



Making Waves

February 2011

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Monthly Update
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

Reforms to Coastal Management in NSW

The *Coastal Amendment and Other Legislation Bill 2010* was passed by the NSW Parliament on 20 October 2010 and proclaimed on 1 January 2011. The SCCG has collated all its correspondence, submissions and reports on the reforms into a single document that has been sent to all Member Councils and is available now on the SCCG website. The document contains a foreword, an introduction to the reforms, a history of coastal management in NSW, the SCCG correspondence to the NSW government; commissioned legal advice as well as the presentations from all the workshops the SCCG facilitated on the reforms. This document can be found at www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

Recent Grant Applications

The SCCG has recently submitted applications to the NSW Environmental Trust Research Grants Program to undertake the following projects:

- A segmented approach to facilitating optimal adaptation responses
- Staying open: managing public land and ecosystems for change
- Managing the impacts of climate change on coastal aquifers in Sydney

The SCCG Secretariat are also in the process for scoping possible application to other grant programs including the Climate Change Adaptation Research Grants Program *Social, Economic and Institutional Dimensions* and the *Natural Disaster Resilience Program Auxiliary Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme*.

SCCG- CSIRO Planning for Coastal Inundation Workshop

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) has been awarded funding under the Natural Disaster Mitigation Program to undertake the *Mapping and Responding to Coastal Inundation Project*. To assist Member Council understanding and input into stage two of the project the SCCG in partnership with the CSIRO is facilitating the Planning for Coastal Inundation Workshop. The workshop aims to consult with staff from Member Councils on their issues and needs in relation to implementing and communicating the land use planning and development assessment responses to sea level rise and the associated coastal inundation. A final workshop report will be available shortly.

Draft New South Wales Biodiversity Strategy 2010 – 2015

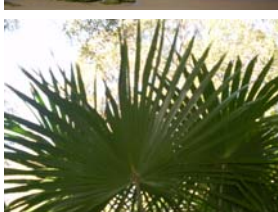
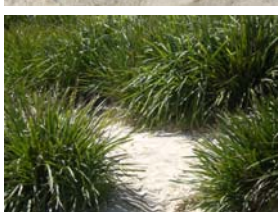
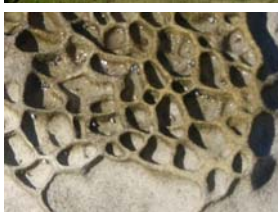
The SCCG took the opportunity to provide comment on the *Draft New South Wales Biodiversity Strategy 2010 – 2015*. The submission aimed to provide constructive feedback and recommendations that will lead to the delivery of the *New South Wales Biodiversity Strategy 2010 – 2015* occurring in a coordinated and consistent manner. A copy of the submission can be found at www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

SCCG Websites:

In addition to the SCCG website www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au the SCCG has two other websites that may interest readers of the monthly update:

The SCCG Environment Monitoring Page www.monitor2manage.com.au/

The Walking Coastal Sydney Website www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au



Member Council Actions and Issues

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



Have your say on Caring for our Country (Written submissions due by **20 May 2011**)

The Australian Government (Land and Coasts Division) is inviting your views on its NRM program - Caring for our Country. They are interested in hearing what you thought worked well, what can be improved and what the future challenges will be in protecting Australia's natural resources. A discussion paper has been released which outlines a series of common topics people have already raised, and you are invited to contribute to this review of Caring for our Country and have your say on the future of natural resource management in Australia. The discussion paper and information on how to make a submission (or how to join the online discussion - from mid-March) is available at www.nrm.gov.au.

OYSTERS – Industry working with Council for the environment

The Oyster industry in the Hawkesbury River has gained Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service export approval. This approval has been granted as a result of the implementation of Hornsby Council's Estuary Management Program which has improved the health of the estuary. For more information see www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/about-council/latest-news/oyster-farmers-receive-export-approval.

Botany Bay Oyster Growers have received funding to develop an Environmental Management System (EMS) addressing water, energy, waste and removal of derelict materials. Sutherland Shire Council will provide input into the EMS that will cover a range of activities, as well as other stakeholders such as the Oyster Growers, Ocean Watch, National Parks and Maritime. For more information see www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/Home

Environmental Education Strategy for Coastal Boaters and Fishers

This project is being run by the five Coastal Catchment Management Authorities in partnership with the Boat Owners' Association of NSW (BOA), Boating Industry Association of NSW (BIA), Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (RFA), NSW Maritime, Industry and Investment NSW (Fisheries) and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water. The Strategy will be further developed in consultation with boating and fishing groups to encourage protection and enhancement of estuarine, coastal and marine areas. Best practice guidelines will be developed for the key environmental issues which will outline the benefits to the boating and fishing communities. For more information see www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/our-projects/environmental-education-strategy-for-coastal-boaters-and-fishers.html

Pittwater Eco Warriors have produced a series of excellent and highly professional resource videos on dealing with invasive species, which can be viewed at <http://sydneyweeds.org.au/tag/pittwater-eco-warriors/>

Mosman Council wants to know your big idea

Mosman Council is constantly on the look-out for ideas that will help secure a great future for Mosman. As a result it has created a space on its website where residents can post, rate and discuss their big ideas 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A space where community conversations take place on the kinds of initiatives that will shape the Mosman of tomorrow. The Big Ideas forum seeks responses to the question 'What would you do to make Mosman a better place?' Residents can post their thoughts at <http://ideas.mosman.nsw.gov.au/forums/96167-big-ideas-for-mosman>

If you would like a copy of Making Waves, the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Monthly Update please contact SCCG Senior Coastal Projects Officer, Craig Morrison on craig@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au



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SCCG Capacity Building Program Update

This page of the Making Waves Monthly Update is dedicated to providing a regular update of the initiatives of the SCCG Capacity Building Program as well as highlighting upcoming items of interest.

Recent Activities

Economics, Management and the Coastal Zone Forum



The SCCG hosted on 24 February 2011 a diverse and interesting Economics Forum at Customs House, Sydney. The day was a great success starting with presentations from the highest level of financial decision-making of State and Local Government, moving to key researchers in applied economic based projects, then hearing about international and national re-insurance, and ending the day discussing critical needs and considering future issues in relation to economic assessment and management of our precious coastal zone. A final report will be made available on the SCCG website shortly including biographies, synopses of presentations, PowerPoint presentations, a summary of panel session discussions and outcomes, and the results of the forum evaluation.

Capacity Building Education Steering Committee (CBESC)

The CBESC had its first meeting for 2011 and discussed some very interesting ideas such as developing a marketing and communications framework tool, and looking into creating a research brief about the barriers and benefits of monitoring and evaluating education and training programs. The Committee also received a thought provoking presentation from Mosman Council about their Community Education & Engagement (CEE) Change Program and heard from the LGSA about the great work being done on how to engage Senior Managers to increase support for sustainability programs. For more information on the outcomes of the meeting please contact the Coastal Projects Officer on (02) 9246 7326.

Grants & Awards

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

Auxiliary Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (ADRGS) (closes 1 April 2011)

The ADRGS grants scheme will provide funding to NSW Councils for projects that build community resilience to the effects of natural disasters (multiple hazards or natural hazards other than flood or bush fire). The projects will include undertaking natural disaster risk assessments, preparing risk management plans and undertaking risk reduction works that contribute to safer, sustainable communities. For more information and to apply see: www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/content.php/885.html

Emergency Volunteer Support Scheme (EVSS) (closes 29 April 2011)

This program aims to fund projects that enhance and promote the recruitment, retention and skills and training capability of emergency management volunteers in NSW. A local government agency that has a responsibility for an emergency management volunteer group can submit an application on behalf of that group. Joint applications from eligible organisations are encouraged, although one organisation must be nominated as the lead for the application. For more information see:

www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/content.php/841.html

SMCMA 2011 Regional Awards (closing date for applications 28 March 2011)

Groups and individuals working for Sydney's environment are invited to apply for the SMCMA 2011 Regional Awards. Prizes will be awarded in the following four categories: 1) Urban Landcare Award – Prize: \$2500 (sponsored by Landcare Australia Ltd); 2) Education Environment Award – Prize: \$1000; 3) Aboriginal Environment Award – Prize: \$1000; and 4) Community Group Environment Award – Prize: \$1000. For more information please contact Helen Kemp on 9895 6207 or at

helen.kemp@cma.nsw.gov.au

Events

NSW Biodiversity Strategy Workshops for Local Government: Parramatta 21 March, Queanbeyan 23 March & Tamworth 5 April 2011. Contact Kirsty McIntyre at the LGSA on (02) 9242 4055 or kirsty.mcintyre@lgsa.org.au

Sydney Metropolitan CMA Annual Community Forum: 21 May 2011, Epping Club, Sydney. Contact Helen Kemp at the SMCMA on (02) 9895 6207 or at helen.kemp@cma.nsw.gov.au

NSW Sustainable Development Conference 2011: 8-9 June 2011, Dockside Sydney. For more information see www.halledit.com.au/nswsd2011

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP INC.



COUNCILS CARING FOR THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT