



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

13 March 2007

DSDS7 KILLICK CREEK SEDIMENT SHOAL REMOVAL INVESTIGATION FILE: 794 RFK {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on preliminary assessment for sediment shoal removal in Killick Creek and consideration by Council for the reallocation of funds from the Macleay River Floodplain Program to attract matching grant funds to commence implementation of Strategy H of the Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan 2006

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BACKGROUND:

The matter of sediment shoaling in Killick Creek Crescent Head has recently been raised by members of the Crescent Head community.

Concerns have been raised over the economic and social impacts associated with the sand build up and the current condition of Killick Creek.

Concerns raised by the Crescent Head Chamber of Commerce and local business houses indicate that as a result of the sediment build up and current condition of Killick Creek they are experiencing an economic down turn as a result of reduced tourist numbers.

At the February 2007 Extra-Ordinary meeting of Council's Coast & Estuary Management Committee, further ratified at the 6th March 2007 meeting that processes be put in place to commence components of Strategy H and a report to Council be prepared for funding consideration.

The Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan has indicated an amount of \$10,000.00 as an indicative cost for the hydrosurvey and \$60,000 for an environmental impact assessment. These two baseline studies form the primary investigation and impact assessment analysis and identify any consent and licensing requirements needed, before any sediment shoals within Killick Creek can be relocated or extracted.

Due to the success of Councils Macleay River Floodplain Program in attracting external funds to implement environmental projects, a level of Councils allocation to the MRFP remains uncommitted. Some of the uncommitted MRFP allocation (\$35,000) could be reallocated and used to attract matching grant funds through the NSW State Governments Estuary Management Program 2007 to complete all investigations, approvals and environmental impact

assessment process as described in Strategy H of the Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan 2006. [\(Appendix V – Page G117\)](#)

Currently there is no Council allocation or any external funding programs identified or committed to carry out sediment shoal removal in Killick Creek.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

There are no significant environmental issues associated with the development of the site investigation and approval processes described in Strategy H of the Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan 2006.

- *Social*

There are no significant social issues associated with the development of the site investigation and approval processes described in Strategy H of the Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan 2006.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The costs associated with the site investigation and approval process development are more than likely to be on a dollar for dollar basis between Council and the State Government.

- *Policy or Statutory*

The Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan was adopted by Council in September 2006.

As the hydrosurvey and environmental impact assessment are investigative processes only with no actual disturbance and/or modification to any aspects of the estuary or surrounding environment no other policy or statutory considerations are required to be considered.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council reallocate the amount of \$35,000 from the 2006/07 Macleay River Floodplain allocation to seek matching funds through the NSW State Government Estuary Program 2007 to complete the investigation and approval processes (that would include the hydrosurvey and environmental impact assessment) described in Strategy H of the Killick Creek Estuary Management Plan 2006.

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R B Pitt
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