



BUSINESS PAPER

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* of the below mentioned meeting.

Coastal Management Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

Commencing at 4:00PM

**Shellharbour Civic Centre
Ground Floor Training Room**

AGENDA

- 1. Acknowledgement to Country3**
- 2. Apologies/Leave of Absence3**
- 3. Confirmation of Minutes3**
 - 3.1 Coastal Management Advisory Committee Meeting 7 September 20223
- 4. Disclosures of Interest.....3**
- 5. Presentations3**
- 6. Reports.....4**
 - 6.1 Draft Shellharbour Coastal Management Program Scoping Study (11974988)4
 - Recommendation.....5
 - 6.2 Shellharbour Coast and Estuary Grants Projects Update (11975027)6
 - Recommendation..... 15
 - 6.3 Capital Works Update 16
- 7. General Business16**
- 8. Next Meeting Dates16**

1. Acknowledgement to Country

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Dharawal Country and recognise their continued connection to the land we meet on today. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region and extend our recognition to their descendants who continue to live on country.

2. Apologies/Leave of Absence**3. Confirmation of Minutes****3.1 Coastal Management Advisory Committee Meeting 7 September 2022**

That the Minutes of the Coastal Management Advisory Committee Meeting held on 7 September 2022 as circulated be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

4. Disclosures of Interest**5. Presentations**

6. Reports

6.1 Draft Shellharbour Coastal Management Program Scoping Study (11974988)

To the Coastal Management Advisory Committee

Directorate: Amenity and Assets

Group: Built and Natural Environment

Manager: Adam De Clouett – Acting Group Manager Built and Natural Environment

Author: Adam De Clouett – Acting Group Manager Built and Natural Environment

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide the draft Shellharbour Coastal Management Program (CMP) Scoping Study to the committee, seeking feedback prior to its finalisation.

Background

Shellharbour City Council manages 7km of coastline comprising of four beaches, two boat harbours and one estuary (not including Lake Illawarra which is managed separately and is the subject of a separate CMP).

In February 2022, consultants Advisian Pty Ltd were engaged by Council to undertake the Shellharbour CMP Scoping Study for Shellharbour's open coastline from (and including) Windang Island to Bass Point and the Elliott Lake – Little Lake estuary. The development of the Scoping Study has been conducted in collaboration with the Shellharbour Coastal Management Advisory Committee and the Community.

The Draft Scoping Study has now been completed and is ready for review by the Committee (**Attachment 1**). A presentation will be provided to the committee by Councils consultant Advisian Pty Ltd that will detail the work undertaken to date.

Consultations

Internal

Manager Environment
Coastal Programs Coordinator

External

DPE - Senior Natural Resource Officer – Coast and Estuaries
Advisian Pty Ltd

Recommendation

That the Coastal Management Advisory Committee receive the Draft Shellharbour Coastal Management Program Scoping Study and provide feedback on the study to Council's Senior Coastal Programs Coordinator before 1 February 2023 in order to for the draft study to be finalised and presented to the next committee meeting in February 2023.

Approved for
consideration by: Adam De Clouett
Acting Group Manager Built and Natural Environment

Date of Meeting: 30 November 2022

Attachments

- 1. Draft Shellharbour Coastal Management Program Scoping Study (Nov 2022) – Under Separate Cover**

6.2 Shellharbour Coast and Estuary Grants Projects Update (11975027)

To the Coastal Management Advisory Committee

Directorate: Amenity and Assets

Group: Built and Natural Environment

Manager: Adam De Clouett– Acting Group Manager Built and Natural Environment

Author: Allison Broad – Acting Coastal Programs Coordinator

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Coastal Management Advisory Committee on the Coast and Estuary Grant projects as well as other projects that address objectives of Council's adopted Shellharbour Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) and works towards the Shellharbour Coastal Management Plan (CMP).

Background

Council currently has six ongoing grants funded projects that go towards addressing objectives of open coast management. A brief summary of these are described below.

NSW Department of Planning and Environment; Coasts and Estuaries Grants

1. The Bass Point Littoral Rainforest Regeneration Grant
(\$50,700 from both NSW DPE & SCC; totalling \$101,400 over 3 years; 2021-2024)
2. Beach Monitoring Program – understanding our changing coastline
(\$58,250 from NSW DPE & \$40,850 from SCC; totalling \$99,100 over 3 years; 2022-2024)
3. Warilla Dune Restoration works
(\$45,800 from both NSW DPE & SCC; totalling 91,600 over 3 years; 2022-2025)
4. Warilla Seawall Renewal
(\$8.2M from SCC; \$6.8M from NSW DPE; totalling \$15M)

Sydney Water Grant

5. Sydney Water Dune Restoration Grant-Shellharbour North and South Beaches
(Sydney water contributed \$500,000 and Council will also contribute an additional \$210,000 toward this project. Total of \$710K over 3 years; 2022-2025)

NSW Environmental Protection Authority (NSW EPA)

6. Litter Prevention Grant - Luv the Lake Campaign
(~\$105K over 1 year; 2022-2023)

Project updates

Bass Point Littoral Rainforest Regeneration

The Bass Point Littoral Rainforest Regeneration program is funded from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Coast, Estuary and Floods. The project aims to protect and enhance the areas coastline biodiversity at Bass Point through the conservation of high value ecosystems including Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC), threatened species, their habitats and the ecosystem overall. This is being achieved with bush regeneration and revegetation activities within the littoral rainforest section of Bass Point reserve in the Shellharbour local government area; addressing the threat of weed impacts on this vegetation community to improve its ecological integrity, habitat value, and resilience. Expected outcomes include a significant reduction of the density and cover of weed species and an increase in native plant cover. These works will also improve the habitat value of the site for threatened flora and fauna such as *Cynanchum elegans* (White-flowered Wax-plant), *Zieria granulata* (Illawarra Zieria), and the Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*), Rose-crowned Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus regina*), Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*), and White-bellied Sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*).

Approximately 23.1 ha of mapped Littoral Rainforest EEC (**Figure 1**) was targeted through targeting priority weeds such as *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* (Bitou Bush), *Lantana camara* (Common Lantana), *Tradescantia fluminensis* (Trad), *Delairea odorata* (Cape Ivy), *Passiflora subpeltata* (White Passionflower), with a particular focus on Bitou Bush, Lantana and Cape Ivy. A total of Equal to 800 hours of work has been completed with primary and maintenance weeding (**Figure 2**). Revegetation of ~310 seedlings have been planted out of the 2000 plant target.

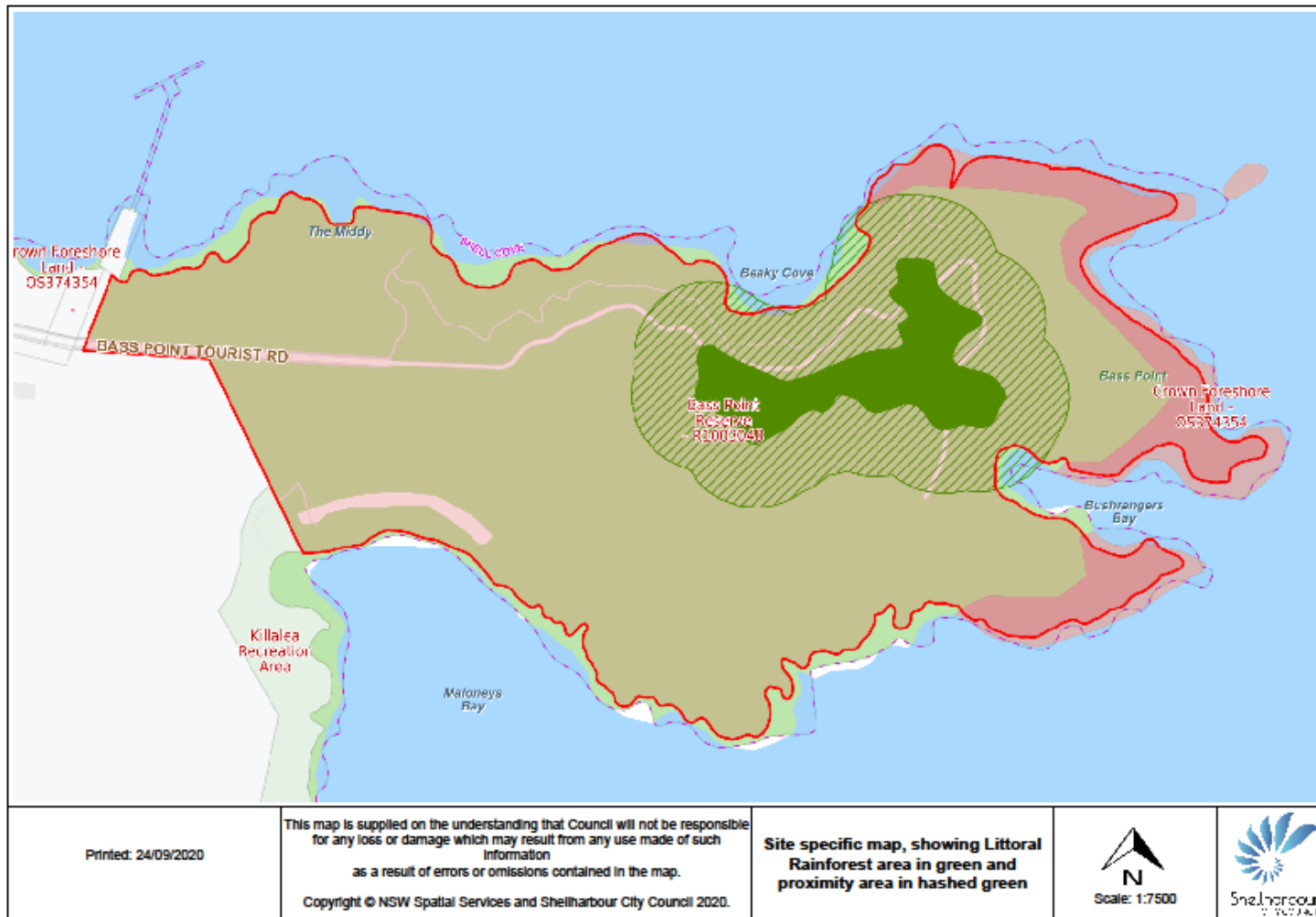


Figure 1: Bass Point Nature Reserve: Littoral Rainforest area in green, and proximity area for regeneration in hashed green.



Figure 2: Shellharbour City Council Bush Regenerator weeding *Lantana camara* (cut and paint method).

CoastSnap & BeachStat Beach Monitoring Program

This project aims to monitor our dynamic coastline and how beach morphology changes over time with continuous photographic imagery. This data will help marine managers to better understand and therefore manage our coast. This will be achieved with the installation of two types of infrastructure *CoastSnap* is a citizen science platform for beach monitoring and *BeachStat* which relies on continuously automated time lapse imagery

CoastSnap allows crowd-sourced imagery to be collected and submitted by community members using their phones. A stainless steel phone cradle sitting atop a wooden free-standing post been installed at Windang Island, Shellharbour North Beach and on the southern break wall at Shell Cove Boat Harbour. Each devices will monitor Warilla Beach, Shellharbour North Beach and Gadhu Beach. Using an instructional sign, a beach visitor is encouraged to place their phone into the cradle, take a photo, and share it to a centralised database via the free *CoastSnap* App or social media using a QR code and hashtag unique to each station. This collection of community sourced images provides a record of the coastline as it evolves. The technology behind *CoastSnap* is then capable of creating time-lapse videos of beach evolution, and tracking the precise changes in the position of the coastline over time.

In comparison, BeachStat is a continuously automated, time lapsed (daily to every 15 minutes), image-based beach monitoring system. The system is ideal for collecting routine, high frequency time-lapse imagery of beaches, and when combined with custom-developed suite of analysis tools, the imagery can be used for Time-lapse beach evolution videos, Mid-tide and inter-tidal shoreline mapping, Beach width analysis and beach user analysis. The data is stored and displayed online using web-based monitoring dashboard – ARCGIS Online. This interface shows users the latest imagery, time-lapse videos and mapped shoreline data sets, providing a much more functional platform to engage with collected data sets for a range of analyses. Council have been working internally with the Communications Team to develop an Engagement and Communications Plan to inform the community about the new CoastSnap and BeachStat program, and how to become citizen scientists and contribute towards monitoring our coastline.

The first CoastSnap camera poles for public use was installed at Shell Cover Harbour on the southern break wall for monitoring of Gadhu Beach (**Figure 3**). The BeachStat Cameras for continuous monitoring of these beaches are scheduled for installation in early December.



Figure 3: Installation of the *CoastSnap* infrastructure to monitor Gadhu Beach (installed on Shell Cove Harbour southern break wall).

Warilla Dune Restoration works (2021/CEI/0037)

This project aims to protect and enhance the areas coastline dune biodiversity at Warilla with bush regeneration and revegetation activities to improve dune stability, its ecological integrity, habitat value, and resilience. Expected outcomes include a significant reduction of the density and cover of weed species and an increase in native plant cover. (**Figure 4**)

Our Natural Areas Team have ordered the 2,000 plants required for plantings. Weed treatment work and revegetation of native plants has commenced on site. Planting began in late October, with 40 plants planted so far.



Figure 4: Three locations of restorations work to North Warilla beach sand dunes, along Pur Pur Point, Windang Bay near the Warilla Barrack Point Surf Life Saving Club. Images show areas to be restored before works.

Sydney Water Dune Restoration Grant

In July 2020, a Sydney Water sewage pipe, known as a rising main, failed releasing approximately 430,000 litres of untreated sewage. This flooded Darley St, Shellharbour, flowing into the nearby dunes and residents' properties with pollutants damaging the local environment

The NSW Environmental Protection Authority implemented enforceable undertakings requiring Sydney Water to fund projects to enhance or restore the environment, including:

- Project Funding Agreement: To meet objectives to restore and rehabilitate beach dunes at North and South Shellharbour Beach
- Prevent damage to beach dunes at North and South Beach Shellharbour through fencing (see **Figure 5**), access improvement and education.



Figure 5: Dune restoration and protection works at Shellharbour North Beach (left image) and Shellharbour South Beach (right image). Green highlights indicate areas to be restored and yellow lines indicate fencing.

Physical works for this project commenced in early November with 8 quadrants marked for photo monitoring points x 4 on each site. The first actions on the work plan are weed removal and spraying of Asparagus fern. Following this upkeep, planting of ~60,000 seedlings will be done by our Natural Areas Teams across the two sites.

The Natural Areas and Nursery teams are further in the process of propagating seedlings for the dune system (**Figure 6**).

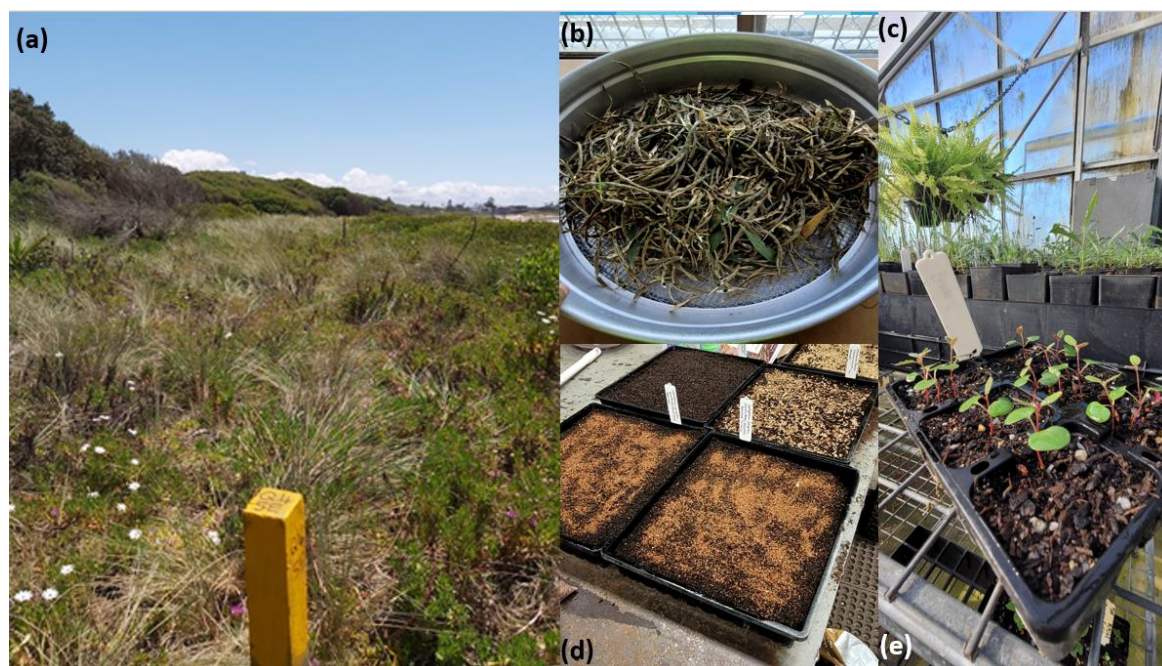


Figure 6: (a) Shellharbour North Beach; (b) Acacia seed collections from Shellharbour Dunes for restoration; (c) sprouted *Corymbia gummifera* (Red Bloodwood) and (d) plantings of *Allocasuarina littoralis* (Black Sheoak), *Lomandra longifolia* (Basket grass), *Leptospermum laevigatum* (Coastal Tea Tree) seeding in trays.

'Luv the Lake' - Litter Grant

Shellharbour City Council (SCC) applied for funding from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for a collaboration with Wollongong City Council (WCC) for a holistic and streamlined campaign titled 'Luv the Lake'. The program is designed to increase community pride, respect and ownership of Lake Illawarra and its surrounds. The program aims to implement a range of litter prevention and reduction campaigns across and will employ a temporary Coastal Grants Officer (Litter Prevention Program) to work on these initiatives. Appointment of a Temporary Litter Officer is also progressing well and is funded under this program.

Although this funding largely aligns with the Lake Illawarra CMP, it has co-benefits for the Shellharbour Open Coast (and Elliot - Little Lake) CMP with local residents participating and considering the impacts of litter to our waterways. A similar program could be adopted for these areas in the future.

Lake Illawarra's Seaside Scavenge Clean-up Event – 6 November 2022

The Shellharbour and Wollongong City Council Seaside Scavenge Event took place on the lakeside at Reddall Reserve near the kiosk. The clean-up event hosted by 'Take 3 for the Sea' in conjunction with SCC & WCC's encouraged the community to participate in cleaning up their local area and preventing litter from entering our waterways. Participants were rewarded with tokens they could use to purchase items from the pre-loved store, hot chips and fruit among other giveaways from educational stalls.

Mayor Homer opened the event and expressed his passion for our coasts and conservation of these important environments. The event was a huge success with over 250 people interacting with the twelve education stalls at the event and volunteers sorting litter to inform residents of the common litter items (**Figure 7**). More than 100 people participated in the clean-up, preventing 4162 pieces of litter from entering our waterways – weighing 27kgs!

Twelve interactive educational and community stalls participated in the event, including;

- Shellharbour City Council and Wollongong City Council's Environment teams lead sustainability initiatives, an interactive microplastics guessing competition with prizes and community signage – how will you 'pass on plastic'
- Take 3 for the Sea – sorting rubbish and education
- Local Aboriginal Woman, Jodi Edwards did a Yarn on Country for the community
- Australian Seabird Rescue, education on waste and bird entanglement
- Sydney Water Wonders of Water Van – understanding the water cycle and interactive games
- Maritime NSW – boating safety, storing waste on board vessels & flare demonstration
- Oak Flats Sailing Club – display and information for residents on this community club
- NSW Department of Primary Industries with Fishcare volunteers
- NSW Department of Planning and the Environment – Conservation Shorebird Program
- University of Wollongong – Lecturer Trudy Costa and UOW students revealed the impacts of plastic under the microscope
- Shellharbour City Council had a representative from our Nursery & Bushcare teams which was also supported by local Landcare groups.

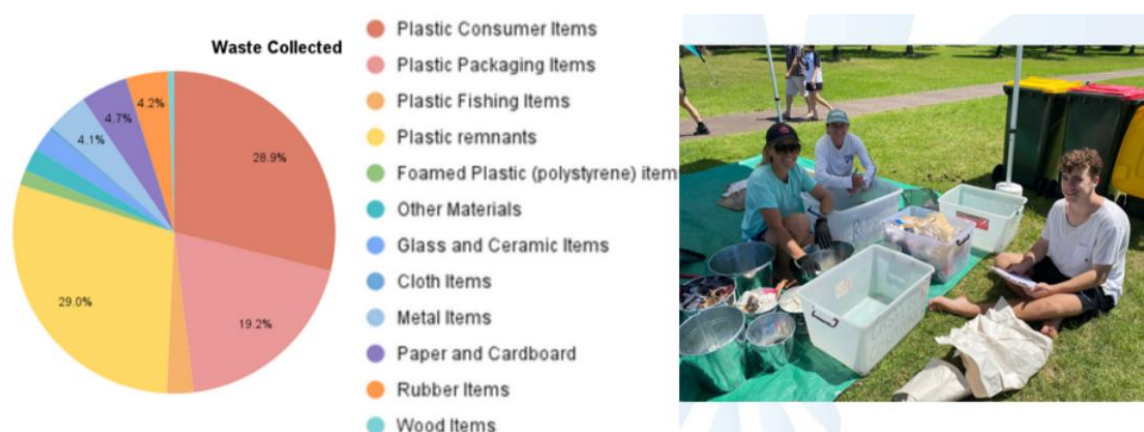


Figure 7: Summary pie chart of litter types collected and the 'Take 3 for the Sea' volunteers sorting litter at the Seaside Scavenge Event (6th November, 2022)

Consultations

Internal

Bush Regeneration Leading Hand
Acting Manager Projects
Projects Delivery Officer
Community Connections

External

Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)
Department of Primary Industries (DPI) – Fisheries
Water Research Laboratory (WRL)

Recommendation

That the Coastal Management Advisory Committee receive and note the projects update report.

Approved for
consideration by: Adam De Clouett -
Acting Group Manager Built and Natural Environment

Date of Meeting: 30 November 2022

Attachments

Nil

6.3 Capital Works Update

A verbal report will be provided to the Committee on open coast related Capital Works Projects.

7. General Business**8. Next Meeting Dates**

Proposed 2023 Dates:

- 1 March 2023
- 21 June 2023
- 20 September 2023
- 29 November 2023