

South West and Peel Coastal Management Group (CoastSWaP)
Leschenault Coastal Stakeholder Forum, Friday 4th September 2015.
Minutes



Attendees

	Name	Organisation	Role
1.	Noel Dew	CoastSWaP, Shire of Waroona, Preston Beach Volunteer Rangers	Chair, Councillor
2.	Peter Eastlake	CoastSWaP	Treasurer
3.	Mark Kennedy	CoastSWaP, Myalup Residents Ass'n	Committee member
4.	Blair Darvill	CoastSWaP	Project Officer
5.	Olivia Blizzard	CoastSWaP	Research assistant
6.	Barry Pitman	Fragyle/ CoastSWaP	Committee member
7.	John Castrilli	Member for Bunbury	State MP
8.	Jen Mitchell	SWCC	Coastal Facilitator
9.	Colin Spencer	City of Bunbury	Environment Officer
10.	Wendy Giles	City of Bunbury	Councillor
11.	Lorraine Campbell	City of Bunbury	Projects Officer
12.	Mike Cook	Marlsden Coastcare	Coordinator
13.	Phil Coulthard	Dolphin Discovery Centre	Operations Manager
14.	Mark Fraser	LCC	Executive Officer
15.	Chris Howe	LCC	Project Officer
16.	Adrian Egan	LCC	Board Member
17.	George Martin	LCC	Board Member
18.	Alan Cross	SWDC	Regional Development Coordinator

Summary of key discussion points.

- The Cut and Leschenault Estuary- priority area in Leschenault region. Damaged breakwall impacting ecological functions of estuary, requires maintenance.
- Coastal revegetation- stakeholders considering using 'novel species'- non provenance varieties to improve success rates and adapt to drying climate.
- Off road vehicles - regional management approach required. Turkey Point and Leschenault peninsula key problematic areas.

Stakeholder presentation and discussion	Action/ followup required from discussion
<p>Blair Darvill- Project Officer, CoastSWaP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated attendees on CoastSWaP Actions previous 12 Months and Future proposed actions; • Facilitated four regional stakeholder meetings in 2014, six planned for 2015 • Collaborated with Peron Naturaliste Partnership to facilitate 3 community coastal climate change adaptation presentations. • Presentations at National Coast to Coast Conference 2014 including lobbying for further state coastcare coordination and funding, plus hosting Bunbury Field Trip. • Committee rep for Western Australia Landcare Network http://www.landcarewa.org.au/ assisting with integrating coastcare into WALN actions and network. • CoastSWaP website and network updated. • 10 Case studies to be developed by June 2016 to compile and share practical information on key coastal planning and management topics as identified through forums. • Assisted SWCC with development of South West Coastal Action Plan. • Gauging support for facilitating SW regional Off Road Vehicles in the Coastal Zone Forum to assist with better management and minimising impacts from ORV's in the region. Requested info/ support from South Coast Management Group where applicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist stakeholders to develop regional management approaches, solutions to ORV impacts in coastal zone. • Share Professor Bruce Thom's presentation from PNP event.
<p>Colin Spencer- Environmental Officer, City of Bunbury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided background on coastal geomorphology and processes in Bunbury (powerpoint available on request), including; Basalt intrusion, Tamala limestone and Quindalup dune systems, prevailing SE and W winds, wave climate and direction. • Bunbury Back Beach very problematic due to long shore current and wave energy causing erosion prone coastline. Approx 55-70 000 m³? renourished per year. Seawall constructed in 2006 to protect Surfclub and infrastructure, has been effective. Allowed for revegetation of foreshore also. • Koombana Bay seawall completed at east end to protect from erosion, coastal engineering report available on request. • Leschenault Inlet issues at Cut from break in East Groyne (Shire of Harvey responsibility), causing boating navigation hazards and buildup of sand changing ecosystem processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist Marsden Coastcare to address informal access issues.

- Working with PNP, they have been very helpful with assisting local governments to develop resources and assist with coastal adaptation. Coastal Monitoring Toolkit being released shortly. CSIRO study being conducted to learn more about flood mitigation in Bunbury.
- Turkey Point only beach where vehicles are allowed, presents difficult management issues.
- Mindalong Beach continuing successful large scale restoration project with infill planting and weed control.
- Maidens reserve restoration projects being conducted in conjunction with SWCC, some dunes being stabilised by naturalised weeds, selective weed control may be required.
- Assisting Marsden Coastcare to address erosion and beach access issues. City to assist further with informal access.
- Spinifex works well as hardy stabiliser, being used in some areas.

Mark Fraser- Executive Officer, Leschenault Catchments Council

- Partnering with Mindalong coastcare projects
- Principal concerns about the estuary and the cut. Low cost attempts to fix have failed, need to restore ocean and estuary ecosystem functions. Held meetings and presentations with stakeholders to try and get a budget to meet the long term requirements-temp fix costs more in the long term. The estuary is doomed if nothing changes- is a core concern.
- Salinisation of estuary causing seagrass loss, UWA looking at light penetration during algal blooms, impacts far reaching. Increasing population in Eaton, Collie and Brunswick River increasing pressure and impacts, need to ensure water quality management is being conducted both downstream and upstream with spot monitoring. Working with DOW and other stakeholders. Salinization within the estuary is killing paperbarks- do you replace or put in something else that is more sustainable.
- Insufficient mixing of salt and freshwater in the estuary.

Projects

- Working through a whole of catchment approach
- Community reveg and monitoring and urban coastal wetlands
- Approaching coast and landcare groups
- Developed a community engagement program at a catchment scale including a 12 month community education project to increase skills and knowledge. Developing info sessions and a booklet on revegetation and monitoring.
- Bibra Lake, mapping each species of plant in order to plant for best survival rates. Long term monitoring- really good example of a community group with good outcomes due to monitoring

- UWA and Murdoch doing ecological botanical research, currently investigating using non provenance 'novel' species for future revegetation in changing climate. May be able to use a more successful plant-need to make sure it does exactly what the native species would do- hard to do-needs a lot of research. Adrian Egan/ George Martin has background on this including new scientists group in WA with objective to compile and share info to assist projects.

Council member- George Martin;

Want to complement Brunswick project, developing a catchment flow model to provide a more in-depth picture of the area. Project also about community education-want to get schools involved

Seagrass beds- 3 year program with DoW studying:

- Nutrient input from rivers; Looking at the shading from algal blooms; Nitrogen and phosphorous entering estuary
- Sediment movement; Fresh vs. saline water mixing; Transect looking at habitat, threatened species
- Kemerton wetland and the flow of groundwater into estuaries ;Looking at an ecological perspective at this stage; Builds into the water quality improvement plan
- Priorities
- Health of estuary; Community involvement; The cut; Binningup coastcare (only active group in CoB)
- Harvey Shire Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Planning (CHRMAP)
- Access to documents available through shire of Harvey

Discussion/ questions

Kemerton Wetland project/ study actions?: Main component is reveg and regeneration; Pest weed management and fencing-bitten; Bird surveys; Working with DPaW; Community work

Seagrass study (results?): Monitoring data loggers was ICCs role. An indicator species for estuary health.

Noel Dew – Councillor, Shire of Waroona / Chairman, Preston beach Volunteer Rangers

- Preston volunteer rangers (need a diff name)
 - Extremely successful
 - Personalities involved plays a big role
 - Almost need a selective process
 - Volunteer rangers have limited dune access by ORVs-success story
 - One stretch of beach through 3 different jurisdictions
 - Work with the shire rangers
 - Education focus-not enforcement. Leaflets and brochures

- New rules- cant drive without a seatbelt, or with people not in the car (i.e. in the ute tray)
- Influx of people wanting to test new cars- can only talk to them
- Would like to impose a permit for beach driving
 - Attitudes have changed from opposition to support
- Regional or cross-regional approach-coastswap could help facilitate
 - ORV specific forums
 - Generate some generic pamphlets to hand out across the coast
- Education is key-most people want to do the right thing
- ORV Act is terrible-nothing has been done to address the problem
- '4wd codes of conduct' idea-in 4wd magazines, through clubs, at beaches. Needs to resonate with users.

Phil Coulthard – Operations Manager, Dolphin Discovery Centre

- Tukey Point-**4wd issue**
- The Cut
 - Critical priority
 - Flow an issue
 - Boating issue with sand build up-shallow water
 - Salinity
 - Need long term infrastructure solution to keep both sides of the cut open
 - Enviro, social, economic and engineering values all need to be considered
- Koombana Bay
 - New rock wall- already seen a recession of sand
 - Dolphins can push fish into new beach-loving it
 - Mangroves an issue of concern
 - Rubbish
 - Invasive species
 - Resilient system
- Kids teaching kids
 - Showbags about coastal environment
 - Activities
 - Adults education
 - Kids gather knowledge and pass on to others
- Southwest science council
 - Template custom designed for different regions
 - Science council can adjust template for other areas- help community to engage in NRM appropriately

Jen Mitchell- Coastal Facilitator , SWCC

- Cut backs- only one coastal facilitator to cover 400kms of coastline
- Coastal Action Plan (CAP)
 - In draft form
 - Aims to prioritise priority sites for on ground actions
 - Top ten ranking of sites
 - Some taken out because managed by other groups-VW, Peppermint Grove beach.
 - Priorities around visitor numbers and infrastructure
 - Is a good idea-but lots of gaps in knowledge
 - Capacity doesn't always match with priorities- need to find a balance
- Keeping community groups engaged is important-even if its on a site which isn't a 'priority' site
- Upcoming Projects
 - Continue to support existing on ground works
 - Stick to the track-marketing education campaign
 - CAP

Mark Kennedy- Committee member, CoastSWaP / Myalup Community Association

- Myalup dunes blowout-impacting roads and houses
 - Built up sand ridge
 - Planted Marram grass-stabilises sand
 - Marram Grass, spinifex stabilizes dune well
 - Acacia longifolia (drops seeds), xanthema- planted at Myalup
 - Weed species of the north will naturally come to the south in time
 - Acacias smothered Marram
 - Marram was used to initially stop the sand-then dies off
 - Acacias to be used later for brushing
 - When people bring their own brushing introduces more weeds
 - Brushing- how to apply? How thick do you make it? Can develop SOP for brushing through CoastSWaP.
 - Advocate for using weeds
 - City of Bunbury large scale brushing 50m3
 - Lots of follow up weed control
 - Successful project

- Functional 'novel' species of weeds

Discussion

- Colin has considered using weeds which are fire retardant, easy to manage- along the edges of properties
 - African daisy