



Shelley Hancock
Minister for Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW LAW GIVES COASTAL COUNCILS MORE TIME TO COMPLETE THEIR COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Coastal councils now have two more years to complete their important plans for protecting the state's precious coastline, thanks to the successful passage of new legislation through Parliament.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said the *Coastal Management Amendment Act 2021* will give coastal councils - many ravaged by fire, floods and a relentless pandemic – until December 31, 2023 to continue to move from their CZMPs to developing their own CMP.

“We recognise local councils up and down the coast have been doing it tough these past two years so this extension is a sensible measure to prevent any council from falling behind,” Mrs Hancock said.

“By removing the looming deadline, we have given councils much-needed time to complete the transition without compromising the quality.

“Now it is up to councils to maintain a steady pace to get their CMPs done as soon as possible.”

Without this extension around 35 councils yet to develop CMPs would be unable to apply for funding under the Coastal and Estuary Grant Program to implement vital protection and rehabilitation works to their coastlines.

“The extra time will also allow councils to carry out planned emergency works during major coastal erosion events that are addressed in their CZMPs while they continue to develop a CMP,” Mrs Hancock said.

CMPs provide a framework for councils, government agencies and local communities to work together to set a long-term strategy to manage coastal and estuary areas.

This is done by identifying actions needed through councils' business planning and land-use planning systems for managing threats and risks to coastal areas now and into the future.

The NSW Government is providing \$83.6 million towards coastal management. This

includes \$72.7 million in grants and support to local councils to complete and implement coastal management programs with \$43.14 million being awarded to date since 2016.

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