



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

11th April 2006

**DSDS11 MACLEAY RIVER FLOODPLAIN PROJECTS
AND GRANT FUNDS**
FILE: 774 RFK {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the Macleay River Floodplain Project and program / project funding.



DESCRIPTION:

The following table outlines the major projects undertaken on the Macleay and Upper Maria River floodplains developed and undertaken through the Macleay River Floodplain and other associated floodplain projects. The table also provides information on funding sources and amount of grant funds received.

Please note: the symbol (ě) denotes projects that were planned to be funded via direct Councils Environmental Levy allocation or via the Macleay River Floodplain Project (also funded by the Levy) however, grant funds were obtained and used in place of the Levy allocation.

Project Title	Year	Project Description	Funding Source	Funding Amount
Macleay River Floodplain Project	2000	Environmental floodplain rehabilitation projects	NHT - Coasts & Clean Seas Program	\$108,700
Macleay River Floodplain Project	2001	Environmental floodplain rehabilitation projects	NHT - Coasts & Clean Seas Program	\$94,500
Scott's Drain ASS Scald project	2001	ASS scalded landscape rehabilitation project	CASSP	\$18,000
Clancy's	2001	Fish Passage	NSW Fisheries	\$7,000

Drain Project		Project		
Marriott's Drain Project	2001	Fish Passage Project	NSW Fisheries	\$8,000
Triple SSS Ranch Wet pasture Project	2002	Wet pasture management project	Via the MRFP (NHT funded)	\$3,400
Union Drain Project	2002	Aquatic habitat and water quality improvement project	CASSP	\$46,200
Floodgate & Drain Management Guidelines & Weed bucket	2002	Development of Best practice drain cleaning and floodgate management guide and the purchase of excavator weed bucket	ASSPRO	\$11,000
Fischer's No2 Drain Project	2002	Wet pasture management project	DLWC	\$8,000
Clybucca / Maria ASS Hotspot Program	2002 /04	ASS Management	DLWC	\$280,565
McCudden's ASS Scald Project	2003	ASS scalded landscape rehabilitation project	KSC	\$12,000
Ptolemys ASS Scald Project	2003 /04	ASS scalded landscape rehabilitation project	Environmental Trust	\$19,000
Raffertys Drain Management Plan	2003	Drainage modification feasibility Study & Management Plan	ASSPRO	\$18,000 (funds held by RPDB)
Raffertys Drain Project	2003 /04	Construction of new 'v' drain	ASSPRO	\$46,200 (funds held by RPDB)
Raffertys Drain Project	2004 /05	Decommission of old deep drain	NRCMA-Coastal Wetland management Program	\$10,800
Saltwater Creek	2004	Fish Passage Project	NSW Fisheries	\$7,000

Floodgate Project				
Jerseyville River Bank Rehabilitation Project	2004 /06	Riparian vegetation improvement project	Nestle	\$58,000 + \$18,200 (committed 2006)
ẽ Sillitoe Drain Wet Pasture Project	2005	Wet pasture /wetland management project	NRCMA-Coastal Wetland management Program	\$10,800
ẽ Thurgood Drain Wet Pasture Project	2005	Wet pasture / wetland management project	NRCMA-Coastal Wetland management Program	\$10,800
Boyters Lane Playing fields & Wetland Plan of Management	2005	Wetland & Playing Field Plan of Management	KSC Environmental Levy	\$24,000
Boyters Lane Wetland Project	2005 /06	Stormwater wetland management	NRCMA – Wetland Program	\$15,000
Project Officer Extension	2005	Caretaking funds for ASS Project Officer	NRCMA	\$5,000
ẽ Connection Creek Floodgate Project	2005	Fish Passage Project	NSW Fisheries	\$7,000
Killick Creek Stormwater Management	2006	GPT fitted to stormwater	NRCMA – Estuary Management Plan Implementation	\$28,700
Coastal Floodplain & ASS Management	2005 /06	Development and implementation of ASS projects	NRCMA –Year 1	\$120,000
Coastal Floodplain & ASS Management	2005 /06	Development and implementation of ASS projects	NRCMA –Fast Track	\$60,000
Coastal Floodplain & ASS Management	2005 /06	Development and implementation of ASS projects	NRCMA – Strategic Reserve	\$60,000
Boyters Lane Wetland Vegetation	2006	Planting of wetland protection buffer	CMA	\$5,000 (pending)

Swanpool Wetland Project	2006	Wetland Management Project	NRCMA – Year1	
Purchase’s Drain Project	2006	Wetland rehabilitation Project	NRCMA – (Fast track)	
ě Ptolemys Scald Fencing Project	2006	Erection of cattle exclusion fencing to assist in ASS scald remediation	NRCMA – Wetland & Drain Voluntary Projects Fund	\$1,200
School House Drain Fencing Project	2006	Erection of cattle exclusion fencing to assist in ASS scald remediation	NRCMA – Wetland & Drain Voluntary Projects Fund	\$2,800
Maria Drain No.5	2005	Water quality and wet pasture management project	NRCMA – Wetland & Drain Voluntary Projects Fund	\$5,300
Darkwater Drain Levee Project	2006	Water quality aquatic habitat improvement Project	MASSLAG	\$3,000
McCudden’s Drain Wet Pasture Project	2006	Wet pasture management project	NRCMA (Year 1)	\$4,000

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environmental**

There are no significant environmental impacts arising from any of the floodplain projects. To-date large tracts of the Macleay and Upper Maria River floodplains are now actively managed for improved environmental outcomes.

- **Social**

There have been no significant social impacts arising from any of the floodplain, drainage, floodgate and / or wet pasture projects.

- **Economic (Financial)**

There have been no significant economic impacts on Council or the floodplain or broader community of the Macleay Shire arising from any of the projects described above. Since the commencement of the MRFP in 2000 approximately \$1,093,765 of grants funds has been provided to Council and

the Macleay Floodplain community with no direct matching funds required from Council. In addition, many of the projects have resulted in improved farmland productivity and economic gains.

- *Policy or Statutory*

The Macleay River Floodplain Project, the ASS hotspot Program and all over floodplain projects have been undertaken in accordance with;

- 1. The Lower Macleay Floodplain Management Plan (Aug 1999)*
- 2. The Upper Belmore River Floodplain Strategy (July 2000)*
- 3. The Macleay Wetlands Management Plan (Mar 1999), and*
- 4. All other sites specific Floodgate & Drain Management Plans*

- *Director's Comment*

The success of Council in attracting grant funding to undertake environmental rehabilitation works is a direct result of Council's ongoing commitment to fund works from the Environmental Levy and General Revenue.

Council has funded the studies which underpin these projects from general rate revenue matched by grant funding.

In 2006 / 07 it is proposed to fund the:-

- *Macleay River Management Plan (\$65,000 + matching grant)*
- *Korogora Creek Process Study (\$20,000+ matching grant)*
- *Back Creek Management Plan (\$20,000)*
- *Gill Creek Project (\$20,000)*

from the general rate revenue with \$60,000 to be allocated from the Environmental Levy to fund the Beachwatch and Macleay River Floodplain programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the success of the Macleay River Floodplain Projects which is a direct result of Councils ongoing funding commitment and a demonstration of the benefits of the Environmental Levy.

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R B Pitt

DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES