

Coastal Planning and Management

Committee Meeting



HELD AT Bega on 2 October 2015

Present

Keith Hughes – BVSC (Chair)
Caroline Henry – NSW Oyster Farmers
Kyrán Crane – BVSC
Danie Ondinea – Community Rep
Jillian Reynolds – DPI Fisheries
Kerry Pfeiffer – Community Rep
Michael Fiedler – BVSC
Daniel Murphy – BVSC
Stephen Dovey – NP&WS
Shane Murtagh – Maritime (Narooma Area)
Jillian Keating – SELLS (for Sue-Anne Nicol)
Sue Jones – BVSC
Lorraine Fuge – BVSC
Daniel Wiecek – Office of Environment & Heritage
Greg Carton – Broadwater Oysters
Sue McIntyre – Oyster Industry
Matt Blacka – UNSW-WRL (Presentation)
Kurt Laboyrie – NSW SCS / DPI (Presentation)
Michael Andrews – (CVA) Conservation Volunteers Assoc

1 Apologies:

Allan Lugg – DPI
Don McPhee – Community Rep
Graham Roche – RMS Rep
Jillian Riethmuller – Sapphire Marine Discovery Centre
Daniel Madigan – BVSC
Sue-Anne Nicol – SELLS
Andrew Woodley – BVSC
Darren Hulm – Maritime
Doug Reckord – Bournda Environmental Education Centre
Norman Lenehan
Nick Yee – Elgin Associates
Brett Weingarh – Love our Lakes

Absent: Julie Fourter, Bill Taylor, John Walker

2 Confirmation of minutes

The Minutes of the 3 July 2015 Committee were taken as read.

Moved – Kerry Pfeiffer

Seconded – Danie Odinea

3 Business arising

Actions from last meeting

1. It was also moved that a program of activities and a costing of the funding required for a continuation of the Love Our Lakes programme be presented at the next Committee meeting.

Response:

OEH obtained extended funding to continue to March 2016 for Love our Lakes \$13,000 BVSC / OEH, Calendar and further school programs

2. Danny Madigan advised that 60 Council staff will be undertaking erosion control training in mid-August 2015.

Response:

6 weeks ago there was a sedimentation training program, over 3 days, refresher on the expectations from developers, land owners etc. Council's planners, engineers, building inspections attended.

Kerry Pfeiffer voiced concerns as there are still new developments in Mirador that need sediment controls in place.

4 Member Reports

4.1 DPI Fisheries – Jillian Reynolds

- Kerry Pfeiffer raised the issue of sharks sightings in the Pambula area
- Jillian responded that we need to verify the species of sharks not assume they are great whites
- If anyone has any reports of sightings they should notify fisheries, Jillian would let local offices know.
- **Action:** Jillian to investigate how this is dealt with elsewhere and report back to Daniel Murphy to distribute findings to members.

4.2 OEH Coasts & Estuaries – Daniel Wiecek

- Council applied for x 4 grants for 2016. Note post meeting, 3 applications were finally submitted.
- Sign off of assessment for OEH, announced early November 2015. Draft chapters of coastal manual available at Coastal Conference (Nov 2015) for public comment.
- New legislation, draft bill on public exhibition at Coastal Conference or before Christmas.

4.3 Local Lands Service – Jillian Keating

- South East strategic plan currently with Minister, will be on public exhibition in 6 weeks, will notify Council
- \$9m worth of applications for grants, only \$3m is available for funding
- Community advisory project – roll out of enhanced fox control program Eurobodalla & BVSC areas, also to include property owners, crown land & Council land – reactive component is shooting/trapping
- Olivia – monitoring potoroo control, fox baiting every 3 months
- Landcare co-ordinators x 4 to cover south east LLS
- Coastal Wetlands - Michael Andrews is running wetlands
- Community wetlands forum – approx. 80 people attended
- On ground programs – Kisses lagoon, weed control along jellat flats
- 4 Winds festival – involvement from school at Bermagui, song to be written and sung at the festival.
- Kristy/Sonya – grants still available to June 2017 for wetlands, mangroves, salt marsh areas.
- Pambula River & Yowaka River (road side) looking at revegetation and putting in bollards
- Grow your own oysters going to the end of 2015, Eden High & Lumen Christi to be involved.

4.4 Conservation Volunteers Association – Michael Andrews

- Outlined role in wetland project
- Update email listing
- Wetlands Carers network to cover from Wollongong to BVSC
- Funding to June 2017 how do we maintain group of people beyond that period.
- Facilitate 3 x workshops & forum x 1 per financial year, include research scientists, distribute a message that is understood.

4.5 NSW Oyster Farmers – Caroline Henry / Sue McIntyre / Greg Carton

Sue McIntyre

- Extension of EMS position for 3 years
- Meeting with estuaries Wonboyn/Wapengo
- Raising oyster awareness promoted at Eden Whale Festival, oyster competition at Bega & Pambula shows.
- Keen to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (including Council) looking at environmental impact on estuaries, something needs to be documented that links the oyster industry and environmental impact on estuaries together.
- Formalising the relationship through developing Memorandums of understanding (MOU) between Councils & Oyster Industry. Hawksbury Council already has an MOU in place, Shoalhaven & Eurobodalla are being developed.
- Caroline Henry reference to NSW Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy Second Edition 2014

Chapter 4 and 8 seem to be the relevant sections. Also refer to the web link.

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/aquaculture/publications/oysters/industry/industry-strategy>

- Sue McIntyre – what is the process to formalise the new EMS officer to be a member of the committee
- Daniel Murphy answered that we are after the right people and equal representation across the board and would never prevent anyone from attending a meeting

Moved: Kerry Pfeiffer – Council to liaise with oyster industry, right person to conduct presentation covering marketing for both domestic/international, aim of developing memorandum of understanding?

Action: Daniel Murphy – to follow-up with Sue McIntyre & Caroline Henry before formal resolution.

Caroline Henry

- Now the Chair of the NSW Farmers Oyster committee.
- Oyster industry is changing in the whole of NSW – new implementation committee
- RFS contamination scare, retardant foams being used in the past, residue still in environment may cause issues for oysters, fish, prawn – testing is being carried out. The use of this foam stopped in 2008.
- Mention of the Clyde River and their issues with pump out facilities and the non regulations of some. I agreed we do not have issues at present however with the increase of people living on boats and spending longer periods of time on boats with toilet facilities, all Councils need to make provision for pump out stations to be available and for these to be audited.
- Discussions with Greg O'Donnell on self auditing of OSMS.

4.6 NSW Roads & Maritime – Shane Murtagh

- New entity more focus on area covering Monaro region to Victoria border
- 4 boating officers in area
- There is a boating officer specifically for training at schools

- Have employed a new aboriginal trainee
- Major oil spill exercise held at Bermagui with the main aim of concentrating on protecting oyster leases, we had an excellent result, looking at holding these exercises x 2 a year, thanks to Rob Slapp from BVSC for his assistance he was very helpful and understanding with our requirements.
- 'Boating Now Program' there is money still available for grants for upgrading boat ramps etc so we suggest that Councils apply now.
- An audit from Tuross to Victoria border to commence on 19 October 2015 covering moorings, signage, ramps etc – upgrading as required.

- Greg Carton asked the question of position of marker buoys due to rise & fall of sandbars and change in sediment.

- Shane responded that they do carry out patrol checks and do phone the office if not in correct position so it can be rectified, however if you do see one that is not in the correct position Shane is more than happy to take your call.

4.7 OEH – National Parks – Steve Dovey

- Sealing of pit toilets – completed
- Lake opening at Wallagoot, have been working with Council on this

4.8 Community Representation – Danie Ondinea

- Bio blitz Wallagoot catchment 4 & 5 December 2015 partnership with Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council, surveys of areas responsible for, to better manage.
- Citizen Science - local woman Libby Hepburn is the leader of the Australian Bioblitz Guidelines working group, which recently produced the "Australian Guide to Running a BioBlitz". She is also the founder of our local Atlas of Life in the Coastal Wilderness which organises our local, very successful community bioblitzes and collects information about the natural environment of the south coast.
- Asked committee members if anyone knew about the Wallaga Lake State Park. A resident had asked me about it, it's listed on the DPI State Parks website as a newly created state park with information coming online as it becomes available. It apparently covers the area from south of Wallaga Lake to north of Bermagui North Lagoon. No one had heard of it.

4.9 Community Representation – Kerry Pfeiffer

- Merimbula Lake Community group currently looking at licenses, sail boarding, paddle boarding approval from Council.
- Sapphire Wilderness, upcoming oyster & champagne night, sample tasting of seafood's on offer.

4.10 BVSC

Daniel Murphy

- Update on Bermagui saltmarsh small amount of erosion has occurred, restrict access to saltmarsh, works seeking completion in November 2015 or alternatively early 2016.

- Coast and Estuary Grant announcements – Coastal Conference November 2015
- Love our Lakes progressing with roll over of OEH funding secured.
- Coastal hazard study in final draft, should be to Council before Christmas, during exhibition period there were no responses.

Kyran Crane

- Rapid catchment, desktop analysis carried out identifying erosion Cuttagee / Nelsons / Middles Lagoon
- Community meetings to be held in 2016, one for each catchment
- Advised Pambula Estuary plan has been adopted by Council
- Other priority erosion areas, an update to be given next meeting.

5 New Business

5.1 Rapid Catchment Assessment Project Overview, Nick Yee (Elgin Associates)

Apology – Nick was unable to attend this meeting.

5.2 ICOLL Entrance Management Policies, Matt Blacka (UNSW-WRL)

- Presentation – 6 lakes/lagoons in Council, Wallaga Lake, Cuttagee Lake, Bega River, Back Lake, Curalo Lagoon & Wonboyn Lake – what trigger levels are used for opening these lakes/lagoons.
- Review and update entrance Management Policies, Review of Environmental factors & fact sheets, work with Council to obtain necessary agency approvals/licenses.
- Objectives of formalised entrance management policies, accommodate future climate change & sea level rise, minimise risks to public & private safety.
- There are 6 individual policy documents on entrances, 7 when Wallagoot added

Caroline Henry – Wonboyn infrastructure for oysters, why is this not included as an asset? Why can't they be used as trigger points to open entrances. Discussion by committee on asset / trigger levels.

Daniel Murphy – Important to note who is responsible for recognition of these as an asset. Council / OEH / DPI will be having discussions regarding Wonboyn entrance management. DPI-Aquaculture to be included in these discussions. Council will also discuss this issue with Caroline & other growers at Wonboyn as part of the entrance management policy project.

Action: Kyran – if required due to file size of fact sheets, create a dropbox to obtain information (fact sheets)

5.3 Soil Conservation Service NSW – Dune Vegetation, Kurt Laboyrie NSW SCS/DPI

- Presentation on the impacts & management of coastal erosion on Kurnell Peninsula.
- Pointed out that they are a resource and do provide erosion & sediment control training.
- Project to re-establish dunes, vegetation & fence lines, to reduce dune shift, erosion on coast lines & stabilisation.
- Outlined issues faced with erosion etc how to try to re-establish & stabilise these areas ie using dune species that are native.
- Emergency access points – recycled plastic (endure plank) is used instead of timber planks for paths, allows safer access for emergency vehicles and beach users.

6 General Business

6.1 Dates for Coastal Committee 2016

Proposed dates identified post meeting due to school holiday clashes:

March 2016	Friday 4 March 2016
July 2016	Friday 1 July 2016
October 2016	Friday 14 October 2016

Time – 10am to 12pm

7 Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 12.32pm.

8 Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held at 10am on Friday 4 March 2016 at Bega Council Chambers.