

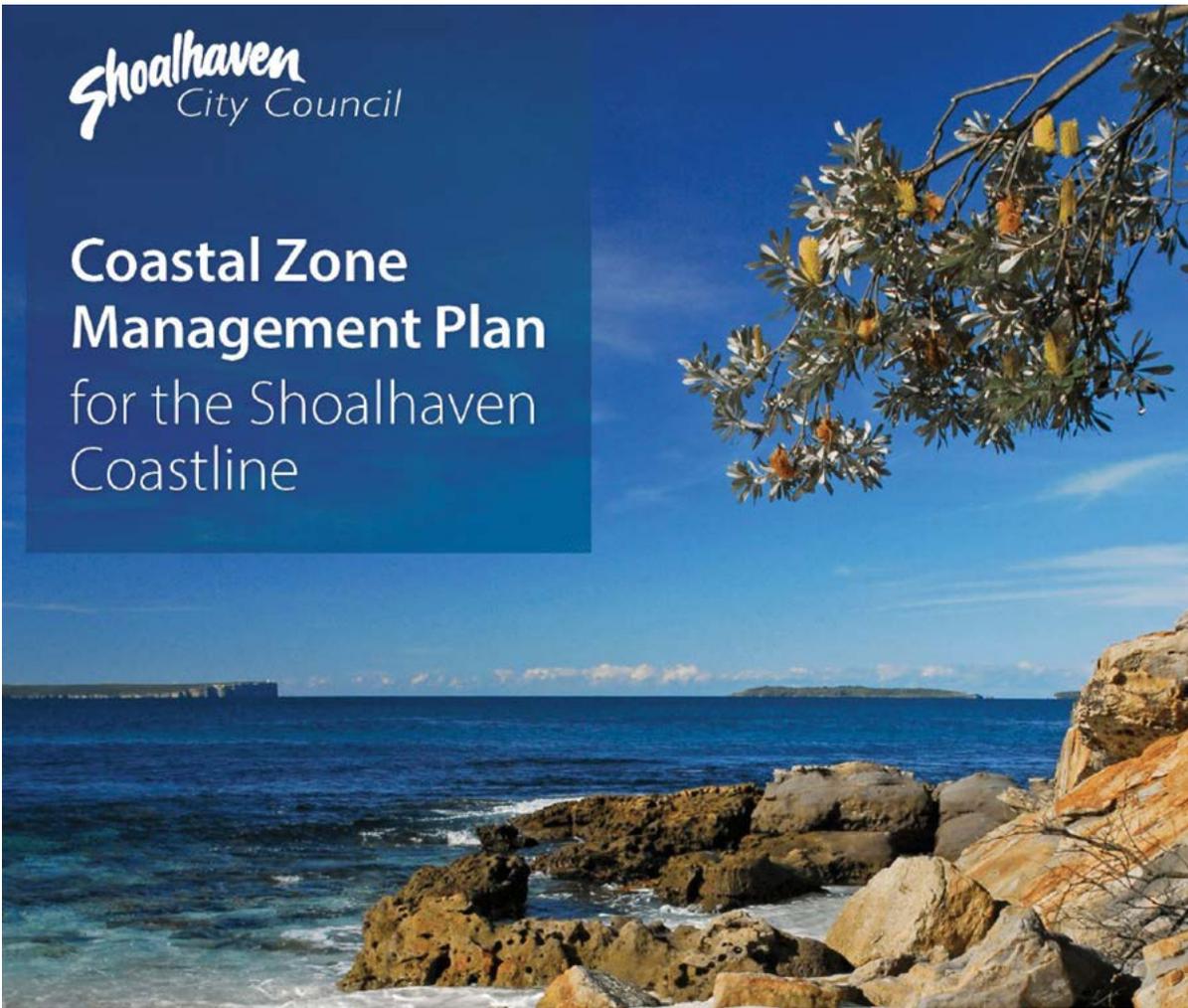


Ulladulla artist, Julie Sydenham, working on the Take 3 for the Sea mural at Ulladulla Harbour

In this issue ...

- **Shoalhaven Coastal Zone Management Plan**
- **South Mollymook Beach shoreline protection**
- **Inclusive access to the coast**
- **SMART**
- **Murals with a message**
- **Locals take action on plastic**
- **Climate Change Threatening Australian Tourism**

Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Shoalhaven Coastline



The Coastal Zone Management Plan

The public exhibition of the CZMP finished on June 12 and, following adoption by Council on June 26, was submitted to the NSW Minister for the Environment, Gabrielle Upton for certification on June 29.

Once the plan is certified Council will, once again, be eligible to apply for funding from the NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program. This program provides 50% of project funds so it's a very important component of Council's coastal & estuary management program.

The south Mollymook Beach Cost Benefit and Distributional Analysis for Protection Works

This is a complex project with a complicated title and its purpose is to assess long-term options to manage coastal hazards at south Mollymook Beach where shoreline protection structures were damaged in the June 2016 storm and where assets are at risk.

This project was mentioned in the last Frontline News because a \$100,000 grant had been received from the Coastal & Estuary Program. The project is now underway.

The analysis is being undertaken by Origin Securities (economics), in conjunction with Royal HaskoningDHV (coastal engineering), and will assess the 4 identified options of;

- Base Case or 'Do Nothing'
- Planned retreat
- Protection - revetment/seawall
- Protection - revetment/seawall with beach nourishment

The cost benefit component will provide an understanding of the social-economic implications of each option relative to the Base Case.

The distributional component will identify the distribution of costs and benefits among the different parties affected by the management options.

The coastal engineer will undertake coastal hazard studies which are necessary to inform the analyses.

This kind of detailed analysis is now required by the NSW Government for all larger coastal management projects (over one million dollars) for which Government funding is sought. The analysis is being undertaken in accordance with the 2016 'NSW Coastal Management Manual (Part C: Coastal Management Toolkit, Using Cost-Benefit Analysis to Assess Coastal Management Options: Guidance for Councils' and NSW Treasury Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis).

Here is a brief history of the protection works at south Mollymook Beach which are being analysed.



First came the big storms of the 1970s – the rock protection, shown left, was added following the 1974 storm.



The 1974 storm also destroyed part of the road at the corner of Golf Avenue and Ocean Street, just behind the sandstone block wall (shown above). It was soon after this that the sandstone wall was constructed. The wall was 'not designed to resist major storm wave attack and.....the size of the rock is inadequate.' Public Works Department 1987.

In the early 1990s, gabion rock protection was constructed in front of the Golf Club.





This was partially exposed during 2015 storm.



The sandstone block wall partially collapsed as a result of the June 2016 east coast low storm.

Inclusive Access to the Coast

Beach wheelchairs, for children and adults, are available at;

- Shoalhaven Heads Beach Surf Lifesaving Club - 4448 7293
- Culburra Beach Surf Lifesaving Club - 4234 1979
- Sussex Inlet Beach Surf Lifesaving Club - 0421 727 700
- Mollymook Beach Surf Lifesaving Club - 4455 2725
- White Sands - Huskisson Beach / Moona - Moona Creek Holiday
- Haven Park -4406 2040
- Lake Tabourie Holiday Haven Park - 4406 3101
- Palm Beach Greville's Corner Store - 4443 2330

Note: beach wheelchairs aren't available all year round at all locations. Check the website for more details <https://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Community/Community-Services/Disability/Beach-Wheelchairs>

Last year Council prepared the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, 2017-2021. <http://doc.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/DisplayDoc.aspx?record=D17/209261> and Council's Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee provides advice about improving coastal access.

The construction of Lake Conjola boardwalk was a big project to provide inclusive access to Conjola Beach. Very often, small improvements can also make a big difference. Some of these improvements are shown below.



Washerwomans Beach Bendalong - the ramp and handrail replaced a step off an erosion scarp onto the sand.

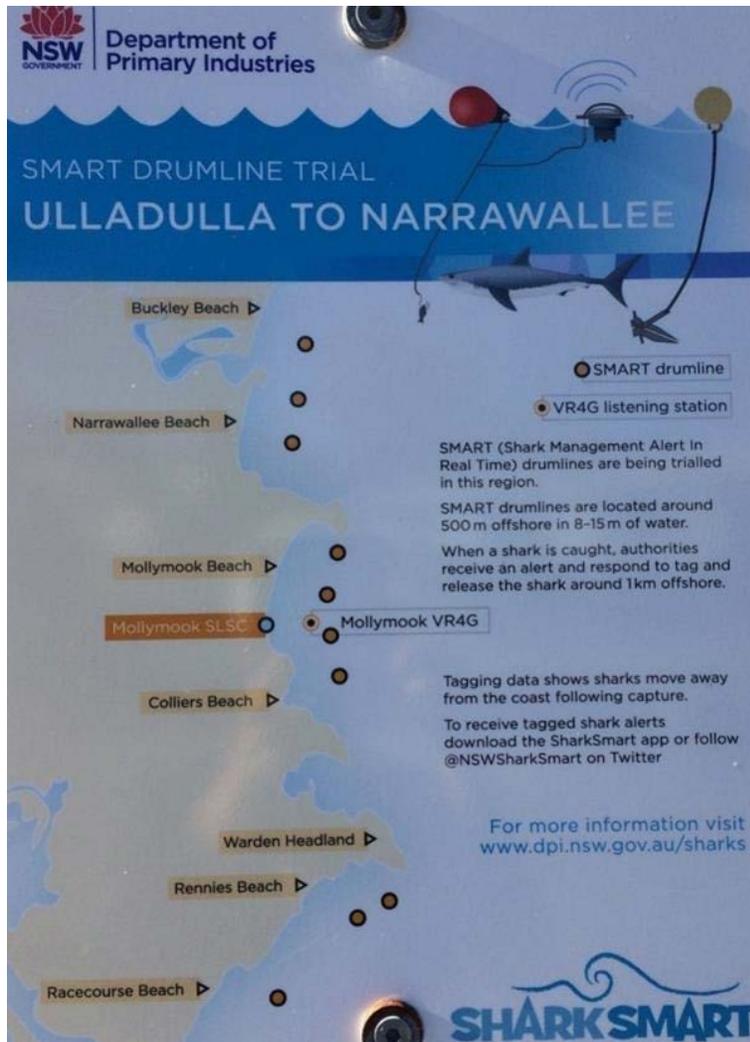


Flatrock Beach
Bendalong - installing
ramps to replace
washed out steps down
a steep access to the
beach.



Silver Sands Drive
Berrara - improving
surfaces to provide a smoother
approach to lookouts.

SMART



You may have seen these NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) signs. SMART stands for Shark Management Alert in Real Time.

NSW leads the world in the trials of SMART drumlines and the data collected provides important insight into shark movements and behaviour.

The trial of the drumlines has now finished. On the south coast, they were deployed off beaches around Kiama and Ulladulla from November 2017. At the conclusion of the trial in early May 2018, Dr Geoff Allan (Deputy Director General Fisheries) said, “During the six month trial, DPI caught, tagged and released 10 target sharks (9 Tiger Sharks and 1 White Shark) at Kiama and 5 target sharks (3 White Sharks and 2 Tiger Sharks) at Ulladulla.

“SMART drumlines send a message to researchers when a shark takes the baited hook under a float. Sharks are then tagged and released one kilometre off the beach and tracked using satellite and listening stations.

“Initial findings from the trial suggest that once tagged, the sharks then stay in deeper offshore waters for up to four weeks before re-joining their counterparts in their general movements north and south.”

Together with the SMART Drumlines and The Shark Management Strategy, DPI is trialling a number of shark mitigation technologies - VR4G acoustic listening stations (one can be seen on the sign located off Mollymook Beach) as well as the effectiveness of drones and helicopters for aerial surveillance and tagging and tracking sharks.

Map of the NSW SMART roll out. SMART video.

DPI also offers the Shark Observation Grant Program for new observation towers on beaches or headlands for shark spotting.



Little Tern chicks which feature on the mural below



Lake Conjola mural, artist Kane 'Trait' Horspool

Murals with a message

Council is using murals as a graffiti deterrent at some graffiti hot spots around Shoalhaven. The murals are also becoming a means of sharing important environmental messages. On the coast, in partnership with the National Parks' Shorebird Recovery Program

(<http://www.southcoastshorebirds.com.au/>), murals depicting endangered birds have been painted on amenities buildings, generally at beaches where the birds nest i.e. Shoalhaven Heads, Currarong, Berrara, Manyana, Lake Conjola and Ulladulla Harbour.

Locals take action on plastic

We're all acutely aware of the plastic mega problem engulfing our planet and becoming distressingly evident in our waterways, coasts and oceans. [Microplastics](#) have recently been found in Antarctica.

There are many people in Shoalhaven who are actively applying the principle, Think Globally Act Locally, and bringing people together to reduce the use of plastic and its presence on the coast.



Milton artist Julie Sydenham working on the Take 3 for the Sea mural at Ulladulla Harbour

[Take 3 for the Sea](#) is an Australian not-for-profit organisation, founded in 2009.

It's committed to reducing plastic pollution and promoting the transition to a circular economy through education and participation.

Ulladulla woman, Monica Mudge, has established a Take 3 group in the southern Shoalhaven. Find them on Facebook.





Boomerang Bags - reducing the use of plastic one bag at a time.

Volunteers make 'Boomerang Bags' using recycled materials and leave them at local shops for you to use and return. There are Boomerang Bag making groups in Culburra, Berry, the Bay and Basin area, Manyana, Ulladulla and Bawley Point – and growing! Find them on Facebook.

Shoalhaven Transition is part of a worldwide network that helps communities transition towards more sustainable practices to meet the environmental, fiscal and social challenges of the future and to educate and support communities into becoming more resilient and cohesive.

The Shoalhaven group supports one of their members, Judith Deane, in working towards the Shoalhaven becoming part of the Plasticwise Communities Movement. The Plasticwise Bay and Basin sub-group will soon erect signage as part of their Plastic Free July Campaign.



There are a growing number of Plasticwise communities in NSW and Victoria that are sharing information and working with their councils and communities.

They also support local groups such as Take 3 and Boomerang Bags and promote... which is coming up! <http://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

Judith has also teamed up with Bay & Basin Community Resources Centre Community Radio to do 3 minute 'Did You Know' segments. During Plastic Free July she will cover these wonderful topics,



- Doey Duty One Pet Poop at a Time
- The Bin Laden Blues
- Let me Burst Your Balloon
- Straws Really Suck
- Plasticwise Communities
- Glitter Litter

Accept the challenge, this July, and join millions of people from 159 countries worldwide.

You can be a plastic activist by

- Avoiding products in plastic packaging (choose alternatives)
- Reducing where possible (opt for refills, remember your reusable shopping bags)
- Refusing plastics that escape as litter (e.g. straws, takeaway cups, utensils, balloons)
- Recycling what cannot be avoided
- Checking ingredients on skin & hair products and toothpaste and avoid items with polypropylene or polyethylene in them. These are micro plastics added as exfoliators.
- Participate in Plastic Free July.

Shoalhaven City Council is providing support to these groups. Waste Service provides small grants, the Natural Resources Unit assisted with the installation of signage at Mollymook Beach and Shoalhaven Tourism is assisting with the installation of signage in the Bay & Basin area.

Icons at Risk: Climate Change Threatening

Australian Tourism

<https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/resources/tourism-2018/>

The Climate Council has reported that “Australia’s most popular tourist destinations are in the firing line, with intensifying climate change posing a significant threat to the nation’s iconic natural wonders.

The Climate Council’s ‘[Icons at Risk: Climate Change Threatening Australian Tourism](#)’ report shows Australia’s top five natural **tourist attractions** could be hit by [extreme heatwaves](#), [increasing temperatures](#), [rising sea-levels](#), [coastal flooding](#) and catastrophic [coral bleaching](#).

Australia’s iconic beaches, wilderness areas, national parks and the Great Barrier Reef are the **most vulnerable** hotspots, while our unique native wildlife is also at risk, as **climate change** accelerates”.

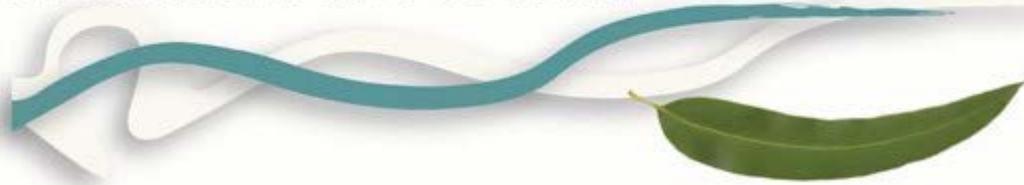
Many of the key findings listed below apply to Shoalhaven. Out of the top five natural attractions at risk in Australia, all but one are present in Shoalhaven. And of course rising sea levels, coastal flooding and rising temperatures will all have their impacts. Added to these is the increasing risk of more unpredictable bushfires, with Tathra as a recent example.

Key findings from the Climate Council’s report;

- Australia's top five natural tourist attractions - beaches, wildlife, the Great Barrier Reef, wilderness and national parks - are all at risk of climate change.
- Beaches are Australia's #1 tourist destination and are threatened by rising sea levels.
- Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Cairns, Darwin, Fremantle and Adelaide are projected to have a least a 100 fold increase in the frequency of coastal flooding events (with a 0.5m sea level rise).
- The Red Centre could experience more than 100 days above 35°C annually, by 2030. By 2090, there could be more than 160 days per year over 35°C.
- The Top End could see an increase in hot days (temperatures above 35°C) from 11 (1981-2010 average) to 43 by 2030, and up to 265 by 2090.
- Ski tourism: Declines of maximum snow depth and decreasing season length at Australian ski resorts have been reported for over 25 years, increasing the need for artificial snow-making.
- Tourism is Australia's second most valuable export earner, employing a workforce of more than 580,000 people, over 15 times more people than coal mining in Australia.

environmental services

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