

Coastal Management Program - Wallaga Lake August update

The review of the Wallaga Lake Estuary Management Plan and progress towards a new Coastal Management Program for the lake has been moving forward over the past 6 months.

Working with our Focus Group that was established earlier in the year, the project team has undertaken a range of activities with various stakeholders including:

- Detailed inspections around the lake and lower catchment areas
- Reviewed the previous Estuary Management Plan status
- Produced a new summary document that provides an overview of key estuary processes, available data sets and gaps in our current knowledge
- Meetings with the Focus Group to discuss a number of management issues

We'd like to thank everyone who has provided input to the project team via our website: begavalley.wrl.unsw.edu.au. This information, along with our inspections and Focus Group meetings has allowed us to work towards a summary of management issues moving forward.

While the lake is in reasonably good shape, a number of issues have been identified that will require ongoing management into the future. Broadly these issues can be grouped into three key themes being:

- 1 Urbanisation of lower catchment areas
- 2 Land use management
- 3 Climate change

Many of the issues overlap through these 3 themes and include aspects such as:

- Managing recreational and environmental needs
- Both agricultural and urban land use, particularly for direct foreshore areas
- Sea level rise and its challenges for inundation of low lying assets, entrance management and impacts on fringing ecology of the lake
- Stormwater management
- Catchment management
- A need for more data, particularly with regards to water quality and estuary health



If you would like to get involved and provide some input, it's not too late. Jump onto the website to have your say about the issues that you see are important to the lake.

Thanks for reading and we'll be in touch again with further updates as we progress towards the new management program.



Have your say

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