

# **Notice of Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that a Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting will be held in the Ballina Shire Council Committee Room, Ballina on **Tuesday 29 August 2017** at **3.00 pm.** 

## **Business**

- 1. Attendance and Apologies
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Welcome to New Members John Larrson and Ian Hush
- 4. Minutes from Port Ballina Taskforce meeting held 25 October 2016 (attached)
- 5. General Business
  - a) NSW Boating Now Program
  - b) Ballina Marina Master Plan
  - c) Tuckean Program
  - d) Healthy Waterways Program
  - e) Ballina Bar Dredging
  - f) North Creek Dredging
  - g) Martin Street Boat Harbour Master Plan
- 6. Business Without Notice
- 7. Next Meeting

Paul Hickey

**General Manager** 

## 1. Attendance and Apologies

## 2. <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

## 3. Welcome to New Members

The Taskforce welcomed new members John Larsson, Ozfish (recreational fisher representative) and Ian Hush (community representative).

## 4. Minutes from Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting held 25 October 2016

The Minutes from the meeting held 25 October 2016 are included as an attachment to this agenda.

## Recommendation

That the Taskforce confirms the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 October 2016.

# 5. **General Business**

## (a) NSW Boating Now Program

The following information represents extracts from a report presented to Council's 27 July 2017 Ordinary meeting in respect to the acceptance of a tender for the provision of five priority pontoons.

Council is in receipt of a grant allocation from Transport for NSW under the NSW Boating Now program. The NSW Boating Now program has targeted the implementation of maritime infrastructure improvement projects, which were identified in the Tweed-Clarence Valley Regional Boating Plan (2015).

In response to this grant, Council has prepared maritime improvement projects comprising five priority pontoon installation projects. There are also a further two lower priority sites which are currently being finalised, with concept designs recently completed and under review.

Council's delivery of the Boating Now program commenced early 2016 with the award of a contract for services for investigation, concept design and approvals documentation for all of the seven projects.

Haskoning Australia Pty Ltd was awarded this tender and completed draft documentation for the five priority projects at the end of 2016. This included consultation with the Port Ballina Taskforce committee in October 2016. The concept designs for these five projects is attached and is the basis for this tender.

A tender was called during March - April 2017 for the detail design, construction and installation of the five high priority pontoons.

The seven NSW Boating Now maritime infrastructure projects are listed in the following table.

Table A										
NSW Boating	Funding Allocation									
Project Priority		Status	Boating Now	Council Contribution	Project Cost					
Investigate boating access Captain Cook Park	High	tender-install floating pontoon off RSL boardwalk	\$250,000	\$250,000 \$50,000						
Extend pontoon at Fishery Creek boatramp	High	tender-install floating pontoon next to existing	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000					
New pontoon at Faulks Reserve	High	tender-install on- ramp pontoon	\$100,000	\$75,000	\$175,000					
Boatramp and pontoon at Keith Hall	High	tender-install on- ramp pontoon (with boatramp and parking by BSC)	\$225,000	\$75,000	\$300,000					
Pontoon at East Wardell boatramp	High	tender-install floating pontoon	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000					
Upgrade Lennox Head boatramp at North Creek	Low	Preliminary design complete – under review	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000					
Upgrade Brunswick St boatramp	Low	Preliminary design complete – under review	\$125,000	\$75,000	\$200,000					

As at the closing date of tenders four tender submissions were received from:

- Atlas Marine T/A Superior Jetties
- Bell Rock Marine
- Clement Marine Constructions
- GPM Constructions

The preferred tenderer is Atlas Marine T/A Superior Jetties. Superior Jetties is a Gold Coast company that undertakes preliminary design, manufacture and installation in-house. Superior Jetties have supplied floating pontoons with concrete decks and aluminium gangways to some of Councils existing installations and which are performing satisfactorily.

It is proposed that for two of the sites, comprising on-ramp pontoons at Faulks Reserve and at Keith Hall, an alternative product known as Ultimate Modular Docking (UMD) system will be used.

This product is supplied as a linked modular system, made of individual rotomoulded polyethylene modules.

Although not installed at Ballina previously, this system is used elsewhere for this on-ramp pontoon application.

An image of this system installed at the Gold Coast is provided as an attachment.

## Financial

With respect to the overall NSW Boating Now funding allocation this tender has enabled the five priority projects to be better defined with substantiated pontoon supply and installation costs. Haskoning has also provided estimated costs for their design associated with the boatramp and carpark construction at Keith Hall.

Overall the current estimates for the five priority projects exceed the cumulative Boating Now target costs by approximately \$143,000. It is proposed that some savings will be achieved by reducing the scope of the carpark works at Keith Hall. This has been supported by feedback from the South Ballina community where the pontoon is considered a priority for boat launching and retrieval, and a lesser carpark arrangement is preferred. Further savings will be investigated during the current review of the lower priority projects at Brunswick Street and North Creek Road, Lennox Head.

Following the receipt of tenders a summary of the proposed Boating Now funding profile, in line with the above discussion, is provided in Table B.

Table B									
Project	Status	Target Cost	Current Estimate	Variance	Proposed Variance	Comment			
Investigate boating access Captain Cook Park	RFT924-install floating pontoon off RSL boardwalk	\$300,000	\$136,000	-\$164,000	-\$164,000	Tender received			
Extend pontoon at Fishery Creek boatramp	RFT924-install floating pontoon next to existing	\$100,000	\$121,000	+\$21,000	+\$21,000	Tender received			
New pontoon at Faulks Reserve	RFT924-install on-ramp pontoon	\$175,000	\$179,000	+\$4,000	+\$4,000	Tender received			
Boatramp and pontoon at Keith Hall	RFT924-install on-ramp pontoon (with boatramp and parking by BSC)	\$300,000	\$577,000	+\$277,000	+\$240,000	Tender received - reduce car parking arrangement			
Pontoon at East Wardell boatramp	RFT924-install floating pontoon	\$100,000	\$105,000	+\$5,000	+\$5,000	Tender received			
Upgrade Lennox Head boatramp at North Creek	Preliminary design complete – under review	\$150,000	\$150,000	0	-\$46,000	Reconsider scope within current investigation and design			
Upgrade Brunswick St boatramp	Preliminary design complete – under review	\$200,000	\$200,000	0	-\$60,000	Reconsider scope within current investigation and design			
TOTAL		\$1,325,000	\$1,468,000	+\$143,000	0				

It is proposed to proceed with the five high priority projects at this stage, and allow design development and feedback for Brunswick Street and North Creek Road to be finalised to determine if funding variations need to be considered with the remaining Boating Now program.

Following consideration of the above report, Council resolved as follows:

- 1. That Council accepts the tender for the design, construction and installation of five pontoons, associated with Ballina Shire Council's Boating Now priority maritime infrastructure program to Atlas Marine T/A Superior Jetties.
- 2. That Council authorises the Council seal to be attached to the contract documents.
- 3. That Council endorses the proposed changes to the program based on the information outlined in Table B of this report. In summary this refers to revising the design standard for the projects at North Creek and Brunswick Street and possibly advances these projects to final design only, if insufficient funds are available to complete the works.

Council staff are now working with the preferred tenderer to implement these works.

The attachments referred to in the previous comments are outlined on the following pages.

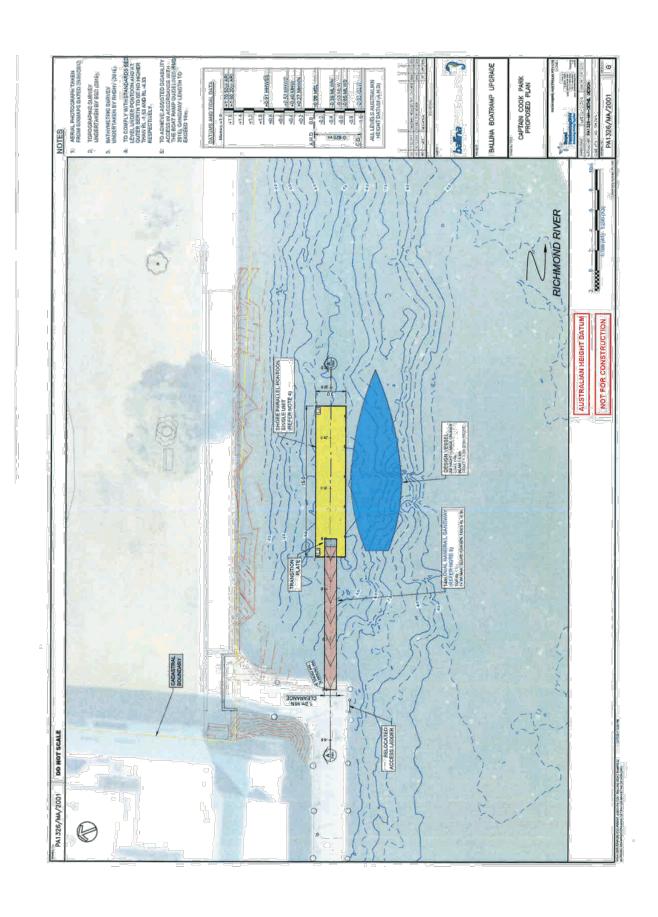
The one other project currently funded from the Boating Now Program is the investigation of accessibility improvements for the entrance to Emigrant Creek, which has a budget of \$40,000.

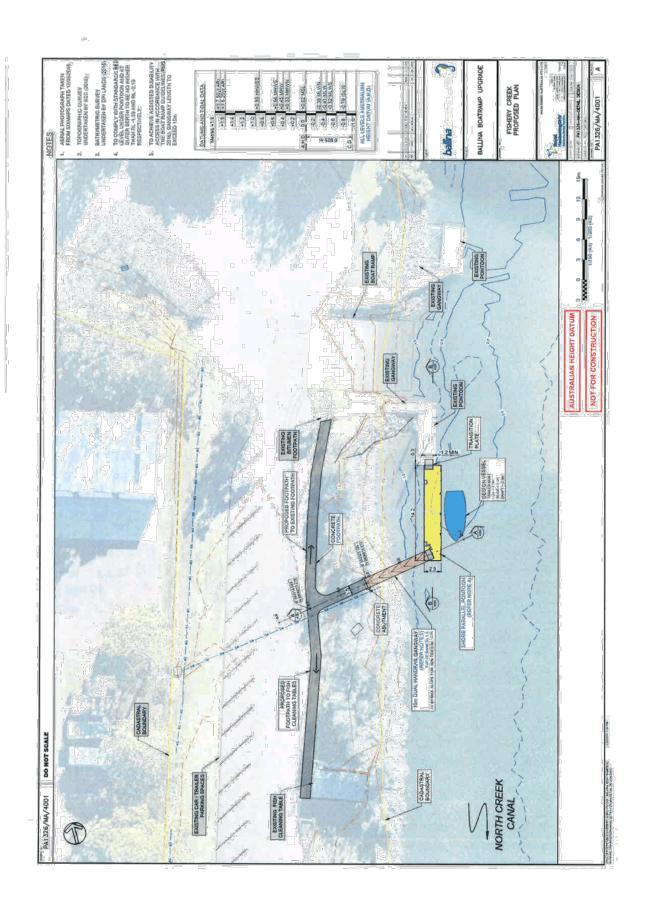
GeoLINK and ENV Solutions Pty. Ltd. have been engaged to undertake this study and the work is at a very preliminary stage.

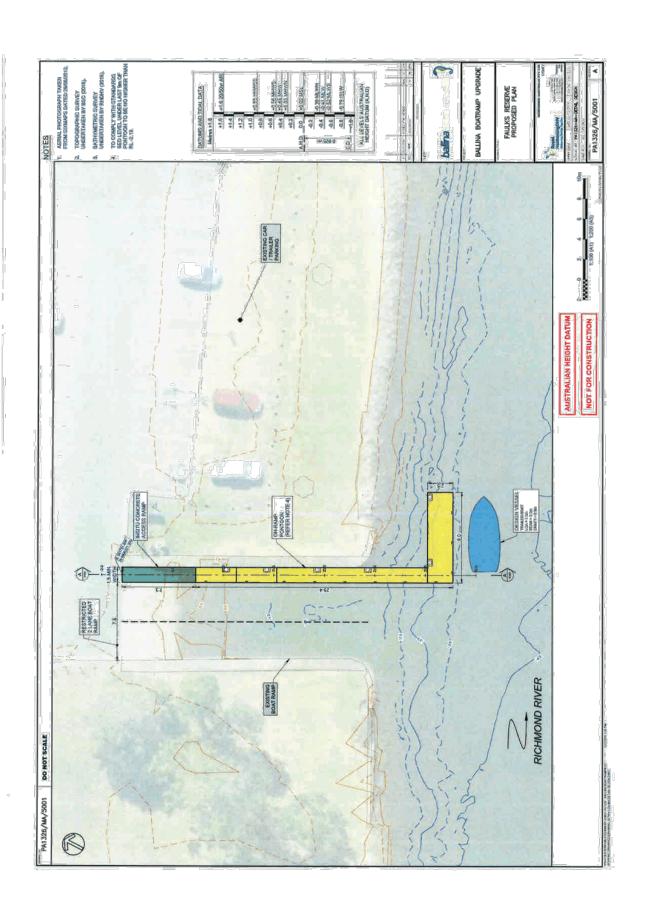
The Council project manager for these projects, Mr Paul Busmanis (Manager – Engineering Works), will be in attendance at this meeting to provide a further update and answer any questions.

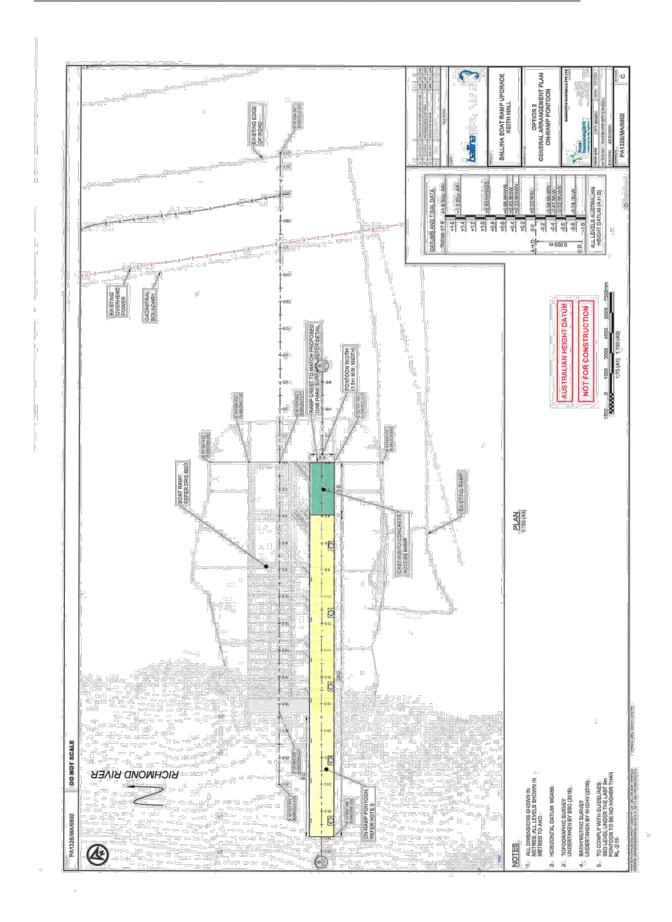
#### Recommendation

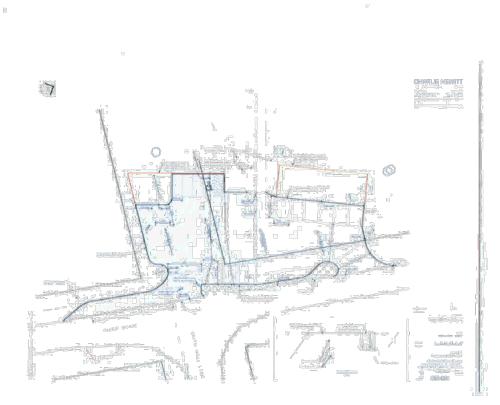
That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the NSW Boating Now program of works.







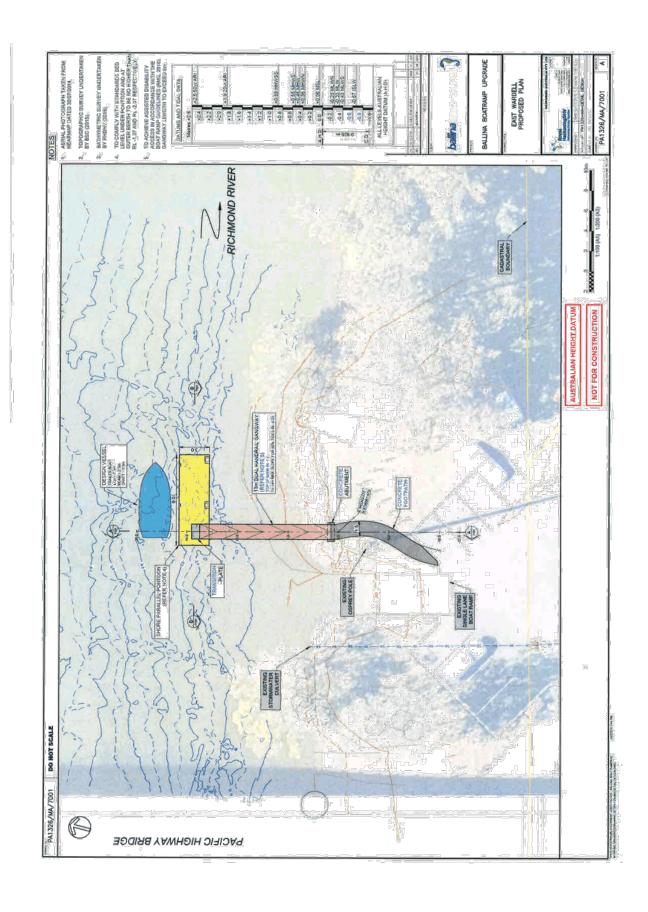




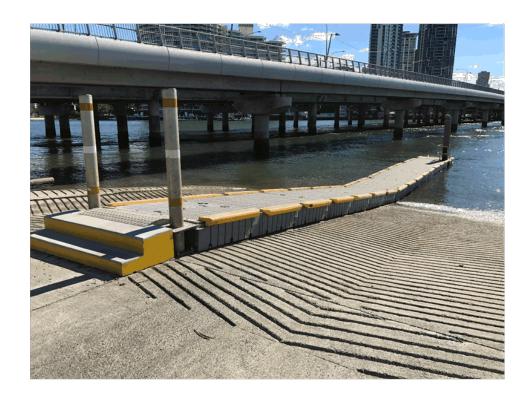
Keith Hall - carpark current design



Keith Hall - carpark proposed design



# RFT924 Tender Report Attachment B Superior Jetties on-ramp pontoon using UMD system



## (b) Ballina Marina - Master Plan

The draft Master Plan was presented to the June 2017 Ordinary meeting of Council. The following is a link to the draft plan as presented to Council:

http://www.ballina.nsw.gov.au/cp\_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-JOA-42-36-07

As a result of this report Council resolved as follows:

That the Master Plan be deferred to a Councillor workshop where anyone who made a submission during the consultation period be invited to attend.

This workshop was held 2 August 2017 with five speakers from the public.

A report on this workshop, along with the draft Master Plan, will now be submitted to Council again, most likely to the September 2017 Ordinary meeting, seeking Councillor support to adopt the Plan.

The primary objective of this Plan is to allow Council to make submissions to the State Government to seek funding for elements in the Plan; i.e. marina infrastructure.

## Recommendation

That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the Ballina Marina – Master Plan.

## (c) Tuckean Program

Update to be provided by OzFish.

## (d) Healthy Waterways Program

Council has a long history of undertaking projects aimed at improving different aspects of river health. Work in water and stormwater education, supporting the 'Blackwater' study for the Richmond, undertaking stormwater works in Northlakes, Chickiba and on Maguires Creek have addressed some of the issues identified as being pressures on river health. Collaboration with other organisations including state agencies has also been a feature of past actions.

Following the Ecohealth Report in 2015 which highlighted the poor water quality, lack of fish habitat, bank erosion and stability issues in the Richmond River, both within Ballina Shire and in upstream local government areas, Council decided to increase the focus on the waterways in the Shire and hence the 'Health Waterways Program' was developed.

This resulted in Council applying to IPART for a permanent rate increase of approximately \$300,000 per annum to fund a Healthy Waterways Program. IPART has approved that increase for one year only and Council needs to determine whether it will apply again to IPART for a permanent increase.

Council has identified a range of actions for the next 12 months that will assist in improving waterway health. All of these works and actions require a significant amount of time, community and agency liaison, and budget. The projects are outlined in the following table.

Project	Budget (\$)
Lake Ainsworth Coastal Management Program – Estuary Processes Study Review, WQ Monitoring Program, Core Sediment Sampling, Management Options	65 000
North Creek Coastal Management Program – Literature Review, WQ Monitoring, Stakeholder Consultation, Processes Study	80 000
Emigrant Creek Hydrology – review floodplain hydrology including drain management	15 000
Chickiba Creek – Moving on up to a B- (matching funding for OEH Estuary Management Grant)	54 600
Riparian Planting Program – Emigrant, Maguires and Houghlahans Creeks and floodplain locations	40 000
Tuckean Hydrological Study Contribution - (Ozfish run project – Recreational Fishing Trust Funded)	20 000
Landholder workshop reviewing property and drainage plans	8 000
Community Discussion Evenings (2 x 3 speakers)	2 000
Extended Animations Advertising and Education	8 000
Sediment and Erosion Program	20 000
Total Healthy Waterways Program Projects	307 600

Additional monies will be required over time to progress many of the works and actions that are needed to implement the various Coastal Management Plans that are in place for the Richmond River, Shaws Bay, Ballina Coastline and a new plan is in the process of being prepared for Lake Ainsworth. Grant funding and the leveraging of Council's funds is critical to support Council in the delivery of these works.

The Council program manager, Kerri Watts (Manager – Public and Environmental Health), will be in attendance at this meeting.

## Recommendation

That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the Healthy Waterways Program.

## (e) Ballina Bar - Dredging

A copy of the latest correspondence from NSW Public Works, dated 7 June 2017 is attached. As per that correspondence this project is still being advanced by the State Government.

In response to this correspondence Council confirmed that the adopted Ballina Coastline - Coastal Zone Management Plan, identifies that Seven Mile Beach, Lennox Head is the preferred location for any beach nourishment works.

#### Recommendation

That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the Ballina Bar – Dredging project.



McKell Building – 2-24 Rawson Place, Sydney NSW 2000 Tel 02 9372 8877 | Fax 02 9372 7070 | TTY 1300 301 181 ABN 81 913 830 179 | www.finance.nsw.gov.au

Sandra Bailey PA to the General Manager and Mayor General Manager's Group Ballina Shire Council PO Box 450 Ballina NSW 2478

E: Sandrab@ballina.nsw.gov.au

#### Richmond River Dredging (Stage 2)- Review of Environmental Factors

Dear Ms Bailey,

Public Works Advisory has been engaged by Department of Industry, Lands and Forestry (Dol-Lands & Forestry) to prepare a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for a proposal to dredge the entrance bar of the Richmond River in Ballina NSW, in order to restore a safe navigation channel. Approximately 50,000 m3 of sediment will be removed from the channel. Both nearshore and direct beach nourishment options for the dredged sediment are being investigated. The works are permissible without consent under State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 and therefore a REF is being prepared in accordance of the provisions of Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and clause 228 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Ballina Shire Council of the proposed works and to provide the opportunity to comment on any matters that your organisation would like to see addressed in the REF and to identify if any approvals are required.

#### **Project Background**

The Richmond catchment drains an area of over 7,000 km2 from the Border Ranges in the north to the Richmond Range in the west and south. River training walls were constructed at the entrance to Richmond River around 1889 to 1911 to improve navigation safety. Coastal sands are typically carried by waves and successive flood tides into the entrance shoals and are only returned to the littoral system in during moderate or major/extreme catchment flows. This has resulted in the build-up of sediment at the entrance bar which restricts access and represents a safety risk to waterway users.

The construction of the training walls has modified the local sediment budget and they have essentially acted like a groyne, trapping sand and leading to the accretion of the beaches to the south with some localised accretion immediately north of the walls. This accumulation of sand within the entrance channel acts as a navigation hazard and has influenced the broader regional sediment budget contributing to the erosion of beaches further north. Dol- Lands & Forestry is therefore proposing to dredge the entrance bar.

The Ballina Shire Council was consulted during the preparation of the preliminary REF prepared in February 2016. The response is attached to this letter for your reference.

#### **Project Description**

Dredging of the entrance bar is likely to be undertaken by a trailing suction hopper dredger (with a capacity of 450 m3) and would result in up to 50,000 m³ of sediment. Both nearshore and direct beach nourishment options are being investigated with all site options being located within the Ballina coastal sediment compartment (consistent with the Coastal Management Act 2016).

The three locations for both direct beach and nearshore placement and the predicted quantities and are listed below:

Option 1 - Shelley Beach – 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> to 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>

- Option 2 Sharps Beach 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> to 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- Option 3 Seven Mile Beach (two locations) 30,000 m<sup>3</sup>

The approximate locations for each of the nearshore / beach nourishment options are shown in Attachment A.

Coastal processes modelling has indicated that dredging the Richmond River entrance bar will have only very minor indiscernible impacts on coastal processes, provided that dredge material is returned to the active littoral zone within the relevant coastal sediment compartment as is proposed. Sediment analysis of both the dredge site and potential sediment disposal site options is currently being undertaken to ensure no adverse impacts result.

The purpose of this letter is to seek comments from Ballina Shire Council on the proposal for inclusion in the environmental assessment. If you have any comments on the proposal, it would be appreciated if you could provide a response by 27 June 2017 to the undersigned at:

Public Works Advisory Level 13 McKell Building 2-24 Rawson Place Sydney NSW 2000

Email: lara.hess@finance.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 02 9372 7920

If you require any further information at this stage regarding the proposed works please free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Lara Hess Senior Environmental Scientist

7 June 2017

Attachment A:
Richmond River Estuary Dredging Location



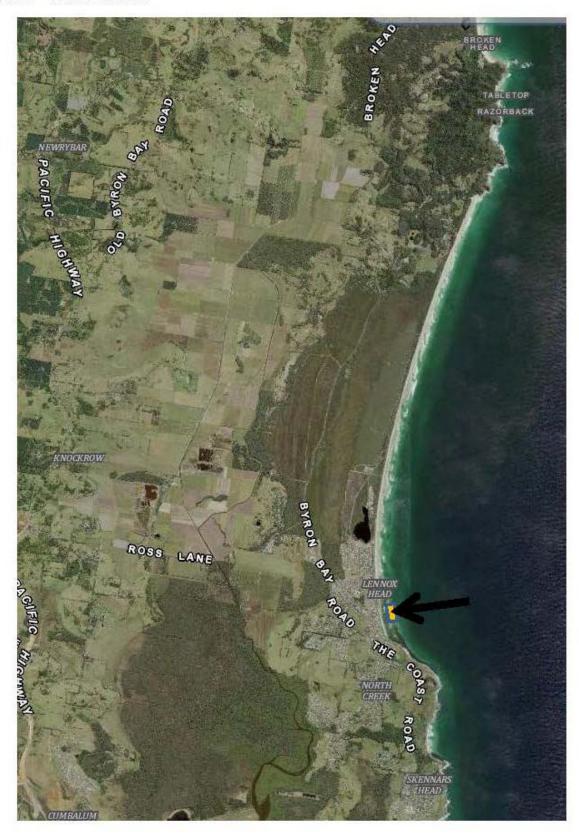
Option 1 - Shelly Beach



Option 2 – North of Flat Rock, Sharps Beach



Option 3 - Seven Mile Beach



## Sediment Placement Options

## Shelly Beach



Seven Miles Beach



## Sharpes Beach



Paul Hickey

15/66447 (1497-03/1314-04)

6 October 2015

Lara Hess Senior Environmental Scientist Public Works NSW Water Solutions Level 14, McKell Building 2-24 Rawson Place SYDNEY NSW 2000

Lara.hess@finance.nsw.gov.au



Dear Ms Hess

Richmond River Dredging - Review of Environmental Factors

In response to your correspondence dated 21 September 2015, following discussions with Council planning staff, we are not aware of any approvals that are required from Council in respect to this dredging project.

However I have enclosed a copy of our Coastal Zone Management Plan as this plan may assist you to prepare the proposed review of environmental factors. It may also be the case that your proposal can support the implementation of some of the actions in the plan relating to beach nourishment and erosion control. Our Group Manager, Civil Services – Mr John Truman is available to provide further advice in respect of this plan if needed.

In closing I also wish to emphasise that this project has the full support of Council and our business community and we look forward to the project proceeding as quickly as possible.

Yours faithfully

Paul Hickey General Manager

Enc.

40 cherry street, po box 450, ballina nsw 2478 t 02 6686 4444 • f 02 6686 7035 • e council@ballina.nsw.gov.au • w ballina.nsw.gov.au

#### (f) North Creek - Dredging

In October 2014, Council successfully secured a licence from Crown Lands to try and obtain planning consent to extract sand from North Creek, following an expression of interest process. A budget of \$150,000 was then sourced from Council's Quarry Reserve to finance the approval process. The approvals process is a two-stage approach:

- Stage 1 is a "scoping study", which was completed in April 2016.
- Stage 2 is the preparation of a planning application, including supporting studies/information and associated permits and licences.

The outcome of Stage 1 was to more clearly define the project's scope, to determine the requisite planning pathway, and to identify the extent of additional studies/information needed to obtain a planning approval. A small amount of work originally intended for Stage 2, principally the shorebird survey, was brought forward into Stage 1, because of the seasonal nature of the work and to help better define the project's scope.

The Stage 1 scoping report identified a total in-situ volume to be dredged of approximately 575,000 m<sup>3</sup>, encompassing a footprint of 34.7 ha. The timing, sequence and duration of the dredging works could potentially extend over several years.

Stage 1 also provided greater certainty as to the costs associated with the planning approval process, including the associated technical and environmental studies. These cost estimates are broken down as follows:

- Project management, planning documentation, and consultation \$86,000
- Shorebird evaluation \$35,000 (complete)
- Sediment coring and characterization \$82,000
- Economic assessment \$15,000
- Estuarine habitat studies \$20,000
- Hydrodynamic and sediment modelling \$160,000
- Minor technical studies \$50,000
- EP&A Act approval, permits and licences \$52,000.

Council has resolved to progress the project one step at a time, with funding allocated for the sediment coring and the economic assessment. Hydropshere Pty. Ltd. has been engaged to undertake this work and a sampling plan has been prepared however, we are still waiting on Crown Lands to issue the investigation licence, which was lodged in June 2017.

In December last year Council applied for grant funding with NSW OEH under the Coastal and Estuary Grants, but was unsuccessful. In June 2017 Council applied NSW Dept. of Industry - Lands under its "Rescuing our Waterways" funding assistance program for the sum of \$230,700 on a 50/50 basis. We are waiting the outcome of this application.

## Recommendation

That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the North Creek -Dredging project.

## (g) Martin Street Boat Harbour – Master Plan

Council adopted a master plan for the Martin Street Boat Harbour in October 2016.

The following is a link to the adopted plan:

http://www.ballina.nsw.gov.au/cp\_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-WUA-18-38-71

Similar to the Ballina Boat Harbour Precinct – Master Plan, one of the main benefits of having an adopted Master Plan is that it allows Council to apply for grant funding.

An application has subsequently been submitted to Round 2 of the NSW Boating Now Program for \$150,000 in funding to undertake the civil engineering design for works to create a new, larger harbour and provision of new floating pontoons, gangways, berths and associated marine services. It also includes construction cost estimates and obtaining relevant planning and environmental approvals to enable commencement of work, when funds are available.

The total cost of this project is estimated at \$170,000 with Council including a relatively small contribution of \$20,000 towards the project, in the grant application. Council does not have any recurrent budgets for this type of work therefore the application has placed a significant percentage of the funding on the grant component.

This may work against the grant application, however the feedback from the State Government in respect to the Boating NOW Program is that they recognise some of these larger scale projects will need a larger percentage contribution from the State Government. Prior to the Boating Now Program, these types of grant programs have been based on a 50/50 split with Council.

## Recommendation

That the Taskforce notes the contents of this update on the Martin Street Boat Harbour – Master Plan project.

## 6. <u>Business Without Notice</u>

## 7. Next Meeting

To be advised.

#### Minutes Port Ballina Taskforce Tuesday 25 October 2016 at 2.30 pm

#### **Attendance**

#### Members

Cr David Wright, Mayor, Ballina Shire Council
Cr Keith Williams, Ballina Shire Council
Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council
Cr Eoin Johnston, Ballina Shire Council
James Foster, Community Representative
Michael Cocks, Community Representative
Darren Watson, RMS, Maritime
Catherine Knight for Brendan Logan, NSW Crown Lands
Phil Hilliard, Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative
Craig Zerk, Ballina Chamber of Commerce
Ray Karam, Ballina Chamber of Commerce
Tom Bowers, Cherry Street Fishing Club

#### Observers

Paul Hickey, General Manager, Ballina Shire Council Paul Busmanis, Manager - Engineering Works, Ballina Shire Council Matt Landos, Ozfish Unlimited

#### 1. Apologies

Max Ryan, Community Representative Cr Jeff Johnson, Ballina Shire Council

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

#### 3. Minutes from Dredging Taskforce Meeting held 31 March 2016

The Taskforce confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 31 March 2016. (Cr Williams/Ray Karam)

#### 4. General Business

#### (a) Tuckean Swamp

Matt Landos, on behalf of Ozfish Unlimited, provided an overview of a community session planned for first quarter of 2017 seeking to improve overall health of Richmond River, especially Tuckean Swamp. International experts will be attending and one of the key objectives will be to determine priorities and strategies for improving the river health.

Ozfish will be seeking a contribution of approximately \$30,000 (total) from the constituent councils, plus Rous County Council.

As part of this discussion, reference was made to the Richmond River Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) which has been adopted by the three constituent councils and Rous County Council.

Ballina Shire Council 25 October 2016

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A copy of the document is available at the following link.

https://www.google.com.au/?gws rd=ssl#q=richmond+river+coastal+zone+management+plan

The Richmond River CZMP currently establishes high, medium and low priority works and was prepared on conjunction with Ballina Shire Council, Lismore City Council, Richmond Valley Council, Richmond River County Council, Office of Environment and Heritage, Environment Protection and Regulatory Group, Department of Primary Industries, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Far North Coast Weeds and Southern Cross University.

#### (b) NSW Boating Now Program

Paul Busmanis provided an overview of the project plans. Support provided for all projects, with option one (on-ramp pontoon) being the preferred proposal for Faulks Reserve.

## (c) Ballina Boat Harbour Precinct – Master Plan

Update as per agenda noted.

#### (d) Ballina Bar

Catherine Knight provided verbal advice that the State Government was aiming to try and have the bar dredged during the 2016/17 financial year, with 50,000 cubic metres of sand to be removed.

#### (e) Ballina Boat Harbour - Dredging

Catherine Knight provided status of project with works planned to be completed by mid December.

#### (f) Marine Rescue Centre

Update as per agenda noted.

## (g) Martin Street Boat Harbour – Master Plan

Update as per agenda noted.

## (h) North Creek – Dredging

Update as per agenda noted.

## (i) Membership

Update as per agenda noted.

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#### Minutes Port Ballina Taskforce Tuesday 25 October 2016 at 2.30 pm

5. Business Without Notice

Nil

6. Next Meeting

To be advised

Meeting closure: 4.35pm

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