



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

14th March 2006

DSDS9	SALTWATER CREEK CATCHMENT FLOOD STUDY FILE: E10 AJC
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SUMMARY:

Reporting on the Final Draft of the Saltwater Creek Catchment Flood Study.



Background

The existing Flood Study prepared by G Mounser for proposed residential development at South West Rocks in the Salt Creek Catchment area was finalised in November 1981. In the intervening period there has been no other studies undertaken.

The Flood Study for Saltwater Creek Catchment, was to provide sufficient flood detail required to assist in the development of an Estuarine Management Plan, Stormwater Management Plan and associated development controls for Saltwater Creek, having regard for but not limited by, the existing and future development of the catchment, biodiversity, water quality, the physical constraints of the catchment and the sensitive nature of the catchment as a whole.

The Flood Study resulting from the review was prepared in accordance with NSW Floodplain Management Manual (2001) and the current edition of Australian Rainfall and Runoff.

Flood Study

The study has been prepared by WBM Oceanics Australia. The extent of the study is from the Country Club Golf Course near the existing Council Sewage Treatment Works through Saltwater Lagoon to Trial Bay. ([Appendix P](#))

The study has defined the extent of flooding particularly between Saltwater Lagoon through to Trial Bay so Council can better manage flooding and its impacts upon future developments, the estuary and Saltwater Lagoon. This catchment area is isolated from the Macleay River Floodplain.

It is proposed to adopt an Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) of 1 in 100 year flood event at a 2m high sand berm as the flood standard for this catchment area. The flood gauge installed recently by the Department of Environment and Conservation has indicated since its installation in 2005 that the sand berm is breached when the water level at the gauge reaches approximately 1.8m AHD. All levels shown on the plans attached to the final document are shown in Australian Height Datum (AHD) with corresponding velocities.

The 1 in 100year flood event at 2metres high berm shows a flood level of 3.1m AHD in the Lagoon. The previous level from the Mounser report was 2.9m AHD. A 0.2m rise in flood levels.

The adopted flood level is interrelated with the Saltwater Creek EMP and will impact on development potential within the catchment. The Local Environmental Study being prepared for the Saltwater developments rezoning should not be finalised until the EMP and Flood Study have been formally adopted by Council following public exhibition.

The review of the Working Draft Document has now been finalised and the Final Draft document is now being presented to Council for consideration and community consultation in conjunction with the Draft Estuary Management Plan prior to requesting council to adopt the Final Draft Saltwater Creek Flood Study.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

This report has been prepared in conjunction with the Estuary Management Study in order to determine the extent of flooding in and around Saltwater Lagoon and Creek. There will be no adverse environmental impacts as a result of this flood study.

- *Social*

In conjunction with the Estuary Management Plan it is intended to ensure that future developments in the Saltwater Catchment area do not adversely impact upon health and recreational pursuits associated with Saltwater Lagoon and Creek.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The adopted flood levels will impact on development potential within the catchment.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse the Final Draft Saltwater Creek Flood Study for public exhibition purposes and place the Final Draft Saltwater Creek Flood Study on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES