

# Making Waves

March 2010

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, now including details of the SCCG Capacity Building Program. If you would like more information on any of the projects or issues discussed please contact the SCCG Secretariat (02) 9246 7702.

## SCCG Key Activities

### Finalisation of the "Beach Sand Nourishment Scoping Study – Maintaining Sydney's Beach Amenity Against Climate Change Sea Level Rise"

The project has examined information and data on the environmental, physical, social and economic aspects of utilising offshore marine sands to meet immediate and medium term requirements of the adopted nourishment strategies at selected beach environments for the purposes of protection and augmentation of beach systems under immediate threat from coastal storm activity and Sea level Rise. The final report has now been prepared by AECOM and will be released publicly shortly.

### Mapping and Responding to Coastal Inundation Project

This project is being delivered in three stages. The first stage involves mapping the effect of sea level rise in Sydney. To progress this action a stakeholder technical workshop was facilitated in December to finalise key project expectations and deliverables for SCCG Member Councils. The project will run throughout 2010, with the mapping methodology to be defined shortly and the sea level rise maps produced and distributed mid year.

### Valuation of Sydney's Beaches Project

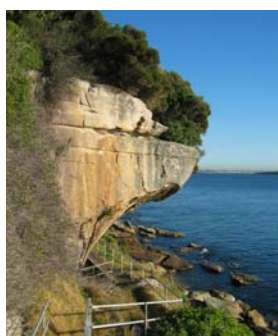
PhD candidate Dave Anning and SCCG have submitted the final report to funding partners DECCW. The project will now focus on more in-depth analysis and writing for completion of the PhD component of the project. The project team are also working on developing practical tools to assist SCCG Member Councils in the implementation and application of the valuation methodology to their own coastal and estuarine foreshores, and exploring additional funding opportunities to expand the Sydney Beaches Valuation Project to other areas within NSW.

### Rock Pool Antifouling Technologies Project

Coastal Councils are faced with a continual challenge of algae growth on foreshore areas resulting in a need for continual cleaning via a variety of applications to reduce slip risk. Approaches historically used include mechanical cleaning and use of various biocides, particularly chlorine based bleaches. The second stage of this project undertaken in summer 2009/2010 further tested the best performing applications from the first stage of the project. The final project report including future actions is being finalised and will be available shortly.

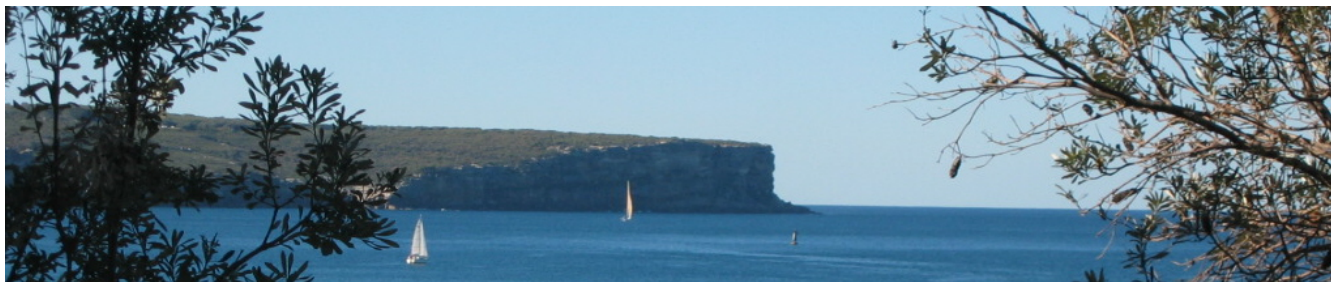
### Sydney Coastal Councils Group and Sydney Water — Water Recycling Opportunities Forum

In March the SCCG and Sydney Water partnered to facilitate a workshop for SCCG Member Councils to discuss actions and projects that facilitate water recycling and re-use projects. The forum is the result of a desire from both the SCCG and Sydney Water to work more collaboratively on water recycling and re-use projects. The one day forum included presentations, case studies and facilitated workshops on water recycling opportunities. A forum report including a summary of the workshops and future actions to build collaboration and information exchange between Sydney Water, the SCCG and its Member Councils will be produced shortly.



## Member Council Actions and Issues

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



### SCCG Environment Monitoring Site [www.monitor2manage.com.au](http://www.monitor2manage.com.au)

The SCCG is pleased to announce the launch of the SCCG Environment Monitoring Site, [www.monitor2manage.com.au](http://www.monitor2manage.com.au). This site promotes sustainable environment management through an improved understanding of monitoring and good decision-making. Effective monitoring is integral to good environmental management. Therefore the site aims to assist users in identifying monitoring needs, designing monitoring programs, dealing with data management and analysis as well as reporting. This will improve the likelihood of good decisions leading to improved environmental outcomes.

To celebrate the launch of the Environment Monitoring Site, visitors to the site between February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010 (World Wetlands Day) and March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010 (World Water Day) were offered the opportunity to go into the draw for a handheld Magellan Explorist 300 GPS tool. The SCCG is pleased to announce that Adrian Turnbull was the winner of the GPS tool.

### Coastal Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010

The Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, the Hon Frank Sartor, announced on 26 March that he had released an exposure draft of the *Coastal Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010* to implement legislative amendments that enable beachfront landowners to conditionally place sand or sandbags on beaches to reduce the impact of coastal erosion on their houses. The provisions in this draft Bill provide for emergency temporary coastal protection works, as well as managing the impacts of landowner-funded long term coastal protection works (eg. seawalls). Other provisions include improved order powers, increased penalties and improved exemptions from liability. The Bill can be found at: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/ExposureDraftCoastalBill.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/ExposureDraftCoastalBill.pdf)

### Temporary emergency coastal protection works guidelines

Under the *Coastal Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010* the temporary emergency works will need to be in accordance with gazetted Minister's Requirements and can be placed for up to 12 months, to enable landowners to develop a longer term approach to managing the erosion risks. To assist with this process Draft Minister's Requirements and a Guide for landowners have been released for consultation. Submissions on these draft documents are invited from any interested person or organisation by 7 May. The documents can be found at:

[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/coasts/10231CPworksMinReq.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/coasts/10231CPworksMinReq.pdf)  
[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/coasts/10230CPworksLandowners.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/water/coasts/10230CPworksLandowners.pdf)

### Who Cares about the Environment? 2009

'Who Cares about the Environment?' is a social research series that has been conducted every three years since 1994 to measure environmental knowledge, views, attitudes and behaviour of people in NSW. The 2009 research included a survey in July with a representative cross section of 2,003 NSW residents aged 15 years and over. More than three quarters (78%) believed climate change is happening or going to happen and 69% agreed the NSW Government should take urgent action on climate change, regardless of current social and economic conditions. Find out more at: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/community/whocares2009.htm>

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)



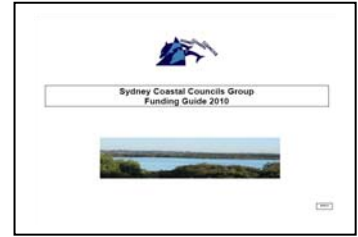
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## SCCG Capacity Building Activities

Page three of the Making Waves Monthly update is dedicated to providing a regular update of the capacity building initiatives of the SCCG as well as highlighting upcoming items of interest.

### 2010 Natural Resource Management Funding Guide

Funding is available under a variety of grant programs for councils, individuals, businesses and communities to help develop and fund solutions to local and national challenges, fund ideas and initiatives or provide assistance. The SCCG has produced the 2010 Natural Resource Management Funding Guide copies of the guide can be downloaded from:



[www.sydneycostalcouncils.com.au/documents/2010SCCGFundingGuide.pdf](http://www.sydneycostalcouncils.com.au/documents/2010SCCGFundingGuide.pdf)

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## Resources

### New Water Education Toolkit

The Australian Government has launched a new Water Education Toolkit. The Toolkit will assist teachers and schools across Australia to access a multitude of curriculum and resource materials. Created out of a need to consolidate the vast amount of water education material available on the web, the Water Education Toolkit brings together more than 650 national, state, territory, regional and urban water education resources into one easily accessible, convenient and comprehensive web portal. Go to:

[www.environment.gov.au/wet](http://www.environment.gov.au/wet)

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## Grants & Awards

Upcoming grants available to Councils, environment groups and individuals include:

### Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS) (Closing April 16)

The NDRGS replaces the Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme and makes grants available to local governments and agencies to undertake a wide range of natural disaster risk assessments and risk reduction works; which contribute to safer, sustainable communities which are more resilient to the effects of natural disasters. Applications for funding under the NDRGS are sought on an annual basis. Invitations to apply are sent to local councils and other eligible organisations and information is made available from the website: [www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/content.php/831.html](http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/content.php/831.html)

### NSW Environmental Trust – Environmental Education Grant (Expression of Interest closing April 23)

The aim of the Environmental Education Program is to support educational projects or programs that develop or widen the community knowledge of, skills in, and commitment to protecting the environment and promoting sustainable behaviour. The objectives of the Environmental Education Program are: to help attain one or more of the outcomes in the NSW Government's Environmental Education Plan, Learning for Sustainability; to facilitate changes in behaviour of individuals and groups which affect specific environmental problems; and to develop and promote education projects which improve the environment. The deadline for Expressions of Interest is April 23 2010. More information can be found at: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/education.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/education.htm)

### International Riverfoundation's 2010 Riverprize awards (Closing May 14)

Organisations working on restoration of rivers across Australia are encouraged to apply. The International Thiers Riverprize is valued at \$350,000, and the National Riverprize at \$200,000 (the latter funded by an Australian Government grant under its Water for the Future plan). More info: <http://www.riverfoundation.org.au>

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## Events

**National Environment Conference: Transitioning to a climate resilient future**, 15-16 April, Sofitel, Melbourne. For more information: [www.mav.asn.au](http://www.mav.asn.au)

**Local Government Risk Management Summit**, April 28 - 29, Novotel Brighton Beach, Sydney. For more information [www.halledit.com.au/rm2010](http://www.halledit.com.au/rm2010)

**Sustainable Development Conference**, May 25-26, Zinc, Federation Square, Melbourne. For more information [www.halledit.com.au/vsd2010](http://www.halledit.com.au/vsd2010)

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP INC.



COUNCILS CARING FOR THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT