

**Minutes
Dredging Taskforce
Wednesday 10 July 2013 at 9.00 am**

Attendance

Cr David Wright, (Mayor, Ballina Shire Council)
Peter Carmont (Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry)
Nadia Elliott-Burgess (Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry)
Phil Hilliard (Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative)
Garry Joblin (Ballina Professional Fishermen)
Paul Hickey, General Manager, Ballina Shire Council

Observers

Cr Keith Williams (Ballina Shire Council)
Cr Paul Worth (Ballina Shire Council)
Nessbit (Bert) Hurcum, Crown Lands
Brett Phillips, Crown Lands

1. Apologies

Nil

2. Minutes from meeting held 5 March 2013

Noted

3. General Business

North Creek Dredging (Update from Crown Lands Division)

Extensive discussion with Crown Lands representatives with key points of interest including:

- Dredging for public benefit (positive environmental outcomes) – no need for Crown to follow expression of interest (EOI) process
- Dredging for resource – must follow EOI process – classified as extractive industry
- Preference from Crown is to follow EOI process, even when there is public benefit as this then removes any uncertainty about how any extracted resource can be managed
- For the EOI process respondents will need to submit their proposed royalty along with demonstrating their expertise, resources and ability to manage dredging
- Once EOI awarded the successful applicant must then obtain all approvals
- Estimated cost considered to be in the vicinity of \$150,000 – remains uncertain unless work commences on the approval process and the area in question is thoroughly assessed
- Crown recommend that the proposal be for a larger area which would then allow a methodical dredging program to be implemented (i.e. Missingham to north of Prospect Bridge)
- Lease could be a preferred option as a lease can be transferred – licences cannot be transferred
- Any agreement would be for a defined term
- Any agreement would most likely be renewed after the term subject to the licensee complying with their operating conditions
- To commence the EOI process Council would need to write to Crown Lands

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Ballina Bar Update

Paul Hickey referred to an email received from Crown Lands this morning – latest hydrographical survey indicates a general deepening of the bar (copy of most recent emails received are attached)

Garry Joblin supported this comment, although indicated that it was only minimal.

Further surveys are planned for August 2013 by Crown Lands to continue to monitor the bar.

Trawler Harbour Update

Phil Hilliard confirmed recent discussions with Crown Lands where contaminant testing of this location had provided positive results (i.e. minimal contamination). Strong likelihood dredging of this location will proceed with funding included in the 2013/14 NSW State budget.

Regatta Avenue Precinct Update

Paul Hickey confirmed that Council would be applying for a Better Boating Program (BBP) grant to undertake a master plan for this precinct.

This was based on advice from Crown Lands and BBP that a master plan would then allow Council to seek further grant funding to implement the works identified in the master plan over the life of the plan.

North Wall

The Mayor confirmed his most recent discussions with Minister Don Page where indications are that the State Government may take responsibility for rectifying the loss of views that resulted from the recent reinforcement works undertaken at North Wall.

Brett Phillips agreed he would raise this issue with Steve Willis who is a new officer in Crown Lands responsible for this type of infrastructure.

Peter Carmont left the meeting at this point.

Fawcett Wharf – Sale of Seafood

Paul Hickey and Phil Hilliard confirmed that the Co-operative Board had confirmed there may be three trawlers interested in some form of rotation system for the sale of fresh seafood from Fawcett Park Wharf.

Bert Hurcum confirmed that Crown Lands would not be involved in this type of proposal.

Paul Hickey to follow up any other approvals needed from Council (i.e. environmental health, planning etc)

10.6 Port Ballina Taskforce - Update.DOC

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Brett Phillips and Bert Hurcum left the meeting at this point.

Council Resolution re Future and Renaming of Committee

All agreed to support the renaming of the taskforce to Port Ballina Taskforce based on general terms of reference as presented by Council. In respect to membership consensus was:

Mayor and two councillors
Ballina Chamber of Commerce (two)
Ballina Fishermen's Co-op and Professional Fishermen (two)
Department of Premier and Cabinet (one - Regional Co-ordinator)
Community Representative (one)

It was agreed to advertise for the community representative based on a criteria that ensures knowledge of maritime / marina related issues. Paul Hickey to co-ordinate process of selection and confirm make-up of Taskforce with elected Council.

4. Other Business

Nil

5. Next Meeting

To be advised.

Meeting closure: 10.15 am

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From: Andrew Ling [Andrew.Ling@lands.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 July 2013 9:14 AM
To: 'ballina@parliament.nsw.gov.au'; Ballina Fishermens Co-operative Ltd; 'ballina@marinerescuensw.gov.au'; Sandra Bailey; 'Darren Watson'; donosborne1@bigpond.com
Cc: 'Ben Fitzgibbon'; 'Sonia McKay'; Alison Stone; Stephen Wills; David McPherson; Brett Phillips; Steve Lawson
Subject: Ballina bar - hydrographic survey 2013
Attachments: Ballina hydrographic survey 2013.pdf

Please find attached the most recent hydrographic survey (2013) for Ballina bar. This recent survey complements the 2010, 2011 and 2012 surveys and the report "Feasibility Study into dredging Ballina Bar" which have been previously provided to key stakeholders.

Crown Lands is currently organising supplementary survey drawings to highlight depths in the navigation channel for easier for interpretation. These drawings should be available later today.

The hydrographic surveys undertaken over the last 3 years (2011, 2012, and 2013) highlight the dynamic nature of the Richmond River Entrance Bar. These surveys provide only a snapshot of bed levels at that time, and that entrance bars are highly dynamic areas subject to complex interactions of coastal, estuarine and climatic processes.

At the time of the 2011 survey, significant shoaling was evident with navigation depths of around 3.6m AHD recorded across the entrance bar. However, across subsequent years to 2013 a general deepening of the bar has occurred in comparison to August 2011 conditions, most likely in response to the effects of flood events and/or ocean swell regime.

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) is currently finalising a detailed review of the bed level surveys and linkage to flood events, ocean wave direction and magnitude and regional climatic conditions. When available, the outcome of this review will be made available to key stakeholders, including:

- Hon Don Page MP
- Ballina Shire Council
- Ballina Fishermen's Cooperative
- Surfriders Association
- NSW Roads and Maritime Services
- NSW Marine Rescue
- NSW Office Environment & Heritage

Crown Lands is currently organising a new survey of the bar to be undertaken in August 2013 subject to availability of a suitable surveyor and favourable weather and ocean conditions. The results of the new survey will be made available to key stakeholders once the survey is complete.

Should you have any comments or require any further information or assistance on this matter please contact me on 4920 5056 or by email at andrew.ling@lands.nsw.gov.au

regards

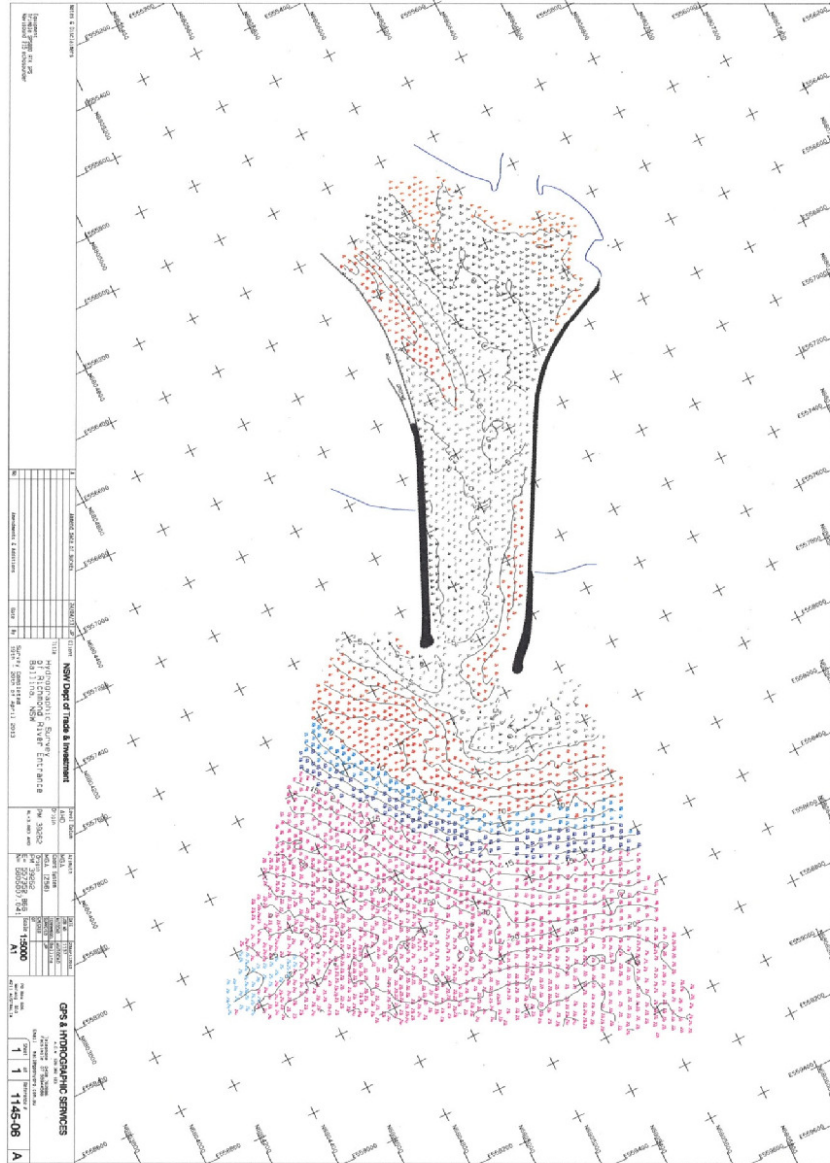
Andrew

Andrew Ling | Principal Environmental Officer, Crown Lands
NSW Trade & Investment

Ballina Shire Council
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From: Andrew Ling [Andrew.Ling@lands.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 July 2013 10:15 AM
To: Sandra Bailey
Cc: 'Don.Page@parliament.nsw.gov.au'
Subject: RE: Dredging of the Ballina Bar - Comments by Ballina Shire Council on Draft Feasibility Study

Sandra

Apologies for not responding to date to Council's request for comments.

As per my earlier email today, I anticipate that Crown Lands will be in a better position to provide its response once the Office of Environment and Heritage has finalised its review of the Ballina bar surveys and linkage to flood events, ocean wave direction and magnitude and regional climatic conditions.

Please contact me should Council need to discuss.

regards

Andrew Ling | Principal Environmental Officer, Crown Lands
NSW Trade & Investment
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From: Sandra Bailey [<mailto:Sandrab@ballina.nsw.gov.au>]
Sent: Monday, 8 July 2013 11:04 AM
To: Andrew Ling
Cc: 'Don.Page@parliament.nsw.gov.au'
Subject: Dredging of the Ballina Bar - Comments by Ballina Shire Council on Draft Feasibility Study

Hello Andrew and Don, just following up on whether there has been any progress with these representations.

Many thanks
Sandra Bailey

From: Sandra Bailey
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2013 3:55 PM
To: 'Andrew Ling'
Cc: 'Donald Page'
Subject: Dredging of the Ballina Bar – Comments by Ballina Shire Council on Draft Feasibility Study

Please see submission from Ballina Shire Council attached.

Sandra Bailey | PA to the General Manager & Mayor

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Cc: 'Ben Fitzgibbon'; 'Sonia McKay'; Alison Stone; Stephen Wills; David McPherson; Brett Phillips; Steve Lawson
Subject: Ballina bar - hydrographic surveys 2005 - 2013 with colour contours
Attachments: Ballina Bar Changes 2011 to 2013.doc; Ballina Bar Changes 2005 to 2011.doc

Please find attached supplementary survey drawings that highlight depths in the navigation channel. The depths shown on the attached drawings are in Australian Height Datum (AHD). This means that the depths shown are below, approximately, mean sea level.

At the time of the 2011 survey, significant shoaling was evident with navigation depths of around 3.6m AHD recorded across the entrance bar. However, across subsequent years to 2013 a general deepening of the bar has occurred in comparison to August 2011 conditions.

The 2013 survey indicates depths of greater than 5.0 metres AHD generally along the navigation leads leading into the entrance.

Nevertheless, these surveys provide only a snapshot of bed levels at that time, and that entrance bars are highly dynamic areas subject to change.

Should you have any comments or require any further information or assistance on this matter please contact me on 4920 5056 or by email at andrew.ling@lands.nsw.gov.au

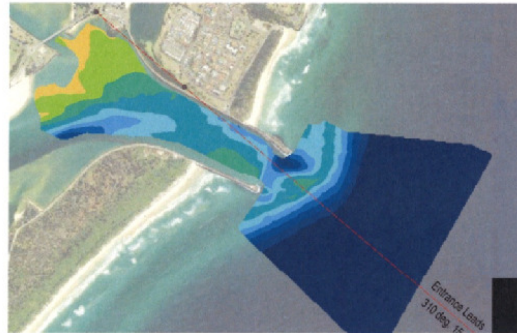
regards

Andrew

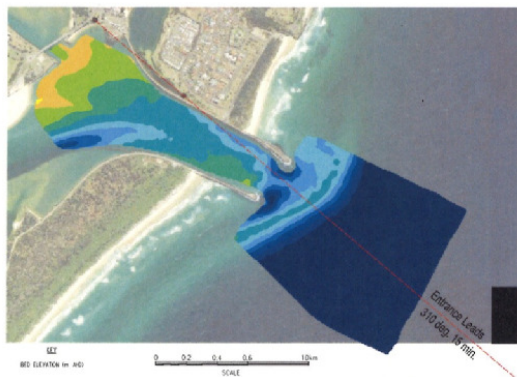
Andrew Ling | Principal Environmental Officer, Crown Lands
NSW Trade & Investment
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Email: andrew.ling@lands.nsw.gov.au
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Richmond River – Ballina Entrance and Bar Survey Results



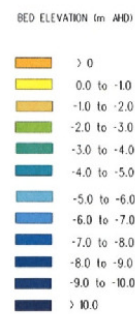
2011



2012

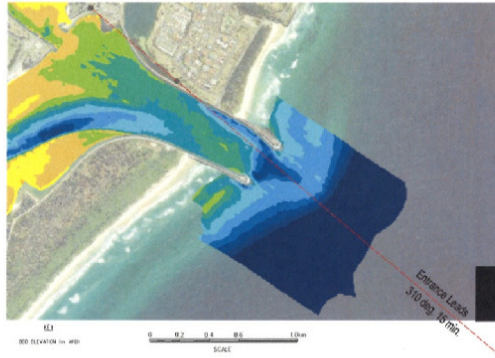


April 2013



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Richmond River – Ballina Entrance and Bar Survey Results



2005



2010



April 2011

