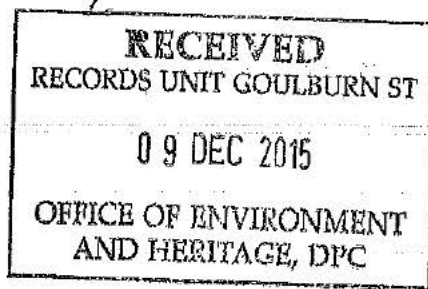



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7 December 2015

- A : Coastal Management SEPP
- B : NSW Coastal Management Manual Part B, stage 4
- C : Part B, stage 5

The question being asked is, will coastal wetlands and littoral rain forests survive from 'immediate to beyond 100 years' with increasing pressure from 'climate change, population growth and land use change'?

My answer is 'NO'. Is a 100m buffer, tokenism?

The wetlands and littoral rain forests of the Woy-Woy-Umina Sand plain have not survived development pressures and are now playing fields, residential estates, golf course, infrastructure, community facilities etc. This infill has created local flooding, beach water quality decline and marine deaths in Brisbane Water. What additional problems can be expected in the future due to climate change and further development?

The CMSEPP (A) is based on trust and a 100% responsible approval process. My limited confidence ceased in 1993 with the farcical 'Taj Mahal' approval at Koole Wong. The draft Central Coast Regional Plan Nov 2015 reports that the approval process has not improved with "a flexible regulatory environment" dominating. (Pg)

A Gosford city councillor stated at a council meeting in 2000, "Councillors change the rules every meeting" - the situation is worse than in 2000.

NSWEMM stage 5 (e) PA 'level of service' expected by the local community" is affirmation that there is very limited knowledge on the existing relationship between local government and the

community. Conflict between the councils advisory committees and the council is common. In the past the council had a CLP committee that included very capable community representatives - any reinstated committee would have a majority of council representatives and government agencies.

- 2) Involving the community and stakeholders in the monitoring program P9
 Community participation is 100% optimism 0% reality. 'Citizen science' is not supported by GCC, it is supported by mainstream environmental organisations with an appointed science officer. Who is the 'community citizen science' officer at GCC? What are his/her qualifications?
 Refer media reports on Wendy Gillespie's research into marine deaths in Brisbane Water 2015.

To appreciate the big picture please advise the total area of coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest lost, filled developed modified traded-off etc from 1788 to the present day?

"Almost all of the sandplain vegetation at Patonga, Little Patonga and Avoca has been removed for urban development. At Copacabana and Kodewong only tiny littoral remnants in a very small area of coastal sand plain remain (the Kodewong remnant may be regrowth on redeposited sands from railway construction)."

- Cunninghamia 11 (3) 2010.

We live with the legacy of failed education and regulatory systems. I do not expect improvement.

Yours sincerely
 Norman Harris

The flexible regulatory environment.

* The 'Taj Mahal' was approved for as an Oyster Depuration Plant, somehow the construction finished as a restaurant. There is now approval for a 50 berth marina. Just?

NSW Coastal Management Manual

Part B, Stage 5

This section is full of uncertainty.

The issues of climate change, population growth and land use change are problematic. The Department continues to search for answers.

'Level of service' expected by the local community and monitoring using 'citizen science' do not instill community confidence. Has the Department adopted a range of service levels adapted to sea level rise; low, moderate, high.

After years of conflict between local government and state, it is now expected that all parties will work together for "mutual benefits to local councils and public authorities in working together to deliver CMPs".

Realistically, the Department can not "manage coastal risks at time scales ranging from immediate to beyond 100 years". What is a realistic time scale, 5-10 years?

Wamberal Revetment Wall has been discussed since the storms of the 1970's with no action to date. This is an example of the size and cost involved to manage the coastline.

Scarce funding is directed to the entire NSW coastline.