

Cooks River Catchment

Coastal Management Program



MAY 2021 FACT SHEET • 1

Coastal Management Programs

Coastal management programs (CMPs) set the long-term strategy for the management of the coast, with a focus on achieving the objects and objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 2016* (CM Act). The CM Act requires councils with coastal areas to prepare a CMP in accordance with a five-stage process, identifying key issues and actions to address these issues in a strategic and integrated way.

A coordinated, balanced approach to coastal and catchment management is essential to ensuring a healthy coast now and into the future. The goal of CMPs is to improve the way we protect and manage coastal values and hazards.

The development of a CMP is a significant opportunity to establish an integrated approach between multiple land managers, including public authorities, councils and industry as well as providing opportunities for communities to participate.

Cooks River 2030 Community Vision

A loved and healthy river valley enriching the heart of Sydney

A biodiverse river valley supporting a clean river.



Every community accessing and enjoying the river.

Aboriginal ways of thinking are valued from Yana Badu to Kamay.

Holistic and cooperative approaches are guiding river restoration.

Cooks River Catchment CMP


The Cooks River Alliance is developing the Cooks River Catchment CMP on behalf of councils, bringing together over 35 organisations from across the catchment to develop a long-term strategy with actions to improve the health of the river using the CM Act.

The CMP gives us the opportunity to tackle long-term wicked issues facing the river that can only be addressed collectively through a Whole of River plan for climate change, preserving Aboriginal culture, water quality, community use, river and beach access, biodiversity degradation and flooding.

A loved and healthy river enriching the heart of Sydney – This is the community's vision for the river, developed through a process of broad community and stakeholder engagement with a promise that the resulting vision would lead the CMP. Currently, the Alliance is completing a diverse range of technical studies to support the development of the CMP and implementation of the community's vision for the river.

Once certified by the Minister in 2024, the Cooks River Catchment CMP will embody a legislatively backed program of works and strategies that ensure the long-term health and overall resilience of the catchment.

39 
organisations engaged

17 
studies & assessments to be completed

\$850,000
in funding committed

9 
issue-based working groups engaged

13 
community groups collaborating



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Current Activities



The river's edge

The Alliance is reviewing the current condition and management options for key stretches along the banks of the Cooks River, Mill Stream, Muddy Creek and Wolli Creek including the 'steel sheet piling' found along the Cooks River between Marrickville and Hurlstone Park.



Adopt-a-Wetland – Coming Soon

Adopt-a-Wetland is a program designed to engage community members in monitoring the health of their local wetlands in the Cooks River catchment.



What is a healthy Cooks River?

The Alliance is undertaking community surveys to establish targeted and place-based objectives across the catchment for a range of issues including water quality, biodiversity, recreation and culture.



Find out more

The Cooks River Alliance is a partnership between Bayside Council, City of Canterbury Bankstown, Inner West Council, Strathfield Council and Sydney Water. The Alliance uses the combined resources, experience, knowledge and skills within our partner organisations and the community to address the complex environmental problems of the Cooks River.

Visit www.cooksriver.org.au/cmp or social media channels to find out more.



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