

COASTAL CURRENTS



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The Sydney Coastal Councils Group was established in 1989 to promote coordination between Member Councils on environmental issues relating to sustainable management of the urban coastal and estuarine environment.

The SCCG currently consists of nine Member Councils adjacent to Sydney marine and estuarine environments and associated waterways, and represents around 1.3 million Sydneysiders.

From the Chair

SCCG has been working through its Business Plan and has continued to collaborate in partnership with other organisations, including the Office of Environment and Heritage on regional actions for Grey-headed Flying-fox.

We have finalised a tool for our members and other coastal councils that will assist in assessing the vulnerability and condition of priority coastal recreational infrastructure to hazards and climate change.

We have been proactive in engaging with government on the Marine Estate reforms, attending briefing sessions and holding discussions with the key organisations involved including the Office of Environment and Heritage and DPI Fisheries. SCCG's, Executive Officer Sarah Joyce has been doing the rounds meeting with relevant Ministers including our local members to discuss the marine park proposal and SCCG's positioning, as well as introduce our Business Plan. We prepared a submission on the Marine Park Proposal and whilst we are extremely disappointed with the decision regarding the 'no lock out' zones for recreational fishing, we hope that best practice sustainable management will be applied within the Hawkesbury Shelf Marine Bioregion.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the Marine Estate Management Authority and its organisations to achieve positive environmental outcomes through the implementation of the NSW Marine Estate Strategy.

Yours Sincerely

Councillor Lynne Saville
SCCG CHAIRPERSON

Sutherland Shire
COUNCIL



Bayside Council



Randwick City
Council
a sense of community



northern
beaches
council



INNER WEST COUNCIL

www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

SCCG News

SCCG Business Plan Implementation

SCCG adopted its Business Plan 2017-2019 in March with three priority themes:

- i) Catchment Management;
- ii) Pollution Reduction; and
- iii) Policy and Legislative Reforms.

SCCG has been commencing work on actions in the Business Plan; including the completion of a report for technical members on information sources/tools available to assist in the management of coastal hazards, as well as desktop research to determine current responses and programs being implemented to combat plastic litter.

SCCG has redeveloped and launched its new website. Check out the website at www.sydneycostalcouncils.com.au

SCCG Annual Report 17/18

The SCCG Annual Report for 2017/18 has been prepared highlighting the achievements over the previous financial year and case studies on projects achieving the SCCG goals of advocacy, collaboration, capacity building and research.

The Annual Report will be available on the SCCG [website](#) from 3rd December 2018.

Summerama Program



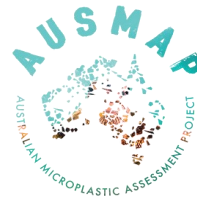
The SCCG Summerama Program, made up of fun family-friendly coastal activities, will be held across the SCCG region during January 2019.

Why not join in the fun, explore your coastal and estuarine environments, discover something new and connect with the coast.

From mid-December check out the Summerama [website](#) to search for a coastal activity near you.

Collaboration

AUSMAP



AUSMAP— the Australian Microplastic Assessment Project, is a nation-wide citizen science program designed to document and analyse microplastic pollution in aquatic environments through a standardised microplastics surveying method.

SCCG is a core partner of AUSMAP and hosted an AUSMAP training session for its Member Councils on 17th October.

Regional Approach to Grey-headed Flying-fox

SCCG in partnership with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage has developed GIS mapping information for our Member Councils on Grey-headed Flying-fox camps, potential foraging habitat and vegetation type. These maps can be used by Councils for inclusion in biodiversity strategies, plans of management, DCP/LEP's and in making planning decisions.

SCCG also partnered with the CSIRO to host a Flying-fox count methodology training session for its members at Centennial Parklands.

Emergency Management Health Check Tool



The Emergency Management Health Check Tool is an online tool that enables councils to assess their capability and readiness in planning for emergency management. The tool can assist in identifying areas of high achievement as well as areas or improvement in council's resilience and readiness capability.

The Summary reports provided are useful in building a case for funding to address emergency management needs; ensure integration between local emergency planning, risk management and Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework; and provide a platform to identify examples of best practice emergency management.

So far 40 councils across NSW have accessed the tool, with 26 councils completing the tool and downloading reports.

The Emergency Management Health Check Tool and available resources can be accessed at emhealthcheck.com.au

** The tool is supported by the NSW Office of Emergency Management.*

Projects

Adapting Priority Recreational Coastal Infrastructure

SCCG received funding through the Building Resilience to Climate Change Grants to undertake the project 'Adapting Priority Recreational Coastal Infrastructure for Climate Change'.

SCCG engaged Manly Hydraulics Laboratory and Engineers Australia through the National Committee on Coastal and Ocean Engineering to prepare an assessment methodology and decision framework for priority recreational coastal infrastructure assets regarding coastal hazards.

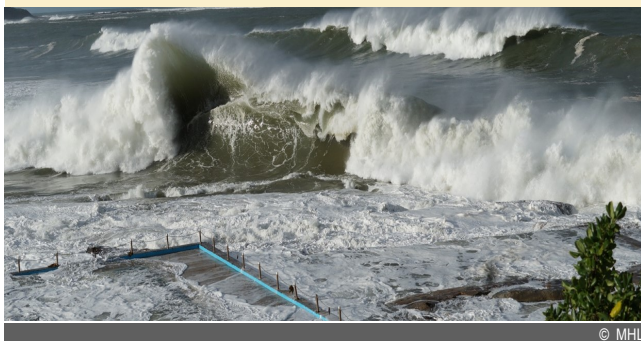
The assessment method is a tool that councils can use to evaluate the condition and vulnerability of their recreational infrastructure to hazards and the impacts of climate change, and estimate likely future maintenance requirements.

The tool has been tested on more than six public recreational infrastructure assets in three different NSW coastal councils to assess the value, affordability and sustainability of public recreational infrastructure and the amenity values it provides.

It is designed to guide better understanding of assets, but can also be used as a mechanism to highlight where funding should be prioritised to make specific coastal recreational assets viable.

The project outputs include a project factsheet, case studies, and the Tool, which was presented at the NSW Coastal Conference in November 2018. A video of the session can be viewed [here](#).

The Tool will undergo further testing by councils volunteering to assess their assets, and will be made available to all councils within NSW.



Advocacy

Marine Park Proposal

SCCG prepared a submission on the Hawkesbury Shelf Marine Bioregion Marine Park Proposal. Our submission can be accessed [here](#).

We commend the Marine Estate Management Authority for putting up the proposal to include sanctuary and conservation zones within the Hawkesbury Shelf Marine Bioregion.

At the same time we condemn the move by the government and Minister Blair to take sanctuary zones off the table before the consultation period had ended based on the grumblings of one stakeholder group. The NSW government consultation process must involve informed, considered decisions based on strong scientific evidence and consultation with all stakeholders.

Delegation — Coastal Management



On 4th October 2018, Sydney Coastal Councils Group welcomed a delegation of coastal managers from India; including Suresh Chandra Mahapatra and Prasanta Kumar Panigrahy from the Government of Odisha, and Anuja Sukhla from IPE Global Ltd.

The delegation met with the SCCG to discuss coastal management in NSW, coastal processes, and challenges faced by local councils. The delegation shared information about their community, largely fisherman as stakeholders that are dependent on the coast for their livelihood.

The delegation also undertook a site visit to Collaroy/ Narrabeen led by Craig Morrison from Northern Beaches Council, which provided firsthand experience of the beach and coastal hazards and management challenges faced by council and the community.

Coastal Info

Walking Coastal Sydney

Walking Coastal Sydney is a foreshore walking network that was developed by the Walking Volunteers in partnership with SCCG and the Department of Planning.

Electronic maps are available for download via the Walking Coastal Sydney [website](#) or on the Sydney Walker App for iPhone and iPad.

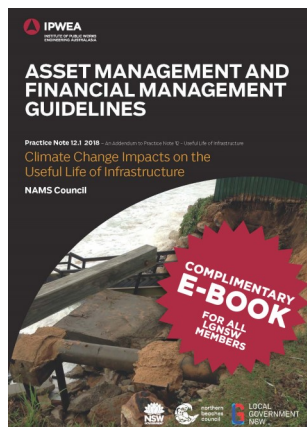
SCCG has original hardcopy maps of nine of the coastal walks around Sydney including:

Barrenjoey to Narrabeen Lakes
Narrabeen Lakes to Manly Lagoon
Manly Lagoon to North Head & The Spit
Harbour Bridge to Manly via The Spit
Harbour Circle Walk
Parramatta River Walk (Gladesville Bridge to Ryde Bridge)
Parramatta River Walk (Ryde Bridge to Parramatta)
Harbour Bridge to South Head and Clovelly
Clovelly to Cronulla

If you are interested in obtaining hardcopy maps please contact us at info@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au or 9976 1513.



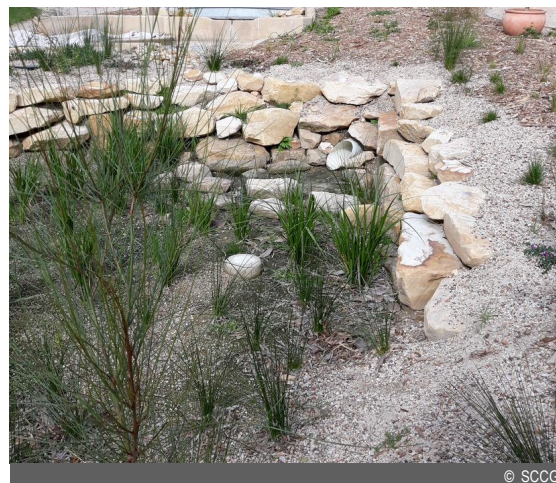
Practice Note 12.1— Climate Change Impacts



The Northern Beaches Council in collaboration with the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) has developed a guidance document through the Building Resilience to Climate Change Grant Program.

'Practice Note 12.1: Climate Change Impacts on the Useful Life of Infrastructure provides guidance on asset management and resilient design features for community facilities and assets in response to impacts from climate change such as sea level rise and extreme weather events.

An E-Book version of the document is complimentary for LGNSW Members. For more information click [here](#).



Water Sensitive Urban Design

The Marrickville West Eco water garden project has taken seven years to finally come to fruition. It is a partnership between Inner West Council and the Department of Education to build a stormwater harvesting / treatment system on Marrickville West Public School property. The school and Council have co-designed the project, which includes educational teaching and an outdoor classroom and a play area incorporating a rain garden. This project site was used as a CRC Water Sensitive Cities case study site. For more information click [here](#).

At a recent meeting of the SCCG Technical Committee, delegates attended a site visit of the Marrickville West Eco Water Garden as well as other good example sites applying water sensitive urban design including the Bruce Street Golf Course raingarden, Kendrick Park rain garden and Steel Park Waterplay. Delegates also discovered more about the mangroves and saltmarsh along the Cooks River.

Just for Interest

The CRC for Water Sensitive Cities has developed a Water Sensitive Cities Toolkit which supports the development of business cases and enables best practice strategic planning decisions. For more information click [here](#).

The Greater Sydney Harbour Estuary Coastal Management Program Scoping Study has been completed by BMT. To access this document click [here](#).