



SYDNEY COASTAL
COUNCILS GROUP

Making Waves

August 2011

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Monthly Update
www.sydneycostalouncils.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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: SCCG Coastal Projects Officer

An excellent opportunity exists for an enthusiastic person dedicated to environmental protection and improvement. In particular the CPO will coordinate various coastal related projects, facilitate information exchange, capacity building programs, and assist with administrative duties. Applications are to address the selection criteria contained in the information package via download from www.sydneycostalouncils.com.au. Applications close C.O.B. **9 September 2011**

The NSW Minister for the Environment to speak at SCCG 2011 AGM

NSW Minister for the Environment the Hon. Robyn Parker M.P. will be speaking at the 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on "*The NSW Government's environmental directions and considerations for coastal zone management*". The AGM will be hosted by Randwick Council. All SCCG delegates are invited to attend. Please notify the Secretariat at info@sydneycostalouncils.com.au if you wish to attend.

Local Government -Destinations 2036

The SCCG Executive Officer, Geoff Withycombe represented the SCCG at the 'Local Government – Destinations 2036' conference. This event was developed with the help of the Local Government and Shires Associations (LGSA), the Local Government Managers Australia (NSW) (LGMA) and the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG). 'Local Government – Destination 2036' brought together Mayors and General Managers of all Councils, Chairs and Chief Executives of county Councils and Executive Officers of Regional Organisations of Councils to consider and plan for the future in a positive and open way.

Demonstrating Climate Change Adaptation of Interconnected Water Infrastructure Project

This project is being delivered by the SCCG in partnership with Sydney Water and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. The project methodology has been designed to ensure that all the primary issues of climate change and climate change adaptation on interconnected water infrastructure are addressed throughout the duration of the project. To assist project design the project partners engaged the UNSW Water Research Laboratory to undertake three specific tasks:

1. Prepare a literature review that focussed on the risks of climate change, potential climate change adaptation measures, barriers to climate change adaptation and financial implications of climate change adaptation.
2. Prepare a Project Plan focussing on key actions to ensure the project methodology is robust and transferable; and
3. Develop selection criteria to facilitate the identification of case studies.

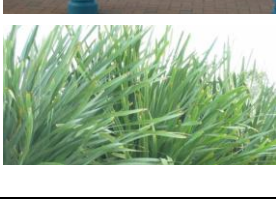
The outcomes of this work were discussed at a stakeholder workshop in August and will be published shortly. The project is being funded by the Australian Government through the Coastal Adaptation Decision Pathways Program.

SCCG Websites:

In addition to the SCCG website www.sydneycostalouncils.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.



Woollahra Council - McKell Park, Darling Point Plan of Management community survey

Woollahra Council invites residents to participate in a community survey on McKell Park in Darling Point. This survey will gather important information that Council will use to update the park's Plan of Management. The survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/GJ2X5D3

Harvesting stormwater at Bondi

Waverley Council has secured a grant of \$465,000 from the NSW Office of Water to build an innovative stormwater harvesting and reuse scheme at Bondi Beach. Building on the success of the Bronte stormwater harvesting scheme, the design process for the Bondi project is already underway, with construction expected to commence late 2011. Annually, the scheme will harvest and reuse over 50 million litres of stormwater for irrigation, toilets and public place cleaning at Bondi Beach. This means Waverley Council is conserving water, saving money and improving water quality at Bondi Beach. More information can be found at <http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/>

Have your say on light rail in Randwick

Randwick City Council, the University of New South Wales and the Australian Turf Club are co-funding a preliminary study to examine the feasibility, engineering challenges, potential patronage and indicative costs of extending light rail to Randwick. Randwick Council want to hear the views of residents. Visit the special consultation website www.lightrailtorandwick.com.au to have a say.

Clean Beaches Awards Program 2011

The Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Clean Beaches – Connecting Our Coast Awards is a new revitalised Award program that has evolved from the previous Clean Beach Challenge. The Clean Beaches program encourages diverse groups and individuals within a coastal community to work together to identify and manage sustainability and beautification projects relevant to their beach. The program empowers coastal communities to actively work for a cleaner, more sustainable environment through the sharing of knowledge, experience and resources. Submissions for Clean Beaches Awards Program are open in seven new award categories. For more information go to www.kabnsw.org.au

An International Conference for Environment Centres: 8-11 September, 2011

In 2011 the Manly Environment Centre is celebrating 20 years of environmental advocacy and community education with a high profile, four day International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists. The event will focus on the interests and activities of Environment Centres and community activism throughout Australia and around the world. Its objective is for participants to share best practice experiences, establish networks and learn strategies on how to effect change in local communities. For more information: www.mec.org.au/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=6&Itemid=188

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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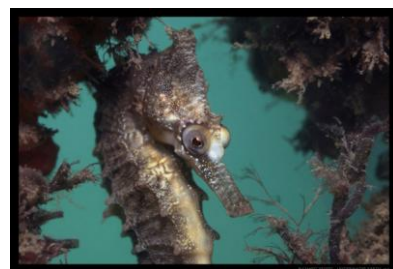
SCCG Capacity Building Program Update

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

Underwater Sydney Launch

An exciting new website, supported by the SCCG, Underwater Sydney has been launched today. The website is both fun and educational and is the perfect free resource to bring Sydney's underwater world alive, teach children about conservation and marvel at the gorgeous images from the comfort of your own home. Visit www.underwatersydney.org/ to see the rich and colourful marine life that in the waters of Sydney's coastal suburbs.



Resources

NRM Training for Councillors and Senior Management – Last chance for 2011

Act quickly to take advantage of free training being offered by the NSW LGSA for Councillors and Senior Managers in NRM. All training must be completed before the end of the year, so respond if you would like to book a session as places are rapidly filling. The training has been well received around the State. Contact Geoff Hudson geoff.hudson@lgsa.org.au ASAP if you would like to book a session or for more information.

New Local Government Online Knowledge Resource

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG) has implemented an on-line, interactive forum known as IKEN - the Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Network. IKEN provides a platform for local government practitioners, researchers and other stakeholders to exchange information and ideas, showcase innovation and provide useful links to resources, research opportunities, collaboration and support. To utilise the resource go to <http://www.iken.net.au/>

Grants & Awards

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

On Site Sewage Management Grants (Closes 1 October 2011)

The aim of the program is to minimise pollution risks to the drinking water resulting from on-site sewer systems. Local Governments are responsible for the regulation and management of the on-site sewer systems within their respective boundaries. Local Councils within Sydney's drinking water catchment with more than 100 on-site wastewater systems can apply for financial assistance to identify, inspect and assess all on-site systems in the catchment. For more information go to www.sca.nsw.gov.au/

Stormwater harvesting and reuse projects - Third Competitive Grants Round (Closes 7 December 2011)

The Australian Government is calling for applications for funding to support eligible stormwater harvesting and reuse projects under the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan: stormwater harvesting and reuse grants round. Projects are sought that capture, treat and use stormwater to ease the pressure on drinking water supplies and deliver improved water quality to our urban waterways. For more information go to <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/urban/stormwater-harvesting.html>

Events

Managing Wetlands Workshop - *Decision support tools and knowledge to support wetland managers*: 6 September 2011. CSIRO Discovery Centre, Canberra.

www.nwc.gov.au/www/html/3085-wetlands-workshop.asp?intSiteID=1

2011 Stormwater NSW Conference: 5 – 9 September 2011, Cypress Lakes Resort, Hunter Valley

www.gemsevents.com.au/siansw2011/index.shtml

Local Government Water Management Conference: 14 - 16 September 2011, Grafton. www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/3577-water-management-conference-2011.asp

NSW Coastal Conference “20/20 Vision for the Coast – lessons learnt and looking toward future improvement”: 8-11 November 2011, Tweed Heads NSW. www.coastalconference.com

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP INC.



COUNCILS CARING FOR THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT