LAKE ILLAWARRA CMP IMPLEMENTATION GROUP 19 FEBRUARY 2025



MEMBERS PRESENT		
Cr Ann Martin, WCC Chair	Chris Stewart, WCC staff	
Cr Deidre Stuart, WCC	Isabelle Ghetti, WCC staff	
Cr Tiana Myers, WCC	Trudy Costa, WCC staff	
Mayor Chris Homer, SCC	Todd Hopwood, WCC staff	
Geoff Hoynes, WCC	Ellen Dreghorn, WCC staff	
Jessica Lintern, SCC		

Online Attendance		
Graham Towers, DPHI	Peter Hawkins, TfNSW	
Nathan Harrison, Sydney Water	David Kirby, Crown Lands	
Murray Gibbs, Land Services		

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ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed new and existing attending members of the Executive.

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

ITEM 3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land and thanked Elders, past, present and emerging for their care of Country, recognising that this land has never been ceded and always has and always will be Aboriginal Land.

ITEM 4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

ITEM 5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

The Minutes from 21 August 2024 were received and accepted.

MOVED by Mayor Homer SECONDED by Ann Martin.

ITEM 6 GROUP INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made at the commencement of the meeting on-line and around the table.

ITEM 7 PRESENTATION / REPORT – UPDATE OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AND SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR

Expressions of interest (EOI) to appoint new Community Representatives and an Independent Scientific Advisor close on 10 March 2025. Public notices have been prepared and posted on both <u>Wollongong</u> and <u>Shellharbour City</u> Council's websites. Links have been provided to the <u>Lake Illawarra</u> group pages for prospective applicants to complete an on-line form.

Representatives from the Aboriginal community will be appointed through a separate process.

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ITEM 8 PRESENTATION / REPORT – CODE OF CONDUCT

Council's Manager Customer – Business and Integrity presented the Code of Conduct for Committee Members. The group is an advisory group and interactions with staff should take place in a professional manner with regards to the Code of Conduct. Meetings of the Committee are by nature 'closed meetings' with observers and guests attending only as invitees and subject to approval of the chairperson.

ITEM 9 OVERVIEW OF CMP GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK, TOR AND ACTIVE CMP PROJECTS FOR 2024-2025

Wollongong City Council's Coastal Environment Officer provided an outline of the CMP and its adopted Governance Framework:

- The Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program is a ten-year plan that has been prepared by Wollongong and Shellharbour City Councils in accordance with requirements of the *Coastal Management Act 2016*. It was adopted and gazetted in 2020 and outlines 39 management actions to preserve the long-term value and health of the lake and its systems. A review of the CMP will be undertaken later this year.
- The governance framework was established to fulfil requirements of two actions in the CMP. The
 framework consists of a Project Management team, Asset Management working groups (where
 required), Project Control Groups (where required), and the Implementation Group. The Terms of
 Reference were prepared in 2022, reviewed 12 months later and endorsed by Council in November
 2023.

Engagement from the Community for the Entrance Option Study has been completed with a Report expected to go to Council in May. It was suggested that regular updates be provided to the Community. Crown Lands responded to this item noting that erosion along the entrance channel to Lake Illawarra is a consequence of permanently opening the entrance to improve water quality. They encouraged further modelling and analysis to investigate the likely effects across all CMP objectives of maintaining or changing the entrance management regime.

The 2024-2025 Implementation Plan was discussed with the group. Several projects have been successfully completed with further funding secured for participation and community engagement. The Implementation Plan actions align with the CMP. A copy of the plan would be distributed to group members. Updates on key active projects were provided.

ITEM 10 GROUP MEMBER UPDATES (ROUND TABLE)

Transport for New South Wales commented that repair of the piers at Windang Bridge had been disrupted due to marine factors and would require ongoing monitoring. Works will continue to stabilise remaining bridge piers. A letter will be sent to community members in the area advising them of the ongoing works.

Crown Lands provided an update on projects around the Lake to Wollongong City Council's Coastal Officer after the meeting for distribution to the Executive Group.

LAKE ILLAWARRA CMP IMPLEMENTATION GROUP 19 FEBRUARY 2025



ITEM 11 OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting of the Implementation Group is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 21 May 2025.

ITEM 12 CLOSE

The Meeting closed at 7.19pm

LAKE ILLAWARRA CMP IMPLEMENTATION GROUP 19 FEBRUARY 2025



ACTION SUMMARY

Item	Action	Officer	Status
9	Entrance Options Study Report to be sent to both Councils		
	Review of the Coastal Management Plan		



Expressions of interest now open

Community representatives and Independent Scientific Advisor

- WCC Public Notice page: <u>Expressions of Interest for the Lake Illawarra</u>
 CMP Implementation Group | City of Wollongong
- WCC Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group page : <u>Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group | City of Wollongong</u>
- WCC Lake Illawarra page: <u>Lake Illawarra | City of Wollongong</u>
- SCC Public Notice page Public Notice | Shellharbour Council with
- SCC Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group page <u>Lake Illawarra</u> <u>Coastal Management Program Implementation Group | Shellharbour</u> <u>Council</u>
- SCC Lake Illawarra page <u>Lake Illawarra | Shellharbour Council</u>



City of Wollongong

Home / Environment / Coast and Waterways / Lake Illawarra



Expressions of interest are now open for people to join the L
CMP Implementation Group as Community Representation
Independent Scientific Advisor.

See our Public Notice for details and apply by Monday 10 N

Expression of Interest for the Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group

you passionate about the current and future care of I also Illaurace?

Wollongong and Shellharbour City Councils are working together to implement the Labe Illawarra Coastal Management Program and we're calling for volunteers to join the Labe Illawarra CMP Implementation Group (the Group).

The Group will meet quarterly over a 12-month period with the possibility of extension. Meetings will be held online or in person a either Wollongong City Council's Administration Building or Shellharbour Civic Centre.

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Community Representatives

We're seeking two community representatives from each local government area (Wollongong and Shellharbour).

As a member of this group, you will provide advice on behalf of the community on the implementation of actions of the Illawarra CMP. You will also participate in community engagement activities.

ielection criteria for community representatives include

- Demonstrated interest in and knowledge of estuary / lake management issues
- Demonstrated capacity and willingness to attend quarterly meetings and actively participate in Group business or activities
- Ability to contribute positively and constructively within an agreed management framework.
- Desire to support and promote an inclusive approach for representation of a diversity of perspectives.
- You must be a resident or rate paver in the Local Government Area for which you are apply

Independent Scientific Advisor

The scientific advisor role will provide sound expert advice on the management of estuaries and the implementation of actions in the Lake Illawarra CMP.

selection criteria for the Independent Scientific Advisor includes:

- High-level experience in research and / or management of lakes and estuaries.
 Commitment to dedicate time to attend meetings and participate in Group activities where required
- Commitment to dedicate time to attend meetings and participate in Group activities where required.
 Demonstrated ability to provide round crientific advice and a birth level of perconal commitment while encound.
- position.

 No formal association with Council, government, developers or any other group with a vested interest in the management of

EOIs close Monday March 10

Introduction

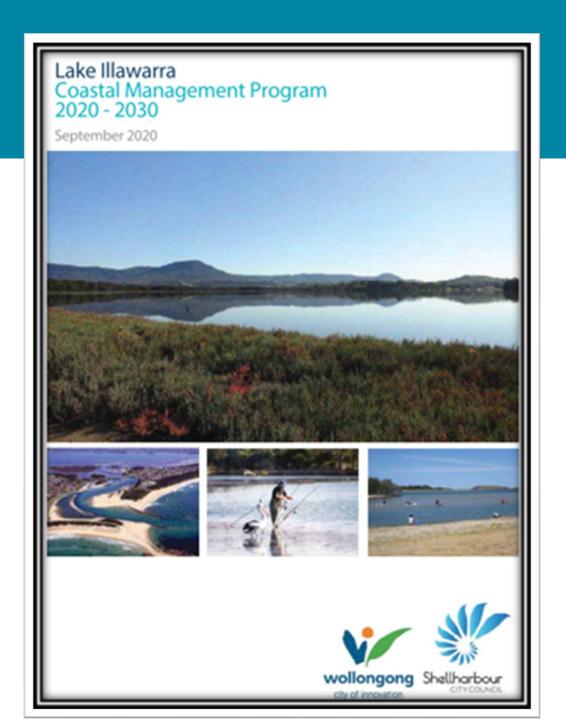
- Lake Illawarra CMP 2020 2030
- Governance framework
- Terms of Reference
- Implementation plan 2024-2025

wollongong.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0013/104215 /Lake-Illawarra-Coastal-Management-Program.pdf





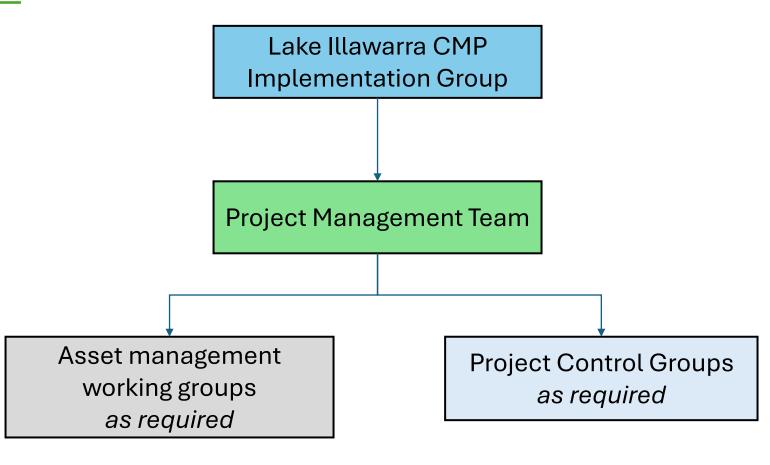




Governance framework

Established in 2022 to fulfill requirements set out in actions PM2 and PM4 of CMP

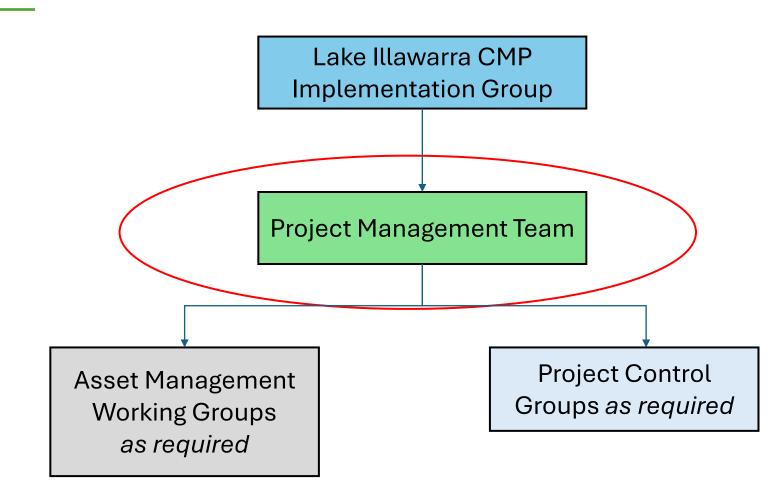
- Memorandum of Understanding between Wollongong and Shellharbour City Councils
- Key responsibilities to implement, monitor, evaluate and report on progress of CMP



Project Management Team

Operations and administration

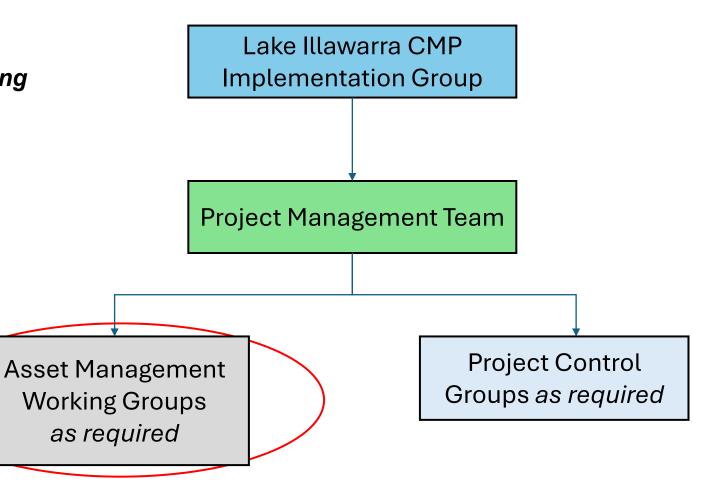
- Business planning and reporting
- Project prioritisation and development of yearly implementation plans
- Funding and resourcing through allocation of MOU funds and external grant applications



Asset Management Working Groups

Responsibility of Asset Management Working Groups

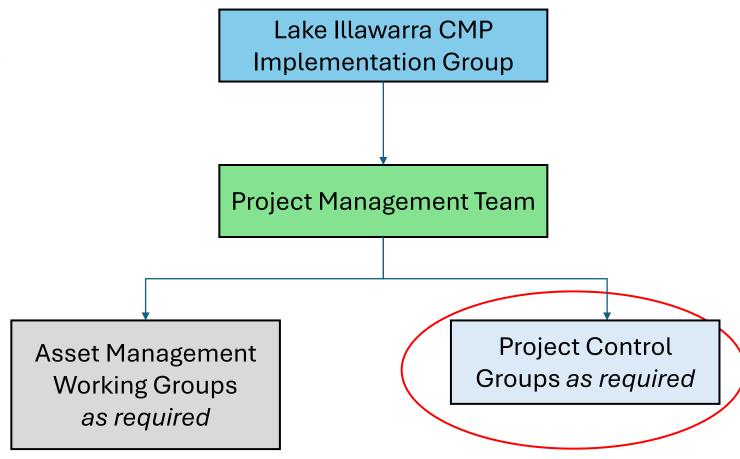
- Capital works and management of assets
- Liaising with PMT to prioritise actions for Councils' DPOP's
- BAU activities of each Council



Project Control Groups

Technical expertise and input to specific actions and projects

• e.g. Entrance Options Study

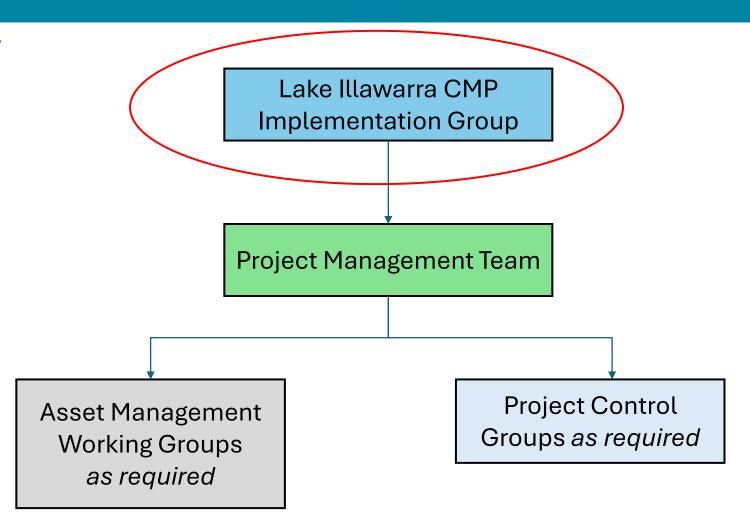


The Implementation Group

Responsibilities and functions:

- Provide input and advice on CMP implementation on behalf of community groups and/or organisations represented
- Serve as an important link to the community and assist both Councils to communicate with the broader community
- Platform for collaboration and information sharing

Terms of Reference updated in 2023



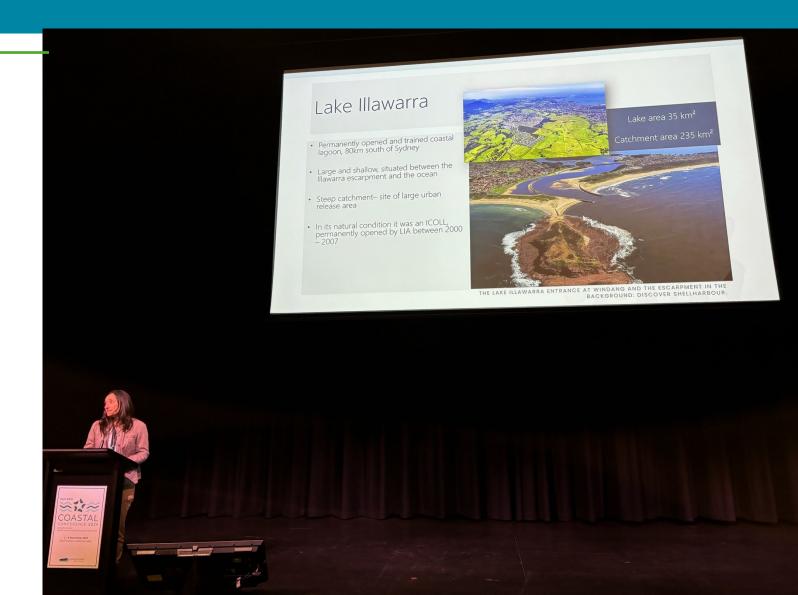
Status of CMP

- Snapshot update
- 4 actions to commence in 2026
- Mid-term assessment of CMP to commence in 2025
- Continuing grant success
- Presentation at NSW Coastal Conference and for NSW Coastal Council in late 2024









Implementation Plan 2024 - 2025

Overview and update on key projects:

- Lake Illawarra Entrance Options Study (EC1)
- Improving stormwater quality (WQ1-WQ4)
- Community engagement and participation strategy (PM3)
- Shared pathway masterplan (RA1)
- Cultural Values and Threats project (CH1)
- Feasibility of small-scale dredging (RA5)

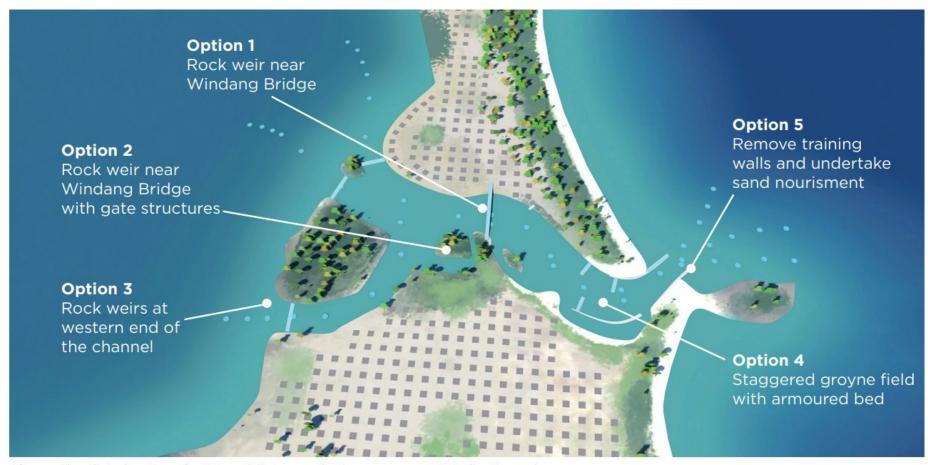


Lake Illawarra Entrance Options Study (EC1)

- Lake Illawarra
 entrance channel:
 management
 options assessment
 (final report)
- Community

 engagement:
 Monday 18

 November Friday
 20 December 2024



Above: Shortlisted options for Stage 2 Entrance Options assessment. Indicative only.

Lake Illawarra Entrance Options Study (EC1)

- Community Engagement Report outcomes are being reviewed by internal teams and the PCG
- Recommendations for next steps are being considered by PCG and our current program is to hold Councillor Briefings in March and Council meetings in late April / early May. This program is subject to approval by our respective Executive Teams and Councils
- A follow up communication to community and registered stakeholders will go out in early March and a copy will be sent to both Councils



Improving Stormwater Quality (WQ1-WQ4)

- Includes monitoring programs and key project to implement new pollutant reduction targets for the lake catchment
- Using Water Sensitive Urban Design and Integrated Water cycle management to achieve targets- build resilience to climate change
- Full time officer has been engaged to update Council DCP's, create new guidelines and resources for developers and community
- Regional workshop hosted at WCC next week
- Councillor Briefings later in the year



Community engagement and participation strategy (PM3)

- New program being planned for 2025 2028
- Focus on building partnerships and collaboration with community to address coastal hazards
- Short film projects (Screen Illawarra, Memory and Place project)
- Workshops, community building activities
- Upcoming events Environmental DNA study of waterways in catchment
- Community sampling events with schools and local groups planned for April



Shared pathway investigations (RA1)

- Mapping and investigations have been completed for the shared pathway
- Prioritised program of works under development
- Early community engagement late Feb



Cultural Values and Threats project (CH1)

- Collaborative project with Illawarra Local Aboriginal Lands Council (ILALC)
- The study will apply a community-led approach to identify and map the known Aboriginal cultural values within the Lake Illawarra CMP area, determined by Traditional Owners, custodians and knowledge holders













Feasibility of small-scale dredging (RA5)

- Gap analysis complete and under review by internal teams
- Dredging Assessment Report and Studies due to be completed around April / May 2025
- The study and report will consist of:
 - Review of current knowledge
 - Seagrass survey
 - Fine scale bathymetry
 - Soil and sediment testing and analysis
 - o Identifying material and volume sizes
 - Dredging type and strategy if feasible
 - Cost estimates



2025 and beyond

Challenges and opportunities

- Adapting to Climate Change and managing impacts of sea level rise on community use and enjoyment of the lake
- Communicating information to community
- Collaborations and partnerships
 - Ozfish, AUSMAP, ORRCA, UOW, Marine Estate Management Strategy, ISJO and other Councils
- Excellent track record of grant projects completed and funds awarded

