



NSW Coastal Council

NSW Coastal Council Meeting – summary minutes

6 November 2024

Meeting was held in hybrid mode with attendees joining the meeting in person and online during the 31st NSW Coastal Conference held in Batemans Bay.

Coastal Council members in attendance:

- Dr Philip Haines, Chair
- Mark Conlon
- Dr Elizabeth McEntyre
- Grahame Byron

Apology: None

Representatives from the Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Biodiversity Conservation and Science (Conservation Policy & Programs Division) attended in person and by video.

Following an Acknowledgement of Country by Grahame Byron, Coastal Council (the Council) members and guests were welcomed to the fifth and final meeting of the Council for 2024.

The main agenda item was a discussion of coastal management and Coastal Management Program (CMP) delivery on the NSW south coast.

Stakeholder engagement: Coastal management on the NSW south coast.

Since August of this year, Dr Phil Haines, the Coastal Council Chair, and other Council members have visited both in person and virtually with local council staff to gain an appreciation of the challenges, opportunities and achievements in coastal management of regional and metropolitan councils. Understanding how each council is progressing with their CMPs and seeking feedback on topics for advice to government in the Council's 2024 work plan, have been top priorities.

The Council's final meeting of the year took place at the NSW Coastal Conference at Batemans Bay, as part of its continued commitment to engage with industry, research organisations and stakeholders in local and state government. Senior representatives from DCCEEW and coastal practitioners from Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Bega Vally councils, were invited to attend Council's meeting to listen and discuss council's experiences in preparing and implementing CMPs.

Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Bega Valley councils are all working on late stage CMPs (Stage 4) or implementing certified CMPs (Stage 5). They talked about their planning, exhibition, certification and implementation experiences, highlighting the things that worked well and noting areas where improvements could be made. Many of the matters raised for improvement align with those noted in the Council's 2024 survey and in prior meetings with local councils. At the Coastal Conference, the Chair presented on 'what we have heard' from stakeholder engagements in 2024 and how the Council is using the feedback to shape its advice to the government.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Coastal Council is to be held in early 2025.