

Meeting notes

Floodplain Management Advisory Committee

Date	20/06/2019	Time	09:35 am
Venue	Taree Admin. Committee Room 2 Pulteney Street Taree	Note-taker	Peter Hatton
Present	<p>Cr. Peter Epov (Chair)</p> <p>Richard Murphy (OEH)</p> <p>Michael Stubbs (SES)</p> <p>Ben Matters (SES)</p> <p>Lloyd (Robert) Gill (Community Rep)</p> <p>Jane Cowan (Community Rep)</p> <p>Lesley Woods (Community Rep)</p> <p>Kenneth Billings (Community Rep)</p> <p>Peter Neal (Community Rep)</p> <p>Evan Vale (MCC)</p> <p>Andrew Staniland (MCC)</p> <p>Thomas Doyle (MCC)</p> <p>Peter Hatton (MCC)</p> <p>Daniel Williams (BMT WBM)</p> <p>Chris Thomas (Advisian)</p> <p>Richard Pamplin (MCC)</p> <p>Clare Cordingley (ICA)</p>		
Apologies	<p>Cr. Karen Hutchinson (Deputy Chair)</p> <p>Tony Day (SES)</p> <p>Maria Frazer (SES)</p> <p>Jennifer Granger (Community Rep)</p> <p>Garry Woodward (Community Rep)</p> <p>Greg Crisp (Community Rep)</p> <p>Janet Troope (Community Rep)</p> <p>Scott Nicholson(MCC)</p> <p>Rhett Pattison (MCC)</p>		

Meeting items

Item	Key points/actions
<p>1 Introduction</p>	<p>Committee Chair welcomed all attendees and opened meeting. The chair reminded all members that they are required to sign and return the previously distributed Terms of Reference document and requested that all members submit their completed forms by the close of today's meeting if not already done so.</p> <p>Chair asked for a mover to adopt previous meeting minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lloyd G advised that his comment in the previous minutes in relation to the 1991 flood entrance status was recorded incorrectly. Lloyd asked that the Minutes be changed to reflect that his comment stated that Harrington entrance was open but Farquhar entrance was closed. • Ken B asked that the minuted comment in relation to the depth of Harrington lagoon be amended to record that the Harrington Lagoon historically had a clay base depth of 40' and not the recorded 60'. <p>(Previous minutes will be amended and redistributed)</p> <p>Chair asked that the members accept the previous minutes with these changes.</p> <p>The Minutes were adopted by consensus.</p>
<p>2 ICA Update (Insurance Council of Australia)</p>	<p>Chair introduced Clare Cordingley (ICA Operations Manager, Risk and Disaster Planning).</p> <p>(Prior to Clare's presentation Evan commented that council has agreed to provide the ICA with council flood data as per the ICA's previous request. The data will be provided subject to ICA acceptance of Councils Digital Sharing Licence Agreement).</p> <p>Clare addressed members with an outline of her role and how the ICA distribute and manage council provided flood data to their 52 members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICA has developed "Data Globe https://www.icadataglobe.com/ " which provides online ICA member access to an extensive mapping database of natural hazard information including flood, bushfire, storm surge and cyclone. • Data Globe content is protected by ICA Data Globe TandC's http://www.insurancecouncil.com.au/assets/DataGlobe/ICADATAGLOBE_T&C.PDF. which restrict (insurer) use of the data to what is provided only however it is noted that not all insurers use the same risk assessment criteria when determining property flood risk. • The ICA have also developed a "MyHazards" app https://www.icadataglobe.com/ilead for iPhone and iPad which gives the public access to address specific potential hazard risk mapping and information based upon their held data. This app also provides information on occurring events such as floods and cyclones. • With council agreeing to provide the ICA with council wide flood mapping this negates the need for insurers to compile their own flood mapping which can lead to insurers applying increased flood risk

premiums, the potential of consumers being “under insured” as well as the potential of wrongly assessing property risk.

- Clare advised that her role includes visiting localised communities and addressing meetings and groups such as this on the ICA’s role and benefits to data providers and communities.

Member comments –

Richard M – Data Globe site has incomplete coverage. Clare commented that missing content is in areas where no data has been provided to the ICA and where insurers would compile their own risk mapping and advised that she is councils contact in relation to reporting anomalies.

Richard also commented that in the past FRMP’s have been reluctant to include content relevant to insurance risk consequences and suggested that future FRMP’s could include and address such content in light of the ICA’s role, services and products. Evan will discuss further with Clare and Richard.

Lesley W – “Premium cost depends greatly on what is provided”. Clare commented that content provided for ICA use should be the latest and best data that councils hold as consumer premiums are assessed using provided data. Both Lesley and Clare agreed that it is best to “shop around” for the most suitable and best policy relevant to individuals.

Michael S – Possible duplication of “MyHazards” and OEH portal content. Clare advised that their app provides a different service and compliments the OEH content.

The Chair thanked Clare for her presentation and commented that her presentation was very informative, included relevant content and led to good discussion regarding the interaction between flooding risk and insurance.

**3 Manning
River
FRMSP
Update**

Dan Williams (BMT)

- Study milestones on track and June 2019 Draft report issued and distributed to members.

Dan addressed members with comments relating to the reports review of existing Flood Planning provisions as well as advice responding to previous meetings raised concerns on the Pacific Highway and Farquhar Inlet impacts.

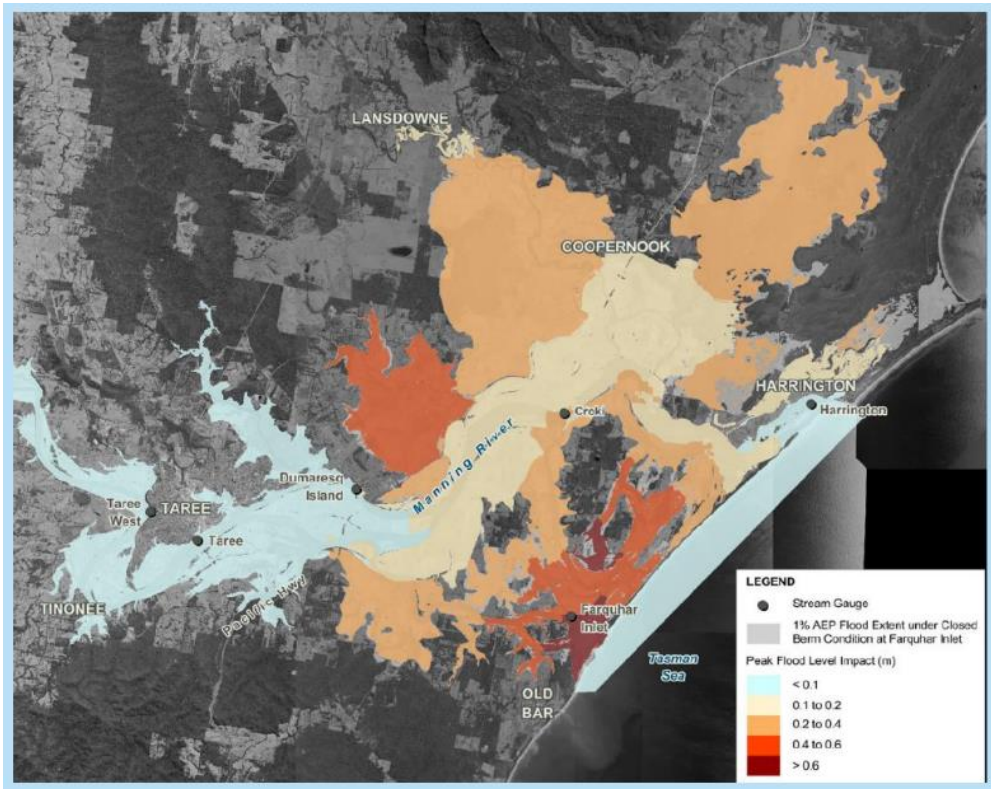
Flood Planning Provisions –

Planning Considerations Report provided by GLN Planning, including:

- Review of State Environment Planning Policies.
- Review of Local Environment Plans for former Greater Taree, Great Lakes and Gloucester LGAs and the move towards a MidCoast LEP
- Review of the Greater Taree, Great Lakes and Gloucester Development Control Plans
- Review of Development Contributions through Section 7.11 (formerly Section 94) of the EPA Act.
- See section 6 of June 2019 Draft report for full details.

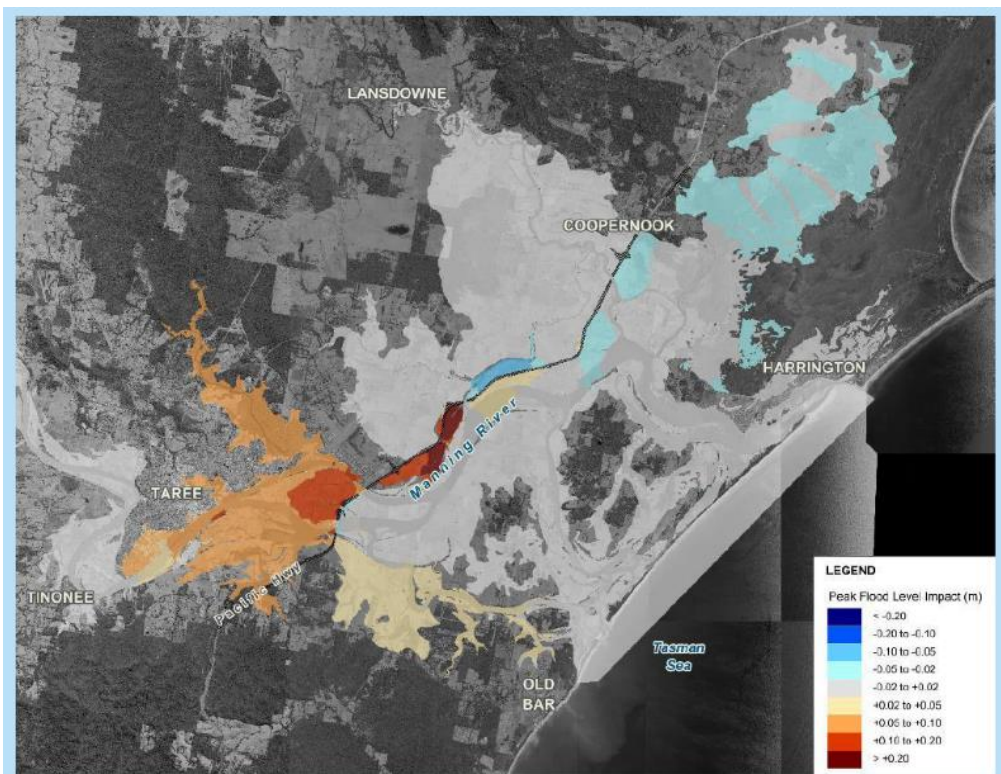
Entrance Management Options –

- Consideration of 3 entrance scenarios at Farquhar Inlet - Open, Shoaled, Closed with SLR options also included in scenarios. Dan also presented 3 entrance management conditions i.e.: Current (entrance conditions ranging between open and shoaled), None (entrance conditions ranging between open and closed), Trained (assuming permanently open).
- Dan displayed AAD \$ (Average Annual Damages) table and value curves for each of the scenarios.
- Dan displayed a map indicating the modelled impacts of a 1% AEP flood with a closed entrance berm condition at Farquhar with greatest increases in water level occurring in the immediate and Old Bar/ lower Oxley and Mitchells Island / Kundle Kundle and Moto areas. Lesser modelled water level increases would be expected in the remaining flood extent areas with the least impact being on the upstream of the freeway areas (refer attached presentation images for detail).



- Dan's Trained Entrance table indicates a very poor BCR (Benefit Cost Ratio) as well as significant environmental impacts and considerations should this high capital cost option be considered.

Pacific Highway influence –



Dan's above mapping depicts the modelled effects the existing freeway has on a 1% AEP flood extent with both entrances open. Greatest increases of water level occur in the mid Dumaresq Island/ eastern freeway Cundletown/ Ghinni Ghinni and upstream of the freeway through to Glenthorne and main urban Taree areas. These increases are a result of the freeway restricting water flow to flood storage areas immediately west and north of the freeway in these areas. There are also areas where a water depth decrease is modelled (grey through to blue areas). This result was achieved by comparing the event with and without the highway.

Dan also displayed an image depicting the impact the Pacific Highway has on a 1% AEP flood event in the Lansdowne area and a 5% Manning event.

Member comments –

Peter E – questioned “why the Farquhar closed entrance with 1.0m SLR influence AAD value was lower than the open entrance scenario”. Dan replied that in this scenario the sea level conditions (oceanic exposure) override the berm conditions and a lower AAD is calculated.

Peter E- suggested that it would be good to have a fully meshed model that represents flood extent for the Wingham, Manning and Lansdowne modelled areas. Evan commented that this is exactly what has been discussing with Dan and has asked for a price to do this work.

Peter N – “disagrees with Dan’s modelling in relation to the effects the Pacific Highway has in a Lansdowne 1% / Manning 5% event. Peter commented that he recalls an 8” waterfall of water cascading over the river embankment flowing into the Manning from the Jones Island area between Ghinni Bridge and Croki during the 1977 Lansdowne River event.

Peter N is also concerned of the “levee” effects the highway has in flood events. Peter also has concerns that no flood will ever move the vast sand deposits that currently exist in the Farquhar inlet. Commented that Farquhar sands are moving south and if Farquhar was to open and be kept open ongoing dredging maintenance would be required.

Lloyd G – Commented that in relation to the yellow area in the Lansdowne influenced model mapping he can recall in previous flood events that “the depth of floodwater was 8’ in that area and many bullocks drowned”. Farquhar Inlet opened itself in ’89 and ’92 and also recalls it being open in 1954. If more floodwater diversion to Farquhar occurs there will be even more clogging of Harrington Entrance. Lloyd also added that there is cunje on Harrington wall right up to the spur wall and no oysters.

Ken B – Kens recalls on overnight localised drenching of 170mm of rain in the Hogans Road area and another time when 150mm of rain fell drenching the Lansdowne area. Ken also commented that there is a lot of sand at Manning Point and a massive amount of silt in the Lansdowne River. Both entrances are clogged with sand with this sand being moved in from the sea.

Lesley W – “What’s council decided in relation to Farquhar?”. Andrew S commented that his presentation would cover this question.

Members raised the question as to whether we have the revised modelling the RTA would/should have done to model the effect that the then proposed highway would have on flooding. Peter H responded that the then GTCC

	<p>gave their flood model to the then RTA for such purposes, council paid to have the model returned but was unsure as to whether this actually occurred. However, the current activities supersede the highway model.</p> <p>Dan W commented that he requires feedback responses from both OEH and Council before exhibition can occur.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Dan for his presentation and asked the members if they were happy to now proceed to exhibition with this FRMSP once feedback from OEH and Council is received. Member consensus was positive with no objections raised.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Port Stephens FRMSP Update</p>	<p>Dan Williams (BMT)</p> <p>Dan gave a brief address to members on this studies progress.</p> <p>Draft report to be provided in July 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping is now complete. • Damage assessment chapter to be completed with assistance from council. Council to provide updated property details to Dan. Evan confirmed that he has requested this data and will soon provide to Dan. <p>There were no questions from members.</p>

5

**Coastal
Management
Program
Update**

Andrew Staniland (MCC)

Andrew gave a brief address to members on his team's role and work program, to develop the Old Bar Manning Point Coastal Management Program (CMP). This CMP will address the multi values and uses for both the Farquhar and Harrington entrances.

- CMP will address the coastal sediment compartment from Wallabi Point north to Crowdy Head, which is a very diverse and difficult area for which to compile a plan.
- 5 step process involved including complying with the Coastal Management Act 2016.
- A large amount of data, including Bathymetry/ Wave Direction/ Ground Penetrating Radar, has been collected so far but more data and increased community and agency consultation is sought, welcomed and required. Existing studies for this area will also be used to inform the process. Andrew commented that community participation and feedback is critical and welcomed. "The community knows what they're talking about".
- Sand Scraping has is currently being trialled on Old Bar beach. The project undertook it's second round of sand scraping in late May early June 2019. The beach will be monitored for the next three months via drone, to assess how the sand moves on this beach to determine success of the trial.
- Racecourse Creek Flood Study and Options Plan is currently being commissioned by Council, with successful contract being recently being appointed. The study will encompass a review of the current and future status of the Racecourse Creek catchment, looking at rain events and flood models. The study will also address coastal process and sea level rise projections in relation to how Racecourse Creek exits across Old Bar Beach.

Member comments –

Peter N – "Has any anecdotal evidence been used?" especially in relation to pre 1954 conditions. Andrew commented that evidence does exist but additional work is needed. Peter also added that there is a lot of evidence on the condition of both entrances available for the WWII time period.

Ken B – Commented that there is a lot of sand in Farquhar at the moment and a high berm.

Peter E – "Take advantage of local evidence and advice". There is a lot of valuable community input and advice that should be sought and included. Andrew responded that he and his team is actively gathering such input and evidence.

The Chair thanked Andrew for his presentation.

6

**Karurah
River FRMSP**

Chris Thomas (Advisian)

Apologised to members if his presentation content was familiar as this previous presentation as this was purely an update.

Stages 1 to 7 (of 9) of Karuah FRMSP reports are complete.

Chris discussed the study background and referenced the significant impact on Stroud from the April 2015 storm event which coincided with the major event impacting the Dungog area.

- Hotspots have been identified.
- Mill and Lamans Creek influences prominent.
- 1% AEP held mainly in the channel resulting in not too much effect on residential properties (very few affected properties).
- Historically flood events provide little warning to residents.
- No viable options for Flood Modification are apparent.
- Road upgrades were identified for future consideration in future roadworks programs. Chris has identified a number of roads where access is cut or limited in flood events. Alternate access routes were also identified.
- A review of the current Great Lakes LEP and DCP has also been carried out.
- “Shelter in Place” was an inherited option for the wider rural community as they are mainly well aware of flood consequence and safety. SinP is generally not acceptable nor promoted in urban areas unless no other options exist.
- Currently wrapping up all stages of FRMSP.

Emergency Response Management – Chris advised that he recommends a focus on ERM measures such as a joint SES and Council community education process to provide the community and area visitors with detail, awareness and warning of the potential effects and consequences of flood in the area. Installation of warning signage in the showground campground area was highlighted as an example. Such education will provide low economic cost benefits to the community and visitors and increase public safety, awareness and access.

Chris also recommends the installation of flood warning systems for the Mill and Lamans Creek areas.

Chris suggested that the SES also be asked to provide agency feedback on the plan along with OEH and Council. Even to forward the SES with a copy of the plan for comment.

The Chair thanked Chris for his presentation.

6 General Business	<p>Lloyd G –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration needs to be given to training wall impacts. Dan commented that it is unlikely that training wall options will ever be approved again and in relation to the Harrington entrance consideration of all options including wall removal could be a future recommendation. <p>With no further General Business the Chair thanked members for their attendance and valuable input and closed the meeting at 12:07.</p>
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Next meeting

Date	December 6 2019 (TBC)	Time	9:30 am
Venue	Taree Admin. Committee Room 2 Pulteney Street Taree	Note-taker	Peter Hatton