

what is the HAWKESBURY- NEPEAN RIVER COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM?

Prepared February 2022

WHAT IS A COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM?

A Coastal Management Program (CMP) sets a long-term strategy for the coordinated management of our coastal zone which covers our estuaries, lagoons, beaches and immediately adjacent catchments. It is an opportunity for councils, public authorities and local communities to identify and balance competing interests, issues, risks and priorities in the coastal zone.



1 coordinated estuary-wide CMP with a 10-year action plan



6 councils working together & sharing scientific knowledge and experience



5 stage risk management process for the preparation and implementation of a CMP



20 state government departments engaged



\$565K grant funding already committed from partner councils & NSW Government



1 Scoping Study as part of Stage 1 completed



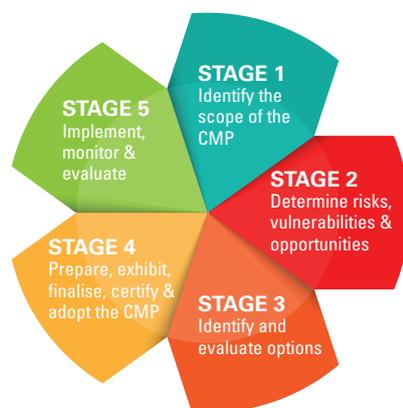
1 dedicated Project Coordinator engaged



4 major technical studies to be completed over the next 12 months

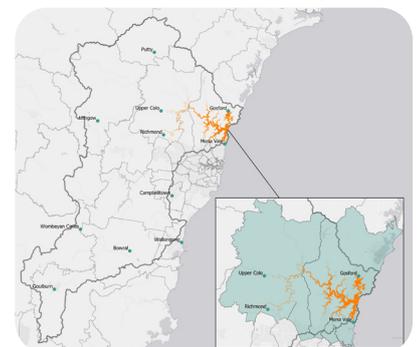
There are 5 stages in preparing a CMP.

Stage 1 of the Hawkesbury-Nepean River CMP was officially completed in April 2020 with the release of the Scoping Study that has reviewed the history of managing the river system, developed a shared understanding of the current situation, and identified the strategic path of the remaining CMP stages. The Hawkesbury-Nepean River CMP is now in **Stage 2** that involves community engagement, confirmation of key issues and concerns, fieldwork to confirm current knowledge and completion of identified technical studies to fill key information gaps. The **5th stage** of the CMP process will involve the implementation of key management actions over a period of up to 10 years. These actions are integrated with each councils' IP&R framework meaning that the CMP is linked with Community Strategic Plans, Operational Plans, Delivery Programs and associated internal budgets.



Area covered by the Hawkesbury-Nepean River Coastal Management Program:

In conjunction with the support from the NSW Government, the Hawkesbury-Nepean River CMP is being developed by the six councils that border the tidal section of the Hawkesbury estuary.



While we will aim to consider all physical, biological and chemical processes occurring throughout the Hawkesbury-Nepean River catchment from its source in Goulburn, the CMP will primarily focus on the environmental, social and economic aspects within the tidal section stretching over 145 km from Broken Bay up to Yarramundi near Richmond. The CMP also covers the waterways of Pittwater and Brisbane Water which converge with the Lower Hawkesbury estuary at Broken Bay.

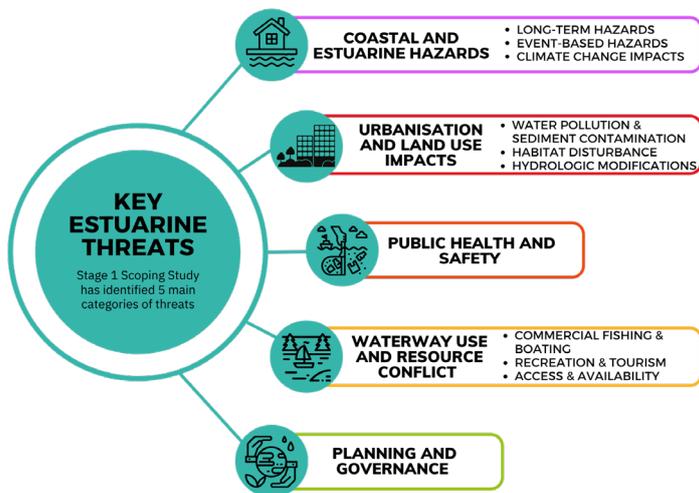


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Why is the CMP important?

A CMP highlights the things that are important (of value) to people who live on and use the Hawkesbury-Nepean estuary. In Stage 1, a review of previous coastal/estuary plans and risk assessments identified a long list of threats to the environmental, social, and economic values of the Hawkesbury-Nepean estuary coastal zone. These were distilled down to 5 broad threat categories that will be further defined as the CMP progresses.



The benefits for the Hawkesbury-Nepean:

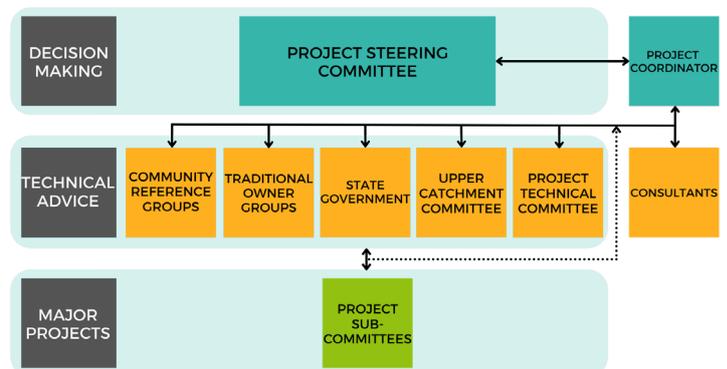
Historically the Hawkesbury-Nepean River has been managed in a segmented approach either to address specific local issues or through estuary management plans that align with local council areas.

The benefits of our collaborative, multi-jurisdictional approach for the Hawkesbury-Nepean include:

- A consistent, sustainable, and strategic approach to the management of the river system that addresses key threats
- The opportunity to address issues across jurisdictional boundaries
- Efficiency savings through economies of scale and the reduced duplication of studies, monitoring effort and community engagement

- Establishment of a framework for interagency co-ordination particularly between local and state government
- Consideration of current and future risks across a range of planning horizons, allowing improved preparation for emerging threats
- The CMP process provides significant pathways for community and stakeholder engagement, and acts as the vehicle for the implementation of projects that will provide benefit to the local community and environment
- Development of the system-wide CMP will provide a robust and defensible platform to secure political interest and funding from the NSW Government's Coastal and Estuary Grants Program, along with other potential investors and additional funding sources.

Who is involved, and where?



Get Involved

Visit hawkesburynepeancmp.org to:

[Subscribe for news and updates](#)

[Learn more about the CMP and current technical studies](#)

[Keep an eye out on future engagement/consultation events](#)

*Don't just go with the flow!
Be part of the conversation about the
Hawkesbury-Nepean River Coastal
Management Program*

