our knowledge of the primary pressures on ecosystem health and help to prioritise hotspots of pollutant generation. A total of 19 autosamplers have been constructed funded by DPIE Fisheries as part of Stage 1 MEMS. These units are available to be deployed by stakeholders as part of the Richmond CMP, and for monitoring of MEMS actions undertaken by LLS.

Richmond River Water Quality Monitoring Strategy

As part of MEMS Stage 1, the ECS has produced a comprehensive analysis of current and recommended water quality monitoring in the Richmond River. This document lays out the theoretical rationale behind water quality monitoring, the legislative frameworks guiding monitoring programs, current stakeholder programs and needs, and provides a detailed strategy for monitoring into the future.

Sentinel monitoring

ECS in collaboration with SCU have developed a cost-effective multi-sensor logger system for the *in-situ* monitoring of physicochemical water quality. These units have been deployed by Rous County Council as part of their recent Estuaries and Coasts grant.

Low level nutrient analysis laboratory

ECS in collaboration with researchers at SCU have set up a laboratory based at SCU for the analysis of low-level nutrients in brackish and marine waters. This laboratory incorporates cutting-edge protocols for achieving robust results with low detection limits while minimising salt matrix effects that impede reliability in brackish samples. The laboratory supports research projects in the Richmond River aimed at improving the Risk Based Framework.

ATTACHMENT 9

Preparation of a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the Richmond River (Stage 1 Scoping Study)

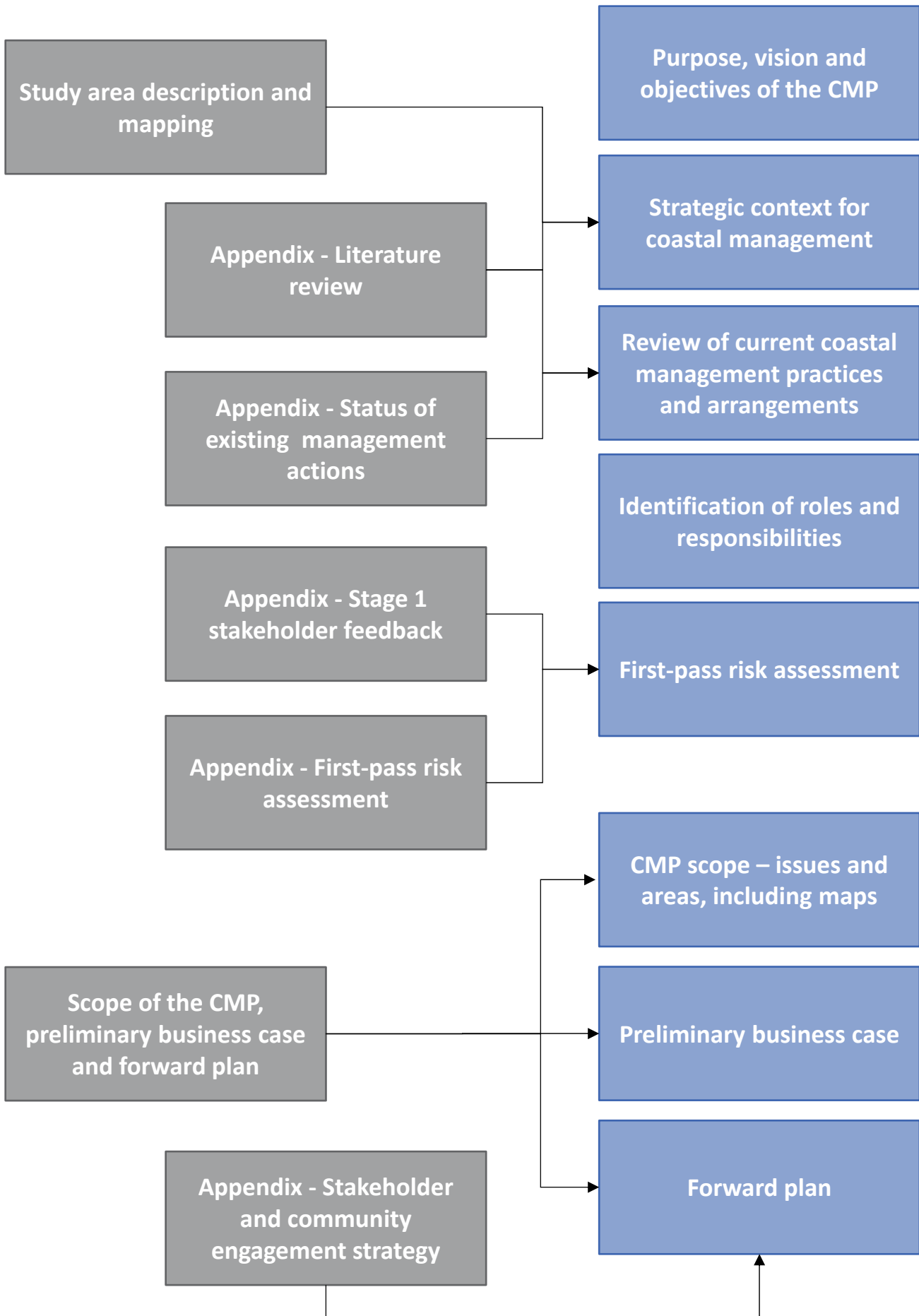
Stakeholder Consultation:

Stakeholder	Activities	Timing
RCC and flood mitigation service delivery constituent councils (Ballina, Lismore and Richmond Valley)	Inception meeting	Week 1
	Initial Scoping Workshop (Richmond River CZMP meeting) – discuss scope, methodology, issues, data and activities.	Week 2
	Data collection and ongoing discussion of data requirements and adequacy. Dedicated liaison for initial information gathering phases where various contact at an officer level will be undertaken to explore existing information. Council staff members are expected to provide relevant information including land use planning, mapping and environmental monitoring data and we envisage regular contact with staff.	Week 2 and ongoing
	Individual council workshops – discuss key issues to be addressed, challenges and opportunities.	Week 3 - 5
	Detailed workshop with all stakeholders – review preliminary objectives, first pass risk assessment, data gaps and forward plan.	Week 20
	Ongoing liaison as required to resolve issues as they arise. We will provide email progress reports and meet with RCC (and the project management group) at key project milestones as shown in the project program.	Ongoing
	Council reports and Councillor workshops - Councillors also provide a key role in adopting the Scoping Study and commitment to the CMP Business Plan.	Week 42 - 46
	Review of draft Scoping Study	Week 34 - 40
DPIE – EES	Inception meeting	Week 1
	Initial Scoping Workshop (Richmond River CZMP meeting) – discuss scope, methodology, issues, data and activities.	Week 2
	Data collection and ongoing discussion of data requirements and adequacy. Dedicated liaison for initial information gathering phases where various contact at an officer level will be undertaken to explore existing information.	Week 2 and ongoing
	Detailed workshop with all stakeholders – review objectives, first pass risk assessment, data gaps and forward plan.	Week 20
	Ongoing liaison as required to resolve issues as they arise.	Ongoing
	Review of draft Scoping Study	Week 34 - 40

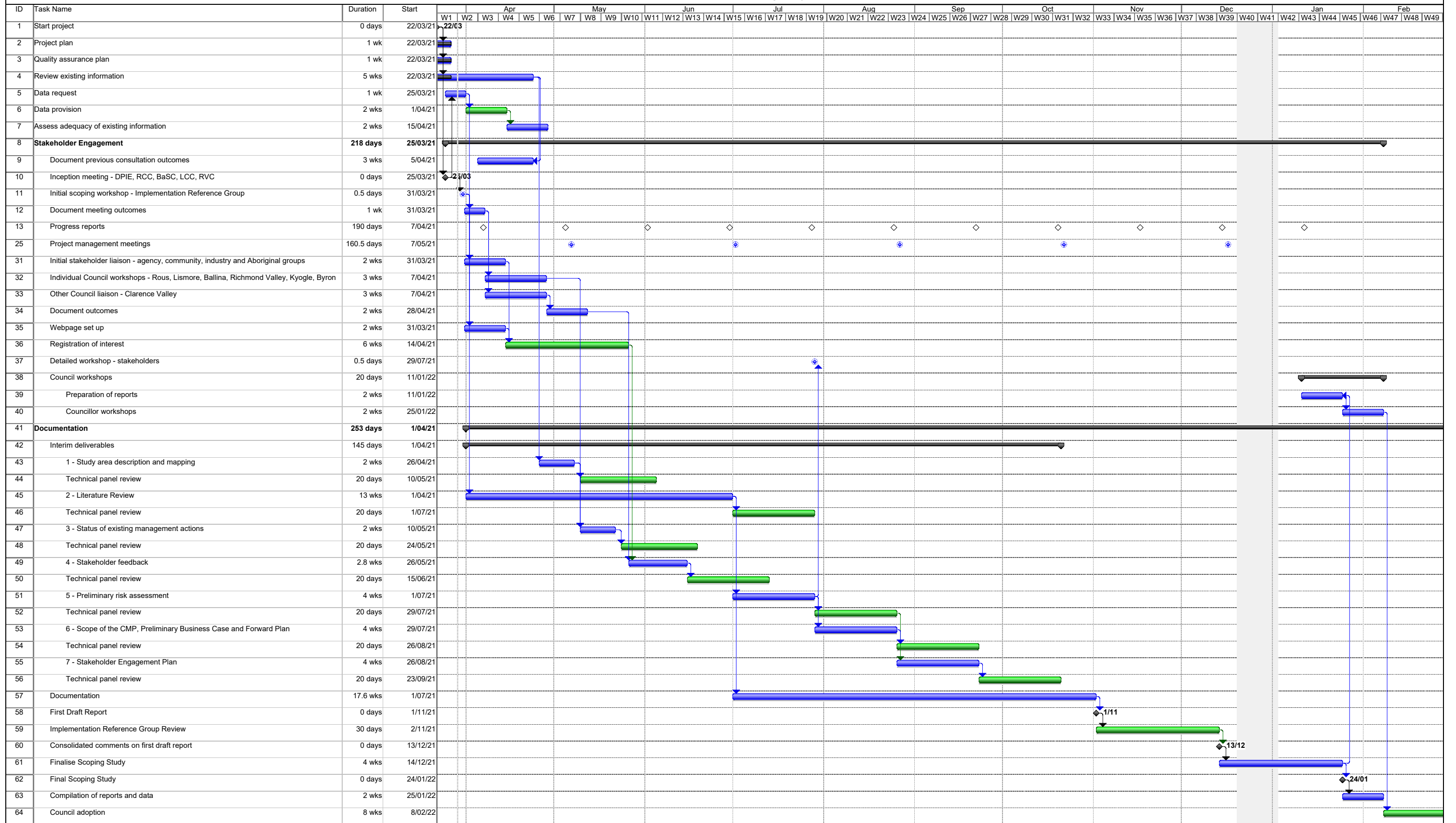
Stakeholder	Activities	Timing
Catchment councils – Kyogle, Byron, Clarence Valley	Initial Scoping Workshop (Richmond River CZMP meeting) – discuss scope, methodology, issues, data and activities.	Week 2
	Initial liaison – initial phone and email contact to introduce the project and request information.	Week 3
	Data collection and ongoing discussion of data requirements and adequacy. Dedicated liaison for initial information gathering phases where various contact at an officer level will be undertaken to explore existing information. Council staff members are expected to provide relevant information including land use planning, mapping and environmental monitoring data and we envisage regular contact with staff.	Week 2 and ongoing
	Individual Kyogle Council and Byron Shire Council workshops – discuss key issues to be addressed, challenges and opportunities.	Week 3 - 5
	Ongoing liaison as required to resolve issues as they arise. Discussion of potential involvement in CMP development and actions to improve estuary health.	Ongoing
	Review of draft Scoping Study (if required).	Week 34 - 40
Government agencies	Official notification of the project to known contacts and request for feedback.	Week 2 - 3
	Dedicated agency liaison for initial information gathering phases where various contact at an officer level will be undertaken to explore existing information. In the later stages of the project when the Scoping Study outcomes are being confirmed by our team, additional discussions with relevant agencies may also be appropriate.	Ongoing
	Detailed workshop with all stakeholders – review objectives, first pass risk assessment, data gaps and forward plan.	Week 20
Aboriginal representatives	<p>Potential interested parties will be identified through discussion with the constituent councils, previous management plans, the governance review and via Heritage NSW.</p> <p>Official notification of the project to known contacts and request for feedback and registration of interest in CMP development process.</p> <p>Public notice in newspapers inviting registrations of interest.</p> <p>The stakeholder engagement strategy will identify the appropriate mechanism for ongoing Aboriginal involvement in the CMP process.</p>	Week 2 – 7 and ongoing
Community, industry and interest groups	Official notification of the project to known contacts and request for feedback.	Week 2 - 3
	Development of a project webpage to provide a portal for communication and registration of interest during the Scoping Study and potentially future stages (refer below).	Week 2 - 4
	Detailed workshop with all stakeholders – review preliminary objectives, first pass risk assessment, data gaps and forward plan.	Week 20
	Project updates provided through webpage.	Ongoing
	Discussion of potential involvement in CMP development and actions to improve estuary health.	Ongoing
General community	Development of a project webpage to provide a portal for communication and registration of interest during the Scoping Study and potentially future stages.	Week 2 - 4
	Project updates provided through webpage.	Ongoing

Interim Deliverables

CMP Scoping Study sections



Richmond River CMP Scoping Study



DRAFT Minutes of the Coastal Zone Management Plan meeting of the Implementation Reference Group (IRG)

Teleconference

9.30am 31 March 2021

Attendees

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anthony	Acret (AA)	RCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan	Yantsch (JY)*	DPI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leonie	Walsh (LW)	LCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Craig	Rideout (CR)	RVC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ben	Fitzgibbon (BF)	DPIE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stuart	Hood (SH)	RCC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Malcolm	Robertson (MR)	CrLands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter	Boyd (PB)	BySC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Judy	Faulks (JF)	KyC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Justine	Graham (JG)	LLS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne	Acret (SA)	DPIE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kylie	Russell (KR)*	DPI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maree	Brennan (MB)	KyC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robyn	Campbell (RC)	Hydro
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Josh	Chivers* (JC)	NPWS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katie	Pratt (KP)	Hydro

* indicates part attendance.

Agenda Item 1 - Attendance and Apologies

- Attendance: as listed above.
- Apologies: Kerri Watts (BaSC), Rachael Jenner (BaSC), Angus Ferguson (DPIE), Andrew Logan (RCC), Chrisy Clay (RCC).

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes of previous meeting (June 2020)

- (AA) Minutes of previous meeting 2 June 2020 (as included in Attachment 1 of the Agenda) were adopted.

Agenda Item 3 – Review of action items

- (AA) Action items from the 2 June 2020 meeting were reviewed (provided to group as Attachment 2 of the Agenda) – following review, see updated status against the identified actions in the table below.
- (JY) Showed satellite image of current blackwater event underway in the Richmond River Floodplain demonstrating the variability between sub catchments – clearly showing extensive flooding in the Coraki, Bungawalbyn, and Rocky Mouth Creek areas.

No.	Action	Status
1.	Action 1: SJ to distribute summary of presentation to attendees (copy attached to these minutes).	Refer Attachment 1 of 31 March 2021 Agenda for link.
2.	Action 2: SJ and DM to propose a knowledge sharing group (workshops and/or online).	No further action to date.
3.	Action 3: (All) provide comments to SA regarding North Creek Hydrological Study Brief by 16 June 2020.	Complete. BSC has issued request for quotation – has been extended for a further 2 weeks.
4.	Action 4: (JY) Conduct fish friendly workshop at LCC when possible.	Fish friendly workshops completed at LCC, RVC, BaSC; BySC being planned.
5.	Action 5: (MEMA reps) Project updates to be distributed to AA for sharing to the group.	MEMS Quarterly Snapshot included in previous agenda.

No.	Action	Status
6.	Action 6: (All) Provide feedback on CMP Brief to (AA).	Complete.
7.	Action 7: (AA) Send email to Grants unit for additional information on funding ratio and potential changes.	Complete.
	Action 8: (SH) send (JF) previous riparian condition assessment methodology.	Complete.
	Action 9: (SH) to arrange meeting to discuss options with BSC, RVC and LCC representatives.	Complete. Following discussions and field visits by representatives of RCC and constituent councils, site identified in the Mid Richmond (Coraki) and funding application lodged with Fish Habitat Action Grants program.

Action 1: (AA) Upload SCU Blackwater report, Scott Johnston's blackwater presentation and the Blackwater Plan English Fact Sheet to the Hydrosphere CMP share website.

Agenda Item 4 – CZMP Progress reports

RCC

Action 3a: EcoHealth Monitoring Program

- *Water quality characterisation/assessment (datalogger sites)*
 - (AA) WRL has completed a review of previous RCC water quality data. Refer Attachment 3 of 31 March 2021 Agenda for link to this report.
- *Floodplain water quality monitoring program*
 - (SH) Provided update on new data loggers – this project is a partnership between RCC, Southern Cross University and DPIE. There are currently 5 logger sites operational at present with live data available at these locations - refer to Attachment 3 of 31 March 2021 Agenda.
- *EcoHealth monitoring*
 - (KP) Asked about the timing question of the next Ecohealth report (previously sampling undertaken in 2014 and published in 2015).
 - (All) Discussion held regarding timing of next report, potential funding options, and the need to ensure appropriate planning so that contributions can be included in budgets. Agreed that a 10-year period between Ecohealth investigations would be appropriate. Potential that it could be conducted at Stage 2 of the CMP process – subject to outcomes and recommendations of Stage 1.
 - (BF) DPIE Science (Peter Scanes) priority identified to update water quality capacity statewide - BF to consult with Peter Scanes and AF to assess opportunities for that team assisting with the Richmond River CMP.
 - (AA) Suggestion that WaterNSW and DPI Water Sharing Plans work coordinate with MEMS to ensure a whole-of-government approach to monitoring within the Richmond River.

Action 2: (BF) Contact Peter Scanes (DPIE Science) to determine capacity to assist Richmond River water quality assessment/risk-based framework.

Action 3: (SA) To investigate/scope a repeat of the Ecohealth report after 10 years. This is to include liaison with University of New England regarding potential timing and costs, and integration with MEMS.

Action 4a: Identify, prioritise and optimise drains and levees

- (AA/SH) Key progress with respect to this item at the moment relates to the review of service level agreements (including flood mitigation services) that is being undertaken – discussions between RCC and constituent councils underway.

Action 4b: Review floodgate management protocols

- (AA) Summarised current status of the Active Floodgate Management program - refer to Attachment 3 of 31 March 2021 Agenda - Chrisy Clay continuing to develop these plans. Current status was displayed to the meeting on the Active Floodgate Management Plan page of the RCC website.
- (AA) Keith Hall Options Study – progressing as noted in Agenda.
- (SA) Keith Hall Option Study - extended for a few weeks. Keith Hall 2 often worse than Keith Hall 1 - generally acceptable water quality in Mobbs Bay and main drain, however poor water quality at present (blackwater discharge).
- (AA) Tuckean Study – progress as noted in Agenda.
- (SA) Note Cassie Price looking for feedback on Tuckean brief regarding completion of an assessment of costs of alternative management scenarios, with associated positive and negative consequences.

Action 4: (All) Provide input to OzFish on Tuckean brief.

Action 6b: Identify priority riparian areas and rehabilitate

- (SH/AA) Investigated opportunities late 2020 with LCC, RVC and BaSC staff. A preferred riparian project at Coraki for multi-year funding has been chosen: an application was made for a \$40K DPI Fish Habitat Action Grant late last year – currently awaiting result.
- (CR) RVC in discussions with OzFish (Cassie Price) regarding grant for riparian project at Rileys Hill.

Other RCC NRM initiatives

- (AA) RCC CMP 2021 – 2025 (refer Attachment 6 of the Agenda).
- (AA) River Reach Program - new projects beginning on Wilsons River (Boatharbour to Eltham) Emigrant Creek (upper catchment).
- (AA) Overview provided of catchment stakeholder engagement activities that are underway within RCC drinking water catchments.

Action 5: (SH) Send JF details of River Reach Planning process used by RCC (based on former NRCMA river reach guide).

BaSC

- Although having just started in DPIE role – refer below, (SA) provided BSC progress report.
- Emigrant Creek - existing Coast and Estuary Grant (1:1 project): 2-3 km of re-establishment of riparian vegetation downstream of Tintenbar. Camphor control – expensive adjacent to roadways as limb removal required. Soil Conservation Service working with root ball placements in creek.
- Chilcotts and Marom Creek - revegetation work.

-
- Current BaSC programs do not fund revegetation work on private land – under review.
 - BaSC has contacted NRAR regarding cease to pump issues - during last dry time, end of 2019 and during 2020. Clear examples of landowners pumping when cease to pump notice had been issued. Cease to pump not being adhered to - creeks ran dry, some landowners unaware of restrictions. No outcome as yet.

LCC

- (LW) Rural Landholder Initiative Update: Round 8 currently being funded. 70 EOIs were received across the LGA, 15 in the CZMP area. Kate Steel undertaking site visits now to establish projects.
- Works otherwise occurring to schedule. There are also urban revegetation works occurring.
- Current industry partnership with NCMC re off stream water infrastructure.

RVC

- (CR) Coraki bushfood plantings and Woodburn revegetation works continuing.
- Bushfire recovery grant application successful and underway for Rappville riparian restoration. Restoration areas currently flooded - this is delaying first milestone. Craig showed images of current flooding.

KyC

- (JF) Mainly providing assistance to Landcare projects – focussed mainly on Council owned/managed lands - looking for more external funding sources.
- Successful with Crown Reserve funding for areas close to town centre where 70% loss of riparian condition has occurred from weeds (especially Cat's claw creeper).
- Current application is under Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) funds - 6 Landcare sites, 4 KyC sites.
- Recent Rosebery Creek Landcare field day held, landscape rehydration demonstration with Mulloon Creek Institute.
- (SA) Do engineers incorporate fish friendly initiatives on road and bridges? (MB) Yes Kyogle does consult with Fisheries and seek approval for bridge works in/adjacent to waterways. Note KyC has over 400 bridges in total and needs to replace 80 bridges in next 2 years. A high priority for the council.

BySC

- (PB) Agriculture a current focus at BySC. EOI issued - funding soon available to assist farmers to improve cell grazing.
- Funding for BySC riparian rehabilitation/environmental weed control (Brunswick and Wilsons catchments) proposed but not released as yet.
- BySC now have an Agricultural Extension Officer – Andrew Cameron. His role to improve productivity and practices. Additional focus is to address the growing proportion of rural lands that are lifestyle properties by matching landholders who are not farming with people who want to farm.

DPIE

- (BF) Coast and Estuary Grants - Planning Stream open – 2:1 funding available to assist councils for the preparation of CMPs.
- In relation to grants under existing CZMPs – whilst existing grants will be honoured; the potential for any new grants under existing CZMPs (that expire on 31 December 2021) uncertain – Ben to advise.

Action 6: (BF) Clarify potential to submit Coast and Estuary grant applications under existing CZMPs.

- Currently working on a Coastal Future Directions Statement. Note CMPs a strong focus of the Minister at the moment statewide.
- Recent DPIE field trip to Coffs Harbour - blueberry farms and water quality. Bioreactor installed to treat wastewater (woodchips treating high N water). Potential future agenda item – nutrient runoff to first order streams. Recommend a visit by the CZMP group.

Agenda Item 5 – OEH Governance Review Progress

Richmond River Governance Update

- (BF) SA has this week commenced/recommenced in role of *Senior Project Officer – Catchment Governance and Waterway Health* with DPIE. 12-month position. (BF) congratulated and welcomed SA, and thanked BaSC for support.
- BF indicated that 12-18 months since the final report on this project was issued – will be a renewed focus on stakeholder engagement, identify broad areas of agreement and support.
- (SA) Good progress already made with engagement (e.g., Industry involvement). Some differences of opinion between stakeholders on final governance report last year. SA to continue to work through options, work through detail and what is now required.
- (SA) looking to employ an assistant (6 months) to the role.
- (SA) interested in attending CMP Scoping Study meetings.

Action 7: (ALL) Provide (BF) or (SA) the best contact details for your organisation for the Governance project.

Agenda Item 6 – Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028 updates regarding Richmond River

- (JY) provided an update on three key MEMA initiatives: Marine Vegetation Strategies; Domestic Waterfront Structures Strategies; and Clean Coastal Catchments (focussing on macadamia farms and stewardship). Important contributions to CMP. Refer Attachment 7 of the Agenda) for full updates.

Floodplain Prioritisation Study

- (KR) Draft Richmond study provided to stakeholders this week. Initial review by Councils/agencies prior to progressing to industry and other stakeholder groups.
- Aim is to fill knowledge gaps, classify ASS risk areas, floodgates, drains and their functions, blackwater risk. Study is for future guidance and use by council and industry.

Action 8: (Relevant groups) Provide comments to KR by 16 April. (Whilst seeking comments by this date KR acknowledged that timing is difficult and to advise if this date is not achievable).

Action 9: (KR) Determine if draft study can be sent to Hydrosphere for use in CMP Scoping Study

- (KR) Floodplain policy update. Working with Jan Gill, lots of interest from industry, due approx. mid May.

-
- (KR) Oyster reefs. Charlotte Jenkins keen to present to next CZMP meeting regarding oyster reefs and the Richmond. All agreed.

Agenda Item 7 – Richmond River Water Quality Strategy

- (AA) AF is an apology today. Refer Attachment 8 of the Agenda for a progress update.

Action 10: (SA/AF) Find more detail on current local water quality research occurring, PhD programs etc, who is doing what and when reporting. What does the 'ecosystem response model' consist of.

Agenda Item 8 – Preparation of a CMP for the Richmond River (Stage 1 Scoping Study)

- (AA) Provided update and welcomed RC and KP of Hydrosphere as selected consultants for the project.
- (RC) Introduced the project. Currently defining the study area, obtaining information from participants. A summary of methodology is in the Agenda (Attachment 9).
- Aware of consultation fatigue, planning to consult with stakeholders 1 on 1 at this stage.
- Timetable involves preparation of the Draft Scoping Study by November.
- (JF) Is there a list of documents required? (RC) will develop a list of documents needed from councils.
- (RC) A project share site is being used for the project. RC/KP to share links with those that need to upload. Note all documents on share site can be seen by all councils.
- A project webpage is being established. No survey is planned.
- (AA) advised all read the brief for some background to the project.

Agenda Item 9 – Other business

- (MR) Welcomed to the group. New to Crown Lands. Catherine Knight leading the Coastal Lands Use Policy work.
- Next meeting date Thursday, 15 July 2021. Location: TBA.

Meeting Closed 2.30 pm

Appendix D. INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL LIAISON

Agenda and minutes from each meeting (RCC, BaSC, LCC, RVC, BySC and KC)

Email from CVC

General agenda for individual workshops with council staff – the main aim of the meeting is for Council staff to provide input to the project:

1. Overview of project and expected outcomes.
2. Key issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study.
3. Council objectives and requirements for the CMP development.
4. Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed activities.
5. Environmental monitoring activities.
6. Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.
7. Potential Council involvement in CMP development and implementation of actions.
8. Information to be provided.
9. Project branding, logos etc.
10. Project coordination and review.
11. Next steps.

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with Ballina Shire Council (BaSC)		
DATE:	Thursday 20/05/21	TIME:	11:00 am to 1:00 pm
LOCATION:	Ballina Shire Council Administration Centre, Ballina		
ATTENDEES:	BaSC: Kerri Watts (KW), Paul Busmanis (PB), Rachael Jenner (RJ), Sharyn Hunnisett (SH), Jake Franklin (JF), Tony Partridge (TP). DPIE: Suzanne Acret (SA) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP)		
APOLOGIES:	none		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	Introduction SA provided introduction to Richmond River Governance Project outcomes and her role. Overlap with RR CMP Scoping Study occurring at the same time. SA is working collaboratively with Hydrosphere Consulting in these early initial consultation sessions.	-	-
2.	Areas BaSC works in NRM and waterway health		
2a.	KW gave an overview of relevant project areas as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballina Coastline CMP process is underway and is being overseen by Tony Partridge at BaSC. They are about to go out to tender shortly. Emigrant Creek riparian restoration works. Teven land purchase with plans for site restoration. Lake Ainsworth CMP certified, actions commenced. Shaws Bay CZMP – almost all actions have been completed. The CZMP will need to be revised and updated to a CMP within the next year. Keith Hall Drainage Study (partnership with RCC) – study underway in collaboration with landholders. The project team have just selected six options for WRL to model. This will be a pilot study for floodplain management. Council's Healthy Waterways special rate variation has enabled much of this work to get up and running and provides leverage to gain further grant funding. BaSC is about to complete a review of spending under the program. The program has made a big difference in terms of getting things done. BaSC is about to employ two full-time bush regenerators. BaSC is also aware of many MEMS projects within the shire relevant to waterway health but have not been very successful in getting information about what is happening where. BaSC has started looking at identifying suitable land for compensation offsets coming out of development. 	KW to follow up with planning staff (Tara McGready/ Matt Wood) on work regarding ID of sites/ strategic approach to biodiversity offsets from development.	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
2b.	TP discussed the road sealing prioritisation recently completed which took into consideration the distance of unsealed roads to waterways (e.g. close to waterways gave it a higher priority to be sealed).		
3.	Barriers		
3a.	Crown Lands - any works required on Crown Land are generally very problematic. There are a number of layers of approvals/licensing and funding to get through and there are always delays.		
3b.	Transparency from MEMA regarding works undertaken. Very difficult to get any details about works (where, when, who etc.). Some examples where Council has provided information and been involved early on but then have heard nothing about the outcomes.		
3c.	Lack of coordination and collaboration from state government agencies working at a local level. Often state government agencies will prepare studies or make planning changes without consultation with local government. Then it is usually left to local government to implement the actions or changes. There needs to be more recognition of the value that local government can provide and their connection with local communities. Greater collaboration will enable more effective implementation.		
4.	Things you'd like to change?		
4a	RJ discussed many areas that are problematic for waterway health are not under the direct control of Council (e.g. agricultural land practices affecting water quality, eroding banks, ASS and blackwater issues associated with drain management etc.). Council would generally only have a say if a DA is submitted. Council don't want to own the land but there is a need for a better mechanism to facilitate improved land management. Potentially an incentive program. Prioritisation of floodplain studies identify where the best bang for buck can be achieved but don't provide a means to achieve it. There is a gap in how to best address the identified issues.		
4b	PB discussed bank erosion hotspot areas that threaten Council assets. Many areas are on Crown Land and it has been incredibly hard to get works done to address the issues. Even when there are existing protections in place, it is difficult for Council to get in and maintain areas due to onerous approval and licensing requirements from Crown Lands and also Fisheries (i.e. where mangroves are involved). RJ also discussed the same sort of difficulties occur when private landholders want to do bank protection works.		
4c	Grants application and reporting processes are onerous and have many restrictive conditions attached that present barriers to efficient implementation. One example is that state government generally want all work to be done by external parties. Where Council wants to do the work themselves, they have to justify why this is acceptable and jump through a lot of hoops.		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
5.	Who should pay?		
5a	KW discussed that it should be a collaborative approach and all stakeholders should contribute to work in areas that will provide the best outcomes for Richmond River health. A whole of catchment prioritisation process should direct actions.		.
5b	Some issues will require major land use changes to adequately address them and there is no mechanism to facilitate this change currently. e.g. buy back of low-lying floodplain land known to generate ASS runoff and blackwater etc. Potentially very expensive to implement these kinds of actions. Also no guidance or funding for future maintenance of naturalised areas.		
6	Study Area		
6a	RC discussed current issues with study area definition and overlap with Ballina coastline CMP and North Creek Scoping Study areas. Proposed changes to include Fishery Creek in the coastline CMP study area. General agreement from the group to proceed on this basis.	<p>KW to forward email from RC to relevant staff regarding study area issues and suggested resolution.</p> <p>RC to provide final RR CMP study area layer to BaSC.</p>	<i>Email on study area sent by RC 20/05/21. Comments requested.</i>
7.	Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:		
7a.	Development areas, growth management strategies, development and planning controls: many development areas identified in the past are already being developed. No new areas identified recently.	KW to provide update on growth management strategy for Ballina	
7b.	Infrastructure projects (waste management, roads etc): Stormwater Management Plan – underway, many actions implemented. Spreadsheet of implementation available?	JF to provide status of USMP actions	
8	Consultation		
8a.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – Aboriginal Advisory Group has not been in operation for a couple of years. Tara McGready is in charge of relationship building with local groups.</p> <p>Council has a list of regular contacts that they will pass on.</p>	KW to provide list of contacts (also check in with Tara).	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
8b.	Social media – KW discussed the updates to BaSC webpage about the project and also would like to do some social media posts. BaSC will provide link to project webpage.	KW to send social media text to RC for review prior to publishing (and use by other Councils)	

END OF RECORD

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with BySC		
DATE:	Tuesday 27/04/21	TIME:	2:00 pm to 4:00pm
LOCATION:	Byron Shire Council Administration Centre, Mullumbimby		
ATTENDEES:	BySC: Peter Boyd (PB), Orla Secull (OS), Rob Appo (RA), Michael Bingham (MB), Claudio Germany (CG) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP)		
APOLOGIES:	Scott Moffatt, James Flockton, Andy Erskine		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	Overview of project and expected outcomes. RC provided an overview of the project scope and status and introduced the project team. BySC staff introduced themselves and discussed their roles. PB - Biodiversity and Agricultural Projects Officer OS – Coast and Estuaries Officer MB – Environmental Health Officer RA – Project Officer, Cultural and Social Planning CG – Effluent Management Officer	-	-
2.	Key Issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study:		
2a.	Cultural Heritage – Two key issues - Sites/artefacts impacted by natural events e.g. floods/erosion of sites etc. and Aboriginal people not having a say in management of waterways and natural resources.	-	-
2b.	All water extracted within the Richmond Catchment (including Wilsons River extractions at Mullum) and used in Byron Shire outside the RR catchment which is a net export from the Richmond River system.		
2c.	Environmental flows and water quality impacts from water supply.		
2d.	OSSM – risk from illegal dwellings/ multiple dwellings on land parcels without adequate OSSMs. Lack of effluent reuse from OSSMs e.g. for irrigation.		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
2e.	Risk from state government farm tourism initiative (agri-tourism). There are proposals for camping and events to be held on rural landholdings. There are concerns about adequate provision for sewage and waste management particularly in Byron Shire where lot sizes are small and potential demand for these events could be high. BySC have provided a submission to state gov outlining these concerns.		
3.	<p>Council objectives and requirements for the CMP development.</p> <p>a) Would like to see catchment-wide prioritisation of actions and a co-ordinated effort from all Councils to address issues that will provide best overall outcomes.</p> <p>b) Also stream condition (bank bed and riparian condition) assessed and mapped on a catchment wide basis.</p> <p>c) Audit of dirt-roads and high priority sites (e.g. causeways, crossings, drains in proximity to waterways).</p> <p>d) Acknowledgement and actions to address impacts of water extraction, and unregulated extraction especially during dry periods (basic landholders rights/irrigators etc.).</p>	-	.-
4.	<p>Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:</p> <p>Development areas, growth management strategies, development and planning controls: Contaminated Land – mainly dip sites in the catchment have been identified and mapped. Also authorised historic landfill /nightsoil burials. Most are uncovered by chance.</p> <p>Infrastructure projects: Bangalow STP has new membrane filtration plant producing high quality wastewater with reuse onsite.</p> <p>OSSMs management strategy. Approx. 300 inspections of OSSMs are conducted each year under the strategy. Generally target new owners and new sites to educate owners on how to operate and maintain systems effectively. 70% of systems are traditional septic tank and trench design, others are newer more advanced technology. Discrete survey of OSSMs in Coopers Creek and Upper Wilsons conducted when Wilsons River Source was being investigated. Overall assessed as low-medium risk to water quality.</p> <p>Water Supply: Mullum weir has no provision for fish passage. Currently supply not enough and in process of planning upgrades etc.</p> <p>Natural resources projects: Biodiversity Strategy</p>	-	-
5.	<p>Environmental monitoring activities</p> <p>No comprehensive monitoring undertaken. Just as required for licensing etc. and some project based.</p> <p>Some water quality monitoring data available for upstream/downstream STP at Bangalow from 2008. Report available on this</p>	PB to forward copy of reports	<i>Water quality report and Bangalow STP REF received 29/4/21</i>

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
6.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – BySC Aboriginal Advisory Group Advises BySC and has broad representation from TBLALC, Arakwal, Jali LALC (Chris Binge CEO), Nulingah LALC. Suggest quarterly updates of CMP progress to Group.</p> <p>Face to face consultation was undertaken for the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and was very effective and well received. Aboriginal reps often have a lot of people asking for their input and it is hard to get noticed unless you make special effort.</p> <p>RA advised email introduction to begin with. He can assist in making introductions etc.</p> <p>Potential for a Stage 2 project in the CMP to acknowledge the rich cultural history of the RR catchment, cultural associations with water (freshwater and salt) and landscape, story of country and connections. Discussed recent example of Landscape Architect Nathan Galuzzo coordinating with Uncle Norm on Tallow Creek exhibition at Byron Lighthouse.</p> <p>Include Brunswick Valley Landcare.</p> <p>Other Council staff: Scott Moffat – stormwater; Andy Erskine – open spaces and bush regen teams.</p>	<p>RC to add contacts to master list.</p> <p>RA to provide copy of MOU with Arakwal</p>	<p><i>Added</i></p>
7.	<p>Next steps</p> <p>RC provided overview of next stages</p>	-	-

END OF RECORD

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with Kyogle Council (KC)		
DATE:	Thursday 06/05/21	TIME:	2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
LOCATION:	Kyogle Shire Council Offices, Kyogle		
ATTENDEES:	KSC: Graham Kennett (GK), Judy Faulks (JF) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP) DPIE: Suzanne Acret (SA)		
APOLOGIES:	Maree Brennan (MB)		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	Overview of Project and expected outcomes: RC provided an overview of RR CMP project and expected outcomes, status and introduced the project team.	-	-
1a.	GK mentioned that KC might qualify for 4:1 funding (instead of 2:1) as they are a small regional Council.	KP to investigate funding for smaller councils	
1b.	GK asked about the statutory requirements for KC under the CMP. RC discussed that Councils need to adopt the CMP and add applicable actions to their IP&R framework for delivery. Actions in the CMP would be eligible for funding under the Coast and Estuary Grants Program. Council can also apply for CMP planning projects at any time. Project team acknowledges upper catchment impact to estuary health. Current approach is ad hoc but there is a need to establish an environmental focus for Council in the community.	-	-
1c.	JF discussed that KC is establishing the environmental management division of Council as a stand-alone department which is a shift in approach for Council. Her role is relatively new (15 months) and is currently focussed on working with landcare to obtain grant funding.	-	-

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
3.	Key Issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study:		
3a.	<p>Governance – GK discussed that there has been a lot of different studies and plans produced over the years to address the health of the Richmond River while very little has been done on the ground to address the issues. RC discussed that there is still difficulty with getting partnerships with landholders, industry and agencies to implement actions.</p> <p>GK discussed that when the CMA was dissolved, LLS became responsible for the catchment management functions of the CMAs. However this is not occurring at any meaningful level. Council would like to see an overall management body looking after catchments.</p> <p>Private plantation and native forestry is not well regulated by LLS/EPA.</p>	-	-
3b.	<p>Riparian zone management - Council typically conduct projects in an ‘ad hoc’ manner as opportunities arise. A lot of riparian restoration projects are done in collaboration with active Landcare groups (i.e. Kyogle Landcare, Border Ranges Landcare, Richmond Valley Landcare). KC focusses on Council managed lands but there is minimal strategic approach to catchment action.</p> <p>GK commented from a strategic point of view Council should be working on Council lands first. These can act as demonstration sites. Fawcetts Creek/Botanical Gardens work done with Crown Reserve Funding.</p> <p>KC have had some issues working with Crown Lands to undertake works due to licencing requirements etc. They would like to do fencing and off-stream stock watering on Crown Lands but have had issues getting approval. Crown Lands have taken a long time to hand over land to Council or LALCs for management.</p> <p>Currently there is no comprehensive condition assessment or prioritisation study for riparian restoration. Council would like to do this to direct works.</p>	JF to provide more details about riparian works.	
3c.	<p>Water extraction/pumping during low flows putting stress on river. GK discussed that before legislation/WSP the Richmond River Water Users would impose self-regulation to manage flows (e.g. stagger extraction). Council would also coordinate with water restrictions in the town. Now managed by WSP/state government and moved towards every user for themselves and there is little or no collaboration to manage and share water.</p>	-	-
3d.	<p>There is more diversity in landholders and land uses in the LGA now. More transition of farming land to lifestyle properties. Sometimes that means less coordination in land management than when all properties were farms.</p>	-	-
3e.	<p>Weeds are a major problem especially in the riparian zone. Cats Claw Creeper and Madeira Vine are major issues. These weeds are in the “asset management” class of the Weeds Action Plan and are only removed when they threaten public assets. RCC doesn’t control these as a priority.</p>	-	-

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
4.	Council objectives and requirements for the CMP development.		
4a.	Need to sell improved land management practices from the point of view of also increasing productivity of the land (e.g. improved soil health, increased water retention in the landscape, water health/security etc.) e.g. NR Watershed Initiative.	-	-
5.	Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:		
5a.	<p>Development areas, growth management strategies, development and planning controls:</p> <p>The LSPS provides the best framework for Council's approach. The new Community Strategic Plan will reflect this when produced next year.</p> <p>One key change to planning has been the consolidation of many different types of rural zones to 1 rural zone. To achieve this they also created a Biodiversity Overlay which maps all vegetation over 3m in height.</p>	-	-
5b.	Roads – unsealed roads are a major issue affecting water quality. When Council does work around waterways (e.g bridge works) they generally put in plantings to stabilise banks (e.g. Lomandra). However if the road leading to the bridge is unsealed then this will act as a sediment source during rain events. Council would like to improve management of unsealed roads but their current focus is on fixing black spots/safety issues as a priority. There could be scope to seal the approaches to bridges as part of bridge upgrade program currently rolling out.	-	-
5b.	<p>Wastewater management:</p> <p>Wiangaree sewerage in planning stages. This would convert village OSSMs to centralised system. Looking at treatment options.</p> <p>Kyogle STP PRP has been completed and licence amended.</p>	-	-
5d.	<p>Water Supply:</p> <p>Augmentation of water supply completed (weir upgrades, fishway and off-stream storage). Fishway is constructed at Kyogle Weir and working well but there are no data on fish passage (before and after).</p>	-	-
5e.	<p>Natural resources projects:</p> <p>There are 10 sites active at the moment – 6 managed by Landcare and 4 managed by KSC.</p>	<p>JF to provide more details about current works.</p> <p>KP to liaise with LLS re property site action plans.</p>	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
6.	<p>Environmental monitoring activities:</p> <p>Monitoring as required for licensing etc. Examples include water intake monitoring at WTP. Also KC monitor water quality in the river upstream and downstream of STP. This could possibly be used to calibrate WQ model for the Richmond. Data available as part of tender for village sewerage scheme planning.</p>	RC to download tender and data.	<i>Downloaded 10/5/21</i>
7.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – Council Aboriginal Advisory Group is active and effective. Council regularly meets with the group to discuss plans and projects as they occur. GK can provide contact details.</p> <p>Council also has a Cultural Mapping Project which identifies significant sites for planning and development control. LGA based maps were produced.</p> <p>Council completed a community survey in 2017 and general data is available on website.</p> <p>Economic Profile for KC provided on website based on census data (.id forecasts).</p>	JF to provide contact details of advisory group and arrange meeting.	<i>Contact details provided 7/5/21. Meeting planning underway.</i>
8.	Potential Council involvement in CMP development and implementation of actions.		
8a.	Lack of resourcing is a major barrier for Council to implement actions but Council is interested in partnering with other Councils and DPIE to implement projects.	-	-

END OF RECORD

**RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – STAGE 1: SCOPING STUDY
NOTES – JUDY FAULKES, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES OFFICER**

Kyogle Economic Profile

For population, employment and economic data for Kyogle LGA refer link:

<https://economy.id.com.au/kyogle>

Riparian Zone Management / Natural Resource Projects

- Council's collaboration with Landcare, community and other agencies on river restoration projects is: ad hoc, relies on external funding (which is time consuming and not guaranteed), small scale, and not necessarily targeting priority areas requiring restoration but working in areas where landowners are interested and want to be involved.
- In the past Kyogle Council has been involved in collaborative projects with Kyogle Landcare/BRRVLN focusing on Fawcetts Creek that borders Kyogle Recreation Reserve (which we manage – refer Kyogle Recreation Reserve POM 2020 which has been uploaded). In 2015 Kyogle Landcare completed a Property Site Action Plan for Fawcett's Creek at Kyogle Recreation Reserve. Project funding has come from Crown Reserves Improvement Fund to undertake weed control, revegetation, footpaths, etc along Fawcetts Creek. Recent successful CRIF funding is to continue these weed control/revegetation activities further upstream along Fawcetts Creek (but still within the Kyogle Recreation Reserve). Council is currently providing funding to Kyogle Landcare to continue with it's weed control activities along Fawcetts Creek in sections that have in the past received CRIF funding. The works have been/are being undertaken by Bush Regenerators under the direction of Landcare. Council has submitted a collaborative project with Kyogle Landcare through Fisheries Habitat Action Grant to continue this riparian restoration work along Fawcetts Creek but taking in the rural properties opposite the Kyogle Recreation Reserve. A component of this grant application is also to install a litter sock on a stormwater drain outflow pipe to capture litter.
- Early this year Council submitted a collaborative funding application that will involve BRRVLN under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund targeting riparian restoration activities at 10 sites in the Richmond River catchment and producing a planting guide to promote biodiversity in the Kyogle region (refer to your meeting notes 5e). Six of these sites would be managed by BRRVLN and four by Council. Five of these sites are on the Richmond River, two on Roseberry Creek, one on Burnett Creek, Cob O Corn Creek and upper Fawcetts Creek. We should know in June if we have been successful. Works to be completed by 6/23.

Short Project Description (taken from BLER application):

The project, based in Kyogle local government area, will restore three bushfire-affected riparian areas in upper Richmond River catchment and five other degraded riparian sites. The restoration activities, including weed control, revegetation using native species, fencing and erosion control works, will improve the resilience of these natural environments. Two riparian areas contaminated by historic illegal dumping activities will also be rehabilitated. The restoration will occur on public and private lands in partnership with Landcare, landowners/managers and rural communities. A publication – 'My Local Native Garden – A planting guide to promote biodiversity in the Kyogle region' – will be produced.

Please describe how your project addresses a need in the community

The objective of this riparian restoration/bush regeneration project is to work in partnership with landowners/community groups who have identified a need to address threatening processes that are impacting on the health of their rivers, including bushfire impacts, weed invasion, erosion/sediment runoff, loss of habitat/connectivity, loss of biodiversity. The need for this project is community-driven. These landowners/communities are seeking restoration strategies to restore the riparian area to a healthy, resilient ecosystem to assist with sustainably-managing their properties/landscapes, ensuring long-term productivity and improved water quality within the Richmond River catchment. Three properties have 'Property Site Action Plans' which will guide riparian restoration. The project activities will address the needs that have been identified within these plans or on-site assessments.

A goal identified by Wiangaree community ('Wiangaree Village Master Plan') is to regenerate/enhance/protect the river in order to have a healthy, stable Richmond River. Community interest in riparian restoration is high. This project will address this identified need.

The two sites where historical illegal dumping will be cleaned up, address a need to resolve a pollution issue.

The production of 'My Local Native Garden' addresses a need to provide a practical community resource to guide restoration activities and promote biodiversity/resilience in Kyogle region.

- Landcare have produced Property Site Action Plans for some properties (including two properties that are part of the BLER application) which provides useful background NRM information. Discuss with Emma Stone, BRRVLN.
- Roseberry Creek Catchment is the focus of riparian restoration activities with involvement from BRRVLN, Roseberry Creek Landcare, LLS, Soil Con, Fisheries (approvals) and Rous CC (weed funding).

If you require any further information or wish to clarify anything, please contact me – judy.faulks@kyogle.nsw.gov.au

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with LCC		
DATE:	Tuesday 27/04/21	TIME:	10:30 am to 12 noon
LOCATION:	Lismore City Council Administration Centre, Goonellabah		
ATTENDEES:	LCC: Eber Butron (EB), Martin Soutar (MS), Paula Newman (PN), Leonie Walsh (LW) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP)		
APOLOGIES:	none		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	<p>Overview of project and expected outcomes.</p> <p>RC provided an overview of the project scope and status and introduced the project team.</p> <p>LCC staff introduced themselves and discussed their roles.</p> <p>EB is Director of Partnerships, Planning and Engagement.</p> <p>PN is Strategic Planning Coordinator.</p> <p>LW is Environmental Strategies Coordinator and a key role is overseeing implementation of the Rural Landholder Initiative.</p> <p>MS is Parks and Open Space Coordinator and is also overseeing implementation of the Lismore Urban Stormwater Management Plan.</p>	-	-
2.	Key Issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study:		
2a.	<p>Governance – need for a clear distinction of roles and responsibilities associated with catchment management and planning. e.g DPIE Suzanne Acret (SA) visited yesterday and spoke about similar topics. Need a (Venn) diagram of roles and responsibilities and areas of overlap. Council staff will need to explain this to their Councillors so need to be clear themselves.</p>	<p>RC to discuss with SA regarding definition of roles and responsibilities and possible coordination of consultation tasks.</p>	<p><i>RC raised with SA 28/04/21.</i></p>
2b.	<p>In recent years there has been a strong push towards nature-based solutions to more effectively manage catchments (e.g. re-hydrating landscapes, leaky weirs, capture and retention of water for longer on land, revegetation, wetlands, drainage interception etc.). The Lismore Floodplain Committee, Watershed Committee involved in this. LCC facilitating workshops on landscape hydration (drought communities funding). Other organisations in this space include Mulloon Institute, Savory Institute etc.</p> <p>Review of FPMP will consider nature-based solutions.</p>	<p>LW to provide summary of project info under the RLI – this is already publicly available info with no private landholder details</p>	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
3.	<p>Council objectives and requirements for the CMP development.</p> <p>a) LCC would like to see prioritisation of the landscape to be able to better target on-ground works and achieve the biggest bang for buck.</p> <p>b) Access to private land for assessment and rehabilitation is difficult. Focus is on capacity building and incentives.</p> <p>c) Need for holistic water quality monitoring of catchment rather than piece-meal efforts where data is not used in any meaningful way (e.g. stormwater monitoring).</p> <p>d) Funding for greater rollout of RLI (see no. 4(g) below).</p>		
4.	Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:		
4a.	<p>Development areas, growth management strategies, development and planning controls: The Lismore Growth Management Strategy is current (2015). Most urban areas identified have been taken up but many lots have not been developed to date due to various factors. North Lismore Plateau has approx. 1500 lots but not yet developed. LCC anticipate enough housing supply to 2030. A review of the strategy is required.</p> <p>LCC has identified that they don't have a strategic plan for many areas of operational land. There may be opportunities to use this land for environmental works (e.g. biodiversity offsets, nature-based solutions, koala habitat etc.) especially where that land might be not suitable for development. They are hoping to develop a strategic plan to assess this and come up with recommendations.</p>		
4b.	<p>Infrastructure projects (waste management, roads etc):</p> <p>Stormwater Management Plan is halfway through implementation with most works underway. Browns Creek project not undertaken to date as waiting for funding. DCP under review. WSUD incorporated into road design. Monitoring has not been undertaken to date.</p> <p>Dirt roads/ sealing and road repairs are prioritised based on safety rather than any thought about environmental impacts.</p>	MS to provide status of USMP actions	
4c.	Wastewater management: No changes proposed		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
4d.	<p>Natural resources projects: LCC implements the Rural Landholder Initiative (RLI). The initiative works with landholders to restore and enhance biodiversity assets on private land. It involves incentives such as an annual small grants program for on-ground works and educational opportunities such as field days and free educational resources. The RLI has had a high take up rate and is currently oversubscribed with more applications than available funding. Landholders put in applications to council which are then assessed against criteria under the Biodiversity Strategy and also capacity building on farm (improved productivity/soil health etc.). It is not necessarily directly linked to water quality/waterway health currently (although generally connected). There are areas within the old CZMP area of application (floodplain areas south of Lismore) although typically the take up rate is lower in these areas. LCC would like more funding through the CMP to be able to fund more projects under the RLI. The demand is there from landholders and building.</p>		
5.	<p>Environmental monitoring activities:</p> <p>No comprehensive monitoring undertaken. Just as required for licensing etc.</p> <p>Would like to monitor improvements associated with implementation of RLI and other environmental works.</p>		
6.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – LCC Aboriginal Advisory Group (advises LCC)</p> <p>Nulingah LALC have their own rangers.</p>	LW to advise role of Advisory Group in this project	
7.	<p>Next steps:</p> <p>RC provided overview of next stages (e.g. Risk Assessment, Business Case etc.)</p>		

END OF RECORD

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River (RR) Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with RCC		
DATE:	Monday 26/04/21	TIME:	9:00 am to 12 noon
LOCATION:	Florida Room, Rous County Council Administration Centre, Molesworth Street, Lismore		
ATTENDEES:	Rous: Anthony Acret (AA), Chrisy Clay (CC), Brenda Ford (BF), and Phil Courtney (PC) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP)		
APOLOGIES:	Andrew Logan (AL), Stuart Hood (SH)		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1.	<p>Overview of project and expected outcomes.</p> <p>RC provided an overview of the project scope and status and introduced the project team.</p> <p>RCC staff introduced themselves and discussed their roles.</p> <p>BF is Floodplain Mitigation Operations Manager.</p> <p>CC is Floodplain Officer.</p> <p>PC is Weed Biosecurity and Buch Regeneration Manager.</p> <p>AA is NRM Planning Coordinator.</p>		
2.	Key Issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study:		
2a	<p>Weeds - Weed management under the Biosecurity Act 2015 follows a regional risk-based approach contained in the NSW Weeds Action Plan (WAP) and aims to control new problem weeds before they become a bigger problem in the region. It is funded by State Gov. The major environmental weeds associated with the Richmond River (e.g. Cats Claw, Coral Tree, Camphor Laurel etc.) are not addressed through the current program. RCC would like to have funding to address some of these major environmental weeds that are also contributing to erosion, sedimentation, biodiversity decline etc. but recognise it is a massive task and current funding is not adequate to address this. Aquatic weeds have been targeted in the past (e.g. Alligator weed) but many problems experienced that have made efforts largely unsuccessful (e.g. weed harvester performance, water hyacinth issues).</p>		
2b	<p>Flood mitigation – RCC’s charter/proclamation is very broad – to protect against flood a related NRM impacts. 1st drains installed in late 1800s –1920s.</p>		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
2c	RCC has a very large network to manage – 720 floodgates, 40 km of levies, 200 km of drains. Flood infrastructure is not consistent in design and some infrastructure may protect during certain floods and not in others. Many historic non-engineered structures that are difficult to access and maintain. Many drains installed in the 1950s and 1970s as flood mitigation structures but actually have very little flood mitigation function. Some are up to 20m deep.		
2d	Floodgates – approx. 10% “active floodgate management”. RCC is responsible for management but do not own the land the floodgates are on or have access rights to reach them. Rely on landholders ‘good will’ providing access. Many issues with sedimentation of outlets and mangrove recruitment that prevent operation of floodgates. Removal of mangroves needs permit from DPI Fisheries.		
2e	There will always be environmental impacts while the drains remain on the floodplain.		
2f	Community attitudes have changed and there is a growing push to address env issues associated with floodplain drainage. However there is currently no effective legislative mechanism to address these issues.		
2g	The worst issues (i.e. acid and blackwater) come from the lowest lying areas (e.g. <1 mAHD, equating to approx. 12,000ha or 11% of RR floodplain).	CC to provide mapping of <1 mAHD on floodplain	<i>Provided to KP and RC 26/4/2021</i>
2h	Tidal flushing of drains is perceived as a key solution to water quality issues but is only effective during dry periods and does not always improve water quality		
2i	Solutions need to be more holistic than just buying back floodplain land and return to backswamps. There are social considerations including multi-generational family land holdings and ties to the land and land uses on the floodplain.		
3	<p>Major challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What mechanisms are available to remove drainage from backswamps? Who will do this? Who will manage the land? 2. Sea Level Rise/Climate Change effects – will mean more prolonged dry periods and more extreme rainfall events. These are key climatic risks to water quality currently and are predicted to increase with climate change. Higher sea levels and higher extreme tides will exacerbate existing issues with functioning of floodgates. Already many that are permanently under water and do not operate anymore. This will only get worse with SLR. 3. Impact of the upper catchment on floodplain water quality. Low DO and highly turbid water is flushed down to the floodplain from upper catchment. This is combined with floodplain ASS/Blackwater issues to produce even worse water quality. Need holistic management of impact of floods on lower river. 		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
4.	<p>Other challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding – potential issues noted with gaining agreement on actions and obtaining funding between all Councils with separate IP&R processes/timeframes etc. 2. Land use policy and standard instrument LEP – limited local/focussed control of land use, deferral of e zone management. 		
5.	<p>How does CMP development align with DPIE governance role – Suzanne Acret’s (SA) role?</p>	<p>RC to discuss with SA regarding definition of roles and responsibilities and possible coordination of consultation tasks</p>	<p><i>Meeting with SA 28/4 – SA will attempt to align consultation activities and provide connections between projects</i></p>
6.	<p>Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) Floodplain management</p> <p>RCC undertake flood mitigation and manage NRM impacts of flood management infrastructure. There is not a lot of detail around this role. Reducing NRM impacts of floodplain infrastructure involves working with landholders and industry on the floodplain to reduce NRM impacts of drainage infrastructure.</p> <p>A review of RCC’s flood mitigation role and responsibilities is currently underway by Michael Wells (RCC) looking at the current status of what RCC do and why.</p> <p>There is also a review of Service Level Agreements (SLA) RCC has in place with constituent councils. SLAs have 4-year span and then are reviewed. The current SLAs end in June 2021. New draft SLAs have been developed and RCC is in the process of consulting with constituent councils. Once finalised they will be available.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Weed management</p> <p>RCC has two main weed management functions: to implement the Biosecurity Act for Local Councils on north coast and to undertake bush regeneration works on RCC owned operational land.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c) Water Supply</p> <p>RCC manages drinking water catchment using risk-bask framework under drinking water quality guidelines. Manages operational land and buffer zones. Extracts water from RR waterways for public water supply.</p>	<p>AA to provide new SLAs.</p>	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
7.	<p>Environmental monitoring activities:</p> <p>Loggers installed in 5 locations in estuary and 2 more to go in. Instantaneous logging of water quality allows tracking of events</p> <p>Some discrete event sampling for DO is done during flood events and risk periods – mainly for landholder information.</p> <p>Angus Ferguson has prepared a water quality strategy (draft form currently) for RR. He is working with PHD students at SCU to develop a model of the river which will stich in the upper catchment and allow for scenario testing etc.</p> <p>We don't have an understanding of what the repeated poor water quality events are doing to the resilience of the estuary (i.e. what is tipping point?).</p>	<p>KP to set up meeting with AF to discuss water quality monitoring and modelling work.</p>	<p><i>Meeting with AF, AA, KP, RC and SA on 28/4/2021</i></p>
8.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council.</p> <p>Landcare Groups – Emma Stone (Border Rivers and Richmond Valley Landcare) - top of catchment</p> <p>Sugar Industry – flagged that there is a lot going on at the moment and they are unlikely to be receptive to more contact especially if just asking same questions they have answered many times (e.g. DPIE Water projects). CC suggested sending a letter that lists the results of previous consultation provided by them and ask them to confirm that these are still the issues. That would be received better and not undo good work/relationships established to date.</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – RCC Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Group (reps from Jali LALC, Nulingah LALC, Bundjalung Elders, Widjabul Wia-bal Elders). RCC will also meet with NTS Corp regarding the Future Water Strategy.</p>	<p>RC to add contacts to master list.</p> <p>RC to contact DPIE Water to obtain previous feedback.</p> <p>AA to provide agenda and members contact details.</p>	<p><i>Added.</i></p> <p><i>SA and RC have discussed consultation approach to avoid consultation fatigue.</i></p>
9.	<p>Potential Council involvement in CMP development and implementation of actions.</p> <p>Overall solutions required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning – need a change in the underlying land use on the floodplain (e.g. transfer all <1mAHD land to an environmental zoning). Also need to acknowledge landholders will have to be compensated for this. Similar to fishing licence buyback scheme to reduce pressure on fish stocks, floodplain land can be bought back and returned to backswamp. • Extraction of groundwater at Woodburn is a potential concern for estuarine health. • Solutions looking at water retention in landscapes of upper catchment will reduce pressure on estuary arising from flooding/water quality issues etc. 		
10.	<p>Information to be provided:</p> <p>Blackwater Tech note available on RCC website has most up to date description – RC has already downloaded this.</p>	<p>AA to provide paper on Floodplain Ecosystem Services by Caroline Sullivan SCU</p>	

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
11.	Project branding, logos etc. All council logos to be included on reports.		

END OF RECORD

Project No: 21-016

SUBJECT:	Richmond River Coastal Management Program - Stage 1: Scoping Study		
PURPOSE:	Individual consultation meeting with Richmond Valley Council (RVC)		
DATE:	Thursday 06/05/21	TIME:	9:00 am to 11am
LOCATION:	Casino Community and Cultural Centre, Casino		
ATTENDEES:	RVC: Vaughan MacDonald (VM), Angela Jones (AJ), Carla Dzenolet (CD), Andy Edwards (AE), Jenna Hazelwood (JH), Chad Borgeest (CB), Craig Rideout (CR) Hydrosphere Consulting: Robyn Campbell (RC) and Katie Pratt (KP) DPIE: Suzanne Acret (SA)		
APOLOGIES:	none		

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1a.	SA provided an overview of the RR Governance Project so far.	-	-
1b.	LCC staff introduced themselves and discussed their roles. VM is RVC's General Manager. AJ is Director of Community Services Delivery. CD is Manager of Environmental Health and Sustainability AE is Manager of Development and Certification CB is Environmental Health Officer CR is Planning Officer JH is Leader of Strategy	-	-
1c.	RC provided an overview of RR CMP project and expected outcomes, status and introduced the project team.	-	-
1d.	VM raised that the name "Coastal Management Program" is misleading as the community will immediately think it is confined to the coastal zone (strip ~1km from the coast). SA confirmed that the name is from the legislation. JH suggested use of a by-line e.g. "Richmond River CMP – Protecting Our Catchment"	RC to consider report title	Suggest "Richmond River Coastal Management Program – Protecting our Catchment and Estuary"

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
1e.	<p>VM asked about study area and why Evans Head coastline is not included.</p> <p>SA explained that Ballina Coastline and urban areas were also excluded from the study area due to specific coastal issues of relevance to Ballina in isolation to the rest of the catchment. It is not equitable for the upper catchment councils to contribute to a CMP that dealt with complex coastal issues only affecting the Ballina Shire. Evans Head urban areas and coastline is to be treated in the same way to be consistent.</p> <p>CR advised the coastal hazard risk at Evans is relatively low and confined to small parcels of land. Evans Head already has an uncertified CZMP which assessed risk.</p>	-	-
1f.	<p>Governance – Discussed funding contributions for the project (2:1 DPIE-EES and Ballina, Richmond Valley and Lismore Councils). Also Byron, Kyogle and Clarence Valley Councils are being consulted and will likely contribute to future stages where appropriate.</p>	-	-
2.	Key Issues to be addressed in the Scoping Study:		
2a.	<p>AE asked how MEMA work overlaps. RC discussed the many overlaps but difficulties in obtaining MEMA project outcomes. Feedback so far from several stakeholders points towards a desire to move away from studies and putting more resources into on-ground actions. AE commented that the lack of on-ground actions in the catchment is frustrating. Too much planning, not enough action. SA discussed that other Councils and stakeholders had started work themselves e.g. funded through a special rate variation (Ballina and Lismore). It was acknowledged that this is not a viable option for all Councils especially those with a large catchment area and small population/rate payer base.</p>	-	-
2b.	<p>JH asked what is the main risk if we do not improve the health of the Richmond? What are the sources of risk? Water security and water quality (Casino town water supply) are key factors in the LGA that are impacted by poor river health. Catchment risks should be considered in managing water supply quality for Casino.</p>	-	-
2c.	<p>Dairy and pig farms in RVC LGA have existing use rights and existing EPLs regulated by the EPA (e.g. effluent irrigation). Council has limited resources/scope to have a say in management of these operations.</p> <p>The Casino meatworks has been investigating bio-energy generation facility to turn waste into a resource.</p> <p>Actions should consider providing incentives for industry to improve practices. We need to bring industry on board to actually make a difference.</p>	-	-
3.	Council objectives and requirements for the CMP development:		
3a.	<p>JH – the value of the CMP is to provide an understanding of what the risks are and what needs to be done to address them. Council can then use this as a tool to get actions funded.</p>		.

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
4.	Council areas of responsibility in relation to health of Richmond River. Discussion of current and proposed:		
4a.	Development areas, growth management strategies, development and planning controls: The review of the RVC Growth Management Strategy is currently out for quotation and planning to complete within 3-4 months (also considering the regional job precinct). Previous growth management strategies for towns and villages are still current until new study completed.	-	-
4b.	<p>Wastewater management:</p> <p>Council have completed a feasibility study for Rappville sewerage system to get an idea of what the issues are (funding from Bushfire Recovery program). Very small number of systems and only a few not performing so may be more cost-effective to fix those and not build centralise sewerage system.</p> <p>Casino STP is a small and ageing plant. There are known issues associated with infiltration during rain events. The plant has capacity of 2ML/d and they get 30ML/d going through it during large rain events. Treatment is compromised. Also trade waste inputs affect performance. RVC recognises the STP needs to be upgraded.</p> <p>Rileys Hill currently has a small package plant which presents a risk to water quality (discharges to Richmond River). RVC is looking at feeding into the Evans Head STP (discharges to Salty Lagoon which is outside the catchment).</p>	AJ to provide copy of the Rappville sewerage system feasibility study.	Study is incomplete
4c.	Stormwater Management – plan available	CR to upload Stormwater Plan to Teams site.	Plan not available
4d.	<p>Water Supply:</p> <p>Casino Water Security Scoping Study – in progress. No yield analysis available yet.</p> <p>RR Water sharing Plan is currently being reviewed by DPIE Water/ NRAR which will include assessment of environmental flow requirements.</p> <p>Jabour Weir – fish passage issues have been resolved, fishway is operational.</p>	<p>CR to provide Scoping Study when complete.</p> <p>CR to provide details of fishway upgrades.</p>	<p>Study is incomplete</p> <p>Fishway upgrades are incomplete</p>
4e.	<p>Natural resources projects:</p> <p>Flying fox management project (\$100-300k) at Queen Elizabeth Park. Revegetation of the riverbank underway. Envite doing works to plant 2000-3000 trees.</p> <p>Rappville riparian revegetation works (\$160k)</p> <p>Coraki riparian revegetation works in planning stages. Collaboration between RVC and RCC and keen to do reveg on both sides of the river. RCC has produced a document on this.</p>	CR to provide further details on project scope, location and timing.	<p>Queen Elizabeth Park works were inspected.</p> <p>No more details available on other projects.</p>

ITEM	ITEM DETAILS	ACTION	COMPLETE
5.	<p>Environmental monitoring activities:</p> <p>No comprehensive monitoring undertaken. Just as required for licensing etc. Examples include water intake monitoring at WTP, Blue Green Algae monitoring as needed in source water.</p>	-	-
6.	<p>Consultation activities (including Aboriginal groups) for the project and other consultation undertaken by Council:</p> <p>Aboriginal Consultation – RVC Aboriginal Advisory Group has not met in over 18 months. RVC writes to the LALCs to advise of projects etc.</p> <p>The Regional Water Strategy (DPIE) discusses meaning of water to different community groups.</p>	-	-
7.	Potential Council involvement in CMP development and implementation of actions.		
7a.	<p>Riparian zone management – would like to see better management across catchment. Strategic approach to target areas and address multiple issues (e.g. re-direct runoff to vegetated riparian areas). Current issues include tree clearing (some examples in KPOM areas) and creek filling by private landholders, lack of regulation and enforcement, unsealed roads and driveways. Gets reported but nothing happens. EPA, NRAR, Fisheries have no on-ground staff.</p>	-	-
7b.	<p>Lack of resources is a major barrier for Council to implement actions. Lack of coordinated stewardship over waterways is also a major barrier.</p>	-	-
7c.	<p>Community Survey about to commence and results should be available by June 2021</p>	<p>AJ to provide results of survey when available.</p>	<p><i>Survey results not available</i></p>

END OF RECORD

Robyn Campbell

From: Peter R. Wilson <peter.wilson@clarence.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 May 2021 10:57 AM
To: Robyn Campbell
Cc: Katie Pratt
Subject: RE: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study - catchment within Clarence Valley LGA

Hi Robyn,

Council does not have concerns relevant to the CMP Scoping Study for this parcel of land.

Regards,

Peter R. Wilson
Coast & Estuary Coordinator
Clarence Valley Council
Locked Bag 23 GRAFTON NSW 2460
P: (02) 6641 7358
M: 0429 847 707
www.clarence.nsw.gov.au



This email is intended for the named recipient only. If you are not the intended recipient you must not reproduce or distribute any part of this email, disclose its contents to any other party, or take any action in reliance upon it. The views expressed in this email may not necessarily reflect the views or policy position of Clarence Valley Council and should not, therefore, be relied upon, quoted or used without official verification from Council's General Manager. No representation is made that this email is free from viruses. Virus scanning is recommended and is the responsibility of the recipient.

Think of the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

From: Robyn Campbell <robyn@hydrosphere.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 April 2021 8:41 AM
To: Peter R. Wilson <peter.wilson@clarence.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: Katie Pratt <katie@hydrosphere.com.au>
Subject: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study - catchment within Clarence Valley LGA

Hi Peter

As discussed yesterday, Hydrosphere Consulting has recently commenced the preparation of the Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study for the Richmond River. The CMP will consolidate the previous estuary and coastal management planning for the Richmond River including the certified *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary* prepared in 2011.

The study area for the CMP Scoping Study is defined by the catchment boundary of the Richmond River to the marine extent of the Richmond River and Evans River estuaries but excluding areas that are subject to other coastal management planning documents. The Richmond River CMP will provide a whole-of-catchment perspective for the coastal management planning process which recognises the influence of the catchment issues and activities on the health of the coastal zone. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. Due to the whole-of-catchment approach to the project, participating councils also include Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council. The area of the catchment within the Clarence Valley LGA (5,100 ha near Tullymorgan Jackybulbin Road, Jackybulbin Creeek) is shown below.



The Scoping Study will involve the review of existing information and relevant management plans to identify key issues/threats to the study area and highlight knowledge gaps impacting effective management of issues.

The project team would like to formally notify CVC of the project and invite you to contribute to the development of the CMP. The project team will be considering Council, agency, community and stakeholder views on management issues

and areas for improvement. As part of the Scoping Study, the project team will also prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for Stages 2 - 5 of the CMP development and implementation.

You are invited to provide input into the development of the CMP Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 21 May 2021 to:

Robyn Campbell, Project Manager, Hydrosphere Consulting

Email: richmondrivercmp@hydrosphere.com.au

You may like to include the following information in your response/submission:

- Your primary activities and roles within the study area.
- Your priorities within the study area.
- Key values of the study area.
- Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.
- Preferred management approaches to these issues.
- Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages).

The project team may follow up with you to discuss your submission as required.

Please distribute this letter to others within your organisation as appropriate.

Rous County Council's representative for the project is Anthony Acret, NRM Planning Coordinator. Anthony can be contacted on 02 6623 3800 or anthony.acret@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this important project to protect and enhance the Richmond River.

Regards

Robyn Campbell
Senior Environmental Engineer
Hydrosphere Consulting
Suite 6, 26-54 River Street
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478
Tel: +61 2 6686 0084
Mob: 0421 145 027
www.hydrosphere.com.au

Appendix E. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

General letter and responses from NPWS, DPIE – Crown Lands, North Coast LLS, DPI - Fisheries.

email to stakeholders

RE: Preparation of Coastal Management Program Scoping Study for Richmond River

You are invited to provide input into the development of the CMP Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021.

Hydrosphere Consulting has recently commenced the preparation of the Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study for the Richmond River. The CMP will consolidate the previous estuary and coastal management planning for the Richmond River including the certified *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary* prepared in 2011. Preparation of the CMP will enable the councils to be eligible for financial assistance from the NSW Government through its Coastal and Estuary Grants Program.

The study area for the CMP Scoping Study is defined by the catchment boundary of the Richmond River to the marine extent of the Richmond River and Evans River estuaries (refer map below) but excluding areas that are subject to other coastal management planning documents. The Richmond River CMP will provide a whole-of-catchment perspective for the coastal management planning process which recognises the influence of the catchment issues and activities on the health of the coastal zone. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. Due to the whole-of-catchment approach to the project, participating councils also include Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council.

The Scoping Study will involve the review of existing information and relevant management plans to identify key issues/threats to the study area and highlight knowledge gaps impacting effective management of issues. The Scoping Study is Stage 1 of a five-part process for the completion of a CMP. These are:

- Stage 1 – Identify the scope of the CMP (Scoping Study)
- Stage 2 – Determine risk, vulnerabilities and opportunities (detailed studies)
- Stage 3 – Identify and evaluate options
- Stage 4 – Prepare, exhibit, finalise, certify and adopt the CMP
- Stage 5 – Implement, monitor, evaluate and report

The Scoping Study is expected to be completed by February 2022, however Stages 2 – 4 may take several years to complete. Implementation of the CMP (Stage 5) will be ongoing.

As a stakeholder with an interest in the study area, the project team would like to formally notify you of the project and invite you to contribute to the development of the CMP. The project team will be considering agency, community and stakeholder views on management issues and areas for improvement. As part of the Scoping Study, the project team will also prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for Stages 2 - 5 of the CMP development and implementation.

You are invited to provide input into the development of the CMP Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021 to:

Email: richmondriverCMP@hydrosphere.com.au

Post: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study Project Team

c/o Hydrosphere Consulting

PO Box 7059, Ballina NSW 2478

Please provide the following information in your response/submission:

- Your primary activities and roles within the study area.
- Your priorities within the study area.
- Key values of the study area.
- Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.
- Preferred management approaches to these issues.
- Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages).

The project team may follow up with you to discuss your submission as required.

Please distribute this letter to others within your organisation as appropriate. There is also a community feedback form on the project webpage (<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>) which will be accessible via Council websites soon.

Rous County Council's representative for the project is Anthony Acret, NRM Planning Coordinator. Anthony can be contacted on 02 6623 3800 or anthony.acret@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this important project to protect and enhance the Richmond River.



Study area map – Richmond River catchment

Note: The North Creek catchment, Shaws Bay, Ballina coastline, Lake Ainsworth and Evans Head coastline are being addressed in separate coastal management planning documents by the respective councils.

Richmond River CMP Scoping Study Project Team

c/o Hydrosphere Consulting

richmondriverCMP@hydrosphere.com.au

Attn: Robyn Campbell

NSW NPWS preliminary comments for consideration – Richmond CMP Scoping Study

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some preliminary comments on the proposed Scoping Study - Richmond River Coastal Program development. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) reserves are in the Richmond River catchment and include a number of lower valley floodplain/river reserves:

- **Significant coastal reserves** : Bungawalbin NP & SCA, Yarringly NR and SCA, Tuckean NR, Broadwater NP, Bundjalung NP.
- **Significant catchment reserves:** Border Ranges NP, Mebbin NP, Nightcap Ranges NP, Whian Whian SCA. Key issues for NPWS in the coastal and estuarine areas are the provision of habitat, minimisation of threats to habitat and species and improved water quality. The coastal areas support an array of wildlife including whales, dolphins, turtles, beach stone-curlew, sooty oystercatcher, pied oystercatcher, eastern curlew, osprey and little terns.

It is worth noting, that while the Richmond River experiences poorer water quality, NPWS forested reserves in catchment headwaters are likely to contribute better water quality. A large portion of the catchment has been cleared and there is extensive modification to floodplain flows, drainage and water regimes that have impacted water quality, species and ecosystems.

NPWS areas of interest

- NPWS is particularly interested in:
 - Ensuring that NPWS and Council management of estuarine issues and values is complementary.
 - Aligning with the NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy and associated TARA.
 - Understanding the issues including current and future hazards impacting natural, cultural and heritage values and built assets within reserves.
 - Management of:
 - Vegetation including endangered ecological communities.
 - Riparian zones, bank erosion, floodplain and estuarine wetlands.
 - Flora and fauna species including threatened species and their habitats.
 - Beach nesting birds, shore birds and marine wildlife including turtles and enhancing habitat while reducing disturbance and threats.
 - Weeds and pests.
 - Built assets including visitor camping, day use, infrastructure and fire trails.
 - River and estuarine water quality.
 - Managing access to beach and estuarine areas including dog walking areas where they intersect with NPWS estate.
 - Heritage including the protection and management of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.
 - Community engagement including involvement of traditional owners.

- NPWS may also be able to assist with:
 - Information on specific natural values and threats.
 - Specific advice on matters such as the management of species and ecological communities.
- Reserve plans of management can be accessed here: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/park-management/parks-plans-of-management>

Please find below specific NPWS comments for consideration:

- Given the size of the catchment, mixed uses and water quality issues, a catchment and floodplain focus is suggested.
- Unfortunately, and sadly for wildlife, the 2019/20 fire emergency has demonstrated the landscape scale threat to species, ecosystems and catchment waterbodies. This issue should be considered for inclusion in the scope of the CMP.
- Marine Estate Management Strategy (MEMS) and associated Threat and Risk Assessment (TARA) – NPWS recommends a section be included addressing both documents and outlining the values, issues, risk rating, objectives, strategies and actions that are relevant to the CMP study area.
- NPWS is currently engaged in floodplain/wetland recovery projects at Yarrahappini National Park, Collombatti/Clybucca (not in reserve) , Everlasting Swamp National Park, Ballina Nature Reserve/North Creek, Tuckean Nature Reserve, Tomago Wetland, Kooragang NR.
- NPWS suggests consulting:
 - Clayton Sharp 0466048048 – on floodplain wetland management. Sophia Meehan 02 63327681 – Interagency Strategic Working Group.
 - Damien Hofmeyer, Richmond Area Manager - day to day management of floodplain reserves - 02 66270200, 0427669712.
- There are significant alterations to floodplain hydrology/hydraulics in the Richmond Valley, Lismore (lower section). Some of these alterations have resulted in the draining of historic swamps which may (?) have increased ASS and PASS occurrences and contributed significantly to formation and release of blackwater. NPWS has some reserves located on or within these major alterations in the mid to lower part of the catchment. Restoring previously drained wetlands and reducing the ASS and PASS on and neighbouring NPWS reserves is a key focus. Doing so could also restore cultural use of resources across the Richmond River catchment.
- Tuckean Nature Reserve - a project is underway to review the management of water regimes to improve the influence of water regime change on existing values including ecological, cultural, water quality etc.
- The Tuckean Nature Reserve is the 'end' point or basin for much of the sediment and water-based pollutants generated from more elevated areas of the Tuckean Swamp, prior to them entering the Richmond River. The reserve is also habitat for a wide variety of fauna and flora species, several identified as rare or threatened under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act (2016)* and has cultural significance to local First Nations people and groups.
- An Inter-agency Strategic Working (ISWG) was established by the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to provide high-level strategic and technical advice on the management of wetland ecosystems in Tuckean Nature Reserve. ISWG membership consists of representatives of divisions/groups within the NSW Department of Planning

Industry and Environment (DPIE) with legislative responsibilities for the reserve's natural and cultural values.

- It is recommended that current jurisdictional responsibilities and related management objectives are clearly identified and considered when determining the viability and implications of any floodplain land management options under consideration.
- NPWS recommends that land stewardship arrangements be summarised for each river floodplain management area being targeted for management. NPWS also recommends inclusion of a floodplain governance structure which defines the roles of key agencies and the linkages between planning and management documents.
- NPWS recommends the development of a standard floodplain management toolkit to guide floodplain management at macro and site-specific scales.
- NPWS recommends a comparative analysis of the indicative costs for managing floodplains on private and public lands is included in the forward program and discusses the merits of private and public stewardship of the floodplain.
- It is recommended that the CMP project align with relevant mandatory requirements and recommendations in parts A and B of the Coastal Management Manual (the Manual). Part B (Stage 3) of the Manual outlines an evaluation process that local councils (or any other organisation) may follow to evaluate the feasibility, viability and acceptability of potential management options and related actions.
- It is recommended the management principles and objectives outlined in existing plans of management for public lands including the Tuckean Nature Reserve, are considered in developing the CMP. Ideally relevant actions in the CMP can be considered for inclusion in the relevant reserve plans of management when they are due for review.
- It is recommended that proposed actions including those to modify floodplain management align (as closely as possible) with the requirements of the NSW Government's Guide to Cost Benefit Analysis and NSW Guidelines for using cost-benefit analysis to assess coastal management options.
- It is recommended the scoping study includes a requirement for a quantitative, scientifically credible assessment of the potential impacts of proposed floodplain management options on natural and cultural values (e.g. water quality, loss/gain of fish passage, soil productivity, endemic flora and fauna, Indigenous sites and artefacts), as well as economic values. The projected implications of climate change and sea-level rise should also be carefully considered when identifying future land use management options.
- It is recommended a comprehensive floodplain wetland values assessment is undertaken to support and add veracity to any management options assessment for improved ecosystem health in floodplain swamps including the Tuckean Swamp.
- While adjustments to floodplain drain and water management infrastructure can potentially improve catchment water quality. NPWS encourages a strong and equal focus on marine, aquatic and terrestrial species and communities and their needs. Lowland subtropical rainforest has largely been cleared from the floodplain, the footprint of floodplain wetlands has reduced significantly. NPWS recommend these and the plight of other endangered species and vegetation communities be addressed by the CMP.
- The impact modifications to floodplain water management needs to be fully evaluated, for example, the Tuckean Swamp represents a significant portion of remaining floodplain wetland vegetation communities. The overall plight of these communities in the floodplain should be enhanced by any changes to water regimes. A combination of broader floodplain management measures may be needed to offset impacts of any changes proposed for Tuckean Swamp and other floodplain areas..

- NPWS data suggests that the estuaries and coastline are utilised by a variety of threatened species and migratory birds. Ideally the CMP would include actions to support these – increase habitat, improve the quality of habitat, support breeding events, address threats including predation, weed invasion, disturbance, light pollution.
- The estuary supports an endemic population of Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops aduncus*). Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops aduncus*) have quite discrete populations along some parts of the NSW coast. Each local estuary population (where they exist) is potentially vulnerable to population level impacts on a small population size, despite the species being regarded as common or abundant across NSW. Relevant actions in the CMP to support good water quality, healthy fish stocks, respectful recreational vessel behaviours, careful regulation of some high-risk fishing methods, and limits on coastal development impacting the habitat are likely to be generically important to the CMP, with added benefit to resident dolphin populations. NPWS suggests contact with Liz Hawkins at Dolphin Research Australia (02 66761473), Liz has a contemporary knowledge of the Ballina population and the catchment related issues that impact these Dolphins. Christine Fury, Institute of Marine and Antarctic Science, Tasmania, has studied the Richmond and Clarence populations (Phd), the locations they frequent and the impacts of poor water quality and flooding on their habitat and food resources. <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=JnV1aaQAAAAJ&hl=en>
- Suggest there needs to be a greater emphasis on the engagement and involvement of the Traditional owners in coastal program development and implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kind Regards

Josh Chivers

From the Tuckean Nature Reserve Plan of Management:

“The following general objectives relate to the management of nature reserves in New

South Wales:

- protection and preservation of scenic and natural features;
- maintenance of natural processes as far as it is possible;
- conservation of wildlife;
- preservation of Aboriginal sites and historic features;
- protection of catchment values;
- identify the natural and cultural values of the Reserve through appropriate surveys; and
- encouragement of scientific and educational inquiry into environmental features and processes.
- Nature reserves, unlike national parks, do not include provision of recreation opportunities as a management objective.

Specific management objectives for Tuckean Nature Reserve

In addition to the above, specific management objectives for the Reserve are as follows:

- manage the Reserve as part of a regional network of wetland reserves;
- manage the Reserve as a dynamic, evolving landscape due to the hydrological changes of the area;
- conserve and protect the Reserve’s threatened flora and fauna and regionally significant species;
- allow the succession of rainforest species in some sections of the Reserve while recognising the need to protect Melaleuca swamp forest;
- maintain a hydrological regime that minimises the acidification of waters in the Reserve and aims at generally improving the quality of waters discharged from the drainage network;
- provide for the re-establishment of mangrove communities by changing the management of the tidal barrage to restore tidal regimes; and
- minimise introduced species and exclude domestic stock from the Reserve.

Project: Richmond River Coastal Management Program Scoping Study

Date: 9th June 2021

Names: Damien Hofmeyer (NPWS); Katie Pratt (Hydrosphere Consulting)

Recorded by: Katie Pratt (Hydrosphere Consulting)

Consultation type: phone call

Consultation Notes:

- Tuckean Nature Reserve makes up only 9% of the Tuckean Swamp catchment. The reserve size is often viewed as forming a larger part of the overall catchment.
- The Tuckean NR is at the bottom of the catchment and as such receives much of the runoff coming from up slope areas.
- The WRL Tuckean Swamp Options Study proposes some major hydrological changes focused around the lower end of the catchment and Tuckean Nature Reserve. There is currently not enough information on the impacts of those changes to make fully informed decisions about the best way forward. Consideration include:
 - Increasing salinity beyond Bagotville Barrage and impacts on freshwater vegetation communities within and beyond Tuckean NR. Of note are potential impacts on freshwater Endangered Ecological Communities and Littoral Rainforest within the reserve. An EIS may be required to fully assess impacts.
 - Affects on upstream landholders/current land uses and land viability.
 - Landholder consent/compensation/ land acquisition etc.
- NPWS are looking to fund investigations into the existing values within Tuckean NR and model predict changes to those values from implementing some of the WRL options – possibly next financial year.
- The Options Study is considered a step forward and has brought all the stakeholders to the table for the 1st time, however there is more work to be done to reach implementation stage. Ozfish made this occur.
- The Interagency Working Group was set up by NPWS to bring together agency stakeholders with decision making powers for Tuckean Nature Reserve. The focus of the Interagency working group is with Tuckean Nature Reserve.
- A separate Steering Committee has been set up by OzFish for other stakeholders. The two groups work to avoid crossing over each other. NPWS, DPIE Biodiversity Conservation Division, Fisheries and LLS are members of the interagency working group and Ozfish steering committee.
- Other Floodplain NPWS reserves within the project area include Little Pimlico Island NR, Broadwater NP (Riley's Hill section), Richmond River NR.
- Key management issues within NPWS estate relevant to river health are:
 - Fire – NPWS manage fire in reserves. Ash from fires affect areas and can be transported to waterways during rainfall. Potential for pockets of ash to be stored on floodplain that could enter waterways during heavy rainfall/ floods etc.
 - Clearing and development – not aware of anything major within reserve system
 - Some bridge upgrades are occurring within reserves but impacts expected to be minimal.
 - Some roads are being widened to allow for increased access for fire fighting purposes.

- Weed incursion. Weed management is undertaken in reserves as funding permits but not all areas are actively managed due to resource limitations. These areas can act as point of weed dispersal, particularly those on waterways (e.g. Boatharbour NR upstream of Lismore).
- Native Title status will need to be considered in any future CMP actions affecting applicable lands.
- Native Title holder and claimants include: Widjabul Wia-bal People have a large claim area current over Lismore LGA. The Githabul People in the upper catchment/Border Ranges/Tenterfield/Kyogle. Bandjalang People in the south of the catchment near Bungalwalbin and Broadwater/ Evans Head areas.
- Traditional Owners have strong connections to water and waterways and will want to have their say in management.
- DPIE-Water has done some recent work in this area and may have resources/pathways to assist in planning stages.

Robyn Campbell

From: Josh Chivers <Josh.Chivers@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 September 2021 3:44 PM
To: Robyn Campbell; Anthony Acret
Cc: Clayton Sharpe; Damien Hofmeyer; Sophia Meehan
Subject: RE: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study - first -pass risk assessment report, outcomes from workshop

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Robyn and Anthony

Thank you for the opportunity to review draft first pass risk assessment relating to the preparation of the Richmond Estuary CMP. I have reviewed the risk assessment in relation to NPWS priorities and objectives. No changes to suggest. Its also good to see that the MEMS TARA is flagged where relevant in the table.

I would like to flag a knowledge GAP regarding the Tuckean Swamp as the Tuckean Swamp and floodplain management may be a focus area of the CMP when finalised.

There is a lack of current ecological information for the Tuckean Wetland to facilitate assessment of the character and condition of the wetlands and to support further work on developing and evaluation of options to restore tidal water regimes. This includes assessment of impacts. NPWS has proposed that an ecological values study is completed for the Tuckean NR. There is unlikely to be any further direction around the management of the Tuckean Nature Reserve and swamp until this information gap is filled.

I would also like to bring it to your attention that NPWS is currently not advocating for changes at the Tuckean but responding to interest from stakeholders. While no changes are currently proposed or supported, any changes to water regimes would likely involve adjustments to the Bagotville Barrage and drains (Rous County Council Assets) and this would affect the entire waterway and a range of stakeholders (including NPWS) and may substantially impact and change the current ecological character of the Tuckean Nature Reserve.

Where there is interest from Council in supporting and facilitating the ecological values assessment and assessing the value and merits of changes to water regimes for the Tuckean system – in order to inform the preparation of the CMP, I would like to refer you to Damien Hofmeyer, Manager for the Richmond Area, telephone 02 6627 0220. The Area currently have some limited funds available for the ecological values study, however, this is significantly short of the funds required.

Kind Regards
Josh

Josh Chivers
Senior Project Officer, Coastal Landscapes
Landforms and Rehabilitation Unit
Conservation Branch
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.
T 02 6650 7110
M 0423 688 156

From: Robyn Campbell <robyn@hydrosphere.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 September 2021 2:55 PM
To: Rachael Jenner <rachael.jenner@ballina.nsw.gov.au>; Boyd, Peter <pboyd@byron.nsw.gov.au>; Jonathan

Yantsch <jonathan.yantsch@dpi.nsw.gov.au>; Suzanne Acret <suzanne.acret@environment.nsw.gov.au>; Sharyn Goldstien <sharyn.goldstien@dpi.nsw.gov.au>; Malcolm Robertson <malcolm.robertson@crowland.nsw.gov.au>; 'Maree Brennan' <Maree.Brennan@kyogle.nsw.gov.au>; Judy Faulks <Judy.Faulks@kyogle.nsw.gov.au>; Leonie Walsh <leonie.walsh@lismore.nsw.gov.au>; Eber Butron <eber.butron@lismore.nsw.gov.au>; Paula Newman <paula.newman@lismore.nsw.gov.au>; Kate Steel <kate.steel@lismore.nsw.gov.au>; Shaun Morris <shaun.s.morris@lls.nsw.gov.au>; Justine Graham <justine.graham@lls.nsw.gov.au>; Josh Chivers <Josh.Chivers@environment.nsw.gov.au>; Joshua Moroney <Joshua.Moroney@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au>; Carla Dzendolet <carla.dzendolet@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au>; Stuart Hood <Stuart.Hood@rous.nsw.gov.au>; Chrisy Clay <chrisy.clay@rous.nsw.gov.au>; Brenda Ford <brenda.ford@rous.nsw.gov.au>; Anthony Acret <anthony.acret@rous.nsw.gov.au>; kerri.watts <kerri.watts@ballina.nsw.gov.au>; Martin Soutar <martin.soutar@lismore.nsw.gov.au>; Sharyn Hunnisett <Sharyn.hunnisett@ballina.nsw.gov.au>; Catherine Knight <catherine.knight@crowland.nsw.gov.au>; Ben Fitzgibbon <Ben.Fitzgibbon@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: Katie Pratt <katie@hydrosphere.com.au>

Subject: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study - first -pass risk assessment report, outcomes from workshop

Hi all

Please find attached report on the First-Pass Risk Assessment for the Richmond River CMP Scoping Study which incorporates the outcomes from the workshop held on 25 August 2021.

Please forward any comments to Anthony using the attached template by 28 September 2021. Anthony will consolidate all comments.

It is not intended to issue another version of this report following your review. Instead, we will incorporate your feedback when this information is included in the draft Scoping Study.

Thank you again for your valuable input at the workshop.

Regards

Robyn Campbell
Senior Environmental Engineer
Hydrosphere Consulting
Suite 6, 26-54 River Street
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478
Tel: +61 2 6686 0084
Mob: 0421 145 027
www.hydrosphere.com.au

This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately. Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment, Energy and Science.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Ref: DOC21/114789

Attn: Robyn Campbell
Hydrosphere Consulting
Suite 6, 26-54 River Street
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478

By email: Robyn Campbell robyn@hydrosphere.com.au

Dear Robyn

Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands has provided the following preliminary information requested for the Richmond River Scoping Study where relevant to the administration of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

The department's feedback on the information requested is documented in the table below.

Should you wish to discuss the department's feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Catherine Knight, Manager Coastal Management Unit on (02) 6620 5511 or by email at catherine.knight@crowland.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm Robertson

A/Manager Coastal Unit

9 June 2021



Hydrosphere requested Information.	Comment and Suggestions Actions
General Comment Naming conventions	<p>Crown Lands is located within the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). References to DPIE should be narrowed to the particular part of the department that is responsible for the subject legislation / state agency function.</p> <p>References to Crown Lands should be as follows:</p> <p>Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands, thereafter</p> <p>DPIE – Crown Lands.</p>
Primary activities and roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crown Land management, compliance, bush fire management / planning, leasing and licencing and reserve administration functions in accordance with the objects and principles outlined in <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> (CLM Act).• DPI-Fisheries and Local Land Services are now in a separate department, in the Department of Regional NSW.• The Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO), in Transport for NSW, are responsible for state owned coastal infrastructure such as river entrance break walls, regional harbours, the NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy and the 'Rescuing our Waterways' navigational dredging program.• Ballina Harbours are now managed by Transport for NSW.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ballina Boat Harbour○ Martin Street, Boat Harbour• Domestic Waterfront Structures - responsibilities of DPIE – Crown Lands<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ assessing applications for landowner's consent to enable lodgement of a development application with a council under Part 4 of the <i>Environmental</i>



	<p><i>Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> for the development of domestic waterfront facilities on Crown land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ assessing applications as the determining authority under Part 5 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> for the activity of domestic waterfront facilities on Crown land that do not require a development application○ assessing licence applications and issuing licences for the occupation of Crown land for domestic waterfront facilities○ ongoing administration, management and regulation of the use and occupation of domestic waterfront facilities on Crown land. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Richmond River is a Crown waterway with submerged Crown land below the mean high-water mark (MHW). Crown land includes the seabed and subsoil to three (3) nautical miles from the coastline of NSW that is within the limits of the coastal water of the state.● Direct Crown land management responsibilities include activities such as access management, pest plant and animal management.
<p>Priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Working with Native Title holders to ensure the above-mentioned functions are delivered in accordance with procedural requirements under Native Title Act 1993 and requirements set out in Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs).● Authorisation of activities by third parties under tenures issued under CLM Act.● Refer 'Crown land 2031 State Strategic Plan for Crown land', noting the following agency priorities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Accelerate economic progress in regional and rural NSW○ Commit to realising Aboriginal land rights and native title○ Protect cultural heritage on Crown land

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protect environmental assets, improve and expand green space and build climate change resilience ○ Strengthen and support evolving community connections.
<p>Key Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refer the Objects and Principles of the CLM Act, noting that a range of environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations are to be taken into account in decision-making about Crown land. ● The social, cultural, environmental and economic values within the study area are highly varied with respect to Crown land. ● An object of the CLM Act is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>(e) to facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of New South Wales because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land,</i> ● The scoping study should incorporate and acknowledge the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1984</i> and the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> which provide a framework for recognising the rights and interests of Aboriginal people with respect to certain Crown land. ● It should be noted that native title exists in the study area and the study area includes the traditional lands of the Western Bundjalung People, Bandjalang People, Widjabul Wiabul People, Githabul People and Yaegl People. ● There are areas of Crown land within the study area, subject to outstanding claims lodged under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1984</i>.
<p><i>Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The rights and values of Aboriginal people, including cultural heritage values, should be considered and facilitated as part of developing the CMP.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The strategic and integrated management of Crown land.
<i>Preferred management approaches to these issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meaningful consultation with Aboriginal people.• Integrated approach towards developing the CMP, consultation with relevant Crown land managers.
<i>Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages)</i>	<p>Catherine Knight Manager Coastal Unit Catherine.knight@crowmland.nsw.gov.au</p> <p>Malcolm Robertson Senior Project Officer Coastal Specialist Malcolm.robertson@crowmland.nsw.gov.au</p>

Robyn Campbell

From: Shaun Morris <shaun.s.morris@lls.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 1:10 PM
To: Katie Pratt
Cc: Robyn Campbell; Suzanne Acret; Ben Fitzgibbon
Subject: RE: Reducing water pollution
Attachments: FINAL NCLLS MEMS presentation LGAs.pdf

Hi Katie

As discussed here is the presentation I gave (excluding South East and Hunter LLS) for the LGAs week before last. It has all our outputs and investment and a brief description of the prioritisation process.

Let me know if you need further information and apologies for the delay

Cheers
SM

From: Katie Pratt <katie@hydrosphere.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 June 2021 12:57 PM
To: Shaun Morris <shaun.s.morris@lls.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Reducing water pollution

Hi Shaun,

We are working on the Richmond River Coastal Management Program Scoping Study and I would like to find out more information on the MEMA projects in the catchment with relevance to river health. From the MEMA status reports I can see that a number of projects are complete or underway in the Richmond including riparian restoration, bank stabilisation and road sealing. Part of our work on the Scoping Study is to document the status of current projects in the catchment, identify gaps/more work that needs to be done and recommend a forward plan for the rest of the CMP.

Would you be able to give me a call to discuss MEMA projects underway? I'd also be interested in any reporting or documentation of actions that is available for us to review.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best Regards,

Katie Pratt
Senior Environmental Scientist
Hydrosphere Consulting

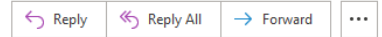
Suite 6, 26-54 River St
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478
Ph: (02) 6686 0082
Mob: 0437 018 709
www.hydrosphere.com.au

Richmond River CMP Scoping Study – Stakeholder Feedback

RE: Preparation of Coastal Management Program Scoping Study for Richmond River



Jonathan Yantsch <jonathan.yantsch@dpi.nsw.gov.au>
To: Richmond River CMP
Cc: Robyn Campbell



Wed 23/06/2021 11:24 AM

Hi Robyn

As discussed, the Richmond River catchment has been well studied and the threats and risks to the River and its tributaries are well known. DPI Fisheries would expect that the Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study would acknowledge these facts, highlight the main threats and risks affecting the study area, and outline the ability of the CMP to address these threats and risks.

DPI Fisheries looks forward to working with Hydrosphere and Rous County Council on the development of the CMP Scoping study.

Regards

Jonathan

Jonathan Yantsch | Senior Fisheries Manager - Coastal Systems (North Coast)
Aboriginal Fishing & Marine and Coastal Environments
NSW Department of Primary Industries | Fisheries
1243 Bruxner Hwy | Wollongbar | NSW 2477
T: 02 6626 1375 | M: 0447 537 168 | E: jonathan.yantsch@dpi.nsw.gov.au

PERMIT APPLICATION FORMS & FISH HABITAT POLICIES:
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/protecting-habitats/toolkit
Submit permit applications via email to shp.central@dpi.nsw.gov.au
NB: From date of receipt of application, please allow:
- 21 days for s199 Consultations
- 28 days for Permits, Consultations and Land Owner's Consent responses
- 40 days for Integrated Development Applications

KNOWN & EXPECTED DISTRIBUTION OF THREATENED FISH SPECIES:
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/threatened-species/threatened-species-distributions-in-nsw

DPI Fisheries acknowledges that it stands on Country which always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work.

Appendix F. ABORIGINAL REPRESENTATIVES

Letter from Heritage NSW

General letter to representatives

Newspaper notices

Agenda/presentations and notes from Aboriginal Advisory Group meetings.



Ms Robyn Campbell
Hydrosphere Consulting
robyn@hydrosphere.com.au

RE: Request for information on Aboriginal stakeholders for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Coastal Management Program Scoping Study for Richmond River

Dear Ms Campbell

Thank you for your email of 7 May 2021 about Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation for the proposed above matter within the Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Byron local government areas. I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

Please find enclosed a list of known Aboriginal parties for the Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Byron local government areas (Attachment 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) that we consider likely to have an interest in the proposal. Note this is not an exhaustive list of all interested Aboriginal parties. Receipt of this list does not remove the requirement for a proponent/consultant to advertise the proposal in the local print media and contact other bodies and community groups seeking interested Aboriginal parties, in accordance with the 'Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010' (the CRs).

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind the proponent and consultant to ensure that consultation is fair, equitable and transparent. If the Aboriginal parties express concern or are opposed to parts of or the entire project, we expect that evidence will be provided to demonstrate the efforts made to find common ground between the opponents and the proponent.

If you have any questions about this advice, please do not hesitate to contact me via rosalie.neve@environment.nsw.gov.au or 02 6659 8221.

Yours sincerely

Rosalie Neve
Aboriginal Heritage Planning Officer
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - Northern
Heritage NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet

10 May 2021

Ref: 21-016

Date: 10 May 2021

Dear Aboriginal representatives

You are invited to provide input into the development of the Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021.

Hydrosphere Consulting has recently commenced the preparation of the CMP Scoping Study for the Richmond River. The CMP will consolidate the previous estuary and coastal management planning for the Richmond River including the certified *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary* prepared in 2011. Preparation of the CMP will enable the councils to be eligible for financial assistance from the NSW Government through its Coastal and Estuary Grants Program.

The study area for the CMP Scoping Study is defined by the catchment boundary of the Richmond River to the marine extent of the Richmond River and Evans River estuaries (refer map below) but excluding areas that are subject to other coastal management planning documents. The Richmond River CMP will provide a whole-of-catchment perspective for the coastal management planning process which recognises the influence of the catchment issues and activities on the health of the coastal zone. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. Due to the whole-of-catchment approach to the project, participating councils also include Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council.

The Scoping Study will involve the review of existing information and relevant management plans to identify key issues/threats to the study area and highlight knowledge gaps impacting effective management of issues. The Scoping Study is Stage 1 of a five-part process for the completion of a CMP. These are:

- Stage 1 – Identify the scope of the CMP (Scoping Study)
- Stage 2 – Determine risk, vulnerabilities and opportunities (detailed studies)
- Stage 3 – Identify and evaluate options
- Stage 4 – Prepare, exhibit, finalise, certify and adopt the CMP
- Stage 5 – Implement, monitor, evaluate and report

The Scoping Study is expected to be completed by February 2022, however Stages 2 – 4 may take several years to complete. Implementation of the CMP (Stage 5) will be ongoing.

As a stakeholder with an interest in the study area, the project team would like to formally notify you of the project and invite you to contribute to the development of the CMP. The project team will be considering agency, community and stakeholder views on management issues and areas for improvement. As part of the Scoping Study, the project team will also prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for Stages 2 - 5 of the CMP development and implementation.

You are invited to provide input into the development of the CMP Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021 to:

Email: richmondriverCMP@hydrosphere.com.au

Post: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study Project Team
c/o Hydrosphere Consulting
PO Box 7059, Ballina NSW 2478

Please provide the following information in your response/submission:

- Your primary activities and roles within the study area.
- Your priorities within the study area.
- Key values of the study area.
- Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.
- Preferred management approaches to these issues.
- Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages).

The project team may follow up with you to discuss your submission as required.

Please distribute this letter to others within your organisation as appropriate. There is also a community feedback form on the project webpage (<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>) which will be accessible via Council websites soon.

Rous County Council's representative for the project is Anthony Acret, NRM Planning Coordinator. Anthony can be contacted on 02 6623 3800 or anthony.acret@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this important project to protect and enhance the Richmond River.

Yours sincerely,



Robyn Campbell
Senior Environmental Engineer
Hydrosphere Consulting



Study area map – Richmond River catchment

Note: The North Creek catchment, Shaws Bay, Ballina coastline, Lake Ainsworth and Evans Head coastline are being addressed in separate coastal management planning documents by the respective councils.

68 CLASSIFIEDS

Funeral Directors & Services

SACRED EARTH FUNERALS
For Heart-Centred Funerals
1300 585 778
Bespoke - Personal - Professional

Your Nth Rivers Holistic Funeral Directors - we can travel to you.

Beautiful Sanctuary funerals - \$5800
All funerals & vigils - traditional, church, outdoor or at home.

Direct cremation with exceptional care - \$2800
Compassionate - Community - Sustainable

TWEED to LISMORE Independent & Local

Parkview FUNERAL HOME

Ballina-Lismore-Casino
1800 809 336

Warwick Binney
Ph 02 6622 2420

Binney
FAMILY FUNERALS
Local Understanding
55 Magellan Street, Lismore
www.binney.com.au

Locally Owned and Operated

LISMORE • BALLINA • RICHMOND VALLEY

Monumental Masons

BECKINSALES
Monumental Masons Pty Ltd

We have the largest range of monuments on the North Coast or custom-made to your requirements

A member of NSW Monumental Masons' Association
Servicing 300km radius from Lismore

Call for an appointment Since 1935

Ph: 6621 5497

Cnr Bridge & Baillie Sts North Lismore
www.stoneagenow.com.au info@stoneagenow.com.au

ELLEM
MONUMENTAL CASINO
GRANITE HEADSTONES
NEW & RESTORATION

Gloria m 0457 976 491
Scott m 0481 170 218
Brian m 0433 905 601
Phone 66 626 066

Public Notices

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Members of the Aboriginal community with cultural knowledge relevant to the Richmond River catchment are invited to register their interest in the development of the Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP).

The goal of the CMP is to provide the long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River and its catchment. This CMP will supersede the current Coastal Zone Management Plan which was prepared in 2011. The purpose of consultation with the Aboriginal community is to better understand and protect Aboriginal values.

To register an interest please respond in writing to Hydrosphere Consulting, by email (richmondrivercmp@hydrosphere.com.au), or by letter to P.O Box 7059, Ballina, NSW, 2478 within 14 days of the date of this notice.

Further details are available at:
www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp

Public Notices

Thank you
Blessed Mary
for prayers answered

Wanted

CASH FOR OLD STUFF

Furniture, bric-a-brac and much more!
Locally established dealer, over 10 years.

Phone Adam for a chat on
0416 225 376

Garage Sales

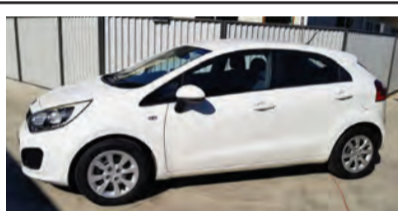
GARAGE & PLANT SALE

6 Phillip St, Goonellabah

Sat 12th June, 8am-12noon

5 Fly Screens, Plants Galore, Good Toys, Kid's Books plus much more

Vehicles For Sale



2011 KIA RIO

One owner, fully serviced, low klms, automatic, exc cond. \$6,500 ono

Ph: 0412 433 180

Personals

WANTED – Lady interested in travelling with senior gent.

Ph: 0412 663 319

Positions Vacant



BYRON SHIRE

FREELANCE JOURNALIST

The Northern Rivers Times is the largest regional newspaper in the Northern Rivers area, we require a seasoned journalist to cover the Byron Shire area.

Essential:

- Keen news sense
- Proven skills in news gathering, research and analysis
- Strong news and community interest writing skills
- Examples of well-balanced accurate reporting
- Ability to develop and maintain community contacts
- Can deliver under pressure to daily deadlines
- Initiative and strong work ethic
- Basic photography skills
- A valid driver's licence.

Desirable:

- Experience in publishing to online platforms including social media
- University degree in communications or commensurate journalism experience

Please send Resume & Cover Letter to employment@heartlandmedia.com.au or call Jeff Gibbs on 0417 516 004

Positions Vacant



TWEED HEADS

FREELANCE JOURNALIST

The Northern Rivers Times is the largest regional newspaper in the Northern Rivers area, we require 2 seasoned journalists to cover the Tweed Heads area.

Essential:

- Keen news sense
- Proven skills in news gathering, research and analysis
- Strong news and community interest writing skills
- Examples of well-balanced accurate reporting
- Ability to develop and maintain community contacts
- Can deliver under pressure to daily deadlines
- Initiative and strong work ethic
- Basic photography skills
- A valid driver's licence.

Desirable:

- Experience in publishing to online platforms including social media
- University degree in communications or commensurate journalism experience

Please send Resume & Cover Letter to employment@heartlandmedia.com.au or call Jeff Gibbs on 0417 516 004

TO ADVERTISE
CALL 6662 6222

Clairvoyants

Tahillia Clairvoyant

TV, Radio and national columnist!
Readings for worldwide famous people!
SPECIALIST IN FIELD PSYCHIC

Readings will be done over the phone or a personal reading in Casino, Lismore or Byron Bay from 17th June up until 21st June

To avoid dissapointment please book

p: **0401 370 844**

e: tahilliaclairvoyant@gmail.com

w: tahilliacc.com.au

Tahillia Crystal Clear Consultancy

Livestock For Sale

COVID LAWS APPLY

Ian Weir & Son PTY LTD
www.ianweirandson.com.au

74 WOODLARK ST, LISMORE
p: office (02) 6621 2768
e: auctions@weirandson.com.au

EVERY TUESDAY:
FAT CATTLE SALE
LISMORE SALEYARDS 7.30AM

EVERY WEDNESDAY:
CATTLE SALE
CASINO SALEYARDS 7.30AM

THURSDAY, JUNE 17
CLEARING SALE
A/C KEN WILLIAMS
EDENVILLE, VIA KYOGLE 10AM

SATURDAY, JUNE 19
BREEDER SALE
LISMORE SALEYARDS 9AM

Livestock For Sale

2000 Head CASINO SPECIAL STORE SALE 2000 Head
Casino Saleyards

Friday 18th June 2021
10am Start AEST

Comprising:

- 30 Santa X steers, 18-20 mo
- 30 Brangus X steers 18-20mo
- 20 Charolais X steers 15-18mo
- 500 Charolais X weaner steers
- 100 Simmental X weaner steers
- 200 Angus + Angus X weaner steers
- 200 Hereford X weaner steers
- 100 Santa X weaner steers
- 100 Brangus X weaner steers
- 400 Charolais X weaner heifers
- 100 Brangus weaner heifers
- 50 Hereford X weaner heifers
- 100 Angus + Angus X weaner heifers
- 10 F1 Brahman Hereford heifers PTIC
- 10 F1 Brahman Hereford heifers unjoined
- 12 Angus X Brangus heifers unjoined
- 20 Hereford X cows & calves
- 20 Brahman X cows & calves
- 40 Brahman X cows PTIC
- 15 Angus X cows PTIC

Special Lines Include:

- A/c CR & JA Leitch - Casino
- 10 F1 Brahman Hereford heifers PTIC
- 10 F1 Brahman Hereford heifers unjoin
- 12 Angus X Brangus heifers unjoined
- A/c LW & KM Hellyar - Wiangarie
- 30 Charolais X weaner steers
- 20 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c McPherson Herefords - Old Koreelah
- EU Accredited
- 12 Hereford weaner steers
- 12 Hereford weaner heifers
- A/c KW Properties - Ettrick
- 40 Angus X weaner steers
- 20 Angus X weaner heifers
- A/c J & J Stuart - Cedar Point
- 30 Charolais X weaner steers
- 30 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c J & K James - Deep Creek
- 40 Charolais X weaner steers
- 20 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c McCabe Family - Murwillumbah
- EU Accredited
- 60 Charolais X weaner steers
- 30 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c Fuhrmann Family - Mummulgum
- EU Accredited
- 150 Charolais X weaner steers
- 150 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c L & M Brown - Mallanganee
- EU Accredited
- 30 Simmental Angus X weaner steers
- 20 Simmental Angus X weaner heifers
- A/c JH & SL Pollard - Mallanganee
- 60 Simmental X weaner steers
- A/c Oakburn Pastoral - Ettrick
- 150 Charolais X weaner steers
- 150 Charolais X weaner heifers
- A/c Wyndham Creek Est - Wyndham Crk
- 35 Limousin X weaner steers
- 35 Limousin X weaner heifers

Further Bookings Invited

- Darren Perkins 0428 660 324
- David O'Reilly 0428 299 743
- Jasen Somerville 0429 660 657
- Riley Wellman 0499 222 514



98 Centre Street, Casino NSW 2470
Ph: (02) 6662 2500 Fax: (02) 6662 1736
FOR FUTURE SALES LOG ONTO www.gnfrealestate.com.au
Licensed Auctioneers, Stock & Station & Real Estate Agents

Casino Bangalow Warwick Tweed Stanthorpe

I'm doing something great for



Cancer Council
Do It For Cancer

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements placed in *The Byron Shire Echo* do not reflect the views or opinions of the editorial staff. *The Byron Shire Echo* does not make any representations as to the accuracy or suitability of any content or information contained in advertising material nor does publication constitute in any way an endorsement by *The Byron Shire Echo* of the content or representations contained therein. *The Byron Shire Echo* does not accept any liability for the representations or promises made in paid advertisements or for any loss or damage arising from reliance on such content, representations or promises.

PUBLIC NOTICES



Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre
Connecting the Byron Shire Community

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Baristas -
- Gardeners -
- Food Sorters -
- Cleaners -

The team at MDNC are searching for some dedicated volunteers to help us continue to support our community.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kaz

Wednesday - Friday
6684 1286

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS - 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

Ads may be taken by phone on **6684 1777**

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

Ads can be lodged in person at the Mullum Echo office:

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display classies (box ads): adcopy@echo.net.au

Line classies: classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend. Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication.

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

DISPLAY ADS (with a border):

\$12.85 per column centimetre

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

Echo Classies also appear online in *Echonetdaily* - echo.net.au/classified-ads

THE BYRON SHIRE
Echo
Echonetdaily

Yellowstone Butterfly



DAVID LOVEJOY

A disturbing trip to our collective future and one solitary man's past

Now available from the Mullumbimby Echo office
\$13.00

BYRON BEACHSIDE ARTISAN MARKET

Saturday 10th July

Stall registration now open

byroncentre.com.au



PROF. SERVICES

DENTURES

LOOK GOOD

FEEL GOOD

Free consultation. SANDRO 66805002

HEALTH

ORIGINAL THAI MASSAGE

Call Yah 0477594800

HYPNOSIS & EFT

Simple and effective solutions

Anxiety, Cravings, Fears & Trauma.

Maureen Bracken 0402205352

KINESIOLOGY

Clear subconscious sabotages.

Reprogram patterns and beliefs.

Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress.

Ph 0403125506

SANDRA DAVEY, Reg. Pract.

PURA VIDA

WELLNESS CENTRE

Brunswick Heads

COLON HYDROTHERAPY

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN

FAR INFRARED SAUNA

REMEDIAL MASSAGE

+ more 66850498

REMEDIAL & SPORTS MASSAGE

Health rebates available

New Brighton, Jackson 0406616309

HYPNOSIS & NLP

www.wendypurdey.com

Hey I'm excited, I've launched a new website! Lots of new resources & information. Have a look and get inspired. Book in and let's get started!

Wendy 0497 090 233

Body Based Psychotherapy Somatic Practice

Julie Wells

Anne Goslett (nee Mannix)



Dip.Som.Psych, Clinical PACFA Reg. Individual and Couple Therapy Supervision and Coaching

(02) 6685 5185

9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

Beginners Courses Yoga Yogalates Pilates

BANGALOW

Mon 6-7pm Hatha slow flow

Sat 8.15-9.30am Yogalates

Wed 6-7.15pm Yin Rejuv Yoga

SUFFOLK PARK

Mon & Fri 10-11.30am Yogalates

Wed 6-7pm Yin Yang Yoga

Sun 6.30-7.30pm Hatha Fuse Yin Rejuv

SPECIAL: Book in for a month @ \$95, try as many classes as you like.

See website for additional classes.

0432 047 221 yogalates.com.au

HALLS FOR HIRE

COORABELL HALL WEDDINGS, GIGS, CLASSES 66871307 www.coorabellhall.net

TRADEWORK

Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

- Septic tank cleaning
- Grease trap servicing
- Oily Liquids
- Portable toilet hire
- 24 hour service

6687 2880

SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

- Arborist • 15" Wood Chipper • Stump Grinder • Fully Insured

Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

6681 3140

Mobile 0417 698 227

LEAF IT TO US 4x4 truck/chipper, crane truck, stump grinding. Local, qualified, insured, free quotes. 0402487213

SHIPPING CONTAINER 40' HIGH CUBE

Byron Bay, exc cond, avail end, June, \$6,800. 04 0519 2935

HAMBLY'S FIREWOOD

Delivery available
Mark 0427 490 038

SMART FIREWOOD

Delivered in a wheelie bin

smartfirewood.com.au

WANTED

LP RECORDS: good condition, no op shop crap! Ph Matt 0401955052

GARAGE SALES

BRUNSWICK HEADS GOLD & OLD 2 Teven St. Sat 8am. Antiques, sign, bowser, oil tins, clothes, plants, h/hold, etc

MONSTER! BOOYONG CT, SUFFOLK 8am, Sat 12 June. Furniture, baby items, double bed, lounge and much more.

BANGALOW FLEA MARKETS & HUGE GARAGE SALE. This Saturday, Bangalow Primary School, 8am-2pm. bangalowfleamarkets.com

11 MUNDARRA AVE, O/S 8.30am-2pm Quality women's clothing, shoes, handbags, plants, bric-a-brac, fruit & veg.

O/SHORES, 7 YALLAKOOL DV Sat 12, 8am-2pm. Fabulous clothes, shoes, solar inverter, jigsaw puzzles, water filters, CD's, furniture, kitchen stuff

MEGA SALE, BERRIBILLAH CT, O/S Sat 12 June from 8am-12.

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

HUGE GOLD & OLD G/SALE 12TH JUNE EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK 54 TWEED ST, BRUNSWICK HEADS 6685 1084

COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH



FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- Sausage sizzle • Hot dogs • Sandwiches
- Coffee & tea • Fruit Salad

EVERYONE WELCOME

Come one come all and join us in a meal or just a chat. Takeaway most welcome: COVID safe rules apply. Frozen takeaway meals now available.

10am to 12pm
In the Ballina Presbyterian Hall

Corner of Cherry & Crane. Just behind the Presbyterian Church.



TREE SERVICES

BYRON BAY TREE SERVICES

- FULLY INSURED
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
- FREE QUOTES

6684 4421
0402 364 852

HART TREE SERVICES

20 years local experience

- 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding
- Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat

Fully insured • Free quotes

0427 347 380

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD, BANGALOW MEN'S SHED Pickup or delivery: 6x4 box trailer \$150 delivered. Ph 0403899225

MIELE WASHERS

Dryers and dishwashers available at Bridglands Mullumbimby. 66842511

ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES. Phone 66845517, 0418481617

BAMBOO PLANTS: clumping, screening, hedging, flowering gingers, bromeliads. Close to Mullum. 0458535760

BYRON BAY FIREWOOD

Pickup / Delivery Seasoned Firewood

Kindling, bags, trailer, tonnage. Residential / Commercial / Wholesale Prompt and reliable service.

0401 739 656

byronbayfirewood.com.au



Lismore City Council Aboriginal Advisory Group Meeting

AGENDA

5pm to 7pm on Thursday 20 May 2021
Lismore City Council
Council Chambers, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah

Apologies:

- 1 Acknowledgement of Country
- 2 Road Naming – discussion regarding Aboriginal names to be used for Road names
Rochelle Hellier
LCC Property Officer &
Roy Gordon
40 mins
- 3 Scoping Study – Coastal Management Plan Richmond Catchment
Leonie Walsh LCC
Environmental
Strategies Coordinator
& Rous County Council
30 mins
- 4 Update Action Sheet
Casie Hughes
- 5 General Business
- 6 Next meeting:
 - Thursday 19 August 2021

Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council,
Richmond Valley Council, Byron Shire Council and Kyogle
Council



RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: PROTECTING OUR CATCHMENT AND ESTUARY

Presentation to LCC Aboriginal Advisory
Group
20 May 2021

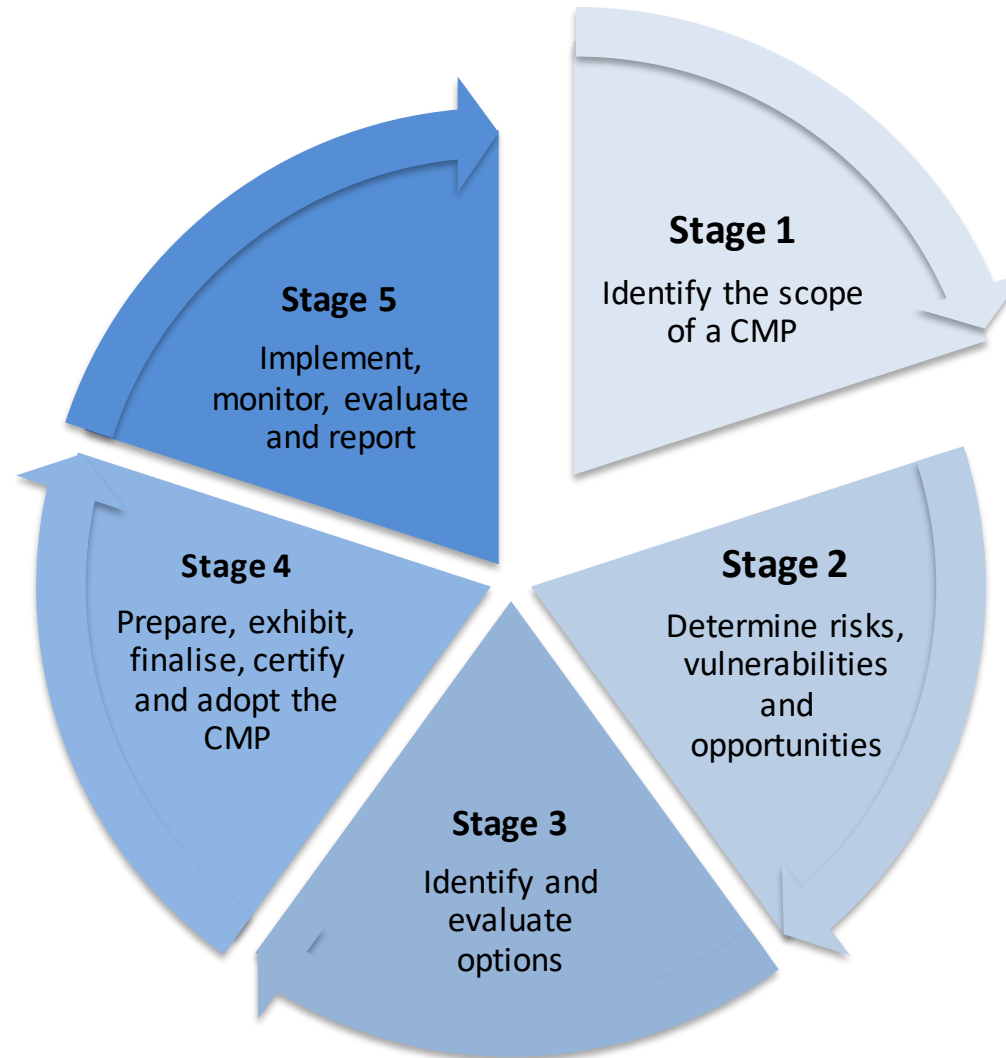


BACKGROUND

- ▶ Recognition of impacts of land use and activities in the catchment on health of Richmond River
- ▶ Many studies and projects undertaken by Local Government, State Government, industry and community groups to achieve water quality improvements
- ▶ Previous *Coastal Zone Management Plan for Richmond River Estuary* (2011) will be converted to new format Coastal Management Program



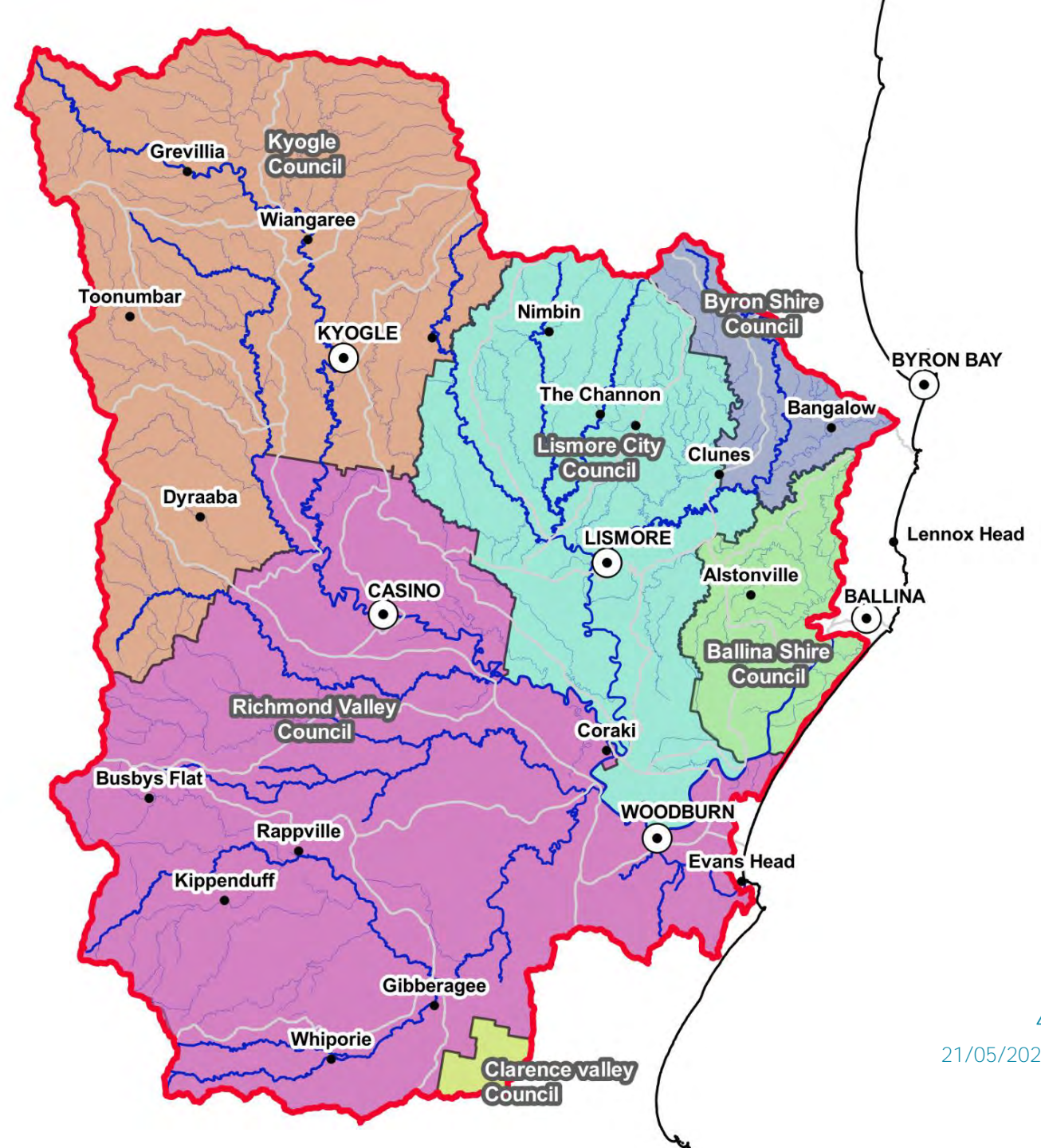
STAGES TO DEVELOP A CMP



STUDY AREA

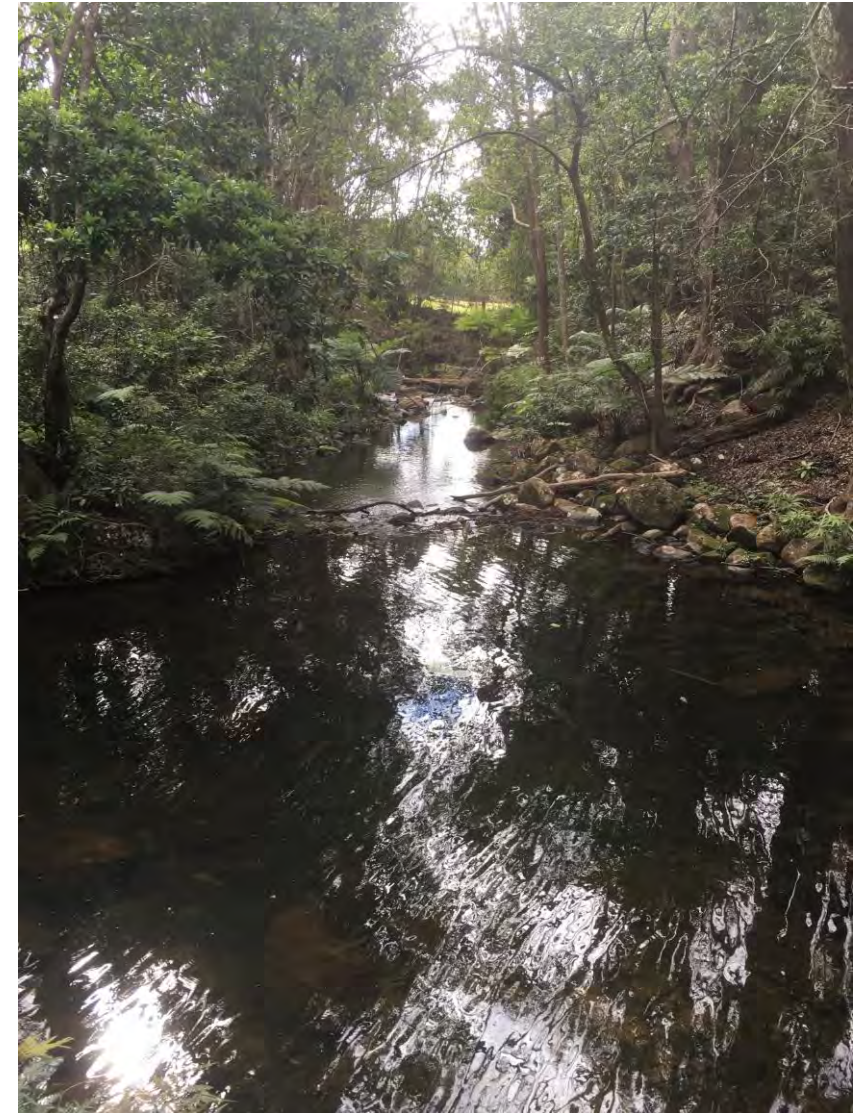
- ▶ Richmond River catchment
- ▶ Border Ranges, Wilsons River and Bungawalbin Creek to main Richmond River stem, floodplain and estuary

(excluding areas subject to other CMPs)



OBJECTIVES OF SCOPING STUDY

- ▶ Review progress made in managing issues
- ▶ Document the understanding of the current situation
- ▶ Identify the focus of the new CMP – studies and projects
- ▶ Gather stakeholder ideas, issues to be addressed and future involvement



ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

- ▶ Understand cultural significance of the landscape
- ▶ Understand influence of catchment activities, hazards and environmental change on cultural values
- ▶ Promote effective participation by First Nations People
- ▶ Facilitate sharing of cultural knowledge

- ▶ Council advisory group meetings
- ▶ Letters to Aboriginal groups (Native Title holders, LALCs, Aboriginal Corporations and Registered Parties)
- ▶ Advertisement in newspaper
- ▶ Community webpage (<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>)
- ▶ How do you wish to be involved?

EXAMPLE: 'OUR SPECIAL PLACE – TALLOW CREEK'

- ▶ Landscape Architecture Masters Student Nathan Galluzzo, Arakwal leader Uncle Norm and Helen Brown (Dune Care)
- ▶ Drawings used to capture, record and deliver stories tied to Tallow Creek, focussing on complexities of the ecosystems and significance of cultural connection of the Arakwal people
- ▶ Videos – The Story of the Flathead

<https://vimeo.com/538468708>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5UGEbVLNIw>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDVAOtwIMfs>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8B7s9LJmEs>,



Notes



Lismore City Council - Aboriginal Advisory Group

Meeting: Thursday 20 May 2021, 5.00pm – 7.00pm in the Council Chambers

In attendance: Ros Sten, Mark Tirris, Laurel Rogers, Bradley Walker

Councillors: Mayor Vanessa Ekins, Cr Neil Marks

Staff: Casie Hughes, Rochelle Hellier, Leonie Walsh,

Visitors: Uncle Roy Gordon, Robyn Campbell (Hydrosphere)

Apology: Michelle Rogers, Patrick Anderson

Non-Attendance:

1. Acknowledgement of Country:

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	NOTES/ACTION
2. Road Naming - discussion regarding Aboriginal names to be used for Road names	Rochelle Hellier LCC Property Officer & Roy Gordon	Decisions: Not to use individual people's names Suggested using animals and plants local to the area Actions: Rochelle to send a letter to Tracey King from Bundjalung Tribal Society and also Albert Park School seeking their input. Rochelle to bring back draft list to the group for final sign off and the group to <i>identify the names from the list to be reserved by the Graphical Names Board</i>
3. Scoping Study – Coastal Management Plan Richmond Catchment	Leonie Walsh LCC Environmental Strategies Coordinator & Robyn Campbell from Hydrosphere	Action: Casie to circulate information from the presentation to all AAG members Sarah to send Rivertalk film to Casie to send to Robyn Casie to provide Robyn email addresses of Ros Sten and Roy Gordon who wish to be updated be involved directly in further consultations.

<p>5. General Business</p> <p>Sarah Harvey – Gallery drop in</p> <p>NAIDOC events</p>	<p>Casie Hughes</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Casie to circulate posters to members to share within their networks</p> <p>Casie to send final NAIDOC event information to all members</p>

Meeting Close – there being no further business the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Next meeting: Thursday 19 August 2021



Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee

Friday 4 June 2021 10am start
Kyogle Council Chambers



ITEM 1: PRESENTATIONS ON CURRENT RICHMOND RIVER CATCHMENT PROJECTS

Coastal Management Plan – Robyn Campbell from Hydrosphere Consulting – see attached presentation

Hydrosphere Consulting has recently started work on the Coastal Management Plan (CMP) Scoping Study for the Richmond River. The CMP will consolidate the previous estuary and coastal management planning for the Richmond River including the certified *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary* prepared in 2011.

Preparation of the CMP will enable the councils to be eligible for financial assistance from the NSW Government through its Coastal and Estuary Grants Program. The study area for the CMP Scoping Study is defined by the catchment boundary of the Richmond River to the marine extent of the Richmond River and Evans River estuaries but excluding areas that are subject to other coastal management planning documents.

The Richmond River CMP will provide a whole-of-catchment perspective for the coastal management planning process which recognises the influence of the catchment issues and activities on the health of the coastal zone. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. Due to the whole-of-catchment approach to the project, participating councils also include Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council.

The Scoping Study will involve the review of existing information and relevant management plans to identify key issues/threats to the study area and highlight knowledge gaps impacting effective management of issues. The Scoping Study is Stage 1 of a five-part process for the completion of a CMP. These are:

- Stage 1 – Identify the scope of the CMP (Scoping Study)
- Stage 2 – Determine risk, vulnerabilities and opportunities (detailed studies)
- Stage 3 – Identify and evaluate options
- Stage 4 – Prepare, exhibit, finalise, certify and adopt the CMP
- Stage 5 – Implement, monitor, evaluate and report

The Scoping Study is expected to be completed by February 2022, however Stages 2 – 4 may take several years to complete. Implementation of the CMP (Stage 5) will be ongoing.

Governance Project – Suzanne Acret from NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – see attached presentation

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Biodiversity and Conservation Division has recently completed recruitment for a new role focussing on the health of the Richmond River and using governance and other frameworks to address some of the issues faced.

The objective of this role is to respond to the recommendations of the Richmond River Governance and Funding Project report (which was co-funded by local government in 2018/2019) and the collective commitment of Councils in recognising the benefits of a co-ordinated approach to improving the health of the catchment and its waterways.

Rous County Council has begun, on behalf of catchment councils, a Coastal Management Program for the Richmond River. This role will provide assistance to that process but also work on other complementary projects intended to improve governance and river health outcomes in the catchments.

Project proponents want to ensure Aboriginal people are involved in raising issues, barriers, considerations or contributions to improving governance within the catchment.

Ref: 21-016

Date: 10 May 2021

Dear Aboriginal representatives

You are invited to provide input into the development of the Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021.

Hydrosphere Consulting has recently commenced the preparation of the CMP Scoping Study for the Richmond River. The CMP will consolidate the previous estuary and coastal management planning for the Richmond River including the certified *Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary* prepared in 2011. Preparation of the CMP will enable the councils to be eligible for financial assistance from the NSW Government through its Coastal and Estuary Grants Program.

The study area for the CMP Scoping Study is defined by the catchment boundary of the Richmond River to the marine extent of the Richmond River and Evans River estuaries (refer map below) but excluding areas that are subject to other coastal management planning documents. The Richmond River CMP will provide a whole-of-catchment perspective for the coastal management planning process which recognises the influence of the catchment issues and activities on the health of the coastal zone. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. Due to the whole-of-catchment approach to the project, participating councils also include Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council.

The Scoping Study will involve the review of existing information and relevant management plans to identify key issues/threats to the study area and highlight knowledge gaps impacting effective management of issues. The Scoping Study is Stage 1 of a five-part process for the completion of a CMP. These are:

- Stage 1 – Identify the scope of the CMP (Scoping Study)
- Stage 2 – Determine risk, vulnerabilities and opportunities (detailed studies)
- Stage 3 – Identify and evaluate options
- Stage 4 – Prepare, exhibit, finalise, certify and adopt the CMP
- Stage 5 – Implement, monitor, evaluate and report

The Scoping Study is expected to be completed by February 2022, however Stages 2 – 4 may take several years to complete. Implementation of the CMP (Stage 5) will be ongoing.

As a stakeholder with an interest in the study area, the project team would like to formally notify you of the project and invite you to contribute to the development of the CMP. The project team will be considering agency, community and stakeholder views on management issues and areas for improvement. As part of the Scoping Study, the project team will also prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for Stages 2 - 5 of the CMP development and implementation.

You are invited to provide input into the development of the CMP Scoping Study by providing a written submission by Friday 28 May 2021 to:

Email: richmondriverCMP@hydrosphere.com.au

Post: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study Project Team

c/o Hydrosphere Consulting

PO Box 7059, Ballina NSW 2478

Please provide the following information in your response/submission:

- Your primary activities and roles within the study area.
- Your priorities within the study area.
- Key values of the study area.
- Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.
- Preferred management approaches to these issues.
- Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages).

The project team may follow up with you to discuss your submission as required.

Please distribute this letter to others within your organisation as appropriate. There is also a community feedback form on the project webpage (<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>) which will be accessible via Council websites soon.

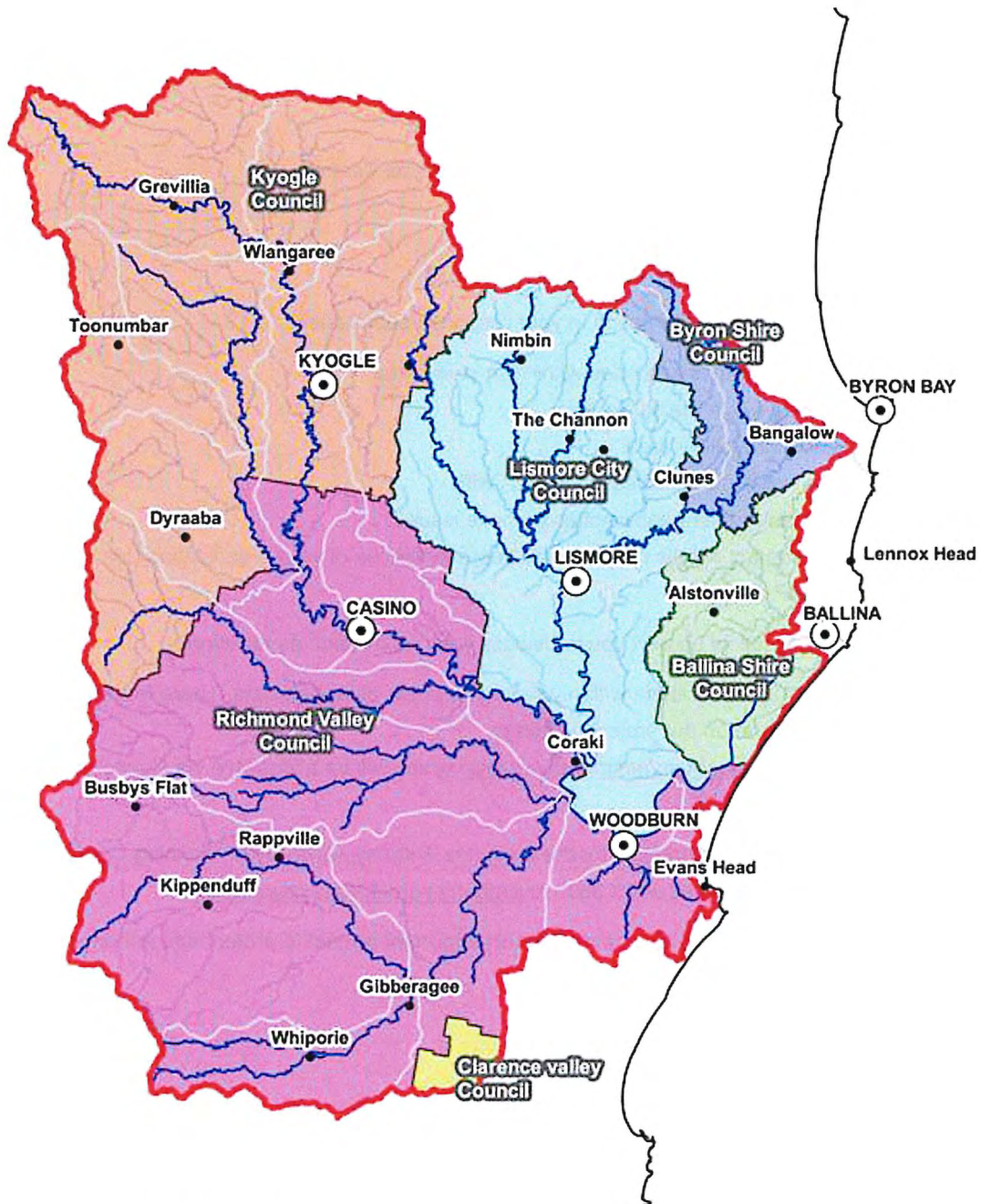
Rous County Council's representative for the project is Anthony Acret, NRM Planning Coordinator. Anthony can be contacted on 02 6623 3800 or anthony.acret@rous.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this important project to protect and enhance the Richmond River.

Yours sincerely,



Robyn Campbell
Senior Environmental Engineer
Hydrosphere Consulting



Study area map – Richmond River catchment

Note: The North Creek catchment, Shaws Bay, Ballina coastline, Lake Ainsworth and Evans Head coastline are being addressed in separate coastal management planning documents by the respective councils.

Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council,
Richmond Valley Council, Byron Shire Council and Kyogle
Council

RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: PROTECTING OUR CATCHMENT AND ESTUARY

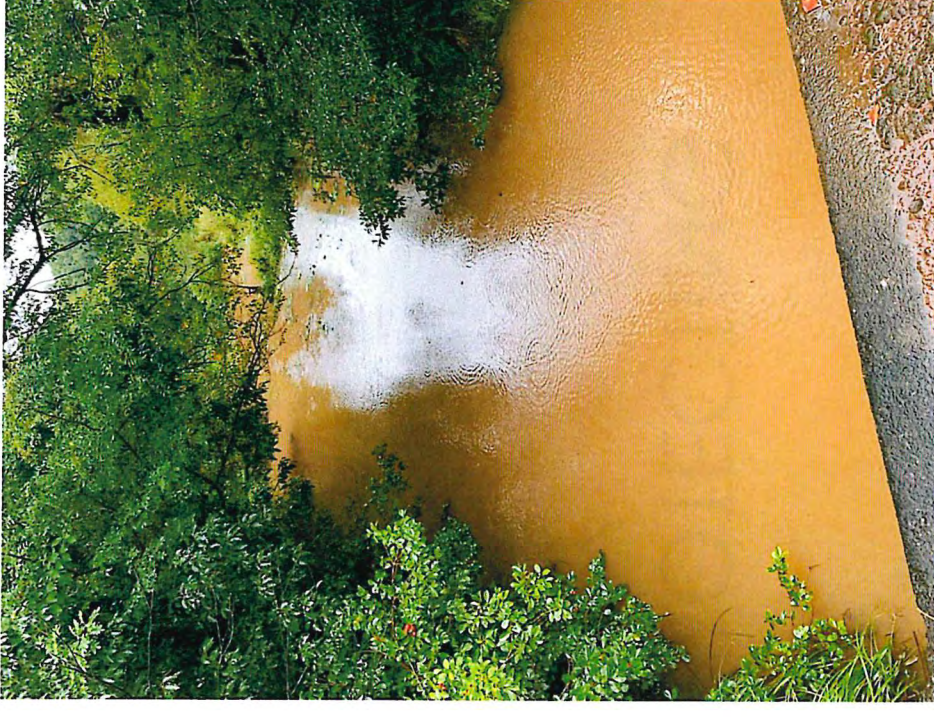
Presentation to Aboriginal Consultation
Group

4 June 2021

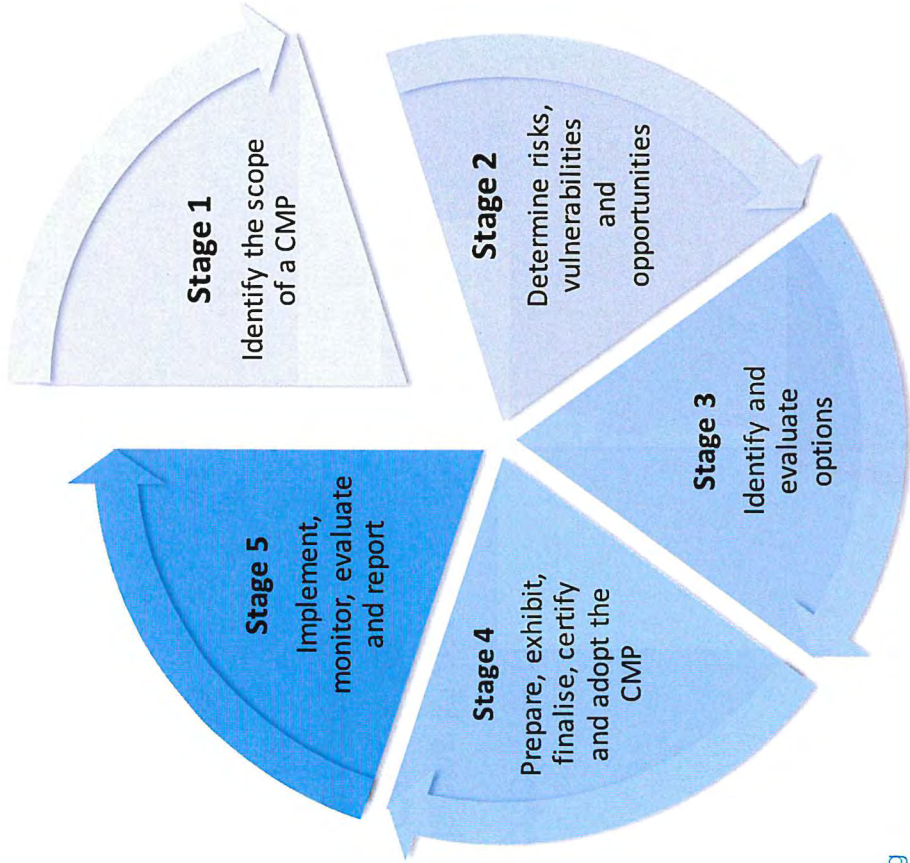


BACKGROUND

- ▶ Recognition of impacts of land use and activities in the catchment on health of Richmond River
- ▶ Many studies and projects undertaken by Local Government, State Government, industry and community groups to achieve water quality improvements
- ▶ Previous Coastal Zone Management Plan for Richmond River Estuary (2011) will be converted to new format Coastal Management Program

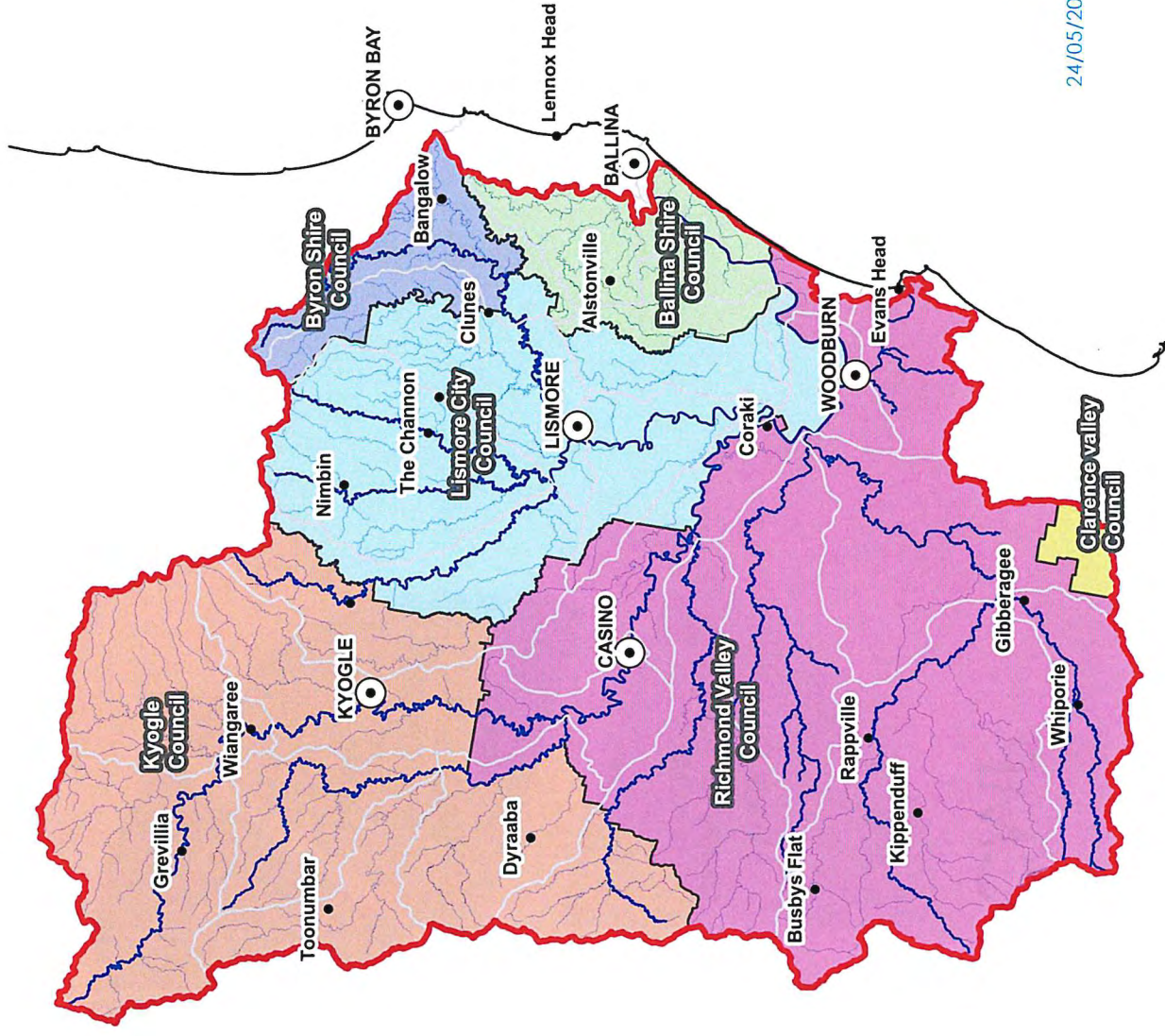


STAGES TO DEVELOP A CMP



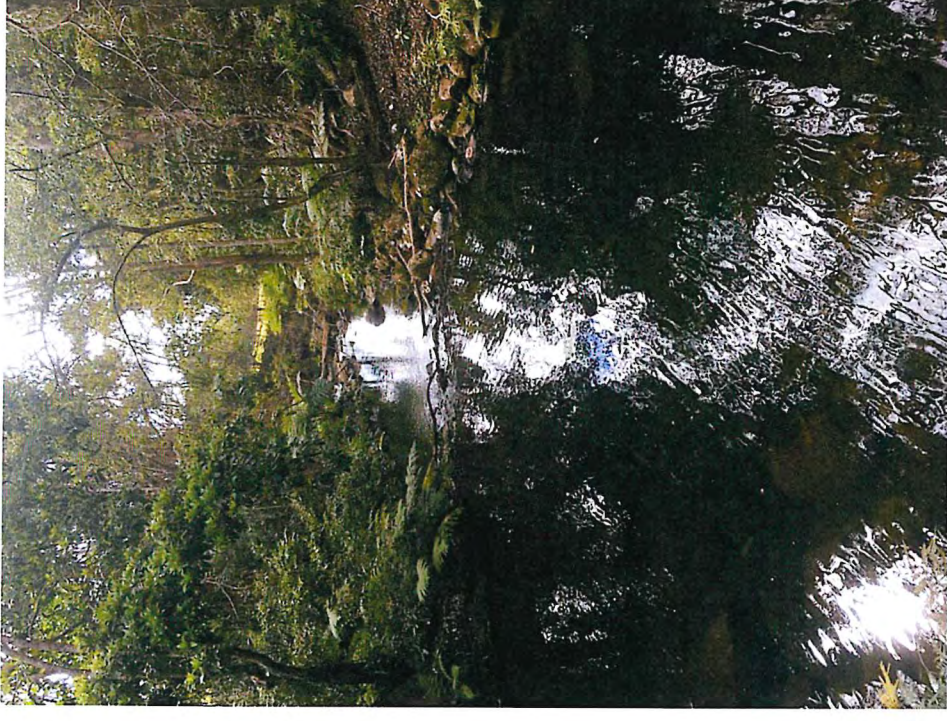
STUDY AREA

- ▶ Richmond River catchment
- ▶ Border Ranges, Wilsons River and Bungawalbin Creek to main Richmond River stem, floodplain and estuary
(excluding areas subject to other CMPs)



OBJECTIVES OF SCOPING STUDY

- ▶ Review progress made in managing issues
- ▶ Document the understanding of the current situation
- ▶ Identify the focus of the new CMP – studies and projects
- ▶ Gather stakeholder ideas, issues to be addressed and future involvement



ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

- ▶ Understand cultural significance of the landscape
- ▶ Understand influence of catchment activities, hazards and environmental change on cultural values
- ▶ Promote effective participation by First Nations People
- ▶ Facilitate sharing of cultural knowledge

- ▶ Council advisory group meetings
- ▶ Letters to Aboriginal groups (Native Title holders, LALCs, Aboriginal Corporations and Registered Parties)
- ▶ Advertisement in newspaper
- ▶ Community webpage (<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>)
- ▶ How do you wish to be involved?

EXAMPLE: 'OUR SPECIAL PLACE – TALLOW CREEK'

- ▶ Landscape Architecture Masters Student Nathan Galluzzo, Arakwal leader Uncle Norm and Helen Brown (Dune Care)
- ▶ Drawings used to capture, record and deliver stories tied to Tallow Creek, focussing on complexities of the ecosystems and significance of cultural connection of the Arakwal people
- ▶ Videos – The Story of the Flathead

<https://vimeo.com/538468708>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5UGEbVLNIw>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDVAOtWMfs>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8B7s9LJmEs>,





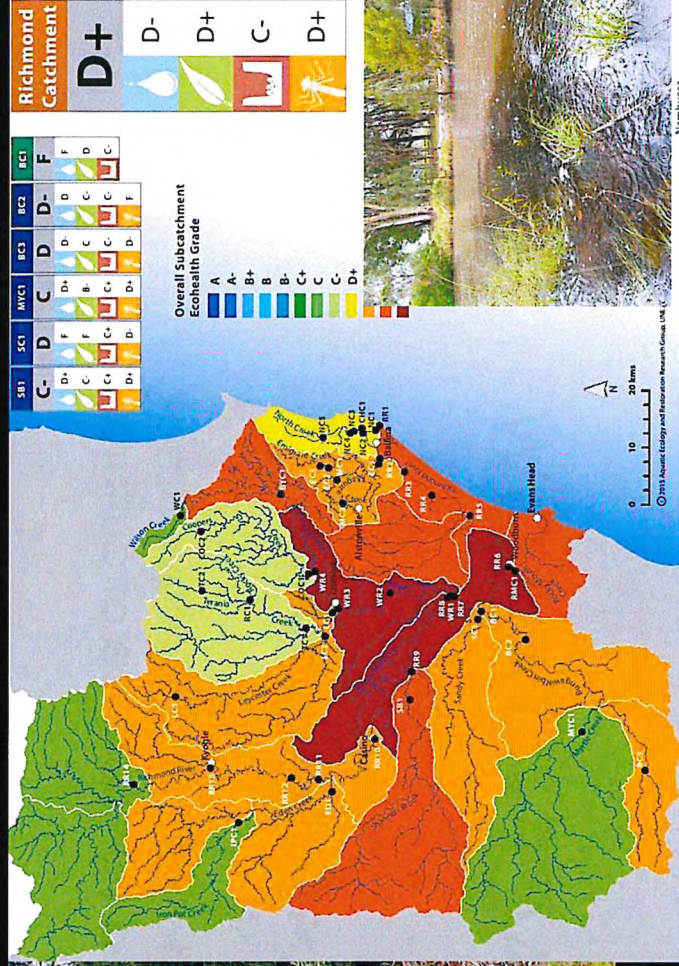
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT

Catchment Governance and Waterway Health

What's happening, where did this come from, how does it relate to other projects currently running?



environment.nsw.gov.au



Richmond River Governance and Funding Project -

- Governance originally raised as an issue in the 2012 Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary
- Original discussion early in 2013 with a review undertaken by (the then) Richmond River County Council.
- In 2018, OEH (now DPIE) launched the Richmond River Governance and Funding Project to gain traction on the issue. DPIE funded their staff, but asked local government to co-fund a consultant led process.

• Either:

..... Or: ch

✓,

• A Richmond River Co-Ordinator transitioning towards a collaborative partnership

A Richmond River Co-Ordinator transitioning toward a North Coast Local Land Services led model

Resolutions Summary of LGA's within the Richmond River catchment

- **Ballina** Shire Council – preferred Rous as a service provider (the resolution doesn't capture other discussion about the requirement for funding externally, assistance and working with agencies etc)
- **Byron** Shire Council – supported first option (collaborative partnership)
- **Kyogle** Council – endorsed the consultants recommendations
- **Richmond Valley** Council – support the intent of the recommendations of the report to appoint (an) ... agency to have responsibility to drive the improvement of Richmond River health outcomes
- **Rous County** Council – supported Rous as a service provider within the Richmond and expressed their willingness to do so, if effectively resourced to do so
- **Lismore** City Council – supported a Co-ordinator/Commissioner role with convening powers to bring people together; have a major funding announcement to resource on ground options from the beginning; agencies deliver actions in accordance with existing CZMP and NRM plans; and be accountable to the local community. (Paraphrased heavily).



So, what happened to the Richmond River Governance and Funding Project after that...?

MEMA Strategy
Council's own work
Work within DPE to progress the report and
its recommendations.



The Catchment Governance and Waterway Health Project:-



- A direct result of the RRGFP and your original investment of money, time or both
- Funded by the Marine Estate Management Strategy as a pilot water quality project and supported across all MEMA agencies
- Begin the work of transitioning to a governance framework
- Undertake some project work that will help to deepen some of the agency and council relationships
- Talk to local and state government, community, NGO's, industry and anyone else who is interested in river health and build toward a framework that can work within the Richmond.



ITEM 2: KYOGLE LGA ABORIGINAL CULTURAL MAPPING PROJECT - see attached project summary report and mapping.

Following the presentation of the 2012 Shire Wide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping Project to the Kyogle Council Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee last year, it was agreed that Council would write to the Local Aboriginal Land Councils outlining how the document is intended to be used, before the document is made available to the broader community. These letters were sent in May 2021.

The project was completed in 2012 and the final report and mapping has not yet been released publicly. The specific aims of the project were:

- *To develop an effective working relationship with the local Aboriginal community groups and Land Councils.*
- *To identify and assess the significance of known, and potential, Aboriginal cultural heritage which may be located within the Kyogle Shire area, potentially impacted by future development.*
- *To develop ACH identification, appropriate and acceptable to the Aboriginal community and formatted in a manner for inclusion in the Kyogle LEP.*

How does Council Propose to use the maps?

- The maps and summary report are intended to be publicly accessible. Where development that requires Council approval is proposed on land near a mapped site, applicants will be advised to contact the relevant LALC prior to lodging their application. They will be required to obtain more information about the values of the site, and how development may or may not impact on this, and design their proposal accordingly.

Who will the information be available to?

- The maps and summary report will be published on Council's website. Any member of the public will be able to view them. This means that any developer that is proposing an activity that may be in the vicinity of a mapped site, will be able to identify at an early stage any potential for impact, and either avoid the site, or consult the LALC further in relation to the potential for impact.

How will people engage with LALCs to obtain more information?

- Council will refer applicants to the relevant LALC where a development is proposed that is near a mapped site. The process for the LALC in dealing with those referrals is up to individual LALCs to decide. Each LALC should develop their own process, if they do not already have one, and ensure they have people available to service this requirement. LALCs can charge a fee for site investigations, reports, or letters of advice.

The summary report and mapping have been compiled in such a way as to not include any detailed or sensitive information about any of the sites. In all instances, people will need to go to the LALC to get further information on any of the sites in the LALC area. The LALCs can charge a fee for providing such information where they choose. Updates to the mapping can be made periodically if additional sites are identified by any of the LALCs that meet the required criteria.

Some of the other benefits of endorsing the publication of this information are;

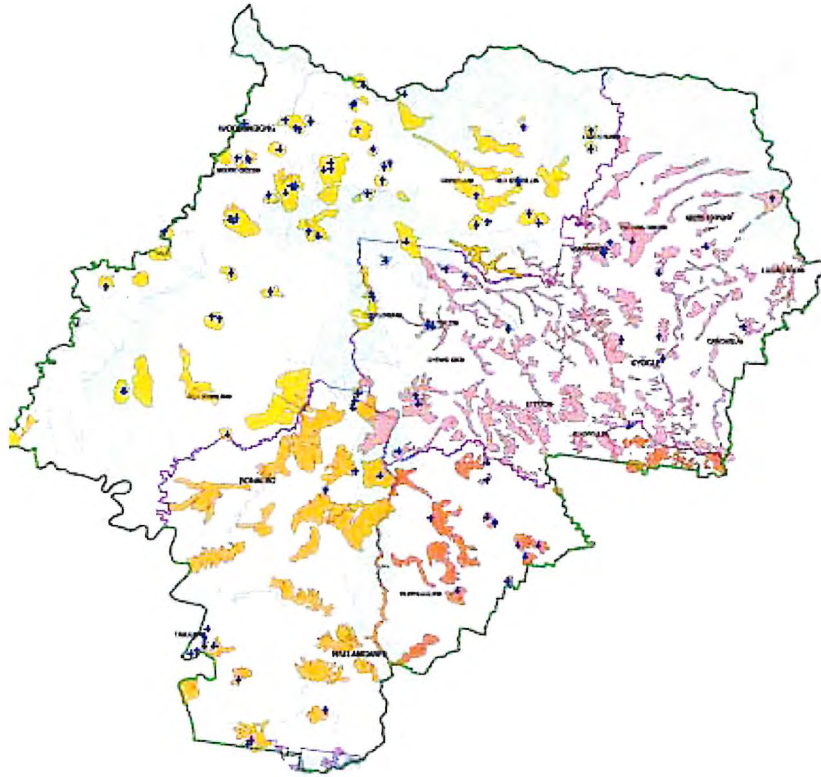
- it sets a foundation for a partnership between Council and the LALCs
- provides a valuable reference for each of the LALCs to further investigate the sites in their areas
- will hopefully lead to further funding opportunities to record and compile Aboriginal cultural heritage information

Council would ideally like to receive formal written endorsement from each of the LALCs for the proposed release and use of the Shire Wide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping Project. If there are no objections received from the LALCs to the proposed release and use of the maps, we hope to make the report publicly available by the end of June 2021.



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

Heritage Council
of New South Wales



Project Summary Report

Shire Wide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping Project

Kyogle Shire Council

10046C / 2012

converge
heritage + community

ITEM 3: BRIDGE NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Council has a bridge program coming up over the next two years that will see 84 bridges replaced under the NSW Governments Fixing Country Bridges Program. As part of the lead up to the start of construction, Council will be providing Native Title Future Works Notices through the NTSCORP for all structures where there is a need for a Permit from DPI Fisheries for works.

The NTSCORP has advised that they will subsequently notify as follows:

- Ngullingah Jugun AC is notified of any act within the external boundaries of Western Bundjalung country, as defined by their Indigenous Land Use Agreement;
- Githabal PBC is notified of any act within the external boundary of their native title determination area or areas subject to the Githabal Peoples Indigenous Land Use Agreement; and
- In lieu of a native title party, NTSCORP will notify the relevant LALC or Traditional Owner group.

So this means that there should be a series of notifications coming through from NTSCORP to most of the organisations represented on the Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee.

There may be projects where there is a desire for a cultural heritage officer to be present on site. This would be specifically focused on those parts of the works where the soil will be excavated, which is generally in the early stages of each project. Council is looking to enter into an arrangement for the provision of such officers through the Ngullingah Jugun AC, and would also be happy to do something similar with the other LALCs and Githabal PBC. Any party that is interested in providing cultural heritage officers for the bridges in their respective area/s should contact Councils Director of Assets and Infrastructure Services Mr Tony Lickiss (0409 062 065) to discuss the establishment of arrangements for the supply of cultural heritage officers where required.

Many of the bridges to be replaced in this program do not currently have names. Council would strongly encourage the submission of suggested names for any of the structures that we are replacing from any local Aboriginal groups or individuals. Council already has a policy and process in place for naming its built assets, that includes a focus on the use of Aboriginal words where possible. More information can be found here; <https://www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure-environment/roads-bridges/naming-of-roads-built-assets-and-places/>

We will be looking at opportunities to name those structures as part of the overall program. At this stage Council is thinking of formally advertising for submissions on naming these bridges late in 2021. However, any information or suggestions from the Aboriginal community can be provided before then. A list of bridges to be named is attached to this agenda.

Road Name	Bridge Description / ID=(Road number-distance from start)
ASKEWS DIP ROAD	ASKEWS BRIDGE/ID:227-843
ASPREYS ROAD	ASPREYS BRIDGE/ID:4-78
BABYL CREEK ROAD	BABYL CK BRIDGE/ID:11-3626
BAILEYS BRIDGE ROAD	BAILEYS BRIDGE/ID:6-250
BOLAN ROAD	LITTLE TERRACE CK BRIDGE/ID:81-1674
BRINDLE CREEK ROAD	BRINDLE CK RD NO.2 BRIDGE/ID:245-887
BRUMBY PLAINS ROAD	/ID:18-3442
CAPEEN CREEK ROAD	CAPEEN CK RD NO.1 BRIDGE/ID:29-4250
CAPEEN CREEK ROAD	CAPEEN CK RD NO.2 BRIDGE/ID:29-4448
CASTILLE ROAD	CASTILLE RD/ID:273-108
CHESTNUT ROAD	CHESTNUT RD/ID:31-721
COLLINS VALLEY ROAD	LYNCHES CK/ID:35-322
DUNNS ROAD	Bridge ID: 39-2800
DUNNS ROAD	DUNNS RD NO.1 BRIDGE/ID:39-1828
GAMBLEYS ROAD	GAMBLEYS RD-GAMBLEYS RD BRIDGE/ID:66-409
GOOLEYS ROAD	GOOLEYS RD-GOOLEY'S BRIDGE/ID:56-194
GORGE CREEK ROAD	GORGE CK RD-GORGE CK NO.2/ID:60-1847
HANSEN ROAD	HANSEN RD-HANSENS BRIDGE/ID:265-257
HORSESHOE CREEK ROAD	HORSESHOE CK RD NO.1 BRIDGE 68-8166
IRON POT CREEK ROAD	IRON POT CK RD2/ID:73-17595
KYOGLE ROAD	KYOGLE RD-BACK CK BRIDGE/ID:141-B2411
LARSSON ROAD	LARSSON RD/ID:140-6330
LEESES ROAD	LEESES ROAD BRIDGE
LEVERS ROAD	LEVERS RD-LEVERS RD/ID:269-157
LINDSAY CREEK ROAD	LINDSAY CK RD BRIDGE 86-5136
MACQUEENS ROAD	MACQUEENS RD/ID:223-363
MAHONEYS LANE	MAHONEYS LANE NO.2 BRIDGE/ID:93-704
MONTGOMERYS ROAD	MONTGOMERYS RD BRIDGE/ID:91-975
NEEDHAMS ROAD	NEEDHAMS RD/ID:50-9824
NEEDHAMS ROAD	NEEDHAMS RD-EIGHT DAY CK BRIDG/ID:50-4933
OLD COB-O-CORN ROAD	OLD COB-O-CORN RD BRIDGE/ID:103-1951
OLD LAWRENCE ROAD	OLD LAWRENCE RD NO.2 BRIDGE/ID:106-14873
OLD LAWRENCE ROAD	OLD LAWRENCE RD NO.1 BRIDGE 106-18611
PHELPS ROAD	PHELPS RD/ID:291-315
PINES ROAD	PINES RD/ID:46-5526
ROSEBERRY CREEK ROAD	ROSEBERRY CK RD-COMERFORDSNO.2/ID:112-8374
RYANS CREEK ROAD	RYANS CK RD NO.3 BRIDGE/ID:113-2687
RYANS CREEK ROAD	RYANS CREEK ROAD CLOSED BRIDGE 113-2577
SANDY CREEK ROAD	SANDY CREEK ROAD CLOSED BRIDGE 122-2452
SAUNDERS ROAD	SAUNDERS RD-SAUNDERS BRIDGE/ID:118-407
SHEDDENS ROAD	SHEDDENS RD/ID:229-126
SLATERS ROAD	SLATERS RD BRIDGE/ID:253-152
TRENTYS LANE	TRENTYS LANE BRIDGE/ID:125-74
TUNGLEBUNG CREEK ROAD	TUNGLEBUNG CK RD-TRYNNEY NO.1/ID:131-1738
WALSH ROAD	WALSH RD-TEMP BRIDGE/ID:77-185
WHITES ROAD	WHITES RD-WHITES RD BRIDGE/ID:167-378
WYNDHAM ROAD	WYNDHAM CK BRIDGE/ID:147-3429
WYNLEA ROAD	WYNLEA BRIDGE/ID:266-74
YABBRA ROAD	YABBRA RD BRIDGE/ID:152-494

ITEM 4: DALAANG GALII FESTIVAL UPDATE

The event management consultant, Event Society has been engaged to facilitate the event planning and management process in consultation with the working group, with their engagement totalling \$45,500. Event Society have already met once with the festival organising working group to initiate their engagement. An additional funding amount of \$30,000 has been secured for the event through the NSW Governments Bushfire Tourism Recovery Initiatives Program. This is intended to be used to secure a headline act, with Baker Boys currently being targeted for this. Suzie and team are still trying to confirm their availability, and therefore event date. At this stage two dates have been proposed, being November 13, 2021 and February 26, 2022. If we are unable to secure Baker Boy, then the working group will look to secure an alternate headline act. Suzie and Alethia will be at meeting to provide a further update or answer any questions around the event planning process.

Meeting Notes

Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Kyogle Council, 4 June 2021, 10 am – 12 noon

Attendees: Kyogle Council - Graham Kennett (GK), Suzie Coulston; Githabul Nation Aboriginal Corporation (GNAC) and Githabul Rangers (GR) – Charlie Ord (CO), CEO; DPIE – Suzanne Acret; Hydrosphere Consulting – Robyn Campbell

Apologies: GNAC/GR – Gabriel Boota, Rob Boota; Ngullingah Jugan Aboriginal Corporation (NJAC) – Helen Orr (NTS); Gugin Gudduba LALC – Alethia Walker, Trevina Walker, Wayne Walker; Jubullum LALC - Cedrick Walker, Cal Davis; Casino-Boolangle LALC – Darlene Caldwell, Norma Collins; Muli Muli LALC – David Morgan, Matthew Green; Bundjalung Elders Council – Michael Ryan; NSW ALC – Dallas Donnelly, Marsha Rennie, Sahir Deen, Rowan Lisson

Discussion:

- Kyogle Council bridge program – GK discussed notifications to Aboriginal representatives, proposed cultural heritage officers during construction works, use of Aboriginal words for bridge names. Potential to expand on existing scope and capture stories of water country.
- Notifications to Aboriginal representatives – GNAC would prefer PBCs are contacted directly in addition to LALCs. GNAC doesn't use NTS Corp for legal representation any more.
- GNAC partnerships and grants – e.g. WWF Koala habitat. GNAC looking to develop more partnerships and obtain funding for on-ground works e.g. land management, cultural heritage advisors, cultural surveys, fauna and water quality monitoring, bush tucker etc.
- Potential opportunities to be developed through Marine Estate Management Strategy and Coastal Management Program for involvement/capture of Aboriginal knowledge for educational materials, signage, story-telling, videos etc. These outcomes are closely aligned with objectives of Marine Estate Management Strategy and Coastal Management Program.
- Coastal Management Program Scoping Study may recommend studies and on-ground works to be undertaken in partnership with Aboriginal community throughout catchment – requires development/design of projects, funding applications, Aboriginal community engagement strategy and potentially committee of CEOs of each LALC and NT PBCs to provide overall direction. Willingness to participate and role of Councils/Aboriginal community to be agreed and funding obtained.
- Kyogle Council Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping project (2012) – to provide a resource for potential developers to consult with Aboriginal representatives – Council requesting endorsement from LALCs prior to publication.

Our Ref: AA/NS/JE: (D21/1738)

28 May 2021

Tweed Byron LALC
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Invitation to attend Rous County Council Reconciliation Action Group meeting; and consultation on the Richmond River Catchment Governance/Coastal Management Program

1. Introduction to RCC

I am writing to you to invite a representative from your organisation to attend our Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Group (RAPAG).

As you may be aware, Rous County Council (RCC) is a multi-purpose county council delivering bulk water, weed biosecurity and flood mitigation services to the Northern Rivers of NSW. Further details about RCC are provided below:

Bulk water supply

RCC is the regional water supply authority providing water in bulk to the Council areas of Ballina (excluding Wardell); Byron (excluding Mullumbimby); Lismore (excluding Nimbin); and Richmond Valley (excluding land to the west of Coraki). The regional supply network includes approximately 40,100 connections within the reticulation areas of these constituent Councils, and around 2,030 retail connections to the Rous County Council trunk main system. A population of around 100,000 is serviced by this water supply system with the actual area of operations being approximately 3,000km². The principal source of our supply network is Rocky Creek Dam, situated 25 kilometres north of Lismore near the village of Dunoon. RCC operates water catchment areas associated with Rocky Creek Dam, Emigrant Creek Dam, and the Wilsons River source.

Weed biosecurity

Council undertakes a wide range of activities to combat the spread of noxious weeds across the local government areas of Ballina, Byron, Lismore, and Richmond Valley. Council also does this on behalf of Kyogle and Tweed Shire as part of a fee for service arrangement. Council is the Local Control Authority responsible for administering the Biosecurity Act 2015, working with landholders and the community throughout the region to address weed biosecurity matters.

Flood mitigation

Council is a flood mitigation authority operating across the local government areas of Ballina, Byron, Lismore, and Richmond Valley. It is responsible for the construction and replacement of flood mitigation infrastructure including the routine maintenance of various canals and floodgates and related natural resource management activities.

2. Our Reconciliation Action Plan

RCC adopted its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in 2016 and since that time has sought to work with Aboriginal stakeholders to implement the endorsed priorities. Please click [here](#) for additional information about our RAP.

RCC is now seeking to broaden its representation of Aboriginal stakeholder groups on the RAPAG to better reflect its regional operational footprint. Our core constituent Councils include Ballina Shire Council, Byron Shire Council, Lismore City Council, and Richmond Valley Council. We also provide services for specific purposes to Kyogle Council and Tweed Shire Council.

We are aware that your organisation and the people that you represent have cultural responsibilities and interests in these areas and so we would like to invite you to attend our next RAPAG meeting to discuss your potential future involvement with our group.

The next scheduled meeting of the RAPAG will be held on Thursday June 24 in our Lismore office.

Please note that prior to the June 24 meeting (before lunch), there will be a presentation regarding 2 other regional catchment management projects that are being undertaken that are similarly seeking input from Aboriginal stakeholders. These are as follows:

- **Richmond River Catchment Governance and Funding Framework:** DPIE, together with local councils and stakeholders throughout the Richmond River catchment is seeking to co-develop an agreed approach regarding the *Richmond River Governance and Funding Framework* to deliver improved river health outcomes in the Richmond River catchment. The DPIE is now seeking input from stakeholders to support development of an agreed formal model.
- **Richmond River Coastal Management Program:** Under the new coastal management framework that has been established in NSW, local councils will prepare coastal management programs (CMPs) that set the long-term strategy for the coordinated management of the coast, consistent with the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 2016*. The Scoping Study (Stage 1 of a CMP for the Richmond River and its catchment) has recently commenced, and this project is seeking input from stakeholders.

As with the RCC RAPAG, these projects are also seeking to engage with Aboriginal stakeholder representatives on these respective projects and so you are invited to attend to hear about these projects and discuss the best ways to be involved.

Our timetable on the day shall be as follows:

10 am	Morning Tea
10.30 am – 12 pm	Project briefings: (i) Richmond River Catchment Governance; (ii) Coastal Management Program; (iii) Future Water Supply 2060.
12 pm	Lunch
1 – 3 pm	Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Group Meeting
3 pm	End

Should you require any further information regarding this letter, wish to RSVP for this upcoming meeting or should you wish to discuss the issues raised further, please contact Anthony Acret on (02) 6623 3800.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillip Rudd', written in a cursive style.

Phillip Rudd
General Manager

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Advisory Group meeting agenda

Thursday, 24 June 2021 commencing 1.00pm to 3.00pm (lunch at 12.30pm)

Venue: 218-232 Molesworth Street, Lismore (Level 4)

Reconciliation Advisory Group members	
Cr Vanesa Ekins	Chair (RCC)
Aunty Irene Harrington	Traditional Custodian of Council catchment area, Widjabal Elder
Roy Charles Gordon	Traditional Custodian of Council catchment area on behalf of Aunty June Gordon, Widjabal Elder
Michael Ryan	Representative of the Bundjalung Elders Council
Bill Fischer	CEO, Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Council
Chris Binge	CEO, Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council
Guy Bezrouchko	Secretary (RCC)
Phillip Rudd	General Manager (RCC)
Invitees	
Emma Walke	Consultant
Kris Cook	Community
Mick Roberts	Community
Sheldon Harrington	Community
Rous County Council staff	
Anthony Acret	NRM Planning Coordinator
Helen McNeil	Group Manager People and Performance
Adam Nesbitt	Group Manager Operations

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Council would like to show its respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of Elders past and present, on which this meeting takes place.

3. Apologies

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

- i). Minutes of the meeting held 25 March 2021..... 1-6

5. Reports

i). RAPAG Innovate May 2021 - May 2023 (attached) 7-27
(verbal update - Secretary)

ii). Employment opportunities: Memo – employment strategy 28-29

iii). Statement of Commitment - draft artwork and graphics 30

iv). Update: Annual Bundjalung peoples gathering *(verbal update - Roy Gordon)*

v). Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre: (Council report 16 June 2021 for information)..... 31-34

vi). Cultural training update..... 35

vii). Flow NORPA Production 36

6. Next meeting: Thursday, 26 August 2021

7. Meeting close

RAP Advisory Group meeting notes 25 March 2021

1. Opening of the meeting

Meeting commenced at 10.30am. Mick Roberts extended a welcome to everyone at the meeting.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Council showed its respect and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of Elders past and present, on which this meeting took place.

3. Attendance / apologies

In attendance:

Advisory Group members

- Cr Vanessa Ekins, Chair (RCC)
- Roy Charles Gordon (Traditional Custodian of Council catchment area on behalf of Aunty June Gordon, Widjabul Elder)
- Sheldon Harrington (Traditional Custodian of Council catchment area on behalf of Aunty Irene, Widjabul Elder)
- Bill Fisher (CEO) Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Council)
- Michael Roberts (Community)
- Kris Cook (Community)
- Emma Walke (Consultant)
- Guy Bezrouchko, Group Manager Corporate & Commercial (RAPAG Secretary) (RCC)
- Phillip Rudd, General Manager (RCC)

Rous County Council staff / invitees

- Anthony Acret, NRM Planning Coordinator (RCC)
- Anthony Patterson, Delivery Officer (RCC)

Apologies

- Michael Ryan (Rep. Bundjalung Elders Council)

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

RECOMMENDED (Patterson) that the minutes of the meeting held 3 December 2020 be noted as presented.

5. Reports

- i). RAP update report for March 2021

AGREED that the report be confirmed as presented.

RAP Update March 2021 report comment: Roy Gordon: Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 Landcare Legislative body – not all custodians can be part of Land Council. Important to continue conversations, it is not a bureaucratic structure.

- **Item 1. Reconciliation Australia (RA)**

Secretary (Guy): The Innovate RAP presented is similar to the previous RAP provided in December 2020 - feedback has been taken from Reconciliation Australia to change from a 'reflect' style RAP to an 'innovate' style RAP. Thank you to Emma Walke for all her assistance and knowledge with presentation of this 'Innovate May 2021 to May 2023 RAP'.

If there is no further feedback from today's meeting, the RAP will be presented to Council as the 'Innovate May 2021 to May 2023 RAP', providing a position to move forward over the next 2 years.

Emma Walke: There is a major change in how RA look at language – it is now more a corporate style language.

Roy Gordon: Perhaps we need more time to look at the RAP due to new participants at meeting today?

Secretary (Guy): If RAP is not ready for the April Council meeting it will go to the June 2021 Council meeting (no later).

Will provide email for any feedback. It is possible to present the RAP to the April Council meeting if feedback is provided over the next couple of days – otherwise the RAP will be referred to the June.

Emma Walke: The majority of detail in the RAP is what has already been agreed on by RAPAG members.

Chair (Vanessa): Happy with the language used in the RAP. Page 25 talks about traineeship programs – can we have an update?

General Manager: We are currently looking at how we tap into constituent council (CC) traineeships. Rous does not have the variety of exposure CCs have. Our Human Resources department is looking at how traineeships are working at our CCs. Transport can be an issue, particularly if participants do not have a licence. Also looking at a full-time position.

We expect to have an update on those outcomes soon. Fulltime ongoing employment is a better fit for Rous, or if we can fit in with CC programs, that would be another good option.

Chair (Vanessa): Keen to see progress on this matter.

Mick Roberts: Part of RAP was to bring Aboriginal people together – part of the traineeship position could be part of various programs – the trainee could act as an engagement person. Important to make it an exciting, fun position. Perhaps consider TAFE involvement.

Secretary (Guy): Possible involvement for a trainee as part of the proposed Cultural, Environmental and Education project.

Roy Gordon: The need to build support infrastructure is one of the main things – traineeships do pose some problems i.e., licence, travel etc. Need understanding of our demographics. Important the trainee has the correct training all round and the grounding to go with it – recruitment and screening process is very important. Need real jobs. Pertinent we put down the correct foundations – do not rush. Not a matter of ticking boxes – it is more than that.

ACTION 1: Secretary to provide specific actions regarding the traineeship to the next RAPAG meeting.

Emma Walke: Rous can move forward with the RAP and address the traineeship matter in the meantime. Main issues need agreement and then positive action can come from that. So many opportunities to come from the RAP.

Roy Gordon: Expressed conflict at this stage of the meeting as a RAP member, due to the nature of his role with Rous in developing and delivering the Cultural Awareness training.

Roy left the meeting at 11am.

Emma Walke: Important to note that the Innovate RAP is a 'living document', and therefore will change often.

- **Item 2. NORPA and Rous 'Flow'**

Secretary (Guy): The 'Flow' preview performance was a very enjoyable night; the production is outstanding.

General Manger: Some community members expressed negative feedback, however feedback on social media was generally positive. GM spoke with APP editor (Simon) and advised it was inappropriate feedback. The feedback appeared to tie into the current Dunoon Dam issue. Want to ensure Rous does not appear to be promoting the performance – that is NORPA's role.

Chair (Vanessa): 'Flow' was an amazing production – looking forward to the next performance. It was moving, lots of comedy, interviews, highly recommended.

Secretary (Guy): Looking forward to ways Rous can participate on a different level. We have some funding which may assist. We do not want to interfere with NORPA's role – they will be promoting the show. Spoke with Kristy, NORPA's marketing manager, regarding negative feedback, they are grateful for Rous' support.

General Manager (Phil): If there are barriers preventing people attending, maybe we can offer support.

Chair (Vanessa): Suggest school children could attend; offer bus services for people.

- **Item 3: Cultural Awareness training kit**

General Manager (Phil): Level 1 training is 'live'. Staff and Rous Councillors have received the training link.

Anthony Acret: The training is a key aspect to the RAP and is based on work Rous commenced over 10 years ago (*Reconnecting to Country*). That was the starting point for the current training materials.

There will be 4 levels of training. Everyone will move through those levels. Level 1 requires staff to complete a survey. Level 1 due for completion at the end of April. Level 2 is almost ready to release. Still looking at Level 3 structure.

Important to acknowledge that all the content has been provided by Aunty Irene, Aunty June and Roy Gordon, bringing in the local stories. Kate Gahan and Roy have been very helpful.

- **Item 4: Statement of Commitment**

Secretary (Guy): Was anticipating submitting the Statement of Commitment (SoC) to the April Council meeting but understand it will require more time, therefore will refer to the June Council meeting. Would like to receive members' feedback.

ACTION 2: Issue a reminder to members to provide feedback on the Statement of Commitment.

Emma Walke: Not all Aboriginals are Bunjalung and there are others who live on Bunjalung country – or are we thinking about 'work on country'.

Bill Fisher: Believe that we are talking about Bunjalung.

Chair (Vanessa): Need a statement on what it means to walk together. Raise awareness – how could we do that - via training? Maybe mention there is an action plan? Need a comment in the SoC document advising it is to be included in the RAP. What is the 'process'.

Emma Walke: Suggest including a note that more information is available via XXX website, could include that at the end of the SoC.

General Manager: The SoC is to be included in the RAP and also strategic planning documents and operations of Council e.g., our Integrated Planning and Reporting document.

Chair (Vanessa): Need a comment to say the SoC has actions – that is all we need to say.

Mick Roberts: SoC is part of what is happening now. Rous is already doing a number of things, i.e., boat trips, Gunna Wanna Be. Perhaps new trainee could give walks and talks?

Tony Patterson: Suggest a walkabout through Rous; share ideas with local councils; enter into discovery of heritage and stories; sponsor and engage with schools; talk to the river.

Chair (Vanessa): How can we add colour to the SoC and make it more interesting?

Anthony Acret: That will come with the demonstration of everything that is happening. Make a statement that is like a map but does not look like a statement.

Sheldon Harrington: It is very easy to make a map and easy to map everything.

Kris Cook: first para shows – may clock, have statements but bring sections out

Emma Walke: Suggest the SoC is also about accountability.

General Manager: Do we need to provide supporting pages which give some examples of the things we have done and hope to do?

The SoC will be included in the RAP eventually – expect it would be the first two pages of RAP. There is an opportunity with Sheldon to do artwork and graphics prior to giving to Council for decision.

ACTION 3: Sheldon be requested to provide draft artwork and graphics for presentation to Committee.

- **Item 5: Rocky Creek Dam Master Plan**

Secretary (Guy): There is opportunity for anyone interested to provide feed-back to the master plan.

Kris Cook: Suggest using QR codes which provide a web browser - currently being used on tourist spots in East Ballina (Angels Beach).

Emma Walke: Involved with virtual reality (VR) environments (goggles). Could build VR environment for those who are unable to do walks etc.

- **Item 6: 2060 Future Water Project**

General Manager: 2060 Future Water Project comes from options for the next 40 years and will be on display from next week. Info graphics available on our website from 1 April for 8 weeks, with feedback provided to Council in July for final decision. Technical document will be provided to the State Government for their decision. If any RAP member requires further detail, please contact Council's office (GM).

ACTION 4: RAP members to be provided Rous' website link for information – reminder if you have questions, please contact the General Manager.

- **Item 7: Visitor Information Centre**

Secretary (Guy): Positive feedback received following discussions with Lismore City Council (LCC). It is possible Rous could take a leadership role with LCC – they have a visitor/tourism need; we have an education requirement.

Kris Cook: Would be hugely popular for schools, from here to Grafton etc. RCD Master Plan appears to tie in with the info centre idea. Also, retail opportunities (coffee shop, souvenirs, tours, artefacts etc).

General Manager: LCC is keen to work in partnership with Rous.

End of meeting suggestions / actions:

- i). Issue calendar invitation for Roy's fundraiser/sponsorship function (7 May at the Star Court Theatre, concert entitled "Rock Against Racism" – funds raised to go towards the "2021 Bundjalung Peoples Gathering (BPG)" in October 2121).
- ii). Kris Cook: Noted that Roy Gordon provided paperwork re Bundjalung people's gathering. Roy looking forward to reviving that gathering as an annual event (suggest including on the next RAPAG agenda).

ACTION 5: Suggested agenda item for next meeting (ii. above).

6. Next meeting: 24 June 2021

7. Meeting closed at 12.10pm

Byron Shire Echo (print version 9/6/21) and North Coast news online Echo.net.au

PUBLIC NOTICE:

**Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
– Richmond River Coastal
Management Program**

To register an interest please respond in writing to Hydrosphere Consulting, by email: richmondrivercmp@hydrosphere.com.au, or by letter to PO Box 7059, Ballina, NSW, 2478 within 14 days of the date of this notice.

Further details are available at:
www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp

Northern Rivers Times (print version 10/6/21)

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

**RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Members of the Aboriginal community with cultural knowledge relevant to the Richmond River catchment are invited to register their interest in the development of the Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP).

The goal of the CMP is to provide the long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River and its catchment. This CMP will supersede the current Coastal Zone Management Plan which was prepared in 2011. The purpose of consultation with the Aboriginal community is to better understand and protect Aboriginal values.

To register an interest please respond in writing to Hydrosphere Consulting, by email (richmondrivercmp@hydrosphere.com.au), or by letter to P.O Box 7059, Ballina, NSW, 2478 within 14 days of the date of this notice.

Further details are available at:
www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp

Appendix G. COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY AND INTEREST GROUPS

Responses from OzFish, NSW Canegrowers Association, Sunshine Sugar, The Casino Food Co-op, BRRVLN



Better Habitat Better Fishing



31st May 2021

To: Richmond River CMP Scoping Study Project Team
c/o Hydrosphere Consulting
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478

Dear Sir/Madam,

OzFish Unlimited is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to helping the millions of Australian recreational fishers take action for the health of their rivers, lakes and estuaries and shore up the future of the sport they love. OzFish Unlimited partners with recreational fishers, commercial fishers, oyster growers and the **broader community** to invest time and resources into the protection and restoration of our waterways, counteracting decades of degradation.

In consultation with our partners listed above, it is a common response and agreeance that urgent and large-scale change is needed throughout the Richmond catchment. We note that many of the management objectives of this nature in the past Richmond River CZMP have not been met (some not progressed at all) and we hope that the CMP will bring outcomes of the required scale to the issues of interest to OzFish and our partners, that we list below.

OzFish Unlimited headquarters are based in Ballina where our team and Richmond Chapter of volunteer recreational fishers combine knowledge of the Richmond River of over 60 years. Our local chapter of volunteer recreational fishers are passionate about the health of the river and together we have prioritised the following key issues that we feel impact the many sections of our community and businesses, either directly or indirectly:

1. Tuckean Swamp

Tuckean Swamp is a 6,000 hectare low-lying floodplain located on the Richmond River, approximately 25 km upstream of Ballina. Since the 1880's extensive drainage works have occurred at Tuckean Swamp to allow the rapid discharge of floodwaters from the naturally low-lying floodplain. In 1971, the major drainage works as it exists today was completed with the installation of the Bagotville Barrage. The barrage comprises of eight large culverts with one-way floodgate flaps to enable drainage from the Tuckean floodplain, whilst excluding downstream tidal waters and backwater flooding from the Richmond River. These floodgates also act to promote the lowering of groundwater levels across the connected upstream floodplain.

Over the past century, flood mitigation works across the Tuckean Swamp floodplain have resulted in agricultural benefits to some landholders but with environmental harm to the broader estuary. The agricultural areas are valued by local landholders and the flood mitigation scheme is a vital component, ensuring that the landscape remains arable.

Unfortunately, the flood mitigation drain is also responsible for the extensive production and transport of acidic waters and related by-products to the broader estuary.

Past remediation efforts in the 1990s provided minimal improvement to the water quality leaving the Tuckean catchment, including the installation of the sluice windows in the Bagotville Barrage floodgates to allow a greater exchange of waters above and below the barrage at appropriate times.

In 2015, OzFishers raised their concerns about the impact the Tuckean Swamp continued to have on river health, oyster and fish populations. In 2017 they were awarded a grant from the Recreational Fishing Trust's Flagship Program with matching funding from two private philanthropists, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Lismore and Ballina Councils and The Nature Conservancy.

These funds allowed discussions to commence with landholders, an oral history of the swamp and its value changes over time, and an assessment of the swamps hydrology, water quality issues and restoration options (Options Study). Seven different options were modelled for implementation. Ten different stakeholders with management responsibilities as well as the local landholders in the swamp catchment were engaged in the investigation of these options. From this study, recent adjustments to the operation of the sluice windows in the barrage floodgates were able to be made to further improve the current level of water exchange between the Tuckean Broadwater and the Swamp.

The key issues from the community remain; concerns that salt water or additional freshwater or retained flood waters will impact productive land resulting in a net economic loss for the local community; the continuing water quality problems that exist under the current water management regime; these problems will result in continuing degradation of the downstream ecosystem and likely more fish kills as catastrophic as those in 2001 and 2008 that severely impacted the lower Richmond River estuary.

Since the completion of the main body of work in January 2020 the Committee partners and landholders have all received a copy of the finalised report and summary report, also available on the website www.ozfish.org.au/tuckean. OzFish continues to remain a contact point for landholders and the community, maintain communication of the Steering Committee and facilitate next steps in the project.

2. Water Quality

Nutrients, sediments and other pollutants arising from within catchments have a significant impact on the health of the coastal and marine ecosystems. The eutrophication of coastal estuaries like the Richmond River is the most visible manifestation of this issue. A key example of this issue has been the recent and severe Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS) or Red Spot disease outbreak. This year's outbreak has been the worst in many years, worrying that eutrophication and components are as harmful as ever.

OzFish Unlimited works with landholders of the catchment to improve fish habitat and improve water quality. Improving fish habitat includes providing more riparian (streamside) plants and physical structures (both providing shelter and flow for fish), removing noxious weeds and trees and raising community awareness of the current environmental/ecological issues.

OzFish initially raised concerns to Ballina Council back in 2017 regarding the poor condition of the Keith Hall drainage canals on the South Ballina Floodplain. This system was exporting extremely poor water quality into Mobbs Bay. Ballina Council escalated the problem to Rous County Council, and it is now an ongoing major benchmark drainage improvement project.

Our work also raises community awareness of the communal nature of many of the Richmond rivers environmental/ecological issues, especially the effects of land use decisions. The community awareness strategy is a very successful way of bringing all members of the community together to enhance the overall management of their local area, including those involved in land use planning, natural resource management, primary development, and conservation within the Richmond River catchment. Indeed, implementing new management strategies will generate regional economic drivers for agriculture, fisheries and industry, thereby transforming water quality issues into economic assets.

3. Floodplain Wetlands

Wetlands are floodplain areas that are sometimes inundated by shallow, still, or slow-moving water. They are one of Richmond's most active and biologically diverse habitats, providing vital breeding and feeding habitat for a wide range of species, including waterbirds, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Also, a great habitat to reduce floodwater impacts and filter run-off before entering into the Richmond River catchment. OzFish advocates for reconnecting rivers to floodplains and wetlands as the primary means of improving water quality, increasing fish habitat and improving fish stocks in the Richmond River. As previously mentioned, Floodplain Wetlands and their restoration was a **High Priority** section in the CZMP but unfortunately did not get the deserved attention they certainly needed as a vital contributing component to restoring catchment health.

4. Backswamps and Acid Sulfate

Changed land use and artificial drainage have significantly increased the volume and total amount of black water exported from our floodplain swamps. The water is devoid of dissolved oxygen and uses up the oxygen in the river as it enters the main channels; no aquatic life can survive without oxygenated water. Similarly, artificially drained back swamps are often sources of acid water generated by drained acid sulfate soils exposed to air and produce acid run-off. Acidic water down to 2pH has been recorded on the Richmond River floodplain; anything under 5pH is devastating for fish and aquatic life.

OzFish advocates for improved floodplain management, especially in areas lower than 1m AHD. Actions should include reversing land use away from low-productivity agriculture in favour of natural floodplain wetlands with the ability to process and buffer black water and acid sulfate areas.

Again, backswamps and acid sulfate areas and their restoration was a **High Priority** section in the CZMP but unfortunately did not get the deserved attention they certainly needed as a vital contributing component to restoring catchment health.

5. Fish Habitat restoration projects

OzFish Richmond work with local landholders, industry and community group partners to restore many forms of fish and prawn habitat. Projects include; protection and restoration of oyster reefs, saltmarsh, sea grasses and mangroves in estuarine sections, and riparian (streamside) weeds, re-snagging waterways. These projects are making a real and lasting difference to fish habitat in the Richmond. However, larger-scale restoration is still required to connect the riparian zones, especially across the mid-Richmond and Wilson River catchments, to tackle the carp (pest fish species) numbers in the river, to maintain fish passage for essential fish migration and to provide the vast array of instream and connected wetland fish habitats that are required for a thriving fish community for the Richmond River.

In concluding, we would respectfully suggest that the almost expired but current CZMP did not have any mechanism that allowed full transparency of plan progress with this information not being made easily accessible to all sections of the community, or even non-Government groups (like OzFish) that have the ability to deliver some of the outcomes. To this end, may we suggest that when the new CMP is adopted, a community/NGO engagement process is also implemented.

Please contact our nominated representatives for involvement in future CMP stages:

John Larsson
Richmond River Chapter President
OzFish Unlimited
[REDACTED]

Demara Gates
Project Officer NSW North Coast
OzFish Unlimited
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yours Sincerely,



Cassie Price
Director of Habitat Programs
OzFish
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

***Barriers to Primary Production and
Water Quality on NSW Canelands
2021***



*Our members farm land that has been zoned **Regionally Significant Agricultural Land** on the Tweed, Richmond and Clarence Rivers*

They have done so for four generations


They are now being told that society no longer wants farming on coastal flood plains

Legislation, regulations and public service interpretation are now used in an attempt to 'squeeze' out farming on NSW coastal flood plains

*Cane farmers would like to know what is **your message** to them, given that:*

- i. farming depends on critical infrastructure*
- ii. this infrastructure was installed by the NSW Government to allow farming*
- iii. lack of infrastructure maintenance has rendered it ineffective, exposing agriculture*
- iv. 80% of riverine problems are caused by 20% of the catchment area*
- v. 11% of Richmond floodplain is below 1 metre AHD and is causing water quality problems. None of this land supports commercially viable agriculture.*

Why has floodplain agriculture been targeted?

The background is a faded, light-colored map of a coastal region. It shows various place names such as 'Alice', 'Belmore', 'Myrtle', 'NEW ITALY', 'Alice', 'Belmore', 'Myrtle', 'NEW ITALY', 'Alice', 'Belmore', 'Myrtle', 'NEW ITALY'. There are also geographical features like 'Alice', 'Belmore', 'Myrtle', 'NEW ITALY'. The map is oriented vertically with the coastline on the right side. The text is overlaid on the map in a dark blue, bold, sans-serif font.

The decisions now being made by public servants, right now, directly impact on our member's

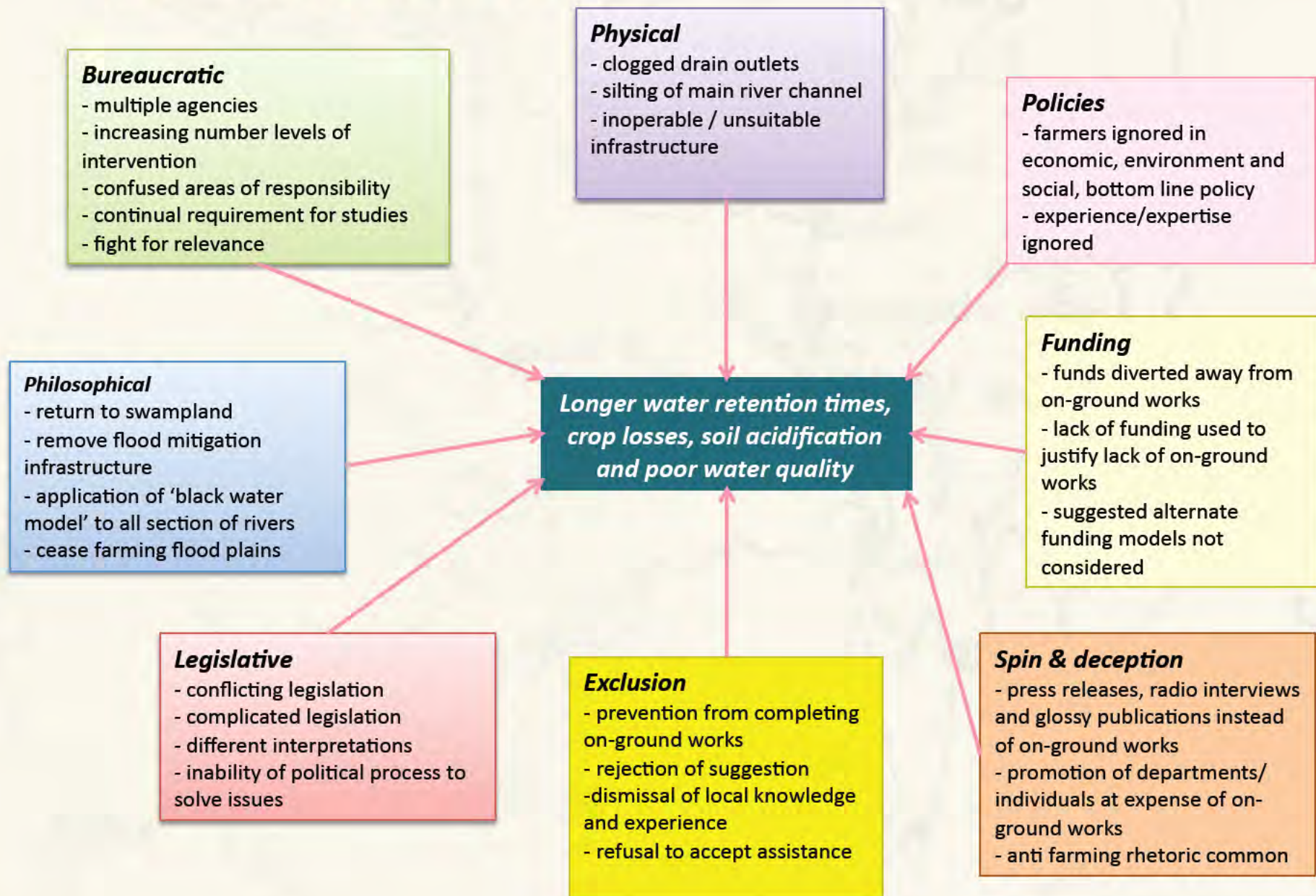
- ability to farm (jobs, way of life)***
- incomes***
- value of their properties***
- 'nest egg' for retirement***
- social fabric of their community***
- mental health***

There is no similar impact of these decisions on the people making them

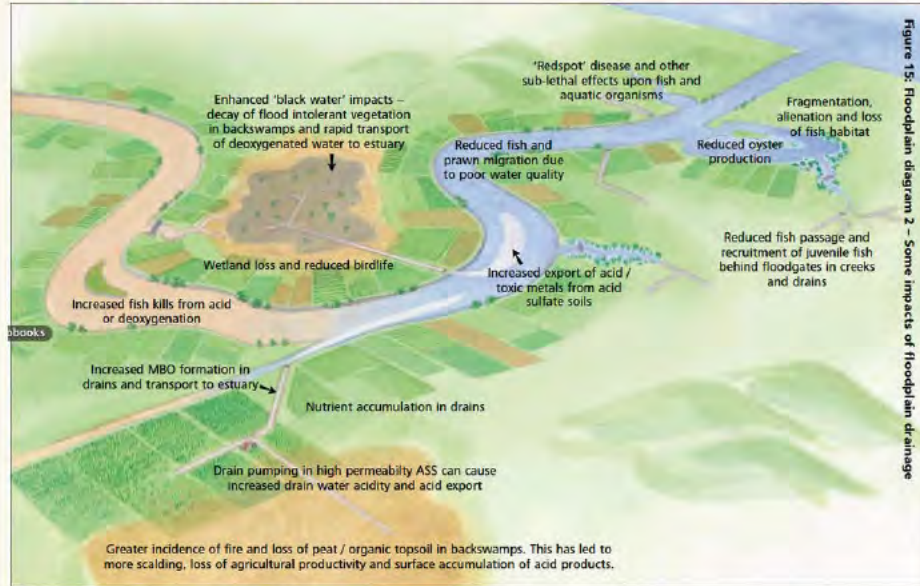
We have good reason to be dismayed and annoyed

- ★ we have been trying to get action for 6 years. Members are suffering economically socially and mentally.
- ★ Public Service timeframes are not our timeframes. They lack any appreciation of our constrictions with seasons, weather, market commitments, prices, payment, income etc.
- ★ agriculture and farmers are put last in stakeholder/consideration/consultation lists.
- ★ consultation is now a 'tick the box' sham exercise. Submissions, suggestions are not considered unless public exposure is involved. Our suggestions have been dismissed without any alternatives proposed.
- ★ feedback to us is infrequent. Responses from multiple agencies, when delivered, are written by same person and regularly indicate decisions have been made prior to consultation.
- ★ priority given to projects seems to be determined by proximity to population centres, where publicity can be maximised and embarrassment avoided.
- ★ the disconnect between town and city based public servants and primary producers is leading to suspicion, mistrust and poor co-operation between the farming and public sectors.
- ★ we are tired of dishonesty - politicians and public servants do not have the 'guts' to publicly state that they want farming on coastal flood plains to cease, for fear of losing jobs or seats. It is being done through regulation and policy.
- ★ there is disparaging lack of recognition of the skills and knowledge within our industry; of internal specialists we have; or of the external expertise we engage.

Our summation of the barriers we face

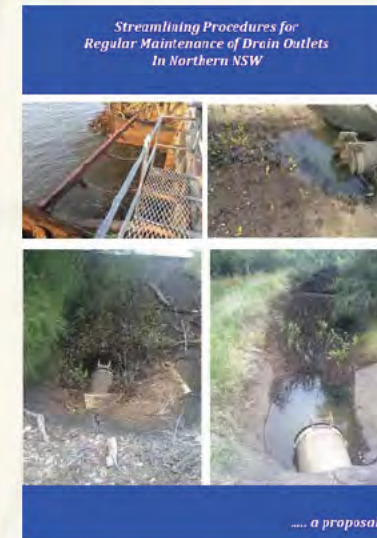
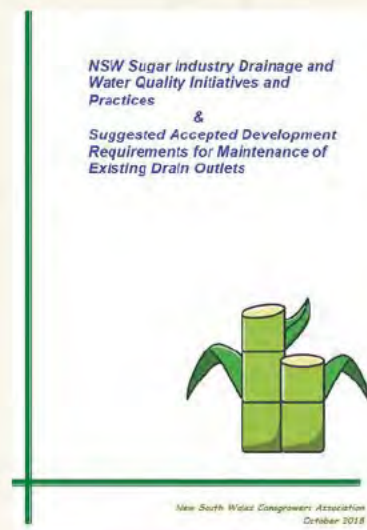


The NSW Sugar Industry assisted in the production of the 'Restoring the Balance' guidelines in 2003



Members are well aware of the impacts of flood plain drainage and have moved with the Sugar Industry to minimise them

Industry publications point to a long history of compliance



Concerned that a 'one size fits all' logic is being applied to the different sections of the river

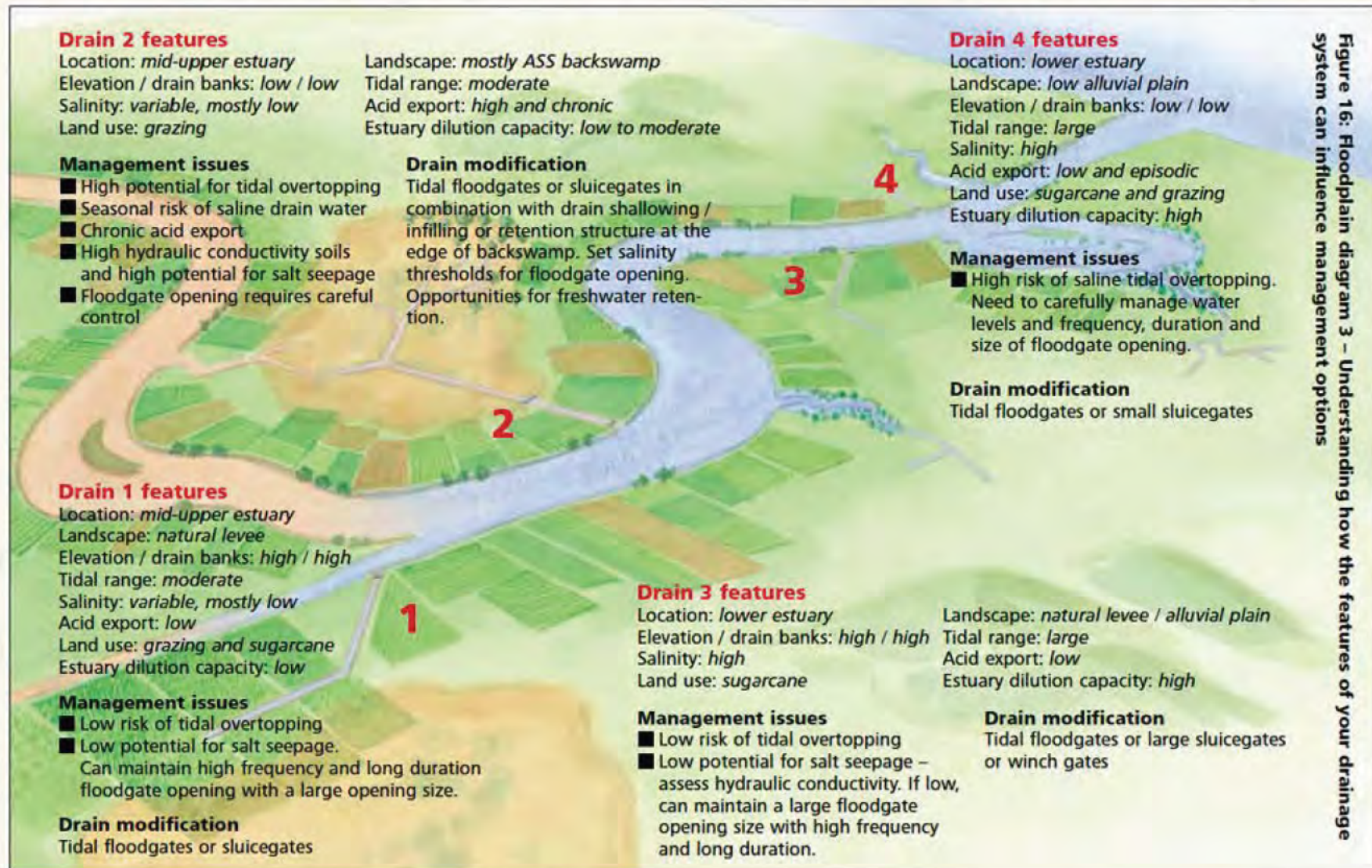
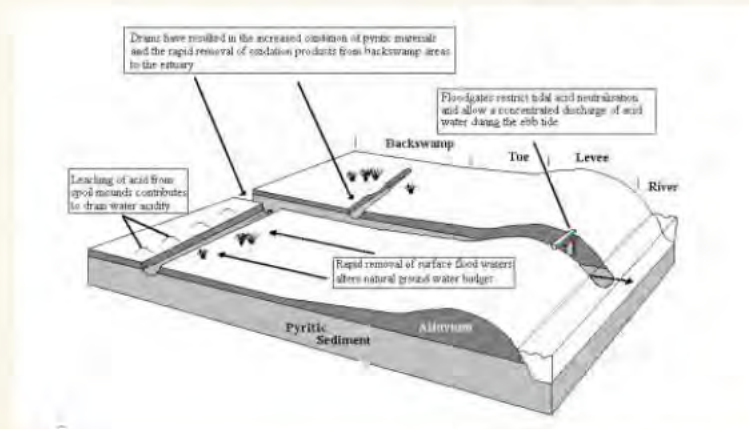
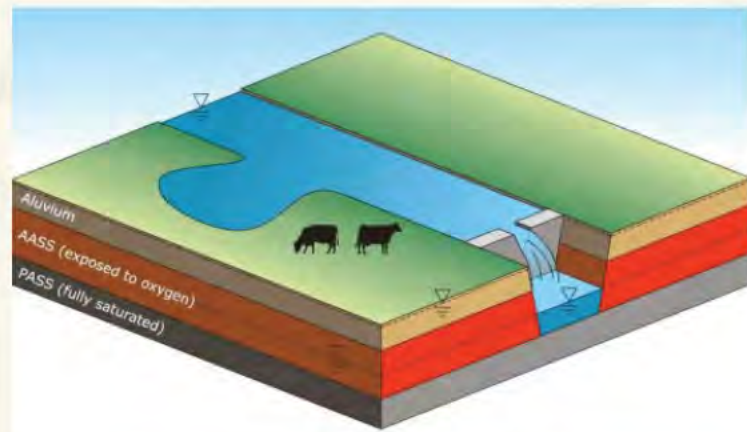


Figure 16: Floodplain diagram 3 – Understanding how the features of your drainage system can influence management options

Black water and Backswamp drainage



Back swamp drainage



Wet pasture management

* Concerned that the explanation of back swamp drainage, black water formation and principles of wet pasture management are dominating thinking for solutions for **ALL** river zones/areas.

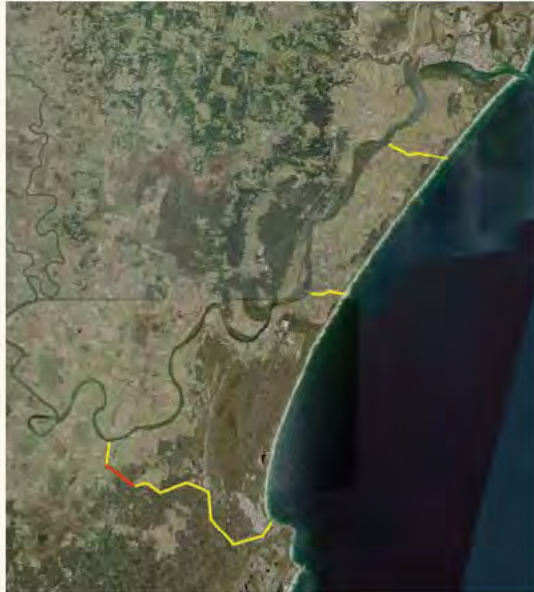
* Water retention after flooding and slow release may be applicable on mid and upper plain, but not on lower regions close to river mouth.

* Logic of holding some water back to negate its oxygen stripping potential is sound for up-river.

* On the lower river, large amounts of water can be removed after two low tides.

* Not cleaning outlets ensures unnecessary water retention on the lower flood plain, slow microbial deoxygenation and rapid temperature oxygen stripping.

Why let the water lay and 'go rotten' when you don't have to?



Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

1. Outlets to the sea are closed or impeded

- Opportunities for tidal exchange, removal of black water, have decreased
- Empire Vale Creek (previously German Creek) blocked
- Boundary Creek Blocked
- Tuckombil Canal Blocked
- Lower river has become silted with the mouth subjected to continual sand migration
- Regular dredging stopped in late 1970s. Hermes (top) and H.E.Street regularly dredged as far as Woodburn
- The Tweed River has a sand bypass (below) to assist in keeping the mouth clear and flow unimpeded. Richmond and Clarence do not





Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

2. Inappropriate infrastructure

- fixed weir across the Tuckombil canal prevents water quality adjustments in the mid Richmond

- members question why deoxygenated water is sent 42 km to Ballina when it could escape 11km through Evans Head

- records show there were no fish kills in the Richmond while the inflatable fabridam was in place

- more appropriate replacement structures suggested by the community were rejected

- structures such as those on the Belmore River Kempsey (left) and Stevens Weir at Deniliquin (below) would allow better flood and water quality management



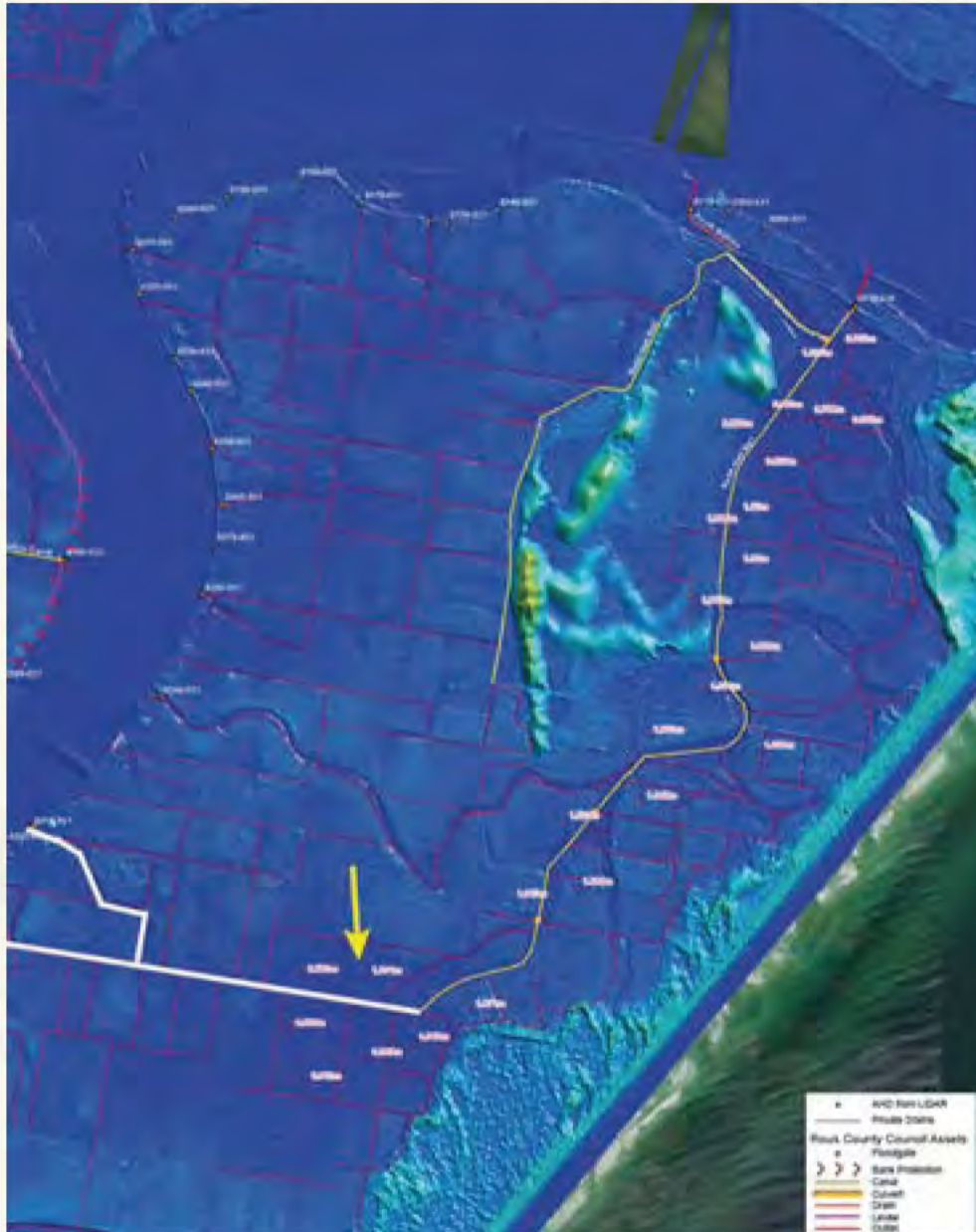


Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

3. Poorly maintained/unmaintained infrastructure

- clogged drain outlets
- older style floodgates
- decaying headwalls
- critical infrastructure to allow farming and maintenance of good quality drainage water





Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

4. Have those areas causing problems been identified and managed?

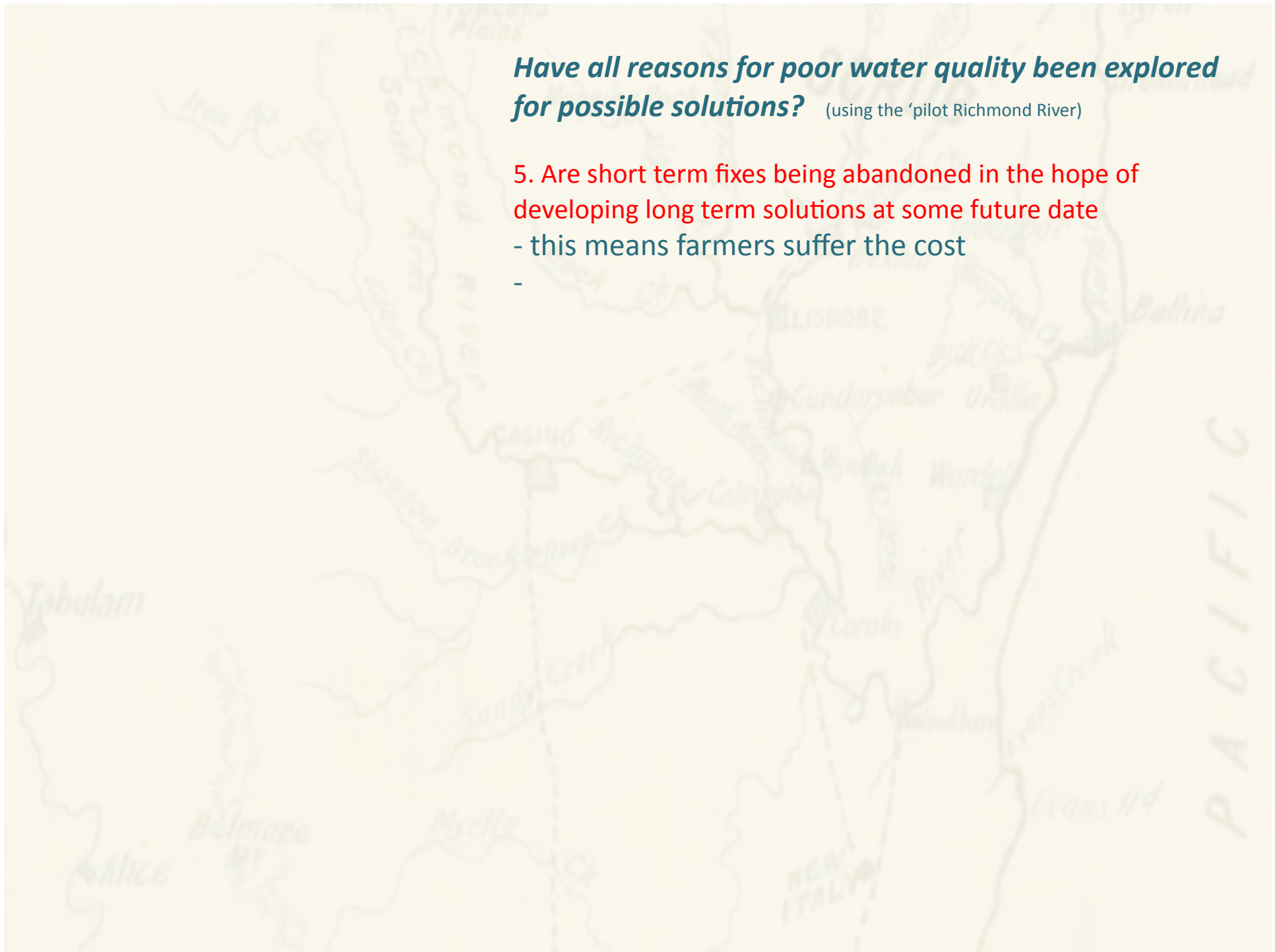
- on the Richmond 80% of problems are caused by 20% of land
- 11% of land or 12,000 hectares is below 1 meter AHD
- this land is not prime agricultural land
- have offers been made to buy back that land and manage?
- technology exists to map and monitor land and run off
- a more credible model would be to identify and treat problem areas, rather than the wide brush approach now used.

Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

5. Are short term fixes being abandoned in the hope of developing long term solutions at some future date

- this means farmers suffer the cost

-



Have all reasons for poor water quality been explored for possible solutions? (using the 'pilot Richmond River)

6. Is leaving clogged outlets a 'proxy' method of ensuing wet pasture management and preventing back swamp drainage

- this means farmers suffer the cost

-



Our suggestions:

1. Clean all outlets to minimum pipe width as a short term fix while long term solutions are found.
2. Transport spoil until treatment procedures are developed



Robyn Campbell

From: Malcolm Warren [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 8 June 2021 9:53 AM
To: Richmond River CMP
Cc: Ian McBean
Subject: Preparation of Coastal Management Program Scoping Study for Richmond River

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Day Robyn

Further to our telephone conversation on 27 May 2021, our response is as follows.

In response to the question below,

We recognise the sugar industry's previous contribution to strategic planning for the Richmond River and acknowledge the overlap with many other similar programs. Whilst we extend the invitation to you to provide input to the CMP, you may prefer that we utilise information already provided as part of other processes. If you are comfortable with this approach, please let us know in writing that you give us permission to access information for the purposes of the CMP Scoping Study that you provided previously and we will then directly source that information.

Due to staff changes since the last plan was compiled, we do not have access to the information previously provided. Are you able to supply that information so that we can review and provide feedback?

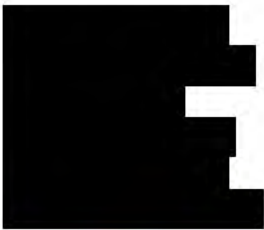
Alternatively you are welcome to provide specific input to the CMP Scoping Study. Please provide the following information in your response/submission by Friday 28 May 2021:

- *Your primary activities and roles within the study area.*
 - Sunshine sugar owns and operates the Broadwater sugar mill
 - Sunshine sugar also lease and manage 600 ha of land, planted to sugarcane in rotation with soybean.
 - Sunshine Sugar provides a comprehensive, professional extension services to all cane growers on the Richmond river. This includes managing the acid sulphate soils self-regulation under the various LEPs in relation to the development of drainage management plans in accordance with the NSW Sugar Industry Best Practice Guidelines for Acid Sulfate Soils (2019) and the annual compliance audit.
 - Sunshine Sugar through its Agricultural Services division, undertakes studies such as water quality monitoring, to support latest research and to enhance the adoption of recommended farming practices based on that research. The overall objective is to support the sustainability of the industry and to improve and enhance the quality of water leaving sugarcane farms.
- *Your priorities within the study area.*
 - Protection of agricultural land for agricultural use
 - Floodplain infrastructure management
 - Farm Management
 - Riparian Zone Management
 - Vegetation Management
 - Water quality, ASS
- *Key values of the study area.*

- Economic
- Social
- Environmental
- Heritage
- *Issues that need to be addressed in the CMP.*
 - The proactive and positive contribution of Sugarcane farming to the floodplain management
 - The effect of changing land use – from Sugarcane to tree crops and grazing
- *Preferred management approaches to these issues.*
 - Consult with the sugar industry and acknowledge the positive contribution and the importance of the industry to the region.
- *Name and contact details of nominated representatives of your organisation (for involvement in future CMP stages).*
 - Ian McBean
 - Malcolm Warren

I apologise for the delay in responding.

Regards



Proudly 100% Australian Grown, Made and Owned
Teamwork | Integrity | Excellence | Accountability | Safety



We are a COVID-19 Safe Business

This communication is confidential and may contain privileged information. It is intended for use by the named recipient/s and any unauthorised use, review, alteration, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. Opinions, conclusions and other information in this message that do not relate to official business of Sunshine Sugar shall be understood as neither given nor endorsed by the company. Therefore if you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

Additional Feedback from Sunshine Sugar

Malcolm Warren, Agricultural Manager 15/6/21

- Data loggers used to be used for water quality monitoring, now one site in each growing area is sampled after rain events to flag any significant issues with water quality.
- Main activities include assistance with management of floodgates, drain cleaning, ASS management, implementation of drainage management plans and audits of compliance.
- Commonwealth grant for study of fertilisation practices – comparison of nutrient loss to waterways with different practices and benchmarked to water quality guidelines – one site in Broadwater.
- Sugar industry is very aware of issues with water quality but is often seen as the “bad guys”. Results of monitoring show water quality leaving cane farms is very good vs guidelines.
- Communication is key to successful actions.
- Sunshine Sugar operates separately to Canegrowers Association.
- Key issue for canegrowers is the difficult/lengthy/costly approval process for drain maintenance.

Ian McBean, Corporate Services Manager 16/6/21

- Ecohealth study was a good starting point (sub-catchment focus etc.). There was lots of discussion about poor results of Ecohealth assessment (2016) when it was released but limited action and lack of follow-through on water quality issues.
- Low level of federal and state government investment in water quality improvement (compared to other areas e.g. Great Barrier Reef).
- Management of agricultural drainage infrastructure is a key issue.
- Suitability and impacts resulting from conversion of cane land to tree crops is largely unknown, not monitored – unknown impacts from change in landscape use.
- The sugar industry is very active in monitoring water quality, research and development in farming systems.
- There should be cohesive and inclusive action and recognition of industries that make a positive contribution to water quality management.
- Priority issues are:
 - Deterioration/under-performance of floodplain infrastructure, lack of funding to address maintenance and renewal, confusion about ownership and responsibility, all impact on water quality.
 - County council model limits funding and responsibilities and focus is prioritised on urban flooding. Compare with single council model e.g. CVC can prioritise and fund works more effectively, obtain maintenance approvals (e.g. Fisheries permits).
- ASS self-regulation works well for drains but there is uncertainty over asset management responsibilities for drain outlets and complex approval processes. Need to progress options for streamlining maintenance approvals processes.
- Overseas and local investment in agricultural land is leading to change from cane farm to tree crops on the floodplain. Regulation of changed land use and environmental controls is limited by resources/funding/responsibilities.
- For potential buy-back schemes, need to consider landowner willingness as well as industry-wide impacts. Cane industry is already under pressure from changing land uses. How is “marginal land” defined? Some low-lying land is well-managed and productive with occasional risk of inundation. Some farms have already changed land-use due to environmental reasons – need to establish what other land can be sustainably and willingly returned to wetland.
- Some issues e.g. Tuckombil canal are too hard to address (sensitive, costly, wide-impact, lack of support). CMP should focus on areas with ability to achieve outcomes.
- Sunshine Sugar is happy to be involved in CMP development.

Project: Richmond River Coastal Management Program Scoping Study

Date: 14th June 2021

Names: Joe Leven (Casino Food Co-op); Katie Pratt (Hydrosphere Consulting)

Recorded by: Katie Pratt (Hydrosphere Consulting)

Consultation type: phone call

Consultation Notes:

- Joe manages the Livestock Watering Infrastructure Project, an industry-led initiative focused on providing on-ground infrastructure (e.g. tanks, troughs and fencing) to exclude stock from waterways.
- The Casino Food Co-op has 700 members of which 80% are located within the Richmond River catchment.
- The project is co-funded by the Co-op and project partners: RCC, LCC and OzFish.
- The first round recently began. The Co-op notified their members of the project and invited applications. They received 15 applications of which they chose 2 for the 1st round with the aim of creating a showcase for the project.
- Landholders enter into a landholder agreement and often provide in-kind contributions to complete works. Generally the program provides the materials and the landholder will install them. Once the watering infrastructure is set up, it follows that riparian zones are fenced off and riparian veg works can be undertaken. Grazing management is another aspect including rotating stock between paddocks and managing soil health for greater productivity.
- The program focusses on farm productivity benefits (e.g. soil health, cleaner water for stock).
- The 'green' approach telling farmers that they are the cause of all the problems in the Richmond River turns people off.
- Industry has a responsibility to look after waterways and has a role to play in improving management practices.
- Industry-led programs are much more palatable to landholders and they trust the industry to look after their interests.
- There is also a strong message from customers that they want sustainably sources products.
- No reporting available on the program currently.
- Improving management practices requires a paradigm shift from a focus on the problems to a focus on solutions.

Robyn Campbell

From: Landcare Support - Kyogle [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 19 August 2021 4:21 PM
To: Robyn Campbell
Subject: RE: Landcare summary for Richmond River CMP
Attachments: Project history in Richmond catchment.xlsx

Hi Robyn,

I've attached a spreadsheet of some projects that BRRVLN has had a direct role in delivering over the last 3 years in the Richmond catchment. Note the estimated on ground cost is a rough estimate only. I would need more time to be confident of the true %.

As mentioned there are other projects that BRRVLN have some relationship to (support role) that have been delivered by other member Landcare groups but I cannot provide the details of those without further consultation and I can't find the time to do that at this point.

The Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network (BRRVLN) began operation in October 2015. Prior to this the Northern Landcare Support Services operated in the Richmond catchment between 2005 and 2016. I do have access to the project history of NLSS however again, it would take some time to compile all the project data that relates directly to the Richmond. Again prior to NLSS was Richmond Landcare Services (different from Richmond Landcare Inc). Again I do have on file all the project history of Richmond Landcare Services – most of which is in hardcopy in archive files in our store room.

We do not currently have GIS mapping records of all of these projects sites. Although, we are now capturing all our current projects on QGIS and have an interest to go back through the history and upload all project history to a database including within QGIS. This will take resourcing as we do not have reserve funds to cover the cost of this task. I have been interested to pursue funding to compile all the project history of these 3 organisations. I had considered contacting SCU to see if they could assign a student to do an integrated project to achieve collation of this project history and potentially revisit sites and evaluate impact – where we could be granted site access by the landholders as undoubtedly some will have changed.

Until we commence the task I am unsure of how long the task would take. There are many archival boxes in the store room!

Sadly that is all the time I can offer at present.

I hope I can contribute more further down the track. I do believe that understanding the project history is highly valuable in planning for future investment. I am also aware of many landowners who have made a significant contribution to restoring riparian condition throughout the Richmond catchment that have done so without public \$ investment. I know several that would be happy to tell the story of their efforts although it would be difficult to put a \$ figure on the value.

Kind Regards,

Emma Stone
Landcare Coordinator | Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network

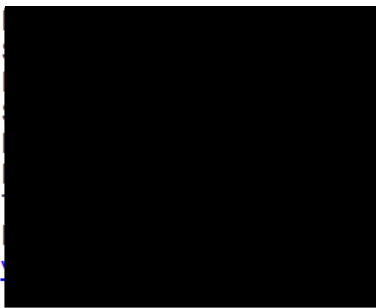
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Website: www.brrvl.org.au

The Border Ranges – Richmond Valley Landcare Network acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung Nation, traditional custodians of the land on which we work.

From: Robyn Campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 August 2021 6:28 PM
To: Landcare Support - Kyogle [REDACTED]
Cc: Suzanne Acret [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Landcare summary for Richmond River CMP

Hi Emma

As discussed on the phone, it would be great to get some feedback from you about projects undertaken in the Richmond River catchment and any other input into the CMP development. We have identified a lack of knowledge of the details and location/mapping of on-ground works undertaken by the various groups/agencies and the resulting difficulties in prioritisation of future work, monitoring of success, lessons learned and planning/development controls. Your feedback is much appreciated.




From: Kate Menzies
Sent: Tuesday, 18 May 2021 2:54 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Landcare summary for Richmond River CMP

Hi Emma,

Thanks for your time on the phone today. As I mentioned as part of the development of the Coastal Management Program we are compiling a list of actions towards implementing the previous Coastal Zone Management Plan that have been completed since 2011 or are in progress. It would be great to get a summary and any background information on Landcare’s riparian rehabilitation activities and projects within the catchment- including upper reaches of the Richmond River as well as its tributaries.

Any information you have on hand that would help to give as an overall picture of Landcare’s projects, (including project summaries and expenditure if documented) and perhaps obstacles to completing work and the general strategy would be useful. I will mention that landowner’s personal information will be kept confidential and will not be used in any reporting, however knowing where landowners are interested in collaborating may be useful as background information.

It would be great if you could send us anything you have by mid-late June. I have given you access to a  [SharePoint folder](#) (our cloud-based document sharing site) where you can upload any documents should you wish to.

Thanks, warm regards,

Kate Menzies
Environmental Engineer

BRRVLN projects								
Project name	Project focus	Project area - general only	Project value	% value of budget to on-ground activities as relates to riparian / river influences	Additional known in kind value	Project period	Partners	Other notes
Addressing vegetation, erosion and soil health decline on and around the highly productive alluvial floodplains of the Upper Richmond catchment	BRRVLN activities focus on soil health, soil and pasture management in floodplain sites adjacent to the River or its tributaries with the goal of reducing both soil erosion and nutrient input into the creek systems	Several properties all in the Richmond catchment including adjacent to Roseberry Creek, Back Creek, Eden Creek, Lynches Creek and the Richmond River	\$671,000	rough guess at 60%		2019-2023	NC LLS, CVA, SCS	The project value here is only the BRRVLN component. There is significantly more involved in this project as delivered by LLS, SCS and CVA
Upper Richmond River Bushfire Recovery Project	Weed control and planting in riparian zone Richmond River and Burnetts Creek	4 properties in Dairy Flat Hilderbrand Road and Burnetts Lane	\$45,800	95%	\$5,000	2021-2022	Roseberry Creek Landcare	
Kyogle High School s Richmond River Recovery – Stage 1	Richmond Riverbank restoration through stock fencing, weed control and planting	Lot 7003 / DP 96708 Richmond River bank - Kyogle High School Stage 1 is 250m only	\$19,195	95%	\$25,000	2020-2021	Kyogle High School, Kyogle Landcare	
Addressing riverbank erosion and in-stream fish habitat in the Upper Richmond River – Old Grevillia	In stream erosion control and riparian restoration, weed control and planting	Old Grevillia Lot 1 / DP 755733	\$14,350	95%	\$25,000	2020-2021	SCS, CVA	
Containment listed weed control	Coral tree control Richmond River riparian zone	3 properties in Tatham and Coderington	\$18,290	90%	\$5,000	2019-2020	RCC	
Containment listed weed control	Honey Locust control Fawcetts Creek and Richmond River riparian zone		\$32,320	95%	\$5,000	2019-2020	RCC	
Post fire weed control in TEC's in the Richmond catchment		Whiporie, Rappville, Myrtle Creek, Bungawalbin	\$200,000	90%		2021	LLS	
Rappville Bushfire recovery	Targetted cats claw control in riparian areas post fire	Rappville, Kippenduff	\$124,115	95%		2021-2022		
Post fire revegetation	concentrated on riparian zones post fire	Widespread in the upper richmond catchment including tributaries	\$22,000	95%		2021		
Jobs Tear control in Horseshoe creek	Targetted weed control of Jobs tears in riparian zone	multiple properties in the upper horseshoe creek catchment	\$20,000	100%		2019-2020	Kyogle Landcare	
Targetted Engagement in Landcare	Upper Richmond riparian zone - Dairy Flat	2 properties on Hilderbrand Road Dairy Flat	\$17,323	95%		2015-16	NLSS	
Emigrant Creek Restoration Plans			\$18,390			2014-15	NLSS	
Bungawalbin Project NR-IS-13-14-234.8-7IN (NRFBC)			\$51,800			2013-2014	NLSS	
Roseberry Ck sub-catchment project NR19674 NRLLS			\$116,530			2013-2014	NLSS	
Moore Park weed control			\$4,936	95%		2013-2014	NLSS	
Collins Creek restoration			\$8,262	95%		2012-13	NLSS	
Moore Park weed control			\$3,927	95%		2012-13	NLSS	
							NLSS	
Other areas of known work by NLSS		Findon Creek, Bentley, Grevillia, Sawpit Creek, Stony Creek, Websters Creek,						
Other Landcare groups active in Richmond catchment		Kyogle Landcare, Websters Creek Landcare, Horseshoe creek Landcare, Roseberry Creek Landcare,						

Appendix H. WEBPAGE AND MEDIA

Council websites and project webpage

Council Facebook posts

Media release

Ballina Shire Council e-news

<https://www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/a-new-richmond-river-coastal-management-program-is-underway/>



A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway

June 30, 2021 / /

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community and previously supported a productive network of natural ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. Over time these interactions have had a negative impact on the health of our creeks, our rivers, and the estuary.

To address the impacts of human land uses and activities on the Richmond River estuary, a 10-year [Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary \(CZMP\)](#) was developed in 2012 by Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Rous County councils.

Through 12 strategies the goal of the CZMP was to restore and maintain the ecological sustainability of the Richmond River estuary as well as the associated recreational and commercial activities.

In early 2021 a new whole-of-catchment [Richmond River Coastal Management Program \(CMP\)](#) commenced. The aim of this program is to update the CZMP for the Richmond River Estuary in line with new legislation and to establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities in the entire Richmond River catchment. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. The whole-of-catchment approach means this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council. The CMP will provide long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study (the first of the five-stage approach) is underway and community input is a critical part of this stage.

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is important to many people for many different reasons. The area is also culturally significant as it is the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation.

Community Feedback

There will be a long-term engagement process for the Richmond River Coastal Management Program. If you would like to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos please visit the Richmond River Coastal Management program webpage hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp and complete the feedback form.

<https://ballina.nsw.gov.au/richmond-river>

Richmond River

Home » Environment » Healthy Waterways » Richmond River



RICHMOND RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community and previously supported a productive network of natural ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. Over time these interactions have had a negative impact on the health of our creeks, our rivers, and the estuary.

To address the impacts of human land uses and activities on the Richmond River estuary a 10-year [Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary \(CZMP\)](#) was developed in 2012 by Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Rous County councils.

Through 12 strategies the goal of the CZMP was to restore and maintain the ecological sustainability of the Richmond River estuary as well as the associated recreational and commercial activities.

In early 2021 a new whole-of-catchment [Richmond River Coastal Management Program \(CMP\)](#) commenced. The aim of this program is to update the CZMP for the Richmond River Estuary in line with new legislation and to establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities in the entire Richmond River catchment. This now includes participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Council and Clarence Valley Council as well as the previous CZMP project partners. The CMP will provide long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study (the first of the five-stage approach) is underway and community input is a critical part of this stage.

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is important to many people for many different reasons. The area is also culturally significant as it is the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation.

We are seeking your feedback, so if you would like to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos please visit the Richmond River Coastal Management program webpage: hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp

Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for the Richmond River Estuary

Resources

- [Richmond River Coastal Management Program](#)
- [Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary \(CZMP\) \(1.88mb pdf\)](#)
- [Estuary Processes Study \(2.4mb pdf\)](#)
- [Understanding Blackwater in the Richmond River Estuary Factsheet -2020 \(2.33mb pdf\)](#)
- [Water Quality Addendum \(4.9mb pdf\)](#)
- [Estuary Management Study \(2.38mb pdf\)](#)
- [2015 Ecohealth Report \(3.1mb pdf\)](#)
- [Rous County Council website](#)

<https://richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au/notice/new-richmond-river-coastal-management-program-is-underway/>

28/6/21

Home » Municipality » Councils » New Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway

New Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community and previously supported a productive network of natural ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. Over time these interactions have had a negative impact on the health of our creeks, our rivers, and the estuary.

To address the impacts of human land uses and activities on the Richmond River estuary a 10-year **Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary (CZMP)** was developed in 2012 by Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Rous County councils.

Through 12 strategies the goal of the CZMP was to restore and maintain the ecological sustainability of the Richmond River estuary as well as the associated recreational and commercial activities.

In early 2021 a new whole-of-catchment **Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP)** commenced. The aim of this program is to update the CZMP for the Richmond River Estuary in line with new legislation and to establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities in the entire Richmond River catchment. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. The whole-of-catchment approach means this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council. The CMP will provide long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study (the first of the five-stage approach) is underway and community input is a critical part of this stage.

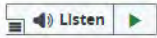
The Richmond River estuary and catchment is important to many people for many different reasons. The area is also culturally significant as it is the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation.

Community Feedback

There will be a long-term engagement process for the Richmond River Coastal Management Program. If you would like to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos please visit the Richmond River Coastal Management program webpage hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp and complete the feedback form.

<https://lismore.nsw.gov.au/a-new-richmond-river-coastal-management-program-is-underway>

Cleaner Waterways Program



A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway

JULY 2021

To address the impacts of human land uses and activities on the Richmond River estuary a 10-year **Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary (CZMP)** was developed in 2012 by Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Rous County councils.

Through 12 strategies the goal of the CZMP was to restore and maintain the ecological sustainability of the Richmond River estuary as well as the associated recreational and commercial activities.

In early 2021 a new whole-of-catchment **Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP)** commenced. The aim of this program is to update the CZMP for the Richmond River Estuary in line with new legislation and to establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities in the entire Richmond River catchment. Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. The whole-of-catchment approach means this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council. The CMP will provide long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study (the first of the five-stage approach) is underway and community input is a critical part of this stage. The Richmond River estuary and catchment is important to many people for many different reasons. The area is also culturally significant as it is the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation.

Community Feedback

There will be a long-term engagement process for the Richmond River Coastal Management Program. If you would like to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos please visit the Richmond River Coastal Management program webpage hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp and complete the feedback form.

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community and previously supported a productive network of natural ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. Over time these interactions have had a negative impact on the health of our creeks, our rivers, and the estuary.



<https://rous.nsw.gov.au/richmond-river-cmp>

[Home](#) » [Flood mitigation](#) » [Floodplain management](#) » [Richmond River CMP](#)

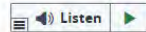
In This Section

Floodplain management

- ▶ [Water quality in the Richmond](#)
- ▶ [Understanding blackwater: Technical note](#)
- ▶ [Ecohealth and riparian education](#)
- ▶ [Active floodgate management](#)
- ▶ [CZMP in the Richmond River estuary](#)
- ▶ **[Richmond River CMP](#)**

Flood mitigation information

Richmond River CMP



A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway.

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community and previously supported a productive network of natural ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. Over time, these interactions have had a negative impact on the health of our creeks, our rivers and the estuary.

In early 2021, a new whole-of-catchment [Richmond River Coastal Management Program \(CMP\)](#) commenced. The aim of this program is to update the [CZMP for the Richmond River estuary](#) in line with new legislation and to establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities throughout the Richmond River catchment. Rous County, Ballina Shire, Lismore City and Richmond Valley councils are partnering with the NSW government to deliver the CMP. The whole-of-catchment approach means that this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle, Byron Shire and Clarence Valley councils. The CMP will provide long-term strategy and management actions for the Richmond River.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study (the first of a five-stage approach) is underway and community input is a critical part of this stage.

The Richmond River estuary and catchment is important to many people for different reasons. The area is also culturally significant as it is the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation.

Community feedback

There will be a long-term engagement process for the Richmond River Coastal Management Program. If you would like to share your knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos, please visit the [Richmond River Coastal Management Program webpage](#) and complete the feedback form.

Facebook post, 25/6/21



Ballina Shire Council
21m · 🌐

👉 **DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW** 🚣🏠
Have your say on the future of the Richmond River!

A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway and community input is critical in getting the priorities right.

The new program will establish a whole-of-catchment strategy and management actions, balancing priorities for environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial values that all impact on the health of the Richmond River catchment and estuary.

For further information and to share your local knowledge, concerns and ideas, please visit www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp



The image shows a Facebook post from Ballina Shire Council. The post features a dark background with white text. At the top left is the Ballina Shire Council logo, which includes a stylized '3' and the word 'ballina'. Below the logo, the text reads 'Ballina Shire Council' and '21m · 🌐'. The main text of the post starts with a thumbs-up icon and the phrase 'DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW' followed by icons of a boat and a house. It then asks for community input on the future of the Richmond River. The post describes a new Coastal Management Program and its goals, and provides a link to a website for more information. Below the text is a photograph of two people in yellow kayaks on a wide river. The 'ballina' logo is visible in the top right corner of the photo.

Facebook post 28/6/21



Richmond Valley Council
Published by Sharon Jean · Just now ·

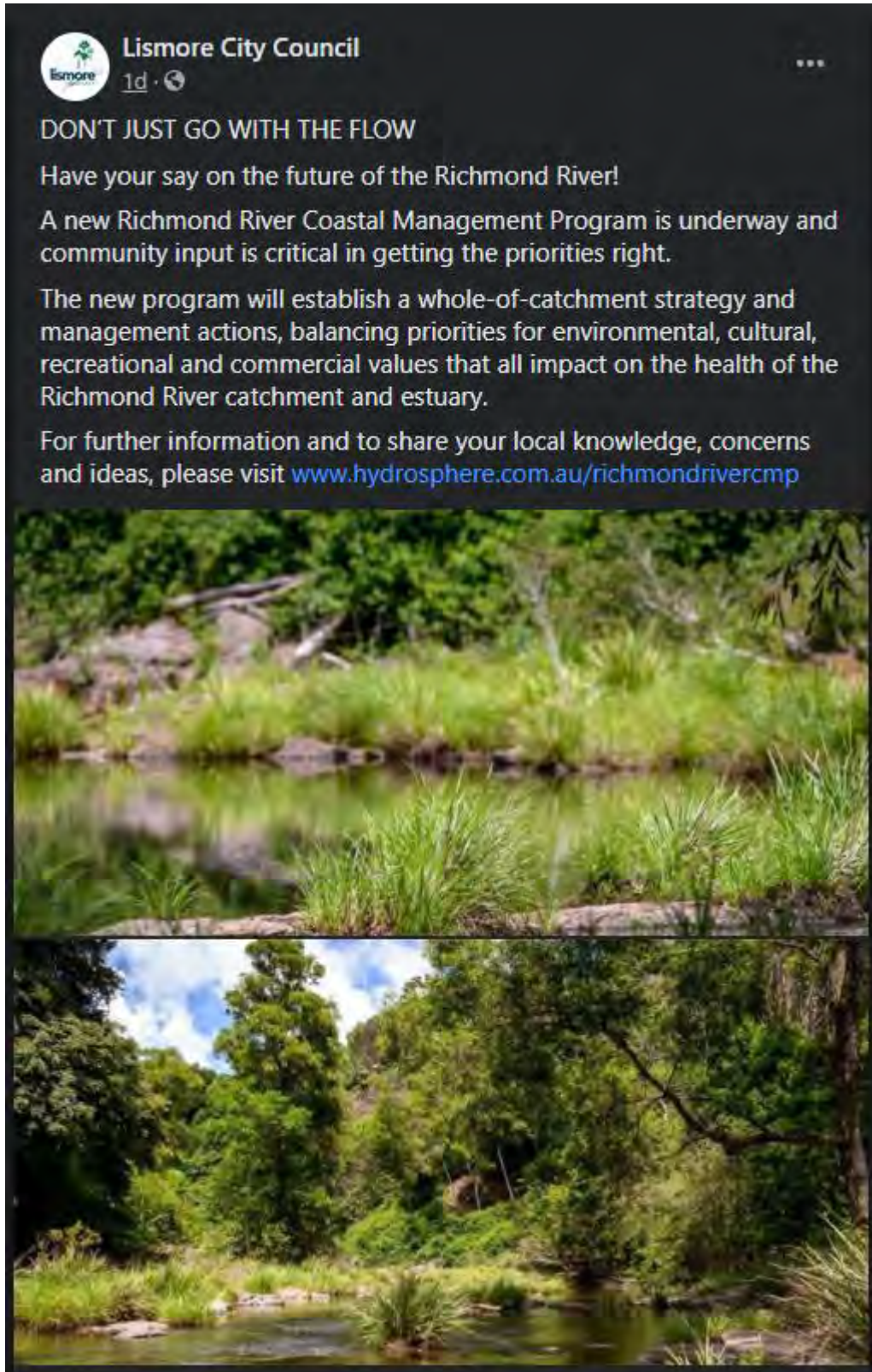
DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW - Have your say on the future of the Richmond River!

A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway and community input is critical in getting the priorities right. The new program will establish a whole-of-catchment strategy and management actions, balancing priorities for environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial values that all impact on the health of the Richmond River catchment and estuary.

For further information and to share your local knowledge, concerns and ideas, please visit www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp



Facebook post 30/6/21



Lismore City Council
1d · 🌐


DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW

Have your say on the future of the Richmond River!

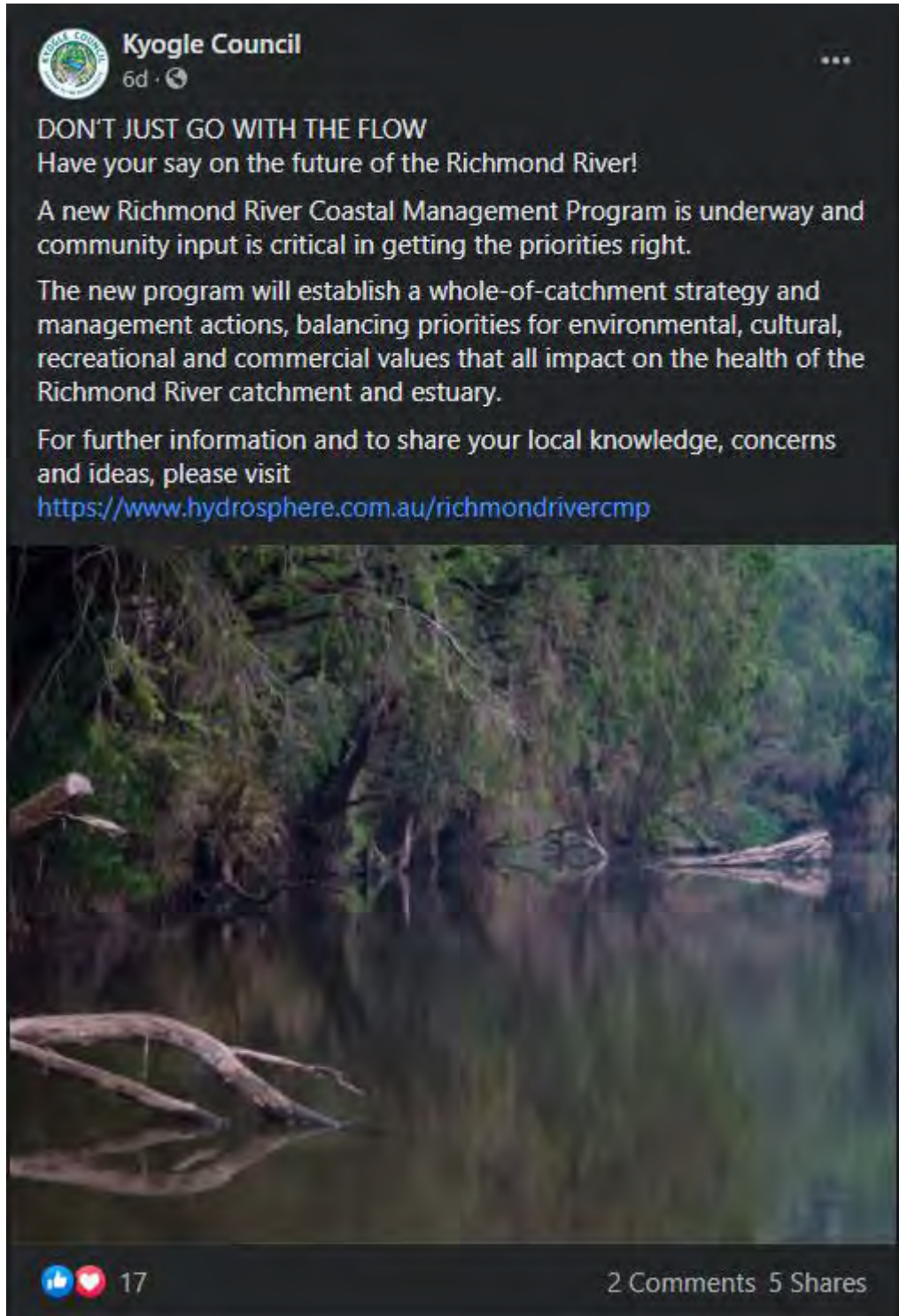
A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway and community input is critical in getting the priorities right.

The new program will establish a whole-of-catchment strategy and management actions, balancing priorities for environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial values that all impact on the health of the Richmond River catchment and estuary.

For further information and to share your local knowledge, concerns and ideas, please visit www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp



Facebook post 30/6/21




Kyogle Council
6d · 🌐

DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW
Have your say on the future of the Richmond River!

A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway and community input is critical in getting the priorities right.

The new program will establish a whole-of-catchment strategy and management actions, balancing priorities for environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial values that all impact on the health of the Richmond River catchment and estuary.


For further information and to share your local knowledge, concerns and ideas, please visit
<https://www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp>



👍❤️ 17

2 Comments 5 Shares

Facebook post 17/7/21

 **Rous County Council**
2d · 🌐

DON'T JUST GO WITH THE FLOW
Have your say on the future of the Richmond River!

A new Richmond River Coastal Management Program is underway and community input is critical in getting the priorities right.

The new program will establish a whole-of-catchment strategy and management actions, balancing priorities for environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial values that all impact on the health of the Richmond River catchment and estuary.

For further information and to share your local knowledge, concerns and ideas, please visit www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp

·
·
·

Images:

1. Headwaters in the Nightcap Range (Image: Lismore City Council)
2. Bank erosion - Mid Richmond
3. Wilsons River with kayakers (Lismore) (Image: Lismore City Council)
4. Lismore is located within the Wilsons River Tidal Pool - Looking downstream 1 (Image: Colin Cooksey)
5. Riparian restoration 1 - community tree planting

·
·
·

#richmondriver
#rrcmp
#coastalmanagementplan
#catchmenthealth
#rivers
#estuaries
#sustainablefuture
#rouscountycouncil
#rcc
#northernrivers





218-232 Molesworth Street
(PO Box 230) Lismore NSW 2480
T: (02) 6623 3600
E: council@rous.nsw.gov.au
www.rous.nsw.gov.au
ABN: 61 583 023 777

Media release

16 July 2021

Community feedback sought for Richmond River Coastal Management Program

Stage 1 of the new Richmond River Coastal Management Program (CMP) has commenced, and the community is invited to share their local knowledge.

The CMP will follow on from work achieved over the past 10 years through the Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary (CZMP), which was developed in 2012 by Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Rous County Councils.

The aim of this program is to update the CZMP for the Richmond River in line with new legislation and establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities impacting the health of the estuary.

"The Richmond River estuary and catchment is highly valued by the community for many different reasons," said Rous County Council's Chair Keith Williams.

"It supports a network of ecosystems, a rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities. The area is also the traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation and has spiritual and cultural significance."

"With such a large catchment area extending from the Queensland border in the north, to Tenterfield and Clarence Valley in the west, to the Clarence River catchment at its southern border, land uses across these regions have a significant impact on the health of the coastal zone."

Rous County Council, Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council and Richmond Valley Council are partnering with the NSW Government to deliver the CMP. The whole-of-catchment approach means this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council.

The Stage 1 Scoping Study, the first of five stages, is now underway. Community input is a critical part of this stage and will help the project team to develop the Coastal Management Program. If you would like to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos please visit the program webpage at www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp and complete the feedback form.

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

Media Spokesperson	Rous County Council Anthony Acret Natural Resource Management Planning Coordinator 6623 3800
	Ballina Shire Council: Kerri Watts Manager Public and Environmental Health 1300 864 444
	Lismore City Council Leonie Walsh Environmental Strategies Coordinator T 1300 87 83 87
	Richmond Valley Council Sharon Davidson Manager Communications, Events and Tourism 0419 401 214
	Kyogle Council Graham Kennett General Manager 6632 1611
	Byron Shire Council, Peter Boyd Biodiversity and Agricultural Projects Officer 6626 7253
Authorised by	General manager Rous County Council
Distribution	All media
In Association with	
	



Richmond River CMP Scoping Study – Stakeholder Feedback



Byron Shire Echo July 21, 2021

North Coast news online **Echo.net.au**

River management program underway

A management program for the Richmond River is now underway, with community input invited.

The aim of a Coastal Management Program (CMP), according to water utility Rous, 'is to update the Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary (CZMP) for the Richmond River, in line with new legislation, and establish a whole-of-catchment management approach that will capture all issues and activities impacting the health of the estuary'.

Rous County Council's Chair, Keith Williams, says the river and catchment supports a network of ecosystems, a rich biodiversity, and a range of human land uses and activities.

'The area is also the

traditional home of the Bundjalung Nation and has spiritual and cultural significance'.

'With such a large catchment area extending from the Queensland border in the north, to Tenterfield and Clarence Valley in the west, to the Clarence River catchment at its southern border, land uses across these regions have a significant impact on the health of the coastal zone'.

Whole-of-catchment

'The whole-of-catchment approach means this CMP will also include the participation of Kyogle Council, Byron Shire Council and Clarence Valley Council'.

For more info visit www.hydrosphere.com.au/richmondrivercmp.

Ballina Shire Council e-news 30/7/21



What do you know about the Richmond River?

Now is the time to share your local knowledge, concerns, ideas and photos.

This community engagement is stage 1 of the new **Richmond River Coastal Management Program**. For more information visit Hydrosphere's website.

Appendix I. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 30/06/2021 7:11 PM

Follow up. Start by Thursday, 1 July 2021. Due by Thursday, 1 July 2021.

Name	
Email	
Phone (Optional)	
Message	<p>I have lived along the Richmond River on Worendo Street, Wiangaree for over 30 years. I am deeply concerned about the total degrading of the River for it's length through the Kyogle Shire. In particular the destruction caused by Cats Claw Creeper (on every tree) and cattle, the lack of access to the river for the enjoyment of residents and visitors and the RFS to fill their water tankers.</p> <p>If there is any way that I can assist in whatever capacity possible I would be most happy to do so.</p>

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 30/06/2021 2:05 PM

Follow up. Start by Thursday, 1 July 2021. Due by Thursday, 1 July 2021.

Name	
Email	
Phone (Optional)	
Message	<p>Apparently Richmond river once was clear water, but with 99 % of vegetation cleared and farming right up to the river banks and cloven footed animals destroying the soil structure it's at it's present state.</p> <p>Farmers should be forced to plant a buffer zone the complete length of the river and we may have improvements.</p>

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Tue 29/06/2021 1:08 PM

Follow up. Start by Thursday, 1 July 2021. Due by Thursday, 1 July 2021.

Name	
Email	
Phone (Optional)	
Message	<p>Hi I'm in Woodburn on the Rocky Creek. Rocky Creek is losing lots of the bank & encroaching on my place. I have been here for 60 yrs & never have I seen the water so putrid in the creek & the banks neglected. The Richmond River is near is near ruined. The cane fields with the fertiliser run off is frightening. I have seen this creek. as blue as a swimming pool. I do hope the management improves for the generations to come.</p> <p>Regards</p>

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Mon 5/07/2021 12:00 PM

Follow up. Start by Tuesday, 6 July 2021. Due by Tuesday, 6 July 2021.

Name	
Email	
Phone (Optional)	
Message	<p>I missed the Kyogle council "Go with the flow" meeting on 30 Jun at 1025 am. Will there be another meeting for a close by council that I could attend, please.</p>

Richmond River CMP Scoping Study – Stakeholder Feedback

FW: [Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP

To [Redacted]

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Tue 13/07/2021 6:46 AM

There has been no community meeting about this project and no meetings are planned at this stage. If you would like to provide some feedback on the project you can send me an email at this address or use the contact form on the project webpage again. Thank you for your interest.

Robyn Campbell
Senior Environmental Engineer
Hydrosphere Consulting
Suite 6, 26-54 River Street
PO Box 7059
Ballina NSW 2478

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>

To Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Thu 15/07/2021 1:04 PM

Name

Email

Phone (Optional)

Message

cow cane along riverbank spreading further east control by spraying not mowing mow first when starts growing spray. cats claw in town spreading look at drain dividing wharf st - just a couple issue thanking you 5

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>

To Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Mon 19/07/2021 10:56 PM

Name

Email

Phone (Optional)

Message

Looking toward the future, I think it is imperative that above all other interests, a positive environmental movement should be taken. Protection and rehabilitation need be main priorities.

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>

To Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Wed 21/07/2021 2:50 PM

You replied to this message on 22/07/2021 11:25 AM

Name

Email

Phone (Optional)

Message

Hi, have made many attempts to contact you: I have a easement onto Rocky Creek in Woodburn, in the past year the bank has eroded untold (I have photo's) I have been here 60yrs & have witnessed a decline in erosion & definitely water quality. We swam in the creek as kids, caught gar & could see the bottom on a clear day, The creek now is so dirty & polluted I doubt you could eat fish out of it. The Richmond River is a disgrace & we are all responsible. Leaching from the cane paddocks do not help at all & the shce neglect & lack of conservation is very surprising.

Please contact me for photos

Regards

Re: [Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Fri 23/07/2021 10:45 AM

Hi Robyn I have attached photo's re: erosion on Rocky Creek on the easement.

Regards



[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 21/07/2021 11:19 AM

Name

Email

Phone (Optional)

Message

I've been a resident in the Ballina area for 43 years & during that time I haven't seen any sand dredging of the Richmond River. During this time I've seen a build up of sandbanks in both the Richmond River and North Creek. Speaking to a few locals, they say the River used to be dredged but can't remember the last time it was done.

In 2018 \$460,000 was allocated through the Ballina Shire Council & the NSW State Government to commence dredging works of North Creek but there has been no progress.

You would be aware that in 2014 the UNE issued a Report on the Richmond River called Ecohealth and the Report gave the River a D minus on its health. That is seven years ago and I'm sure the combination of non-dredging & other factors upstream of the River would contribute to the health of the River not improving.

Please include the impact of not dredging the River in your Scoping Study. You may also want to include residential development & other infrastructure being built either close or maybe even on wetlands

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward

Tue 20/07/2021 2:59 PM

Name

Email

Phone (Optional)

Message

Continual degradation of Mulgum Creek due to overextraction of water from the weir. Climate change making it worse. Too many DAs passed for residential housing connected to water supply. Council has limited money to achieve meaningful alternatives. Creek continues to decline, siltation, poor water quality Giant Devils Figs growing in creek below weir all platypus in that area long gone. Council has obligation under Lismore Strategic Plan to improve water quality in catchment.

[Redacted] has to be seen to be believed.

Richmond River CMP Scoping Study – Stakeholder Feedback

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...
Tue 20/07/2021 2:39 PM

Name
Email
Phone (Optional)



Message

Hi there,
A great deal of thought has already gone into the ill health of our Richmond River - one of the unhealthiest rivers in NSW, I believe (although it does seem almost all of our rivers are in a terrible state of ill-health, really).

I want to see real action, significant action to restore the health of our river and catchment creeks, in my lifetime. I dream of seeing that river running deep and clear again in my lifetime, as it was reported to do prior to Invasion. Something really decisive has to be done to correct and end soil erosion in the upper catchment, from macadamia farms and other agricultural industries. Farms should be made to pay for soil erosion and their contribution to destructive sediment in our creeks. And they should be supported to make changes to their farms, given that rainfall is so much heavier than it used to be, thanks to climate change.

I grew up beside Rocky Creek and raised my own son there also, not far downstream of Rocky Creek Dam. I have walked that creek from Whian Whian Falls (very close to my home) up to the dam and downstream from Whian Whian Falls to the site of the now rejected new dam site, a number of times, with many shorter weekly walks around the Whian Whian creeks over many years. I have significant lived knowledge of that particular part of the Richmond River catchment. I also have great familiarity with the sacred headwaters of Rocky Creek in Nightcap NP.

Sincerely

https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-07/Richmond-river-report_WEB.pdf

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...
Tue 20/07/2021 1:19 PM

Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

Name
Email
Phone (Optional)



Message

good afternoon team
I wish to make comment on the state of the Richmond River. I have been a regular sailor and fisherman along the river for over 10 years and have noticed the enormous build up of silt along North Creek, opposite the RSL and of course at the mouth. surely this must have an impact on fish stocks etc. Even surf is more regular at the mouth of North Creek which must have an impact downstream with erosion.
thanks for an opportunity to make comment and it is a shame to see the river gradually loosing its appeal
good luck with your plan

[Contact & Lead Form]



Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...
Thu 22/07/2021 3:35 PM

Name
Email
Phone (Optional)



Message

As a Ballina shire resident, I am concerned to hear that Rous council are now going to rely on abstracting water from the Alstonville Plateau to meet current and future demands for water. The river system is already classed as unhealthy and now we are going to add to the stress by draining the aquifers. The rate of water demand growth due to development in this area cannot surely be sustainably met by aquifer abstraction without dire consequences for the river system? Water storage (local in various scales) as well as per capita water utilisation reductions must be part of the solution. Those of us on tank water soon learn some lessons in sustainability during the drought, so why not have a scheme to increase self sufficiency and increase the cost of town water to drive down demand.

The impacts of animal access to waterways as well as river abstraction also need to be studied and improvements implemented. There are schemes in other countries to finance the application of sustainable practices (e.g. use of zero energy ram or solar pumps) to allow fencing off of rivers and pumping up to cattle troughs. Ram pumps can never pump a water system dry as their rate is controlled by the rate of the river water flow. Local storage can also help with flood prevention / mitigation and must be a part of the study.

Finally I am concerned about the amount of run-off from the Maccadamia sprays into the river system in this area, where Maccas are pretty much the mono-culture.

[Contact & Lead Form]

 Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Tue 27/07/2021 10:47 AM

Name [Redacted]
Email [Redacted]
Phone (Optional) [Redacted]
Message Please ban jetskis. They pollute water and disturb banks as well as harming sea life. They are incredibly noisy and often exceed speed limits whilst endangering families, swimmers and kayakers.

[Contact & Lead Form]

 Richmond River CMP Contact Form <noreply@123formbuilder.io>
To: Richmond River CMP

Reply Reply All Forward ...

Wed 28/07/2021 10:47 AM

Name [Redacted]
Email [Redacted]
Phone (Optional) [Redacted]
Message Dear RRCMP,

This will be nothing new to you, I know.

Over the past 2 years I have been concentrating on creative work concerning the riparian zones of the Wilsons and Richmond Rivers. This has included photography, audio recording (including hydrophonic work) and video. Recently I have been doing more extensive exploration of the Wilsons River by kayak.

While the Wilsons River riparian zone from Boatharbour to Gundurimba is clearly in a perilous state, I was not prepared for the degradation above Boatharbour. It is truly shocking. I realise that the political issues around access to water are complex, however, it shocks me that we have such extensive areas where there are no trees whatsoever along the banks which exhibit major slumping and other forms of erosion.

During the drought that ended last year, I was also concerned by the amount of pumping from the Wilsons River that I witnessed. Again, I realise that water allocation, especially during drought, is a politically charged issue, however going upriver it was noticeable how on the one day there can be reasonable flows in the upper reaches of the river (eg at Parmenters Road, Wilsons Creek) and the most negligible flows downstream (eg at Coorabell Road, Federal).

Some of my work is available via my website (rcbgarbutt.com) and images/video on my Instagram account (@supergoestothepond).

I hope your work on the CMP helps guide the care of the river(s) and the riparian zones. They really need care on a large scale.

Best wishes,

28/7/21:

More financial and on-ground support for landholders to fence and reveg riparian zones in the headwaters and floodplains would go a long way. LCC RLI grants are not enough, Rous should be investing in the headwaters alongside State Gov to reduce erosion and increase ground cover. Landholders who can't contribute in-kind cash, time etc should be given the option of conservation agreements for reciprocity, with the understanding that anyone willing to reveg part of their land is no doubt doing it for environmental benefits not private financial gain.

Thanks