

Vision, Purpose and Strategic Objectives for the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program

The Southern Coastal Management Program Advisory Committee, with the support of Council and RHDHV have refined the Vision and Purpose for the Lake Conjola Coastal Management Program (CMP).

It is very important to have a defined Vision and Purpose for the Lake Conjola CMP, as it reinforces the values of the community, and establishes the direction for management of Lake Conjola and its surroundings into the future.

The overarching Vision of the Lake Conjola CMP is:

“We care for and protect Lake Conjola in a responsible manner so that current & future generations continue to be safe, refreshed & inspired by their coastal experience.”

The overarching Purpose of the Lake Conjola CMP is:

“To develop a plan for the future management of Lake Conjola in a manner consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development for the social, cultural and economic well-being and safety of the people of the Shoalhaven”.

The Lake Conjola CMP will provide coastal management actions to be implemented over the next 10 years, and each potential action will be measured against these statements, to make sure that the action is aligned with meeting these goals.

The following overarching and specific Strategic Objectives of the Lake Conjola CMP have been lightly amended from the adopted Shoalhaven Scoping Study Strategic Objectives to be locally relevant, with the key themes highlighted in **bold**.

The overarching Strategic Objectives of the Lake Conjola CMP, which drive the overall strategy behind the CMP, with the key themes highlighted in **bold**:

- Give effect to all relevant **NSW legislation and policy**, as applied to the coastal zone, in the Lake Conjola context
- Manage all coastal systems in an **integrated manner that recognises the links** between catchment, lake, estuary and open coast processes
- Manage the coastal zone **adaptively**, with a clear process for **modifying management approaches** as new knowledge becomes available
- Invest in effective and efficient strategies to achieve **positive natural, social, cultural and economic outcomes** within Council’s responsibilities.
- Take **coastal hazards** into account in Council’s **land use planning**.
- Maintain **natural systems and processes** to improve the **health and diversity** of natural systems.
- Support the **social and economic wellbeing** of local **communities** by **maintaining safe access** to beaches and headlands and supporting recreational activities.

- **Align** the Coastal Management Program with Local Environment Plan 2014, Development Control Plan 2014 and Integrated Strategic Plan.
- **Engage with the community** in the review and preparation of coastal management programs.
- Keep the **community informed** about coastal processes and management responses.

The overarching *Specific Objectives* of the Lake Conjola CMP, based on the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 2016*, with the key themes highlighted in **bold**.

- to **protect** and enhance natural **coastal processes** and **coastal environmental values** including natural character, scenic value, biological diversity and ecosystem integrity and resilience of Lake Conjola and its catchment,
- to support the **social and cultural values** of the coastal zone and maintain public access, amenity, use and safety,
- to **acknowledge and protect Aboriginal peoples'** spiritual, social, customary and economic use of the coastal zone, and
- to recognise the coastal zone as a vital **economic** zone and support sustainable coastal economies,
- to facilitate **ecologically sustainable development** in the coastal zone and promote sustainable land use planning decision-making,
- to **mitigate current and future risks** from coastal hazards, taking into account the effects of **climate change**,
- to recognise that the **local and regional scale** effects of coastal processes and the inherently ambulatory and dynamic nature of the shoreline may result in the loss of coastal land to the sea (including estuaries and other arms of the sea), and to **manage coastal use and development** accordingly,
- to promote **integrated** and co-ordinated coastal planning, management, reporting and response,
- to encourage and promote plans and strategies to improve the **resilience** of coastal **natural and built assets** to the impacts of an uncertain climate future including impacts of extreme storm events,
- to ensure **co-ordination** of the policies and activities of government and public authorities relating to the coastal zone and to facilitate the proper integration of their management activities,
- to support **public participation** in coastal management and planning and greater public **awareness, education** and **understanding** of coastal processes and management actions,
- to facilitate the **identification of land** in the coastal zone for acquisition by public or local authorities in order to promote the protection, enhancement, maintenance and restoration of the environment of the coastal zone, and
- to support the objects of the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*.