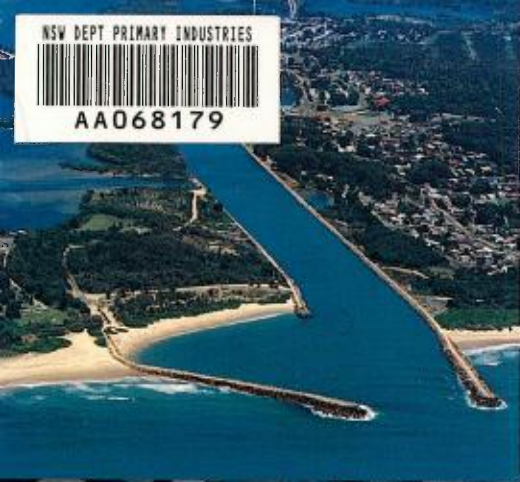


EIS 1412

AA068179

A sustainable future for the NSW coast : Implementation of the
New South Wales Coastal Policy



LAND & WATER
CONSERVATION


A sustainable future for the NSW coast



Implementation
of the
New South Wales
Coastal Policy



EIS 1412 B



DLWC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NSW COASTAL POLICY

NSW DEPARTMENT OF
MINERAL RESOURCES

20 NOV 1999

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A sustainable future for the NSW coast

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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

NSW is the recognised national leader in sustainable coastal management. Our coastline is a region of outstanding beauty and environmental, economic, social and cultural significance

We use the coast in many different ways. Therefore we need a consistent policy for the people of NSW and Australia on coastline management. The consistency is provided by the *NSW Coastal Policy 1997*.

The Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC) works in partnership with the community through local government, conservationists, landowners and Aboriginal groups. Our aim is to help the community share the maximum benefits which the coastline can deliver while ensuring that NSW's magnificent, fragile natural resources are preserved for future generations.

Recognising the significance of the objectives detailed in the Coastal Policy a DLWC Coastal Policy Taskforce was established. This Taskforce has translated the objectives and goals of the Coastal Policy into practical actions described in this plan.

This plan ensures that DLWC makes the most efficient and effective use of the resources available to play its part in the management of the NSW coastline along with other Government agencies, local councils and community groups.

I wish to acknowledge the valuable work being done by community members through local councils, catchment management committees, regional vegetation committees, river, groundwater and water management committees, estuary management committees, coastal management committees, floodplain management committees, Crown reserve trustees and Landcare, Dunecare and Coastcare groups.

I commend this document to the coastal community, local government and other agencies with responsibility for the NSW coastline.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Amery'.

Richard Amery MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Land and Water Conservation

overview

OVERVIEW

The *NSW Coastal Policy 1997* is the Government's response to the challenge of achieving a sustainable future for the NSW coastline while balancing environmental, economic, cultural and recreational needs. It provides a forward looking, coordinated policy framework to guide environmentally sustainable coastal planning and management.

This document outlines how the Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC) proposes to meet its responsibilities under the policy and to provide a framework for assessing its performance over time.

The Coastal Policy has nine goals listed in this document. Each goal is underpinned by objectives which will be achieved through strategic actions. Responsibilities for these strategic actions have been assigned to appropriate agencies, councils and other bodies.

DLWC is wholly or partly responsible for nearly half of the 135 strategic actions in the Coastal Policy with many of these involving a partnership with local councils. DLWC has over many years developed a strong relationship with councils in the coastal zone and regards this partnership as a significant factor in achieving results under the Policy.

In addition, DLWC will seek to build and extend its partnerships with the coastal community and other agencies to achieve the goals of the policy.

This document identifies the key actions for which DLWC has responsibility either alone or in partnership with others. These actions have been categorised according to their current status as:

- *ongoing* - a current action that will continue in line with the Coastal Policy;
- *ongoing and developing* - a current action which needs to be enhanced to meet the needs of the Coastal Policy;
- *developing* - an action not undertaken prior to the Coastal Policy, but one to which DLWC and/or its partners have committed resources; and
- *under consideration* - an action not undertaken prior to the Coastal Policy and one for which a method of delivery is being considered.

This broad categorisation will assist all those involved in delivery of the Government's Coastal Policy to recognise the DLWC's identified priorities.

THE NSW COASTAL POLICY 1997 - A SUMMARY

What is the NSW Coastal Policy?

The NSW Coastal Policy is a major, whole-of-Government policy through which NSW agencies work with the community to achieve a sustainable future for our coast, while balancing environmental, economic, cultural and recreational needs. By bringing all the coastal planning and management initiatives together it provides a framework to guide coastal decision making. The Policy includes ongoing actions from the 1990 Coastal Policy and a significant number of new activities.

Effective delivery of the Coastal Policy depends on strengthening existing partnerships between the community, local councils and government agencies as well as forming new ones. The goals will be achieved through twenty nine objectives, supported by 135 strategic actions. DLWC is responsible for almost half of these strategic actions, and shares the responsibility for most of them with at least one other agency and the broader community.

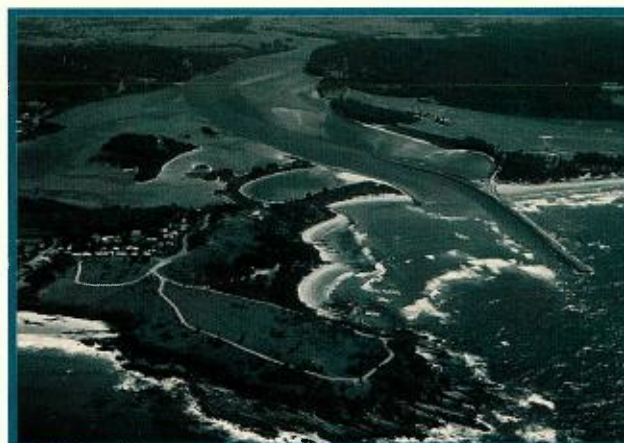
What does it apply to?

The NSW Coastal Policy 1997 applies to urban and non-urban areas along the NSW coast, outside the greater metropolitan region which are:

- three nautical miles seaward of the mainland and offshore islands;
- one kilometre landward of the open coast high water mark; and
- one kilometre around all bays and estuaries, coastal lakes, lagoons and islands, and tidal waters of coastal rivers to the limit of mangroves.

In urban areas covered by the coastal zone, the Coastal Policy applies to all new developments and publicly owned lands, however it has no impact on the rights of existing users.

The Coastal Policy does not apply in the urban areas of the Sydney, Newcastle, Illawarra and Central Coast Regions, which are covered by the Coastal Zone Strategy. The offshore component of the Coastal Zone Strategy, extending three nautical miles seaward from the open coast high water mark, applies in these regions. DLWC will ensure there is a consistent



DLWC contributes to sustainable coastal development at Moruya

approach to coastal zone management in areas covered by the Coastal Zone Strategy and the Coastal Policy.

Who monitors the implementation of the Coastal Policy?

The coastal area is constantly changing, bringing new challenges for its management. It is proposed in the Coastal Policy that its implementation will be monitored and reviewed by the Coastal Council and all state agencies will report each year on their progress.

The Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP) provides support for the operations of the NSW Coastal Council which is chaired by Professor Bruce Thom. The Coastal Council ensures that major rezonings and new developments in the coastal zone comply with the principles of environmentally sustainable development.

There are a number of ways the Policy will be followed up, including identifying certain development proposals as being 'state significant development' under section 76 A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979) for determination by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, and the use of stop work and conservation powers by the Minister for the Environment under the National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974) and the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995). The Environment Protection Authority also has powers to issue and enforce licenses and, if necessary, prosecute under the Environmental Offences and Penalties Act (1998).

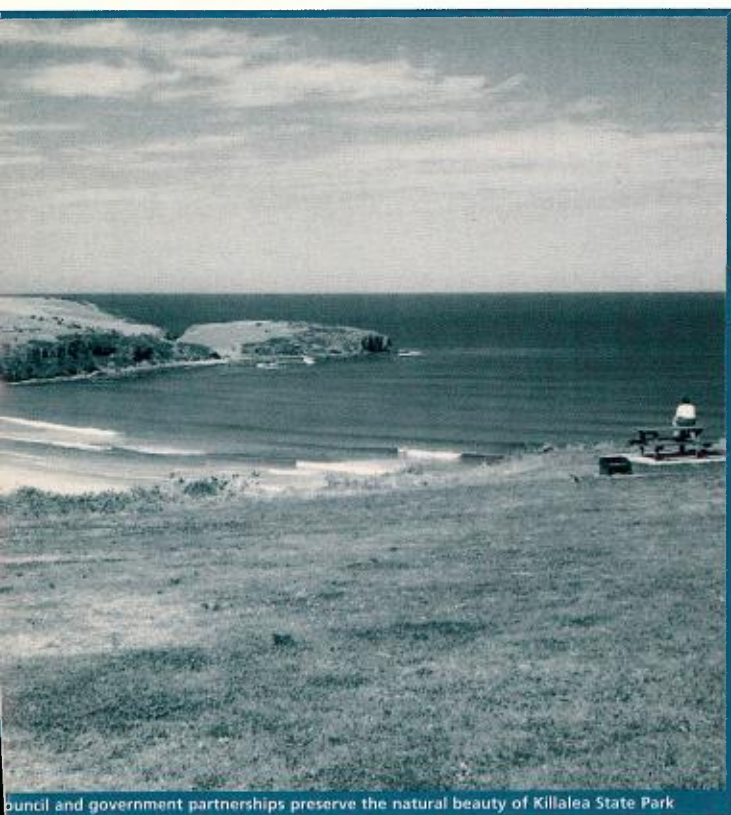


Community

DLWC AND COASTAL POLICY

What does DLWC do?

The Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC) was established in 1995 to integrate the management of NSW's land, water and vegetation resources. The Department's vision is of healthy and productive environments for the present and future generations. It works closely with the community and local government to determine the best balance of environmental, economic and social outcomes and to manage natural resources.



Council and government partnerships preserve the natural beauty of Killalea State Park

What have we achieved?

Well before the announcement of the *NSW Coastal Policy 1997*, DLWC was extensively involved in managing the coastal zone. The Department already has a number of significant achievements in coastal management, and has addressed several of its commitments under the Policy by:

- overseeing and with local government, guiding the preparation of coastal, estuarine and floodplain management plans in partnership with over 250 Coastal, Estuary and Floodplain Management Committees;

- working with the (then) 25 Catchment Management Committees and Trusts which were concerned with policy implementation, to coordinate and promote the integrated management of land, soil, water and vegetation within the coastal zone;
- creating links between estuary management plans and Crown land assessments;
- creating links between coastal, estuary and floodplain management plans and local environmental studies; and
- creating links between Plans of Management for Crown reserves and local government community lands.¹

During 1997/98 the Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC) has been actively involved in a number of important coastal initiatives under the NSW Coastal Policy including:

- contributing to a coordinated NSW Government approach to managing acid sulfate soils through a NSW Acid Sulfate Soil Strategy. The Strategy promotes measures within Government and the community to prevent inappropriate soil disturbance in coastal areas;
- implementing the Coastal Management Program through the work of coastal management committees and administering financial assistance grants to councils for the preparation of coastal management plans and their implementation. DLWC has provided \$3.8 million to 28 councils on a dollar for dollar basis to develop and implement management plans. The coastal projects include Maroubra, Manly, Batemans Bay, Port Stephens, Byron Bay, Town Beach (Port Macquarie);
- implementing the Estuarine Management Program through the work of estuary management committees and administering financial assistance grants to councils for important habitat restoration works, the preparation of estuary management plans and for specific estuary studies. Projects funded include those at Lake Macquarie, Lake Illawarra and Kooragong Island (Newcastle);

¹ see *Succeeding with Plans of Management - a guide to the Crown Lands Act and the local Government Act*



Monitoring water quality means a healthy coastline for present and future generations to enjoy

government and industry to work together to achieve sustainable native vegetation management through:

- participation in community-based Regional Vegetation Committees;
- Property Agreements with individual groups of landholders; and
- membership of the Native Vegetation Advisory Council.

Response DLWC is a leader in managing native vegetation and will continue working in partnership with the community to monitor and protect native vegetation. DLWC assists NPWS to undertake threat abatement plans under the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995).

DLWC will:

- prepare, adopt and implement Regional Vegetation Management Plans in partnership with the community
(*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- assist local councils to prepare and implement Coastal and Estuary Management Plans based on an understanding of ecological processes and the need to protect native plant and animal species
(*Status: ongoing and developing*).

■ **To improve water quality in coastal and estuarine waters and coastal rivers where it is currently unsatisfactory and to maintain water quality where it is satisfactory.**

Challenges The challenge for DLWC is to establish a water quality monitoring program in coastal waters including rivers, estuaries, inshore marine waters and coastal aquifers and to work with the community and local councils to improve water quality.

Background DLWC is working in partnership with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to establish agreed river flow and water quality objectives.

The quality of water in coastal environments is important not only for the health and well being of people but also for the health and vitality of ecosystems. Monitoring water quality in coastal environments and catchments can assist the community and agencies to understand the potential impacts of different ways of using rural and urban land and water. DLWC recognises that information related to the quality of coastal waters in NSW has been insufficient, although through Streamwatch, community water quality monitoring has contributed significantly to the quality and quantity of data.

Many important industries such as tourism, fishing, oyster production and outdoor recreational activities which enhance the community's enjoyment of the coastal environments rely heavily on the maintenance of a high standard of water quality. Recent surveys have indicated that the issue of water quality is a high priority for the community, having been ranked in the top three issues in almost every catchment in NSW.

Response DLWC will actively address and coordinate coastal water quality issues by working with the State Water Monitoring Coordinating Committee which is currently developing a strategy for monitoring water quality in NSW for 1999 to 2000. DLWC will also continue to work with the community through programs such as Streamwatch to monitor water quality in coastal environments.

Water Management Committees have been established as a key community component of the NSW Water Reforms. They will review, expand and refine the

interim water quality objectives for coastal catchments on the basis of local and regional catchment conditions and issues.

The NSW Groundwater Policy and proposed component policies will provide the framework for managing the State's groundwater resources so

that they can continue to provide environmental, social and economic benefits for the NSW community.

DLWC is currently developing a pilot water monitoring program for NSW estuaries which will provide information on hydrodynamic, biological and chemical indicators, and improve sampling design, analytical methods and quality assurance protocols and reporting.

DLWC will:

- work closely with the State Water Quality Monitoring Committee to develop a water quality monitoring strategy (*Status: developing*);
- encourage Water Management Committees to focus on coastal water quality issues and strategies to maintain and enhance water quality (*Status: developing*);
- assist local councils to prepare and implement Coastal and Estuary Management Plans which address water quality issues (*Status: ongoing and developing*);
- continue to work with the EPA and the community to address river flow and water quality objectives (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- encourage the incorporation of water quality implementation measures into other community and catchment planning processes such as Catchment Management Committees, Regional Vegetation Committees and Landcare activities (*Status: developing*).

■ To manage the coastline and estuarine environments in the public interest to ensure their health and vitality.

Challenges The key challenges for DLWC are to encourage sustainable management of the coastal zone for the benefit of the whole community, by protecting the long term health of the environment. This includes ensuring that physical, biological and chemical processes are considered when development in the coastal zone is being considered.

Background DLWC staff have considerable expertise in coastal and estuarine processes as well as in dune management. DLWC administers the Coastal and Estuary Management Programs which have been in place for a number of years. They provide technical and financial assistance to local councils in developing and implementing coastal management plans. These plans have a "whole of government" approach to the management of coastal areas. The increasing numbers of coastal and estuary management committees and greater community involvement and support for developing and implementing management plans demonstrate local government's commitment to the programs.

Agencies and local government cooperate under a partnership arrangement to facilitate "best practice" management techniques. This process is supported by the Estuary Management and Coastline Management Manuals which document the process councils should follow in developing and implementing management plans. They have extensive technical appendices on specific coastal issues. The manuals are currently being



Families enjoy safe beaches with good access

combined into a single Coastal Zone Management Manual to help integrate management of the whole region and to provide a coordinated focus across government.

Response DLWC will maintain its partnership with local government and the community in developing strategic management plans for the coastal zone.

DLWC will:

- maintain its commitment to coastal and estuary management by continuing its financial and technical assistance to local councils through the Coastal and Estuary Management Programs. These help the councils undertake their key roles in coastal management (*Status: ongoing*);
- revise the current coastal and estuary manuals to produce a Coastal Zone Management Manual (*Status: developing*).

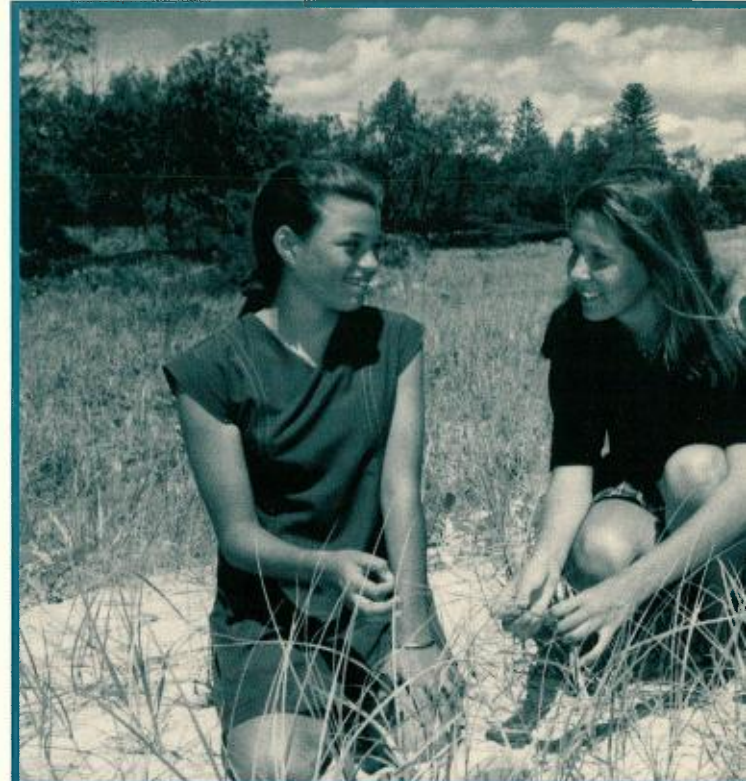
■ **To foster new initiatives and facilitate the community's continued involvement in programs to restore and rehabilitate degraded coastal areas**

Challenges The challenge for DLWC is to ensure that all appropriate community based organisations are actively involved in coastal zone programs for sustainable coastal management. This will lead to 'ownership' and protection of significant coastal areas.

Background DLWC actively supports and facilitates community involvement in all coastal management initiatives. DLWC ensures that initiatives such as Landcare, Coastcare, Rivercare and Total Catchment Management Programs address the goals of the NSW Coastal Policy. DLWC ensures that information collected through community initiatives is coordinated to meet community and government expectations and needs. DLWC facilitates additional community involvement through coastal catchment management committees under the Catchment Management Act (1989), and through community trusts under the Crown Lands Act .

Response DLWC will:

- maintain education and support for community groups undertaking coastal rehabilitation through the Coastcare Program and other National Heritage Trust initiatives (*Status: ongoing*); and
- assist coastal catchment management committees and trusts to protect and restore coastal environments (*Status: ongoing*).



Involving the community - young people help to preserve the coastal environment

GOAL 2 To recognise and accommodate natural processes and climate change

DLWC is responsible for four strategic actions to achieve Goal 2. These address the following policy objectives:

■ **To give the impacts of natural processes and hazards a high priority in the planning and management of coastal areas**

Challenges The challenges are to improve our understanding of natural processes and hazards and our predictions of what the impacts of these processes will be. This improved understanding needs to be incorporated into coastal zone planning and management.

Background The coastal zone is an area of complex natural processes and hazards. Some of these processes are relatively well understood, however many are not. Better understanding of these processes is needed so responses to hazards such as beach erosion, flooding or acid sulfate soils can be understood by the community and incorporated in plans which will protect the environment and ensure the safety of the public.

DLWC initiatives such as mapping and identifying potential acid sulfate soils along the coastline are



assisting local councils and the community to integrate information about hazards into statutory and community-based plans.

DLWC supports local councils prepare and implement coastline, estuary and floodplain management plans. The recommendations of these plans are increasingly being incorporated into the local environmental planning framework.

Coastline, estuary and floodplain management manuals provide detailed information to assist local councils address many of the issues associated with coastal hazards. DLWC places a high priority on enhancing local councils' and the community's understanding of the potential impacts of natural processes and hazards.

Response DLWC will:

- improve its capacity to investigate and understand the impacts of natural processes and hazards (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- take physical and ecological hazards into account and ensure they are adequately addressed when assessing development applications (*Status: ongoing*).

■ **To recognise and consider the potential effects of climate change in the planning and management of coastal development**

Challenges The challenge is to improve and disseminate our understanding of the potential effects of climate change. This will enable us to improve our predictions of coastal and climate variations and their potential impacts on the full range of coastal activities.

Background Climate related effects on NSW coastal environments present both risks and opportunities. DLWC recognises that climate change must be considered in planning for, and managing, the NSW coastline.

DLWC is gaining a better understanding of the physical, chemical and biological processes operating at the interface between land and water. This improves our understanding of climatic variability and the influence of human activity on climate change.

DLWC is currently supporting a network of instruments which collect long term data on coastal wave climates, sea temperature and tidal water levels. This information is available to local councils and the community through the Internet.

DLWC has been extensively involved in the NSW Government's response to the National Greenhouse Strategy.

Response DLWC will:

- collaborate with the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning to incorporate sea level change scenarios into planning mechanisms (*Status: ongoing and developing*);
- enhance its capabilities to collect high quality data to monitor short and long term climate variability (*Status: ongoing and developing*);
- support collaborative research and the development of predictive models as a means of adapting to the likely effects of climate change (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- provide advice based on coastal and estuary process data to local authorities, so that climate change can be considered in environmental planning (*Status: ongoing and developing*).

GOAL 3 To protect and enhance the aesthetic qualities

While DLWC supports this goal, it is not directly responsible for its implementation. Agencies such as the Department of Local Government, Tourism NSW and the DUAP have particular responsibilities under it.

GOAL 4 To protect and conserve cultural heritage

DLWC is responsible for two strategic actions to implement Goal 4. These address the following policy objectives:

■ To effectively manage and conserve cultural heritage places, items and landscapes

Challenges The challenge is to identify, conserve, promote and pass on to future generations the natural and cultural heritage values of NSW's coastal zone.

Background DLWC helps meet this objective through the Lighthouse Program under the Crown Lands Act. DLWC is preparing plans of management and heritage studies for lighthouse properties.

Response DLWC will:

- work closely with the Cabinet Office and NPWS to protect and conserve lighthouses along the NSW coastline (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- complete the agreements for the transfer of lighthouses from the Commonwealth and the preparation of plans of management (*Status: ongoing and developing*).

■ To recognise the rights and needs of Indigenous people and to ensure input by Indigenous communities prior to making decisions affecting Indigenous communities

Challenges The challenge is to ensure all Aboriginal interests are acknowledged and considered as an important component of the planning and management of the coastal zone.

Background DLWC encourages Aboriginal communities to participate in decisions about natural resource management, through initiatives such as the Aboriginal Land Management Program (1995) and by developing agreed Aboriginal consultation protocols. DLWC acknowledges the importance of Indigenous skills, beliefs and culture in resolving natural resource management issues.

Response DLWC will:

- involve indigenous communities in planning, management and resource allocation processes in association with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, ATSIC, NSW Aboriginal Land Councils and other Aboriginal groups (*Status: ongoing and developing*);
- provide training within indigenous communities to facilitate and support their direct participation in coastal zone management (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- encourage indigenous involvement in establishing environmental values and monitoring programs (*Status: ongoing and developing*).

GOAL 5 To promote ecologically sustainable development

DLWC is responsible for ten strategic actions which contribute to Goal 5 by addressing the following objectives:

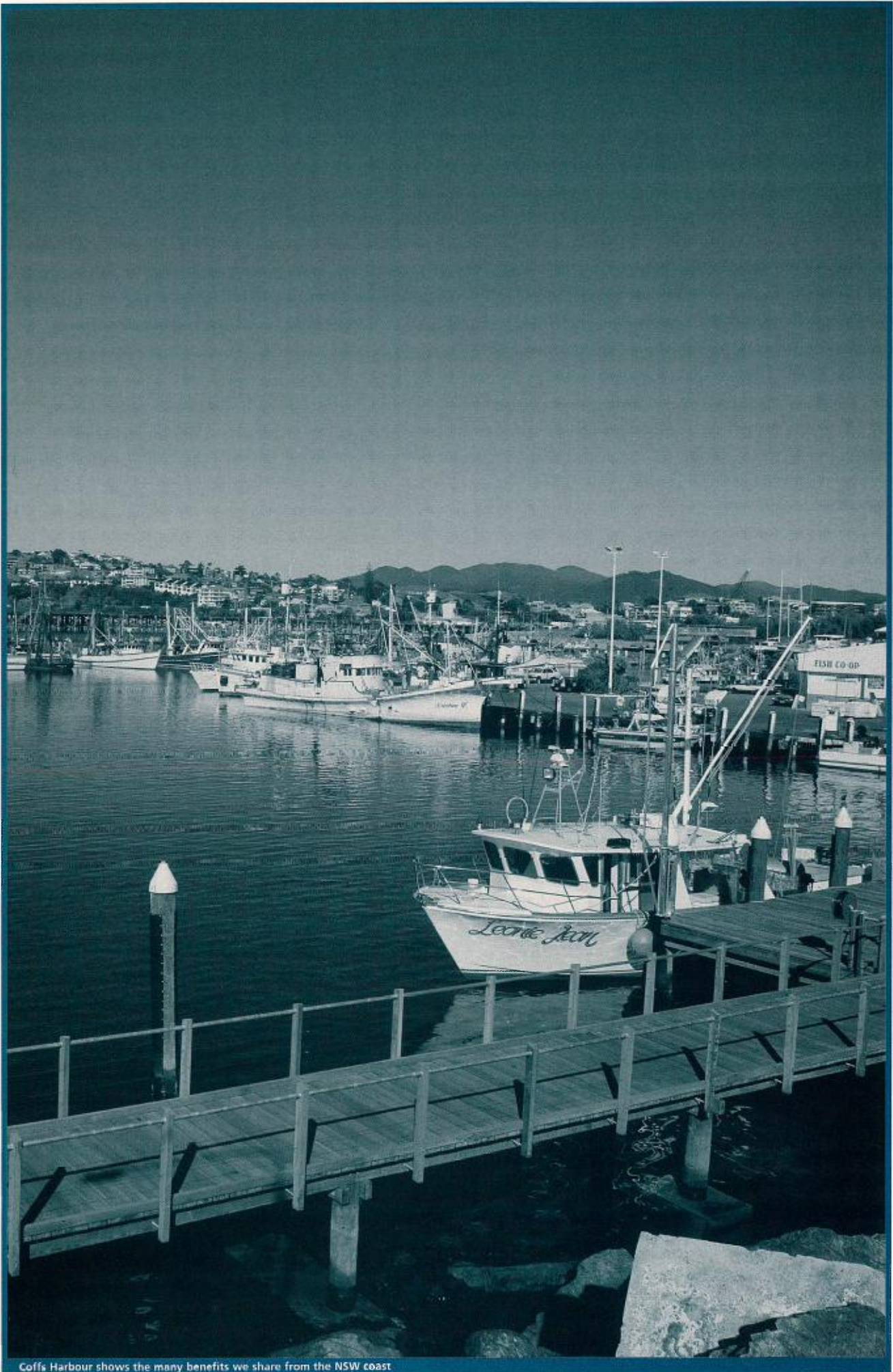
■ To identify and facilitate opportunities for the sustainable development and use of resources

Challenges The challenge is to ensure the integrity of coastal ecosystems is maintained while providing information for ecologically sustainable and economically competitive use of coastal areas.

Background Responsible management of coastal areas, brings with it the fundamental need for information about the suitability of proposed land uses and to identify areas that need protection or conservation. DLWC is currently involved at both state and regional levels with land resource mapping of soils and vegetation communities as well as acid sulfate soils. This is vital information to help natural resource managers make decisions. DLWC is coordinating data gathering activities to ensure consistency and to avoid duplication.

Response DLWC will:

- complete soil landscape maps in coastal areas where there is strong pressure for development and rapidly changing land uses. This will enable local councils and resource users to identify the suitability of proposed land uses (*Status: ongoing*);
- continue to improve its ability to undertake land resource mapping in coastal areas (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- assist with the Government's delivery of the Acid Sulfate Soils Strategy for NSW (*Status: ongoing and developing*).



Coffs Harbour shows the many benefits we share from the NSW coast

■ To develop land use and management plans which ensure the sustainable development and use of resources

Challenges The challenge is to ensure that resource management plans are developed that contribute to social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being.

Background DLWC actively encourages community and agency involvement in coastal planning through existing legislation such as the Native Vegetation Conservation Act, the Catchment Management Act and the Crown Lands Act and through the processes set out in the coastal, estuary and floodplain management manuals.

DLWC plays a key role in broadscale mapping and developing land use catchment and vegetation management plans to ensure that planning and land use decisions are integrated. DLWC encourages the consideration of these plans during the preparation of local and regional environmental planning instruments.

DLWC is working with NSW Fisheries to improve coastal aquatic habitats. The Department continues to encourage local government to protect and restore estuarine habitats as part of Estuary Management Plans.

Response DLWC will:

- promote the integration of catchment and environmental planning processes (*Status: ongoing and developing*); and
- promote the development of a range of management plans in consultation with other agencies to ensure the sustainable development, use and protection of coastal resources (*Status: ongoing and developing*).

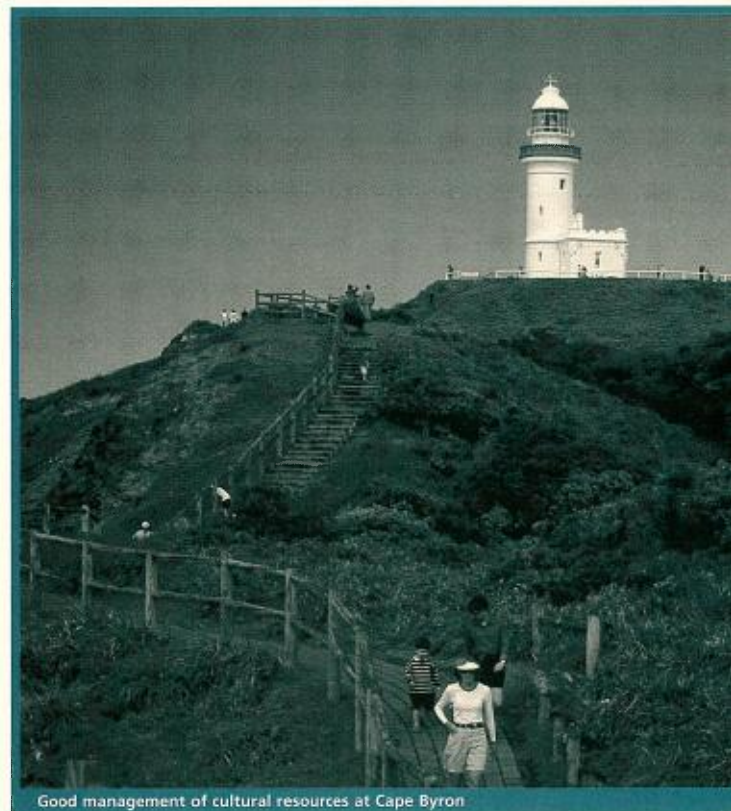
■ To develop and implement ‘best practice’ approaches to achieving sustainable resource management

Challenges The challenge is to promote and implement the principles of ecologically sustainable development in the coastal zone through integrated catchment management processes.

Background DLWC, along with other natural resource management agencies is implementing a variety of

actions under the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). These include informing the community about NSW Government obligations under the Strategy, and involving the community in the actions.

DLWC supports Catchment Management Committees in their efforts to coordinate ‘best practice’ land and water management activities in coastal catchment areas. DLWC also coordinates the Country Town Water, Sewerage and Drainage Program for regulating the discharge of trade wastes into sewerage systems, and provides related technical advice and training to local government.



Good management of cultural resources at Cape Byron

Response DLWC will:

- promote sustainable land and water management practices and the implementation of the principles of ecologically sustainable development to ensure coastal zones are protected (*Status: ongoing*);
- support the delivery of the Country Town Water, Sewerage and Drainage Program (*Status: ongoing*); and
- develop best practice guidelines for coastal management in consultation with professional organisations and stakeholder groups, such as the Lake Macquarie Soil Conservation Project which aims to manage urban soil erosion and control sediment (*Status: ongoing*).

GOAL 6 To provide for ecologically sustainable human settlement

DLWC strongly supports the attainment of this goal. Its achievement is central to DLWC's programs, although the Department has not been identified for specific responsibility under the Coastal policy.

GOAL 7 To provide for appropriate public access and use

DLWC is responsible for five strategic actions which to contribute to Goal 7 by addressing the following objectives:

■ To increase public access to foreshores when feasible and environmentally sustainable options are available

Challenges The challenge is to balance opportunities for public access to foreshore and coastal areas while maintaining the integrity of coastal ecosystems.

Background Under the Crown Lands Act and the Public Reserves Management Fund Act (1987) DLWC contributes to the purchase of private coastal lands for public access. In addition, financial assistance can also be provided for purchasing land in accordance with coastal and estuary management plans.

DLWC provides financial assistance to local government to maintain the amenities of beaches and coastal waterways and provide

access to them, in accordance with existing coastal, estuary and waterway management plans.

Response DLWC will:

- develop and review policies and guidelines concerning access to Crown lands (*Status: ongoing*);
- collaborate with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning to purchase significant coastal properties (*Status: ongoing*);
- support local government in maintaining the amenities of beaches and coastal waterways and provide access to them, in accordance with existing coastal, estuary and waterway management plans (*Status: ongoing*).

■ To ensure risks to human safety from the use of coastal resources are minimised

Challenges The challenge is to provide a safe coastal environment for the people of NSW and ensure that the risks to human safety from using the coastal zone are minimised.

Background Safety along the coastline is an important factor in natural resource planning and management. DLWC is working with other agencies to advise on the most appropriate signage and standards for community safety in coastal areas. For example, DLWC has initiated appropriate signage and track safety standards for coastal areas of the Great North Walk.

Response DLWC will:

- work with local councils to ensure that beach signs and flags meet Standards Association of Australia standards and that, as part of the coastal programs, safety warning signs are erected as needed (*Status: under consideration*).

GOAL 8 To provide information to enable effective management

DLWC is responsible for nine strategic actions which to contribute to Goal 8 by addressing the following objectives:

■ To coordinate and integrate data and information collection with management programs to ensure that it meets the needs of management

Challenges The challenge is to provide community access to high quality coastal data and information for effective management and sustainable use of coastal resources.

Background In association with other agencies such as the EPA, DLWC is developing an Integrated Catchment Management Information and Support System (ICMISS) to provide an information framework on the Internet for natural resource management. DLWC has taken a prominent role in the newly created Coastal Information Management Committee (CIMC), which is a standing committee of the NSW Coastal Council. DLWC has developed agreed Information Protocols to coordinate information and data, and ensure consistency across the Department.



1998 onwards

THE WAY FORWARD

DLWC will report annually to the Coastal Council on its progress against this plan.

The coastal area is constantly changing and new demands will be placed upon it. We know that in the future new ways will have to be found to manage these changes. This will require updated or new policies and plans through which the Department of Land and Water Conservation will continue to work with the key stakeholders in coastal management. The effective partnerships we now have with local councils, coastal communities and with other government agencies will be maintained and strengthened.

The NSW Coastal Council will continue to ensure that major rezonings and major new developments in the coastal zone are consistent with the principles of environmentally sustainable development.

Together we will manage our coastline in a way which will bring the maximum benefits for the environment and for the community today and into the future.



USEFUL CONTACTS

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FURTHER READING

Most of the following reading list was provided in the *NSW Coastal Policy 1997*:

A Draft Policy for Commonwealth Responsibilities in the Coastal Zone Commonwealth of Australia 1992

A National Coastal Action Plan : the Draft Conclusions and Recommendations of the Coastal Zone Inquiry Resource Assessment Commission 1993

An Estuarine Inventory for NSW Fisheries Bulletin No 2 Department of Agriculture NSW, West R. J., Thorogood C., Walford T. and Williams R. J. 1985

A Voice in All Places: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Interests in Australia's Coastal Zone Consultancy report by Dr D Smyth Resource Assessment Commission 1993

Background Paper AGPS Canberra Resource Assessment Commission 1992

Coastal Development in NSW: Public Concerns and Government Processes Discussion Paper No 2 Standing Committee on State Development 1989

Coastal Management: the Role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Coastal Management ATSIC 1993 Issues Paper No. 2

Coastal Planning and Management in NSW: A Framework for the Future Volume 1 Report No 4 Standing Committee on State Development 1989

Coastal Planning and Management in NSW: The Process for the Future Volume 11, Report No 8 Standing Committee on State Development 1989

Coastal Protection Bill Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage 1993

Coastal Zone Fact Sheets Australian Conservation Foundation 1993

Coastal Zone Inquiry: Coastal Zone Management Objectives Information paper No.5 Resource Assessment Commission AGPS 1993

Coastal Zone Inquiry Discussion Paper: Coastal Zone Management Objectives and Principles Resource Assessment Commission 1993 AGPS

Coastal Zone Inquiry: Draft Report Resource Assessment Commission AGPS 1992

Coastal Zone Inquiry: Draft Report; Summary and Interim Conclusions Resource Assessment Commission AGPS 1992

- Coastal Zone Inquiry: Government Approaches to Coastal Zone Resource Management* Information Paper No.1 Resource Assessment Commission 1992 AGPS
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