

# Macleay River Estuary Management Plan Monthly Progress Report August 2009



## Summary of overall progress:

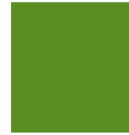
The Macleay River Estuary Management Study and Plan is in the initial phase of the study involving compilation and review of existing data. This review process will be complemented with the information obtained through the stakeholder and community consultation phase that is commencing in September / October 2009

## Summary of work undertaken in previous month:

- the consultant team (*GeoLINK, GECO Environmental and Aquatic Science and Management*) gave an introductory presentation to the Coast and Estuary Management Committee (CEMC) to discuss the methodology for undertaking the study;
- the consultant team reviewed ecological literature and identified information gaps relating to the ecology of the Macleay River estuary and its floodplain. This review was undertaken to assist the CEMC with identifying the need for additional ecological studies to inform the estuary management study;
- the consultant team developed a draft communication strategy outlining the methodology for community and stakeholder consultation. The strategy is being reviewed by the CEMC;
- an initial site tour of the estuary was undertaken by the consultant team on 2 September 2009 with representatives from the CEMC. The tour was undertaken by boat from Mattys Flat to Stuarts Point along the Macleay Arm (including Spencers Creek and Andersons Inlet) and to Kempsey along the Macleay River as far as Greenhill. The tour provided an overview of the estuary issues including boating, fishing, bank erosion and riparian management.

## Summary of work planned for next month:

- the initial round of community consultation workshops will be advertised. The workshops are planned for early October 2009;
- stakeholder consultation will commence. This will include government agencies and non-government organisations;
- the literature review process will be completed to assist in identifying estuary values, significance and key features. This will include development of the Geographic Information System (GIS) database using existing data including: landuse planning information; vegetation mapping; drainage works; rock protection works; flood levels; boating infrastructure; etc



**GeoLINK**  
environmental management and design

**GECO**  
**Environmental**

AQUATIC SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT