

Catchments Flash Flood Warning System Scoping Study

Council is currently undertaking the Shoalhaven Intermittently Closed and Open Lake and Lagoon (ICOLL) Catchments Flash Flood Warning System Scoping Study for Lake Conjola, Burrill Lake and Tabourie Lake, and so wanted to share the below information with you.

By way of background – Council received grant funding from the Australian Government through the (then) National Recovery and Resilience Agency's *Preparing Australian Communities Program – Local Stream* to undertake a scoping study for the implementation of a Flash Flood Warning System covering the Burrill Lake, Lake Conjola and Tabourie Lake catchments. Council has engaged a contractor, Manly Hydraulics Laboratory (MHL), to assist with the preparation of this study.

Initial community consultation was undertaken in May – June 2023 including a questionnaire. The questionnaire covered topics of flood risk perception, flood preparedness, preferred flood information sources, and preferred mechanisms for flood warning messaging.

Following the completion of initial consultation, a **draft Shoalhaven Flash Flood Warning System Options report** has been prepared. The report outlines recommendations for a flash flood warning system that would predict lake levels in a flood event, provide early warning, and assist with flood response and pre-flood entrance management procedures for these lakes.

Further community consultation will be held from **Monday 30 October to Sunday 26 November** to obtain community feedback on the draft recommendations for a flash flood warning system which will be used to complete the scoping study. This will include a short online community questionnaire.

As part of the initial and targeted community consultation, corflute signs will be placed in key locations regarding the upcoming community consultation. Further, the consultation period will be advertised via the Community Information Hubs, relevant updates provided on the project's Get Involved web page, and a media release has been prepared. It is noted that no letters will be sent to landowners as part of the upcoming consultation as this was undertaken at the commencement of the study.

Two drop-in sessions will be held as follows:

- **Burrill Lake Community Hall - 3pm to 6.30pm, Tuesday 14 November**
- **Lake Conjola Community Centre - 3pm to 6.30pm, Wednesday 15 November**

These will be attended by Council staff, DPE Flood Risk Specialist, local SES volunteers, and the consultants, MHL, working on this project. There are no scheduled presentations, so the community can simply call in at a time that suits them to share their experiences and ask any questions they may have relating to this project.

For more information, and to view the draft Shoalhaven Flash Flood Warning System Options report and short videos summarising the study and potential flood warning system options, please visit the [ICOLL Catchments Flash Flood Warning System Scoping Study](#) Get Involved web page.

Please note that the any potential changes to the Lake Conjola Entrance Management Policy are being investigated as part of the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program (CMP) (<https://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/lake-conjola-cmp>) and is beyond the scope of this investigation.

We would appreciate if you could inform the local community about this upcoming community consultation for this project.

Please contact me if you have any questions or queries on this matter.

Regards

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