

Meeting notes

Induction: Manning River Estuary Coastal Management Program (CMP) Reference Group -

Date	11 December 2019	Time	10.30am – 2pm
Venue	MidCoast Council – Boardroom, Taree Office	Chair	Cr. Len Roberts
Present	<p>Councillors Katheryn Smith and Dr David Keegan (co-chairs)</p> <p>Chris Scott – Manning Landcare</p> <p>Sam Nicholson – MidCoast Dairy Advancement Group</p> <p>Peter Longworth – Manning Delta Landholders Group (beef industry)</p> <p>Peter Neal – Manning Delta Landholders Group (dairy industry)</p> <p>Peter Bignell – representing beef and dairy industry</p> <p>John Harris – Recreational fishing</p> <p>Ian Crisp – Manning River Oyster Farmers’ Association</p> <p>Kirsty Hughes – community representative</p> <p>Noel Piercy – community representative</p> <p>Neil Kelleher- NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment</p> <p>Josh Chivers – National Parks and Wildlife Service</p> <p>Brett Ryan, Andre Uljee – Transport NSW</p> <p>Geoff LeMessurier – Hunter Local Land Services</p> <p>Paul De Szell, Louise Duff, Prue Tucker, Gerard Tuckerman – MidCoast Council</p>		
Apologies	<p>Joedie Lawler, CEO Taree Purfleet Local Aboriginal Lands Council</p> <p>Tony Wales – Community representative</p>		

Meeting items

Item	Facilitator
<p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Roberts welcomed the group, acknowledged the Traditional Owners and invited group members to introduce themselves and their interests. 	Cr. Roberts
<p>Role of the Reference Group</p> <p>Gerard Tuckerman gave an outline of the Terms of Reference provided in the committee folder.</p>	Gerard Tuckerman

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerard presented a spectrum of stakeholder engagement prepared by the International Association for Public Participation spectrum, and affirmed that the reference group will operate in the mid-range covering involvement and collaboration. • MCC will work directly with the Group throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. 	
<p>Overview of Coastal Management Act</p> <p>Prue Tucker gave an overview of the Coastal Management Act 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Act prioritises protection of four management zones: Wetlands and Littoral Rainforest; Coastal Vulnerability; Coastal Environment Areas and Coastal Use Areas. • Preparation of the CMP involves 5 stages from scoping and risk assessment to identifying and evaluating options, exhibition, adoption and implementation. • Once adopted the CMP will be incorporated into Councils IP&R Framework. • The community will be engaged throughout the planning process. <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Crisp asked about the membership of the Technical Working Group (TWG). The TWG is comprised of a range of government agency representatives including DPIE, NPWS, Fisheries, Hunter Local Land Services, Crown Lands and the Water research Lab. Ian noted the absence of industry groups. • Cr Smith asked if the CMP covers areas of the catchment outside our LGA boundaries? Yes – this is a requirement of the Act. MCC has made contact and will collaborate with the adjacent Councils in the upper catchment: Tamworth, Upper Hunter, and Walcha. 	<p>Prue Tucker</p>
<p>Overview – Manning ECMP Stages 1, 2</p> <p>Louise Duff gave an overview of the Manning River Estuary CMP progress to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CMP aims to improve water quality, reduce threats and improve resilience of the manning River Estuary, using a whole-of-catchment approach. • The CMP commenced with a comprehensive literature review of prior studies and plans. • The Scoping Study was presented outlining characteristics of the catchment, which covers 8,420 km² and 16 major subcatchments with 28,803 km of waterways. • The drought is having significant impact on the catchment and its community. • Water quality is monitored at 5 sites in the Manning, all sites scored B in the 2019 report card. • The Manning River Estuary CMP will be completed at the end of 2020 for exhibition in 2021. 	<p>Louise Duff</p>
<p>Governance induction and MCC Code of Conduct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad Newman gave an overview of committee governance including code of conduct and pecuniary interest. 	<p>Brad Newman</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants signed confidentiality agreements. <p>Action: declare pecuniary or conflict of interest at next meeting using the form provided.</p>	
<p>Values Workshop</p> <p>A workshop was facilitated by MCC staff to identify values for the catchment. The outcomes were included in a report on community values available on the Our Manning River page of the MidCoast Council's web site.</p>	<p>Natural Systems Team</p>
<p>Next meetings:</p> <p>Wed 12 February 2020 (note change)</p> <p>Wed 29 April 2020</p>	<p>Chair</p>

