



# Making Waves

## January 2008

### The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Monthly Update

[www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au](http://www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au)

Welcome to the Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) Monthly Update. The aim of the update is to provide Member Councils and interested stakeholders with a quick and easy to read summary of the Group's recent activities. If you would like more information on any of the projects or issues discussed please contact the SCCG Secretariat on (02) 9246 7702.

## SCCG Key Activities

### Scoping Study on the extraction of sand reserves for beach augmentation

The SCCG has been successful in obtaining funding under the National Disaster Mitigation Program to undertake a scoping study on the extraction of offshore sand reserves for the purposes of beach nourishment. This project seeks to engage consultants to undertake a scoping study to look at the information and data currently available in relation to the environmental, physical, social and economic aspects of utilising these available sands to meet immediate and medium term management requirements.

### SCCG - Geotechnical Investigations

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) and the Australian Geomechanics Society (AGS) have finalised and distributed a CD-ROM to every Local Government in Australia containing the following documents

- Landslide Taskforce guidelines and commentary for
  - Hazard Zoning, and
  - Slope Management & Maintenance
- Landslide Risk Management Practice Note

The guidelines and commentaries have been developed by leading geotechnical experts and represent the culmination of many years involvement with landslide risk issues both in Australia and throughout the world. The CDROM provides Council with access to the methods to manage landslide risks to the benefit of your local community. Engineers Australia recognised the contribution that these guidelines and their commentaries make to the Australian nation and has awarded their development the Warren Medal for 2007, their pre-eminent annual award in the field of civil engineering.

### Systems Approach to Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Metropolises – Project Update

As part of this exciting project a 'vulnerability-based' approach for the region was used to map the potential for future harm across the region to five climate change impacts: extreme heat and health effects, sea-level rise and coastal management, extreme rainfall and stormwater management, bushfire and ecosystems and natural resources. Recently the vulnerability assessment and mapping results were presented at each of the SCCG 15 Member Councils through a series of workshops to facilitate discussion on individual council issues and needs in relation to climate change. A regional workshop synthesis report is currently being drafted to provide a regional snapshot of the workshop outcomes and assist with case study selection for the next phase of the project. This report will be available shortly.



## Member Council Actions and Issues

Every Month the Sydney Coastal Councils uses this section of the update to provide a summary of some of the actions being undertaken and emerging issues for Member Councils.



### 2008 SCCG Summer Activities Program

The 2008 SCCG Summer Activities Program has been completed for another year. The program which aims to promote coastal educational activities during January was a huge success. Over 2000 people enjoyed the 65 events offered. The 2008 program involved a number of interesting events including wetland tours, learn to surf lessons and bird watching. The SCCG would like to congratulate all Councils who participated in the program and thank Coastcare for their ongoing support.

### Pittwater Council Geotechnical Risk Management Policy

Pittwater Council has extended the public exhibition of its interim geotechnical risk management policy and will hold two community workshops in February to explain the policy to affected householders. The updated risk management plan now placed Pittwater at the forefront of managing landslide risk, but acknowledged that the community needed more time to absorb its implications. The revised policy and associated mapping are on exhibition for public comment until Monday 17 March 2008 at the Council's customer service centres and libraries and the Council. More information can be found at [www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/home/news\\_highlights/?a=30426](http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/home/news_highlights/?a=30426)

### Rainwater Tank Promotion

Leichhardt is working with the Sydney Credit Union to provide interest free finance for the installation of Rainwater Tanks for residents in the Leichhardt Local Government Area. Water is a precious commodity, recognising this fact Leichhardt is undertaking this initiative to help its resident save water. For more information <http://202.148.138.216/Rainwater-Tank-Promotion.html>

### Nesting Boxes for native species

Willoughby City Council has installed more than forty nest boxes throughout the e.restore program, successfully increasing biodiversity in Willoughby. Nest boxes create a habitat for hollow nesting species, encouraging breeding and population increases. Sixty per cent of nest boxes are occupied throughout the year at any one time by a variety of unique and highly desirable native species including native nocturnal bird species, possums as well as Kookaburras, Crimson Rosellas and Rainbow Lorikeets. This project plays a significant role in assisting native wildlife populations to establish and increase in size, ensuring that biodiversity is maintained in Willoughby. For more information <http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Content.aspx?PageID=627&ItemID=246>

If you would like a copy of the Making Waves the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Monthly Update please contact SCCG Coastal Project Officer, Craig Morrison at: [craig@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au](mailto:craig@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au)

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