

## **Rob Stokes MP**

Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
Minister for the Central Coast
Assistant Minister for Planning

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **NEW FUNDING FOR NSW COASTS AND ESTUARIES**

Environment Minister Rob Stokes today launched the World Harbour Project and announced \$3.2 million for new projects to manage, enhance and protect NSW coasts and estuaries.

Mr Stokes said the funds had been allocated for 48 new coastal and estuary management projects across the state through the NSW Government's Coastal Management and Estuary Management programs.

"Almost \$800,000 will be spent in Sydney Harbour and the wider bioregion for a range of projects that will restore local habitats and improve stormwater treatment," Mr Stokes said.

"The coasts and estuaries of NSW support a huge variety of native wildlife, and are valued places of beauty and recreation.

"They are important to our economy and support commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture and tourism. Our coasts and estuaries are under increasing pressure as populations grow and as coastal hazards such as coastal erosion increase.

"These grants will help councils protect and manage these important natural assets."

"The Coastal Management Program and Estuary Management Program provide funds to support local government manage erosion, restore degraded habitats and improve the health of their natural systems.

"A total of \$2.4 million will go to 36 new projects under the Estuary Management Program, and over \$800,000 is going to 12 new projects under the Coastal Management Program.

"The new projects are in addition to more than 70 ongoing projects valued at more than \$4 million under the Coastal Management Program and more than 70 ongoing projects valued at more than \$5 million under the Estuary Management Program."