



Making Waves

October 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 this 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 matters discussed please contact the SCCG Secretariat on (02) 9246 7702.

SCCG KEY ACTIVITIES

SCCG Welcomes new staff

The SCCG would like to welcome three new members to the team:

Sophie O'Dwyer has joined as the Project Officer – Climate Change Adaptation. Sophie is responsible for managing the three projects funded through the Coastal Adaptation Decision Pathways Program supported by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency.

Stephen Summerhayes is the new Coastal Projects Officer and replaces Jodie Savage who has joined Waverly Council

Sarah Billens has been engaged to manage the 2012 Summerama program.

In other staff news Craig Morrison will be unfortunately leaving in mid November after six years of outstanding service with the SCCG. The position of Senior Coastal Projects Officer has been advertised on the SCCG website:
www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

Summerama – *the coast comes alive this summer!*

The SCCG's planning for the 2012 Summerama program is well underway, building upon last year's program featuring more than 100 activities throughout January in various Sydney locations. From Pittwater to Sutherland activities include coastal bike rides, DIY home enviro workshops, rock pooling, wetland tours, sea shell discovery tours, underwater cinema, creepy crawly garden discoveries, marine sculpture workshops, the ever-popular Science of the Surf and much, much more. For more information contact Sarah on 9246 7702 (sarah@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au) or check out the website: www.summerama.com.au

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. The SCCG and project partners will be presenting the following papers at the conference.

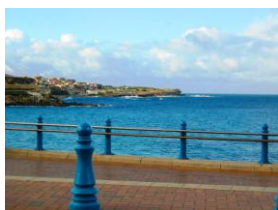
- Assessment and Decision Frameworks for Existing Seawalls
- Learning from Others: Looking Outside NSW in Response to Climate Change in Coastal Areas
- Mapping and Responding to Coastal Inundation – in the Sydney Coastal Councils

SCCG Websites:

In addition to the SCCG website <http://www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au> the SCCG has two other websites that may interest readers:

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 to summarise emerging issues and some of the actions undertaken by Member Councils.



Burnt Bridge Creek Integrated Restoration Project

Burnt Bridge Creek is one of three freshwater creeks that naturally flow in the Manly Lagoon catchment. The 4km long creek is a vital ecological corridor, providing a range of important habitats for diverse local flora and fauna. The catchment of over 380ha hosts a variety of land uses but the once pristine creek has seen significant degradation over the years due to pressures generated from the surrounding urban areas. Manly and Warringah Councils, with funding from the NSW Environmental Trust are working together to restore Burnt Bridge Creek and its surrounding areas: www.manlylagoon.com.au/burnt-bridge-creek-project/



At the Technical Committee meeting on 20 October 2011, following an insightful presentation of the Burnt Bridge Creek restoration project by Michael Galloway, a field trip was conducted tracing the works from the top of Burnt Bridge Creek all the way to Manly Lagoon.

Narrabeen Lagoon Multi-use Trail

Warringah Council and Pittwater Councils have completed stage one of the Narrabeen Lagoon Multi-use Trail. The official opening was held at Middle Creek Reserve on Thursday 13 October. See www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/news_events/2011/October/MediaRelease-NarrabeenLagoonMulti-useTrailStageOneOpening.aspx

Work starts on \$2 million project to improve water quality at Malabar Beach

One of Sydney's most polluted beaches is being cleaned up with Sydney Water and Randwick City Council starting work on a \$2M project at Malabar Beach. Under the joint project, two stormwater pipes that discharge into the beach will be diverted into a Sydney Water pipe that flows out at the old cliff face outfall, well away from the swimming area. The project is jointly funded with \$1M provided by the Office of Environment & Heritage to Randwick City Council, \$400,000 from the NSW Environmental Trust's Urban Sustainability Program and \$600,000 from Sydney Water: www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/Your_Council/Whats_happening/News/2_million_project_to_improve_water_quality_at_Malabar_Beach/indexdl_10783.aspx

Sustainable Home Advice Service

Willoughby City Council's Sustainable Home Advice Service (SHAS) is a new free assistance program for residents who are planning to build or renovate their home. With advice from qualified architects, the SHAS assists residents with integrating sustainable designs into their building plans to lower their carbon footprint and 'future-proof' their homes against rising energy and water costs. The Service provides eligible residents with convenient onsite consultations to determine what sustainable designs can be utilised: www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Environment---Sustainability/ClimateClever/ClimateClever-Home/sustainable-home-advice-service/

If you would like a copy of *Making Waves*, please contact the SCCG Coastal Projects Officer, Stephen Summerhayes on stephen@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au



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SCCG Capacity Building Program

This section of *Making Waves* is designed to highlight activities and initiatives that build the capacity of member Councils and other stakeholders to manage their coastal and estuarine environments

Building for Sustainability Forum

The final report for the *SCCG Building for Sustainability Forum* has been completed and sent to Member Councils. A copy is available on the SCCG website: <http://www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au/>

Coastal Conflicts – Managing Below the High Water Mark Forum

A forum will be held in early 2012 addressing issues and responses in relation to effective management of activities below the high water mark including knowledge gaps, jurisdictional conflicts and other opportunities for improvement e.g. signage, education, responsibilities, enforcement, compliance and reporting.

Resources

National Water Information Briefings: products in practice

In November and December the Bureau of Meteorology is presenting the *National Water Information Briefings: products in practice*, part of the \$450M *Improving Water Information Program*. Briefings will demonstrate the value and use of water for those in water resources policy, planning and management: <http://e.bom.gov.au/pub/pubType/EV/pubID/zzzz4e92699329bf8198/nc/zzzz4e926d1b050c9019/interface.html>

Consultations

Review of the management of coastal erosion, plans and regulation in NSW

The Minister for the Environment is undertaking a review of the management of coastal erosion, plans and regulation in NSW. On 31 October 2011, the SCCG attended a workshop conducted by the Office of Environment and Heritage. A Coastal Taskforce will be established by **25 December**, whose makeup and terms of reference are to be announced. The Taskforce will coordinate its own process of consultation, call for submissions and, by **June 2012**, make recommendations to the Minister.

BioBanking Review - Local Government Consultation

A statutory review of the NSW Government's Biodiversity Banking and Offsets Scheme ('BioBanking') has commenced. Subsequent to an increase in participation in BioBanking since 2010, this review is intended to identify issues and improve the scheme's operation. A discussion paper is in preparation and stakeholders will be invited to comment on it during a (Local Government only) consultation workshop on **1 December 2011**. For more information go to <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biobanking/index.htm>

Grants & Awards

Roadside Vegetation Implementation Project grants

The NSW Environmental Trust has appointed the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW to deliver a 12 month project assisting councils undertake priority roadside vegetation management works. A total of \$1.3M is available to NSW local councils for projects (of up to 12 months commencing by 29 February 2012). Individual councils may apply for grants of up to \$50,000. Two or more councils can apply for up to \$100,000 for regional projects. **Applications close 2 December 2011:** www.lgsa.org.au/roadgrants

Stormwater harvesting and reuse projects

The Australian Government is calling for applications for funding in support of eligible stormwater harvesting and reuse projects under the *National Urban Water and Desalination Plan: stormwater harvesting and reuse*. Grants are capped at 50% of eligible capital costs, with a minimum project size of \$2M. Projects are sought that capture, treat and use stormwater to ease the pressure on drinking water supplies and deliver improved water quality to urban waterways. **Applications close 7 December 2011:** <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/urban/stormwater-harvesting.html>

Events

Australian Coastal Society workshop - "How can the Australian Government offer national leadership in coastal management?" **8 November 2011**. Twin Towns Clubs & Resort.

<http://australiancoastalsociety.org/australian-coastal-society-workshop>

Ocean Pacifica Festival celebrating Ocean Care Day. **27 November 2011**. Bondi Pavilion.

http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/things_to_do/places_of_interest/bondi_pavilion/annual_attractions/ocean_care_day

WetlandCare Australia Creek to Coast Field Day. **27 November 2011**. Avalon Beach to Careel Bay.

www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/environment_and_sustainable_living/creek_to_coast_field_day