

Notes from meeting - Review Interim Entrance Mgt Policy 2013

Meeting Date: - 6 Feb 2019, Shoalhaven Library, Nowra

Purpose: - Kick-off review of the IEMP 2013

Present: **NSW State Govt MP** – Hon Shelley Hancock
Shoalhaven City Council Councillors (SCCC) – Amanda Findley (Mayor), Patricia White (Deputy Mayor), John Levett, Greg Watson, Mark Kitchener
Shoalhaven City Council (SCC) –Russ Pigg, Paul Keech, Phil Costello, Kelie Clarke, Ali Sevenler, Thelma Carr, Alasdair Stratton, Jessica Rippon
Crown Lands – Mark ?
Shoalhaven Water – Andrew ?
Fisheries – Jillian Reynolds, Tara?
OEH – Danny Wiecek, John Murtagh,
Conjola CCB – Robyn Kerves, Dirk Treloar, Mike Brungs, Elaine Caswell, Bill Hackett

Apologies Steven Dunshea

Mark Mitchell (Micromex Research & Consulting) facilitated the meeting

Minutes of the meeting yet to be published and will be distributed to all attendees

Decisions/Agreed Actions:-

1. The review must be in accordance with the recently adopted NSW Coastal Management Act 2016 – output will be a **stand-alone Coastal Management Plan (CMP) for Lake Conjola**
2. The current IEMP 2013 will remain in force until the CMP is developed – expected timeframe 2 years (ie end of 2020)
3. Agreed that an Operational Review of the current IEMP can be undertaken as an emergency review
4. Funding for Stage 1 (Scoping) is available from planned “Open Coast CMP”
5. Agreed that a Pre-Holiday Trigger level of 0.8 (+ conditions) to justify a mechanical opening is active/valid under the IEMP 2013 (CCA refer to this trigger as “Captain’s Call”)
6. Appreciation of the importance of a viable tidal ebb channel
7. CCA can communicate directly with OEH, Fisheries and Shoalhaven Water and will keep Council informed
8. Councillors will be invited to all IEMP Review/CMP Development Meetings
9. CCA invited to participate in Water Quality Testing – meeting to be arranged to discuss
10. CCA to nominate a contact for involvement in developing grant applications
11. A senior Council manager/director to provide oversight in the review process and scoping

Facilitator Mark Mitchell will provide a report on the workshop – estimated timeframe 2 weeks

Next Meeting – scheduled within 6 weeks

Agreed Trigger Levels:-

Planned Opening at 1.0m a level of 0.8 m AHD plant and equipment are to be placed on standby. If moderate or heavy rainfall is ongoing or predicated and water reaches a level of 0.9 m AHD (measured from the MHL gauge at Conjola Caravan Park) preparatory works should be undertaken to prepare the pilot channel for opening. Opening to commence when the Lake water level (measured from the MHL gauge at Conjola Caravan Park) is at or exceeding 1.0 m AHD.

Pre-Holiday Opening at 0.8 - 1.0m AHD (CCA refer to this option as a "Capt's Call")

If the Lake Level reaches and stabilises at a level between 0.8 m and 1.0 m AHD (measured from the MHL gauge at the Conjola Caravan Park) within one month prior to or at the time of the Christmas and Easter holidays and moderate or heavy rainfall is ongoing or predicted;
OR

Water quality declines to a point where levels are no longer compliant with ANZECC guidelines and water level is at or above 0.9 m AHD (measured from the MHL gauge at the Conjola Caravan Park).

Emergency Opening at 1.2m AHD

An emergency situation where the Lake water levels are rising rapidly and a flood event is occurring or predicted. At a level above 1.2 m AHD works should be undertaken, if situation permits, to open the entrance in the shortest and quickest way possible.