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Mr Stephen Lees
General Manager
Sydney Metropolitan CMA
10 Valentine Avenue
Parramatta NSW 2150

CM018-06

Re: Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority Draft Catchment and Management Targets.

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) would like to take this opportunity to provide comment on the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority Draft Catchment and Management Targets.

SCCG participated in the expert panel consultation for the Estuarine, Coastal and Marine theme and has been extensively involved in the development of catchment targets through the Catchment Management Committee and Catchment Management Board processes.

This submission is divided into two sections.

1. General Comments
2. Specific Comments on Draft Catchment and Management Targets

1. General Comments

SCCG believes a number of outstanding issues need to be addressed to ensure effective delivery of the Draft Catchment and Management Targets. These issues are:

- 1.1 Information
- 1.2 Responsibility for Implementation
- 1.3 Monitoring of progress

1.1 Information

For many of the Draft Catchment and Management Targets the information to quantify targets does not exist. For other targets SMCMA will rely on the goodwill of stakeholders to supply the information.

SCCG requests SMCMA state:

- What information is required by SMCMA to measure progress towards achievement of targets;
- How SMCMA will gather the relevant information for each target;
- Which stakeholders will be requested to or responsible for providing SMCMA with information; and
- Will SMCMA be responsible for ongoing storage and dissemination of information.

Without the appropriate provision and analysis of data measuring the achievement or progress towards targets will be very difficult. There SCCG requests SMCMA clearly state how the data needed to measure the targets will be attained and analysed.

1.2 Responsibility for Implementation

SCCG requests the SMCMA clarify the process or mechanisms through which it will ensure the Draft Catchment and Management Targets are addressed by all stakeholders. This includes the roles of the Natural Resources Commission, and State Agencies as well as the support Councils will be given to assist the CMA meet the relevant Targets. Specifically, SCCG asks SMCMA to provide a framework

for the formation, facilitation and resourcing of partnerships necessary to achieve the catchment and management targets.

1.3 Monitoring of progress

SCCG recommends SMCMA outline the process in place for ongoing monitoring of progress towards targets will be and what expectation there will be for Councils to provide information or monitor progress towards targets.

2. Specific Comments on Draft Catchment and Management Targets

SCCG has identified three issues with the Draft Catchment and Management targets.

- 2.1 The targets need to be staged over the initial ten year period of the CAP
- 2.2 The management targets need to identify what SMCMA will be doing to achieve the targets. For example what projects, programs and strategies SMCMA will be undertaking to progress towards the catchment targets.
- 2.3 Significant issues are not addressed.

2.1 The targets need to be staged

Many of the draft Management targets state that By 2016 a particular outcome will be achieved. For example:

By 2016 the riparian vegetation on X% of identified priority "reaches" has been protected or enhanced

SCCG recommends the management targets be worded so that they provide a process for achieving the target efficiently and within the allocated time. For example, for the above target SCCG recommends the following targets be added to ensure the it is achieved effectively

- By 2008 extent and quality of riparian vegetation within the catchment has been mapped.
- By 2012 processes and partnerships required for the protection and rehabilitation of riparian vegetation have been identified.
- By 2016 the riparian vegetation on X% of identified priority "reaches" has been protected or enhanced.
- By 2016 strategies for ongoing management and monitoring of protected and rehabilitated riparian are promoted and facilitated.

2.2 The management targets need to identify what SMCMA will be doing to achieve the targets

SMCMA is in the difficult position of having to coordinate or rely on a large number of other stakeholders to achieve the catchment targets. Therefore SCCG believes the management targets need to clearly state what actions SMCMA will be undertaking to reach the catchment targets.

For example SCCG recommends the following target be changed to the suggested targets below.

By 2016, mitigate the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/nutrient discharge on the catchment.

- By 2008 identify the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/ nutrient discharge on the catchment.
- By 2008, develop partnerships and strategies that mitigate the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/nutrient discharge on the catchment.
- By 2016, mitigate the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/nutrient discharge on the catchment.

2.3 Significant issues are not addressed

The following issues have not been addressed with the draft targets. SCCG recommends targets be developed for each of these issues.

- Targets in all themes should attempt to identify or record the land use practices impacting on the sustainability of the catchment in a “pressure/ state” response framework.
- Targets in all themes must address the issue of competing land use objectives between stakeholders and identify actions, such as the brokering of partnerships, to address this issue. For example between Local Government and industry or local communities and industry.
- For each theme the CMA should develop targets that aim to broker partnerships and improve communication between all stakeholders.
- The land use and planning theme must identify actions and targets that aim to promote or facilitate effective integration of environmental protection into land Environmental Planning Instruments and place based management plans and strategies.
- All themes need to identify targets and actions for education and capacity building of all relevant stakeholders on the effects of planning and land use on biodiversity within the catchment.
- The water theme should develop targets that promote or facilitate the allocation of environmental flows to the catchments waterways.
- All themes should have targets that aim to promote a greater understanding and management of the impacts of climate change and promote associated mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Specific comments on Draft Catchment and Management Targets have been provided in a track changes format of the draft targets circulated to stakeholders.

Land and Development Theme - Catchment and Management Targets

CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT LD1)	
By 2016 there is an increase in land managed within its <u>land use</u> capability	
Management Target LD1 - 1:	
<u>By 2008 identify land use practices negatively impacting on salinity in the Catchment</u>	
By 2016, develop and implement strategies so there is no net impact on salinity processes due to land use and the adverse impacts of salinity are decreased.	
Management Target LD1 - 2:	
<u>By 2008 identify land use practices that negatively impact Acid Sulfate Soils in the Catchment</u>	
<u>By 2012 develop best practice guidelines to reduce negative land use impacts.</u>	
By 2016, develop and implement strategies for the management of those areas affected <u>or likely to be affected</u> by Acid Sulfate soils.	
Management Target LD1 - 3:	
<u>By 2008 identify opportunities to reduce the sediment load being dispersed in urban areas through best practice active erosion and sediment control strategies and topsoils</u>	

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By 2016, minimisation of sediment load being dispersed in urban areas through best practice active erosion and sediment control strategies and topsoils managed so as to minimise loss of biological activity.

Management Target LD1 - 4:

By 2008, identify natural resource land use constraints to support management and planning processes.

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By 2012 develop a risk management model for natural resource constraints to support management and planning processes.

By 2016 develop and promote strategies that coordinate the integration of natural resource land use constraints into local and regional management and planning process.

Management Target LD1 - 5:

By 2008 identify the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/ nutrient discharge on the catchment.

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By 2012, develop partnerships and strategies that mitigate the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/nutrient discharge on the catchment.

By 2016, mitigate the cumulative impact of contaminated sites and leachate/nutrient discharge on the catchment.

Management Target LD1 - 6:

By 2008 identify policies and strategies for the appropriate use and monitoring of domestic grey water.

By 2016, develop and implement strategies to minimise the environmental and health impacts:

- domestic grey water reuse
- fertiliser application

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Additional management Targets

By 2008 develop a process for identifying land use capacity of key land use types (residential, commercial, industrial etc) and receiving environments within the catchment

By 2010 identify key processes negatively impacting land use capacity of key land use types and receiving within the catchment

By 2012 identify process to improve land use capacity of key sites within catchment

COMPLIMENTARY CATCHMENT TARGET: (CCT LD2)

By 2016, natural resources and cultural heritage landscapes in the catchment are managed sustainably and integrated within an appropriate land use planning framework.

(Complimentary ?) Management Target: Regional Cultural Significance (MT LD2 -1)

By 2008, identify areas of regional Aboriginal and European cultural significance, commencing with the Georges River sub catchment to provide for future land use planning and decision making.

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By 2012 assist in brokering partnerships and undertaking capacity building activities that promote and protect Aboriginal and European cultural significance, commencing with the Georges River sub catchment to provide for future land use planning and decision making.

Complimentary Management Target: (CMT LD2-2)

By 2008 provide information to assist the inclusion of appropriate salinity and or acid sulfate soil management controls in all appropriate Environmental planning Instruments

By 2011 assist and promote the inclusion of appropriate salinity and or acid sulfate soil management controls in all relevant local and regional planning instruments.

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Water Theme - Catchment and Management Targets

CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT W1)

By 2016 there is a maintenance or net improvement in the health of natural or modified waterways and riparian corridors.

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Management Target W1-1:

By 2008 barriers to fish passage are identified and priorities for removal selected

By 2016 promote and facilitate the removal of 100% of priority fish barriers.

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Management Target W1-2:

By 2008 the extent and quality of riparian vegetation within the catchment has been mapped at a scale useable by land managers.

By 2010 existing process processes and partnerships for the protection and rehabilitation of riparian vegetation have been identified and assessed for effectiveness.

By 2012 new processes and partnerships required for the protection and rehabilitation of riparian vegetation have been identified.

By 2016 the riparian vegetation on X% of identified priority “reaches” has been protected or rehabilitated.

By 2016 strategies for ongoing management and monitoring of protected and rehabilitated riparian are promoted and facilitated.

Management Target W1-3:

By 2012 map all in-stream habitat within the catchment

By 2016 promote and facilitate an increase in the connectivity of in-stream habitat within the catchment

By 2016 promote and assist an increase in 100% of in-stream habitat improved by appropriate works.

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Management Target W1-4:

By 2008 identify opportunities for the removal of impervious areas from priority sites

By 2016 promote and facilitate the removal of impervious surfaces from priority sites (to reduce stormwater run-off, promote infiltration and groundwater recharge, prevent flooding) through processes including the instillation of permeable surfaces (such as permeable pavers or revegetation)

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Management Target W1-5:

By 2008 identify existing legislative and management barriers to the improved management of rivers and foreshores.

By 2010 identify opportunities and partnerships for the improved management of rivers and foreshores.

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Deleted: Lobby government to fix ambiguity in Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act (complementary target).¶

Management Target W1-6:

By 2008, adopt and promote a coordinated approach to target priority invasive species (both aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna) across the CMA area.

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CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT W2)

By 2016 there is an improvement in the quality and sustainable use of groundwater systems to ensure sustainability groundwater dependant ecosystems and designated beneficial uses.

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Management Target: (MT W2-1)

By 2008 identify and map all groundwater aquifers in the catchment

By 2012 Determine long-term extraction limit for priority aquifers.

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BY 2016 develop frameworks and partnerships to assist the sustainable management of priority aquifers in the catchment.

Management Target: (MT W2-2)

By 2008 identify and map all groundwater dependent ecosystems in the catchment

By 2012 promote and facilitate the trail and assessment of groundwayer remediation activities.

By 2016 Maintain and/or improve species abundance and/or diversity in groundwater dependant ecosystems.

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Management Target: (MT W2-3)

By 2012 identify actions, designated beneficial uses and partnerships to improve the quality of groundwater systems.

By 2016 improve the quality of groundwater systems to the level supportive of designated beneficial uses.

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CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT W3)

By 2016 water quality is compliant with the relevant Interim Environmental Objectives and the ANZECC guidelines

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Management Target W3-1:

By 2008 identify land uses impacting negatively on water quality of the waterways in the catchment.

By 2012 identify hotspots where water quality is well below government water quality objectives and develop remedial actions for 30% of the waterways.

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By 2016 facilitate and support remedial actions for water quality improvement all of the catchments waterways.

Management Target W3-2:

By 2008 identify sites within the catchment requiring Water Quality Improvement Plans.

By 2010 implement a regional strategy for the development and application of Water Quality Implementation Plans for the entire catchment

By 2010 prepare a Water Quality Implementation Plan for Botany Bay and Catchment.

By 2016 facilitate and promote Water Quality Implementation Plans for all sub catchments.

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Management Target W3-3:

By 2008 identify opportunities to support and facilitate the update of at least 60% of Stormwater Plans

By 2016 develop and implement a catchment based stormwater monitoring and management strategy.

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Management Target W3-4:

By 2008 identify general performance criteria for stormwater improvement devices.

By 2012 assist and broker partnerships to facilitate the performance assessment of 70% of stormwater improvement devices in the catchment.

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Management Target W3-5:

By 2008, identify high-risk areas for greywater reuse in the catchment.

By 2012 develop and implement strategies to prevent negative greywater impacts in the catchment.

By 2012 develop a risk based strategies and guidelines for greywater reuse within the catchment.

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Management Target W3-6:

By 2008 assess strategies and partnerships to assist the enforcement of sediment control on construction sites.

By 2012 promote and assist an ongoing resources, tolls and support for the auditing of sediment control on construction sites.

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Management Target W3-7:

By 2008 develop strategies and partnerships to facilitate community understanding of implementing Water Quality Objectives at local scale in the catchment through communication & education workshops.

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By 2009, 50% of sites audited can demonstrate enforcement of sediment control (construction sites).¶
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By 2012 promote and facilitate community understanding of implementing Water Quality Objectives at local scale in the catchment through communication & education workshops.

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By 2009 facilitate community understanding of implementing Water Quality Objectives at local scale in 50% of catchments through communication & education workshops.¶

CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT W4)

By 2016 the condition and net extent of natural and created wetlands is improved.

Management Target W4-1:

By 2008 identify and develop partnerships and strategies to improve condition and functionality of natural and created wetlands through rehabilitation works and improved management.

By 2016 assist and promote an improvement in the condition and functionality of natural and created wetlands through rehabilitation works and improved management.

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Management Target W4-2:

By 2008 identify and asses opportunities to improve connectivity between wetlands and the hydrological system of the sub catchment.

BY 2016 facilitate and promote improved connectivity between wetlands and the hydrological system of the sub catchment.

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Management Target W4-3:

By 2008 identify opportunities for the incorporation of wetland management into existing plans of management.

By 2012 promote and facilitate implementation of the Sydney Coastal Councils Wetlands DCP by all Councils responsible managing marine and freshwater wetlands.

By 2016 have Plans of Management in place for all identified significant wetlands

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CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT W5)

By 2016 measurable progress towards achieving the river flow objectives in the adopted Interim Environmental Objectives for each waterway

Management Target W5-1:

By 2008 promote the allocation of environmental flows to selected waterways

By 2016 improve mimicry of natural flows in waters in 10% of selected streams.

Management Target W5-2:

By 2008 promote and facilitate the application of current best practice water sensitive design into all new development and redevelopment to mimic pre development characteristics.

BY 2010 identify opportunities for the incorporation of water sensitive urban design principles into local and regional planning policies and controls.

Management Target W5-3:

By 2008 identify opportunities for the incorporation of environmental flow objectives into local and regional planning strategies.

By 2012 support and facilitate the incorporation of environmental flow objectives into local and regional planning strategies.

Management Target W5-4:

By 2008 develop criteria and guidelines that ensure new development and redevelopment do not increase flooding impacts.

By 2016 facilitate and broker partnerships to promote the adoption of criteria and guidelines that ensure new development and redevelopment do not increase flooding impacts.

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Deleted: By 2016 have 80% of council local planning instruments incorporate provisions for achieving environmental flow objectives¶

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Deleted: By 2016 ensure that new development and redevelopment does not increase flooding risk to people and property.¶

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Community Theme - Catchment and Management Targets

CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT C1)

By 2016, more people, communities and organisations are actively engaged in more practices that contribute to the achievement of the catchment’s natural resource targets.

CATCHMENT TARGET: (CT C2)

By 2016, there is an increase in the effective participation by people and community groups in planning and decision making in NRM.

THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT TARGETS ARE LINKED TO BOTH CATCHMENT TARGETS

Management Target C1

By 2012 identify opportunities and develop strategies to increase awareness about the inter-connectivity of personal practices, human and catchment health and global issues affecting NRM.

By 2016 promote and facilitate increased awareness about the inter-connectivity of personal practices, human and catchment health and global issues affecting NRM, among two or more stakeholder groups, in particular those not currently engaged in NRM, leading to satisfying engagement in practices that improve natural resource outcomes in Sydney.

Management Target C- 2:

By 2010 identify opportunities and develop strategies to increase the number of people and communities who have a strengthened connection to their local natural environment and improved recognition of the value of local fauna and flora and its place in the ecology of the whole catchment.

By 2010 identify methods to assess the number of people and communities who have a strengthened connection to their local natural environment and improved recognition of the value of local fauna and flora and its place in the ecology of the whole catchment.

By 2016 promote and facilitate strategies that result in more people and communities having a strengthened connection to their local natural environment and improved recognition of the value of local fauna and flora and its place in the ecology of the whole catchment.

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Management Target C- 3:

By 2010 identify opportunities and develop strategies to enhanced support systems and more partnerships and coordination and brokerage mechanisms in place to facilitate increased participation by people, communities and organisations in activities that improve catchment health.

By 2016 promote and facilitate strategies that result in enhanced support systems and more partnerships and coordination and brokerage mechanisms in place to facilitate increased participation by people, communities and organisations in activities that improve catchment health.

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Management Target C-4

By 2010 identify opportunities and develop strategies to implement improved education and training opportunities for existing NRM practitioners fostered, brokered and developed to support achievement of all catchment targets.

By 2016, promote and facilitate strategies that result in more education and training opportunities for existing NRM practitioners fostered, brokered and developed to support achievement of all catchment targets.

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Management Target C-5

By 2010 identify opportunities and develop strategies leading to an increase in the capacity and willingness of Aboriginal communities to engage in NRM and there is greater incorporation of Aboriginal beliefs, customs, knowledge & cultural approaches into natural resource management in the catchment.

By 2016 promote and facilitate strategies that result in an increase in the capacity and willingness of Aboriginal communities to engage in NRM and there is greater incorporation of Aboriginal beliefs, customs, knowledge & cultural approaches into natural resource management in the catchment.

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Management Target C-6

By 2010 identify opportunities and develop strategies to provide more tools and resources and better structures to facilitate early comprehensive community participation in the development approval and planning processes of all agencies.

By 2016 promote and facilitate strategies that result in the provision of more support and better structures, to facilitate early comprehensive community participation in the development approval and planning processes of all agencies.

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Estuary, Coastal & Marine Theme - Catchment and Management Targets:

Catchment Target ECM 1

By 2016 there is an improvement in the condition of estuaries and coastal lake ecosystems.

Indicators

- Extent of mangroves, saltmarsh, seagrass, macroalgae and emergent macrophytes
- Extent of key invasive species
- Contaminant levels in sediments
- Pelagic Chlorophyll
- Stress biomarkers (to be developed)
- Fish assemblages
- Annual shorebird surveys
- Sydney Water Environmental Indicators Monitoring Program and Beachwatch/Harbourwatch data

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Management Target ECM 1.1 - Marine Pests

By 2008, establish with the relevant parties, means of assisting with the implementation of the *National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions*.

By 2008, develop and deliver initiatives to build community capacity to identify and report current and emergent marine pests.

Management Target ECM 1.2 - Contaminated Sediments & Water Quality

By 2008, identify high priority harbour-catchment sites for stormwater remediation and harvesting.

By 2016, coordinate installation of stormwater remediation and harvesting infrastructure at a minimum of six high priority sites.

Management Target ECM 1.3 - Aquatic Vegetation Management

Mapping and prioritisation.

Complete mapping of all aquatic vegetation in Sydney Harbour by 2008, and in Port Hacking, Botany Bay, Manly Lagoon, Dee Why Lagoon, Curl Curl Lagoon and Narrabeen Lagoon by 2010.

Prioritise sites for both conservation and rehabilitation in terms of ecological value and level of risk (Sydney Harbour by 2008; Port Hacking, Botany Bay and Narrabeen Lagoon by 2010).

Conservation.

By 2009 run trial implementation of Decision Support Tool in Sydney Harbour to guide investment and works in stormwater and land management for aquatic vegetation conservation for the whole waterbody.

By 2012 a regionally consistent Decision Support Tool adopted by all Councils to inform investment and works in stormwater and land management in relation to aquatic vegetation conservation.

Rehabilitation.

By 2016, rehabilitate all high priority aquatic vegetation sites for rehabilitation.

Management Target ECM 1.4 - Best Management Practice in Marine-based Industries

By 2010, Best Practice Guidelines and/or Environmental Management Systems are developed and adopted by all marine based industries, including charter operators, dredge operators, marinas, fishermen, aquaculture facilities.

Management Target ECM 1.5 - In-stream Structures

By 2008 develop guidelines for the ecologically sensitive design and installation of in-stream structures, including jetties, seawalls, moorings, and marinas.

By 2010, guidelines are incorporated into all relevant planning instruments.

Management Target ECM 1.6 - Estuary Management Plans

By 2012 promote and assist the development of estuarine management plans for estuarine areas not covered by existing plans.

By 2016, and coordinate the development of a minimum of one Integrated (i.e. whole-of-estuary) Estuary Management Plans. Assist with implementation of relevant, high priority actions that are identified in existing Estuary Management Plans.

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Catchment Target ECM 2

By 2016 there is no decline in the condition of coastal landforms and ecosystems.

Management Target ECM 2.1 - Invasive Species

By 2016, all dune areas rehabilitated to less than 10% weed cover.

Management Target ECM 2.2 - Beach Area

By 2008 coordinate strategies and actions to identify mean ocean and estuary beach area at 2006.

By 2010 identify strategies, partnerships and actions to maintain mean beach area

as at 2006.

By 2012 promote the application of strategies, partnerships and actions to maintain mean beach area at key sites.

By 2016, coordinate institutional and technical processes with the relevant authorities to maintain mean beach area as at 2006.

Management Target ECM 2.3 - Inter-tidal Rock Platforms, Inter-tidal Protected Areas & Aquatic Reserves

Education.

Work with DPI Fisheries to develop and deliver multilingual community education resources and events to promote responsible and lawful use of inter-tidal rock platforms, Inter-tidal Protected Areas and Aquatic Reserves.

Institutional arrangements and compliance and enforcement.

By 2008, establish a process with DPI Fisheries and the relevant Councils, to build and maintain the capacity and resourcing of DPI and Council rangers to enforce the *NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994* in Inter-tidal Protected Areas and Aquatic Reserves.

Management Target ECM 2.4 - Marine Protected Areas

By 2008 identify suitable additional Marine Protected Areas

By 2016 there is an increase in the extent of Marine Protected Areas.

Management Target ECM 2.5 - Coastline Management Plans

By 2010, 100% of the coastline is under a Coastline Management Plan that is consistent with the *NSW Coastal Protection Act 1979* and provides for ecologically sensitive public access.

Management Target ECM 2.6 - Iconic sites

By 2008 identify iconic coastal sites, such as Kurnell and Malabar Headland, be managed for improved biodiversity

By 2010, ensure the management of iconic coastal sites will maintain or improve biodiversity

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Catchment Target ECM3

By 2016 there is no decline in the condition of marine waters and ecosystems.

Management Target ECM 3.1 - Marine Threatened Species

By 2008 identify strategies and partnerships to Promote the protection of Threatened Species via community education

By 2012 implement and promote the protection of Threatened Species via community education.

<p>Management Target ECM 3.2 - Sewerage Management By 2016, broker the implementation of five major sewerage recycling projects, with at least <u>20 % of current discharge</u>, diverted from outfalls by each project.</p>
<p>Management Target ECM 3.3 - Marine Debris <u>By 2008 identify all causes and stakeholders responsible for marine debris,</u> <u>By 2012 develop and implement strategies to reduce the volume of marine debris,</u> By 2016, a "X"% reduction in the quantity of marine debris collected.</p>
<p>Management Target ECM 3.4 - Information Management By 2010, establish a centralised system for the collection and sharing of information on marine ecosystems.</p>

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Biodiversity Theme - Catchment Targets and Management Targets:

<p>Catchment Target B1 – Native Vegetation Extent By 2016, the <u>quality</u> of native terrestrial vegetation coverage in all landscapes is increased from the 2005 <u>baseline</u>.</p>
<p>Management Target B1.1 Vegetation Mapping Complete vegetation mapping of extent native vegetation in the SMCMA Catchment by the end of 2006.</p>
<p>Management Target B1.2 - Vegetation Conservation Assessment Prioritise areas of native vegetation in the SMCMA Catchment for conservation and restoration based on conservation value and level of risk by the end of 2006. <u>By 2008 develop and investigate opportunities for conservation of native vegetation on private land.</u> <u>By 2012 support and facilitate opportunities for conservation of native vegetation on private land.</u></p>
<p>Management Target B1.3 - Biodiversity Package Develop and implement a <i>Sydney Metropolitan Biodiversity Conservation Package</i> including policy, education and management guidelines for Local Government, NSW Government State Agencies and communities to conserve and restore native vegetation by the end of 2006.</p>

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Catchment Target B2 – Native Vegetation Condition

By 2016, there is an improvement in native vegetation condition as measured by an increase in the area under active management for conservation.

Management Target B2.1 - Active Management Reporting Framework

Develop and implement a reporting framework to capture data on activity designed to improve condition of native vegetation by the end of 2006.

By 2008 develop and implement a framework to capture data on activity designed to improve condition of native vegetation on private land.

Catchment Target B3 – Native Vegetation Connectivity

By 2016, there is an increase in connectivity of native vegetation as measured by an increase in vegetation cover and structural complexity in the major identified vegetation corridors and there is recognition of these corridors in Planning Instruments.

Link to Management Targets B1.1, 1.2 & 1.3

By 2008 identify and promote model planning provisions for the protection of native vegetation in urban areas.

By 2008 identify and promote a framework for the inclusion on provisions that protect urban native vegetation into the appropriate Environmental Planning Instruments.

Catchment Target B4 Threatened Species Recovery & Conservation

- By 2016, actions that assist in the conservation of threatened species, populations and/or communities, as identified in the Priority Action Statements by the Department of Environment & Conservation and the Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries), are implemented based on their level of urgency.

- By 2016, there is an increase in the area of habitat for key native fauna population that is protected.

- By 2016, species and populations of flora and fauna that are locally and regionally significant will be identified and managed through sub-catchment action plans.

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Management Target B4.1 - Priority Action Statements

- By 2009, implement all priority 1 actions in Priority Action Statements where the SMCMA is identified as the lead agency.

- By 2016, implement all actions in the Priority Action Statements where the SMCMA is identified as the lead agency.

Management Target B4.2 – Native Fauna Conservation

By 2009, identify whether there are key native fauna populations that are not protected under relevant threatened species legislation and determine viable habitat requirements.

Management Target B4.3 – Sub Catchment Action Plans

Prepare sub catchment action plans to support Community **Management Targets C-2 and C-5**.

Additional Management Targets

By 2008 identify strategies to reduce the impact of key threatening process on Threatened Species.

By 2012 promote and facilitate strategies and actions that reduce the impact of key threatening processes on threatened species.

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Catchment Target B5 – Invasive Species & Threats

- By 2008 strategies and actions to reduce in number, distribution and impacts of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species (weeds and pest animals) are developed.

- By 2016, there is a reduction in the number, distribution and impact of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species (weeds and pest animals).

- By 2016 we have sufficient understanding of the distribution and spread of invasive pathogens so that their impact on biodiversity is reduced.

Management Target B5.1 - Weeds

Facilitate and part fund the implementation and bi-annual review of the actions identified in the *Sydney Metropolitan Weeds Strategy* by 2011 (Final draft to be developed by the end of 2006).

Management Target B5.2 - Pest Animals

Develop and implement action plans for five priority pest animal species, with the intention of reducing their number, distribution and impact on biodiversity by 2011.

Management Target B5.3 - Pathogens

Promote education and research into the distribution and spread of three priority invasive pathogens by 2008.

I trust that the information provided in this submission will receive appropriate attention when assessing the Draft SMCMA Catchment and Management Targets. If you wish to clarify any matter in the submission or require further information, please contact Craig Morrison (Coastal Projects Officer) on 9246 7702 or craig@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Withycombe
Executive Officer

