

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2023
WOLLONGONG ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
LEVEL 10 COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL



The Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group oversees and where needed, provides advice on the implementation of actions within the Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program. The Group acts as a platform for relationship building between all stakeholders, with the shared aspiration to ensure that Lake Illawarra's ecological, social, and economic value is maintained and improved now and into the future.

Item	Subject	Attachment	Time	Presenter
1.	Welcome and Introductions		5.30pm	Chair
2.	Apologies			Chair
3.	Acknowledgement of Country			Chair
4.	Declarations of Interest			Chair
5.	Confirmation of Minutes and Business Arising	Yes	5:35pm	Chair
6.	Project Officer Report		5:45pm	Trudy Costa - WCC
7.	Presentation / Report – NSW Fisheries FRDC Estuarine Cockle Project		6:00pm	Matthew Taylor – Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries)
8.	Presentation/Report – NSW Marine Estate Domestic Waterfront Strategy		6:20pm	Jillian Reynolds – Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries)
9.	Presentation / Report – Community Engagement and Participation Draft Strategy		6:40pm	Jack Brooks – Brooks Community Engagement Pty Ltd
10.	State Government Grants - Upcoming Opportunities		7:00pm	Chair
11.	Group Member Updates (Round Table)		7.10pm	All
12.	Other Business		7:25pm	All
13.	Next Meeting			Chair
	Close		7.30pm	Chair

BUSINESS PAPER

WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2023
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This Business Paper has been prepared to assist with the running of the Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group meeting and provides an outline of the relevant items for discussion.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
ITEM 1 Welcome and Introductions	3
ITEM 2 Apologies	3
ITEM 3 Acknowledgement of Country	3
ITEM 4 Declarations of Interest	3
ITEM 5 Confirmation of Minutes and Business Arising	3
ITEM 6 Project Officer Report	3
ITEM 7 Presentation – NSW Fisheries FRDC Estuarine Cockle Project	6
ITEM 8 Presentation – NSW Marine Estate Domestic Waterfront Strategy	6
ITEM 9 Presentation – Community Engagement and Participation Draft Strategy	6
ITEM 10 State Government Grants – Upcoming Opportunities	7
ITEM 11 Group Member Updates (Round Table)	7
ITEM 12 Other Business	7
ITEM 13 Close	7

ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

This item is a standing Agenda Item. Introductions will be made for new members and staff present.

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES

This item is a standing Agenda Item.

ITEM 3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

This item is a standing Agenda item. The Chairperson will provide an Acknowledgement of Country.

ITEM 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

This is a standing Agenda item to allow for members to declare any conflicts of interest relevant to the agenda and/or generally to the business of the Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That any conflicts of interests in relation to the agenda, or the business of the Committee, be declared and noted in the minutes.
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ITEM 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

This is a standing Agenda item. The minutes and business arising of the 15 February 2023 meeting are attached to the meeting agenda.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the previous Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group meeting held 15 February 2023 are endorsed as accurate.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group February 2023
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ITEM 6 PROJECT OFFICER REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee members with an update on current issues and projects relevant to the Committee for information purposes only. These items will generally not require a decision by the Committee but may provide information for future decisions or discussion. There will be time for urgent questions.

1. Update on Review of Terms of Reference

- At its meeting on 31 January 2022, Council adopted the Terms of Reference to establish the Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group. As per the terms, an evaluation and review is being conducted to ensure the purpose, membership and operation of the group is effective and to make appropriate

changes. Proposed revisions and a survey have been circulated to the group with the Agenda and Business paper. There will be an opportunity for group members to provide feedback on these changes during the meeting, and additional written feedback can be provided by completing the online survey using Microsoft forms, or emailing responses to the Project Officer by no later than 7th June 2023.

2. Update on Aboriginal Community representation and group membership

- Following the resignation of Auntie Sherralyn Robinson from WCC, the Aboriginal Reference Group has been approached and has agreed provide a nomination of an Aboriginal community representative. Wollongong City Council's Aboriginal Engagement Officer will continue to liaise with the Aboriginal Reference Group and with The Shellharbour Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee to support appointments to the roles.

3. Update on overall status of the CMP

Luv the Lake Litter Prevention Program (WQ8)

- Wollongong City Council and Shellharbour City Council received funding through the EPA's Council Litter Prevention Grants (Round 6 2021) to address the threat of litter to the lake. Lusiana Vulatha has been working in the role of Litter Officer since January 2023, and has overseen the installation of new infrastructure and signage at key litter hotspots, organized several community clean up days and educational events, and is coordinating a final Clean up Festival style event on the 3rd June. The project team has worked along Rise and Shine, Rotary, Bushcare and other community groups to remove hundreds of kilos of rubbish from sites around the lake. The project has provided important information on sources and pathways of litter entering the lake and will be valuable in informing future management actions.

Protecting Lake Illawarra through community engagement and participation program (PM3 / EV3)

- Council has engaged Brooks Community Consultants Pty Ltd to develop an Engagement and Participation Strategy for Lake Illawarra.
- Brooks have completed two hotspot kiosks, two community workshops, interviewed over 180 community members and conducted 21 interviews with key stakeholders in the community to inform the development of the strategy.
- A draft strategy, monitoring toolkit and review of Lake Illawarra educational materials is now complete and Brooks are gathering feedback on the strategy.
- The final strategy will be completed in June.

Bathymetric Survey of Lake Illawarra (FB3)

- Council has engaged Hydrographic & Cadastral Survey Pty. Ltd to conduct a spatial and temporal analysis of the Lake's bathymetry and its changes over time. Bathymetric surveys of the main body of the lake and its major tributaries are now complete and the final analysis and report on the data is being prepared. Key final outcomes of the study will be presented in a future meeting of the Implementation Group.

Integrate key objectives and strategies from the CMP into relevant planning and policy documents of both Councils (PM1/IR3)

- A project brief has been prepared to engage a consultant to conduct a review of Wollongong and Shellharbour's Planning instruments. A key outcome of the project will be the development of drafted wording/material to be integrated into relevant DCP's and LEP's of both Councils, to incorporate provision for future tidal inundation, Risk Based Framework Stormwater Management Targets and the Environmentally Friendly Seawall Guidelines.
- This project has been delayed due its dependence on the completion of the Risk-based Framework (WQ1) which is currently still in draft. A consultant for the project will be engaged when the WQ1 framework is finalised.

Reduce sediment load to the Lake by improving compliance with erosion and sediment controls for development sites (WQ5)

- A building site compliance officer has been appointed at Wollongong City Council for an 18-month trial, carrying out engagement and enforcement activities in the West Dapto area. To date they have issued ~\$90,000 of fines relating to sediment and erosion control.
- The SCC compliance team has also inspected a number of building sites issuing 2 fines for sediment and erosion control breaches totalling \$12,000
- An Engagement Strategy for this action is being developed as part of the Community Engagement and Participation program to complement this compliance program by encouraging awareness and behavioural change in the building and development industry. Further educational materials to assist future programs will be developed in the next stage of the Community Engagement and Participation Strategy.

Monitor entrance channel, investigate and finalise options to manage erosion and accretion changes in the entrance channel (EC1/EC4)

- The interagency technical working group has continued to meet monthly, and work on the Entrance Channel Options project has continued to progress. An update will be provided to the Implementation Group when available.

Rehabilitate vegetation and manage public access along foreshores and banks of the Lake, its tributaries, islands and broader low-lying areas (EV1)

- Significant grant funding has been received from DPE, Local Land Services and the National Trust to support the delivery of seven on-ground vegetation projects at 19 sites around Lake Illawarra and its major tributaries. Over the last year, approximately 20,000 native tubes have been planted along bank areas to reduce erosion and aid the removal of contaminants from stormwater.
- Around 90 hectares of land has been revegetated to provide additional protection to creek banks by reducing pedestrian access and reducing the need for mowing around the Lake's edge.

Implement water quality monitoring programs for estuary health, recreational use and physico-chemical and bacteriological indicators in the Lake and its catchment (WQ7)

- The estuary health program for Lake Illawarra samples 11 sites within the Lake monthly. The latest data is being analysed and the estuary health technical report and report card is being prepared.
- The catchment water quality program samples 21 sites within the Lake Illawarra catchment. A summary report for July 2022-June 2023 will be available in September/October. Both the estuary health program and the catchment water quality program are funded through the DPE Coast and Estuary Grants program until June 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

2. Proposed Terms of Reference changes

ITEM 7 PRESENTATION – NSW FISHERIES FRDC ESTUARINE COCKLE PROJECT

This item will be presented by Dr Matthew Taylor, Principal Investigator with DPI Fisheries. The Lake Illawarra CMP highlights community concerns relating to increases in recreational hand gathering of cockles in recent years and includes actions to assist and align with DPI Fisheries management of this matter. Dr Taylor will report on the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) project “Maintaining productivity and access to Estuary Cackle across sectors through improved science-based decision making”, which aims to meet information needs in understanding estuarine cockle resources in NSW.

The objectives of the project are to:

1. Identify stock structure for Estuary Cackle across NSW.
 2. Design appropriate fishery-independent survey methodologies to support both priority research objectives, and ongoing monitoring of stock biomass.
 3. Characterise basal population parameters and spatial and temporal patterns in biomass and recruitment, within a broader context of environmental drivers and species-habitat interactions.
 4. Improve knowledge on recreational, aboriginal and IUU harvest of the resource.
 5. Integrate information on biology, ecology, harvest, stressors, impacts, and current/future management arrangements into an Ecological Risk Assessment framework, to define future management, compliance, and communication priorities.
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ITEM 8 PRESENTATION – NSW MARINE ESTATE DOMESTIC WATERFRONT STRATEGY

This item will be presented by Jillian Reynolds, Senior Fisheries Manager with DPI Fisheries. Access to the Lake foreshore is a key community value listed the CMP. The construction of domestic waterfront structures such as jetties, pontoons and boat ramps allows access to Lake Illawarra for a range of on-water uses, but can have both positive and negative impacts on how foreshore areas are used. If they are not designed, constructed and located appropriately, they can negatively impact coastal habitats and the public's use of these areas.

This presentation will report on the NSW Domestic Waterfront Strategy developed as part of the NSW Marine Estate management initiative “Healthy Coastal Habitats”. The strategy aims to help maintain access to public waterfront areas and identify and protect sensitive environmental areas within estuaries.

ITEM 9 PRESENTATION – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION DRAFT STRATEGY

This item will be presented by Jack Brooks, Community Analyst at Brooks Community Engagement Pty Ltd. As part of action PM3, Councils have engaged Brooks Community Engagement to develop an Engagement and Participation Strategy to increase community education on Lake Illawarra and involvement in CMP implementation. Brooks will report on feedback and recommendations for various avenues for Engagement and

Participation around Lake Illawarra given extensive community and stakeholder consultation received as part of the project.

ATTACHMENTS

- 3. Community Case Studies Report
- 4. Hotspot Kiosks Report

ITEM 10 STATE GOVERNMENT GRANTS - UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

This is a standing agenda item to allow for members representing grant funding bodies to provide information on upcoming grant funding opportunities that may be available for the implementation of CMP actions.

ITEM 11 GROUP MEMBER UPDATES (ROUND TABLE)

This item is a standing Agenda Item. This is a chance for Group members to provide a short update on relevant matters.

ITEM 12 OTHER BUSINESS

This item is a standing Agenda Item. It is an opportunity for any member to raise business directly relating to the functions of the Lake Illawarra CMP Implementation Group.

ITEM 13 CLOSE

This is a standing Agenda Item. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30pm Wednesday, 23 August 2023