

The New Coastal Management Program for the Saltwater Creek and Lagoon Estuary



Bulletin #1 - May 2020



What is the Coastal Management Program?

The Saltwater Creek and Lagoon estuary is a major asset for the Macleay Region. The estuary provides important natural habitats and ecosystems, opportunities for recreation, and areas of social and cultural significance. However, it is facing increasing pressures from urbanisation, population growth and climate change.

In order to tackle this, Kempsey Shire Council is commencing the process of developing a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the estuary. The program will be prepared in line with the NSW Government Coastal Management Framework, a recent initiative by the NSW Government to equip communities to respond to the challenges facing the state's coastline and estuaries.

The new CMP for the estuary will update and replace the existing estuary management plan from 2006. The CMP will include extensive engagement with the local community and user groups, and relevant government agencies.

What is the purpose of the CMP?

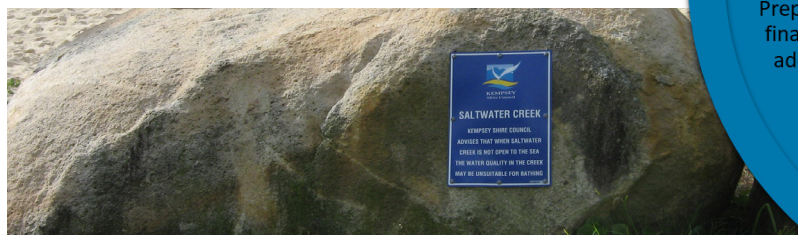
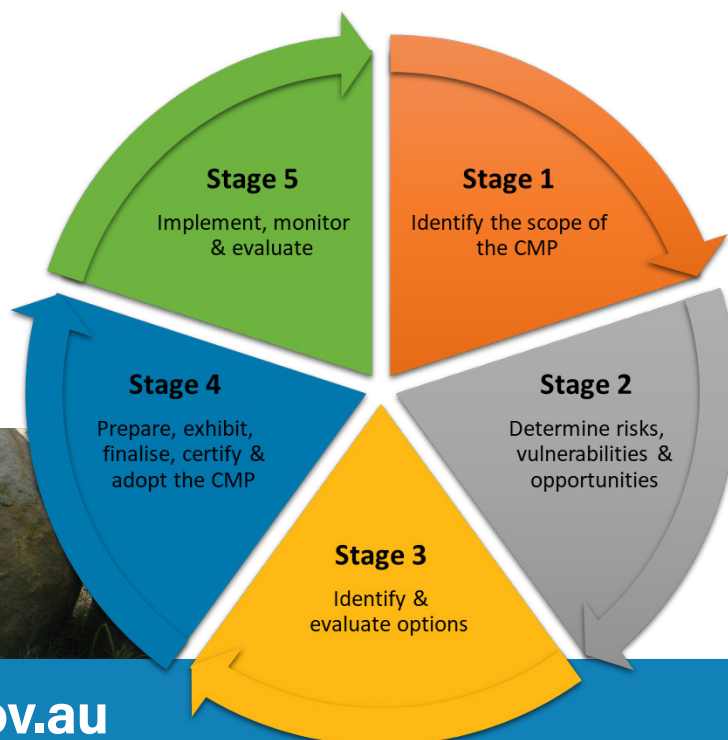
To set the long-term strategy for the coordinated management of the estuary. It will identify and implement management actions designed to improve estuary health and manage the current and emerging issues.

Who is involved in preparing it?

It is an opportunity for local communities, councils, and public authorities to come together and identify and balance competing interests and priorities in the estuary and its catchment.

How is it prepared?

A CMP is prepared through a five staged risk management process. The CMP for the Saltwater Creek and Lagoon Estuary is currently in Stage 1.



yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au



What is the progress of the CMP?

The CMP is currently commencing the first stage, which involves:

- A review of the current estuary management arrangements and effectiveness of the existing Estuary Management Plan: www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/environment/estuary-management/saltwater-creek-estuary.html
- Identification of key issues facing the estuary (including emerging issues such as new development pressures and climate change)
- Development of a Stakeholder & Community Engagement Strategy for the CMP
- Plan for the remaining stages

It is estimated that the CMP will take around 12 to 24 months to progress through Stages 2 through to 4. The fifth and final stage will involve the ongoing implementation of the program over a 10-year period thereafter.

How can I be involved?

Provide your CMP feedback online

Visit Your Say Macleay before the 30 June 2020 closing date to find out more about the CMP and provide your thoughts via our online survey: yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au/saltwater-lagoon-and-creek-coastal-management-plan

Contact Council Customer Services

Phone 6566 3200 to request a hard copy of the survey via mail which can be posted back to Kempsey Shire Council, P.O. Box 3078, West Kempsey NSW 2440 or scanned and returned via email to the Project Manager, Ron Kemsley: ron.kemsley@kempsey.nsw.gov.au

Write a submission

Complete an independent submission and post it back to Kempsey Shire Council, P.O. Box 3078, West Kempsey NSW 2440.

Comments should be provided by 30 June 2020.

Have your say online at yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au