

Part B

# Implementation

# Strategic Actions

The strategic actions of the policy and responsibilities for their implementation are detailed in the following pages.

The strategic actions are vital to the success of the policy as they are the key ways in which the policy will be implemented. Responsibility for their implementation rests primarily with State and local government, however there is also a vital role for the

community in undertaking direct initiatives such as through Coastcare and Landcare projects, and also in influencing the activities of State and local governments.

The strategic actions are related to relevant policy goals and objectives for easy reference and in order that the essential purpose of the strategic action is made clear.

# Goal 1

TO PROTECT, REHABILITATE AND  
IMPROVE THE NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT



## 1.1 OBJECTIVE

To identify coastal lands and aquatic environments with conservation values and devise and implement acquisition policies, management strategies and controls to ensure that those values are protected.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.1.1	The NSW Government will continue developing a system of comprehensive and adequate protected areas representative of all ecosystems within coastal and marine/estuarine bioregions in NSW.	NPWS NSW Fisheries DLWC RACAC Marine Parks Authority	DUAP
1.1.2	Land (including submerged land) identified as having high land and/or marine and estuarine conservation values will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where publicly owned, assessed for dedication or reservation as appropriate under the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974, the Fisheries Management Act, 1994, the Crown Lands Act, 1989, or declared under the Marine Parks Act, 1997;</li> <li>• where privately owned, assessed for acquisition to the National Parks or Crown Reserves system or for declaration as a Marine Park or Aquatic Reserve with the consent of the owner.</li> </ul>	NPWS NSW Fisheries DUAP DLWC Marine Parks Authority	
1.1.3	Crown lands, including submerged lands, in the coastal zone will be subject to an ongoing process to determine conservation significance and to devise appropriate controls. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dedicating or reserving Crown land under the NP&amp;W Act, 1974, the Crown Lands Act, 1989 or Fisheries Management Act, 1994, or making</li> </ul>	NPWS NSW Fisheries DLWC Marine Ministerial Holding Corp Marine Parks Authority	



# Goal 1

## Strategic Action

Prime  
Responsibility

Other  
Responsibility

declarations under the Marine Parks Act, 1997, where appropriate;

- identifying Crown lands in the inter-tidal zone\* adjacent to lands reserved or dedicated, or proposed to be reserved or dedicated, under the NP&W Act, 1974 and, where appropriate, reserving or dedicating such land under the NP&W Act, 1974 (\*includes land extending seaward to the level of Lowest Astronomical Tide);
- assessing Crown owned submerged land of high conservation value through the land assessment process for an appropriate dedication/reservation/declaration;
- maintaining reservations of Crown land from sale or lease where a major or significant foreshore area or an area which is critical for public access is potentially affected.

1.1.4

Plans of management (POMs), management strategies and/or operational plans will continue to be prepared, as appropriate, for:

- all coastal National Parks, Nature Reserves, Marine Parks and Aquatic Reserves to identify programs for conservation of their natural and cultural environment and the provision of appropriate recreational opportunities;
- all coastal Crown lands which are dedicated or reserved for a public purpose;
- all coastal community lands.

Joint POMs will, where possible, be prepared for foreshore lands where Crown lands and community lands adjoin each other. Public input to and regular review of POMs will occur.

NPWS  
NSW Fisheries  
DLWC  
Marine Parks  
Authority



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.1.5 Councils will be encouraged to classify open space and land with conservation value as community land under the Local Government Act.	Local Councils	
1.1.6 Voluntary conservation agreements will be negotiated with landowners to ensure preservation of plant and animal species on freehold and other lands of significant conservation value.	NPWS	
1.1.7 Seagrass, mangrove, saltmarsh and other wetland associated species will be conserved and managed as valuable components of the coastal ecosystem by effectively implementing existing controls (eg SEPP 14, Fish Habitat Protection Plans, Ramsar listing of important wetlands) and through controlling runoff, sedimentation and other water quality impacts.	DUAP NSW Fisheries DLWC NPWS EPA	Local Councils
1.1.8 The implementation of State Environmental Planning Policies No. 14 - Coastal Wetlands and No.26 - Littoral Rainforests will continue.	DUAP Local Councils	
1.1.9 Local environmental plans will be prepared with appropriate zonings and other provisions for areas of recognised conservation value.	Local Councils DUAP	NPWS
1.1.10 Local environmental plans for areas adjacent to marine parks will be required to include appropriate provisions which give effect to the objectives and management provisions contained in marine park zoning plans and operational plans.	Marine Parks Authority Local Councils DUAP	
1.1.11 Regional open space networks/corridors (including water areas) should, where possible, be used to protect natural habitats and environments.	DUAP Local Councils	NWPS DLWC



# Goal 1

## 1.2 OBJECTIVE

To conserve the diversity of all native plant and animal species and to protect and assist the recovery of threatened and endangered species.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.2.1	Distribution, diversity and condition of native plants, animal habitats, natural environments and natural phenomena of the coast will continue to be investigated with the aim of establishing their conservation significance.	NPWS NSW Fisheries	DLWC
1.2.2	Establish survey and assessment guidelines for coastal biodiversity survey including priorities, classification standards, survey design and methodology and analysis techniques.	NPWS NSW Fisheries	
1.2.3	The changes in fish habitats and utilisation by fish populations and communities will be studied to assist in planning decisions where habitat modification or alienation may be involved.	NSW Fisheries	NPWS
1.2.4	The response to whale and dolphin strandings will be co-ordinated through the identification of the most likely areas of the New South Wales coast where stranding may occur, and research on the causes of such strandings.	NPWS ORCA	
1.2.5	Lists of threatened species, populations and ecological communities established under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, will include coastal species, populations and ecological communities and will be regularly reviewed.	NPWS Scientific Committee	
1.2.6	Recovery plans and threat abatement plans, in accordance with the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, will be implemented to protect coastal threatened species.	NPWS	Local Councils



	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.2.7	Threatening processes (such as clearing, noxious weeds, feral animals), being processes which threaten or have the capacity to threaten the survival or evolutionary development of species, populations or ecological communities, will be identified for coastal species in accordance with the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and where possible controlled. Threat abatement plans will be prepared to assist the process.	NPWS Scientific Committee	Local Councils DLWC NSW Agriculture

**1.3 OBJECTIVE**  
 To improve water quality in coastal and estuarine waters and coastal rivers where it is currently unsatisfactory and to maintain water quality where it is satisfactory.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.3.1	License limits imposed by the Environment Protection Authority will continue to be used as appropriate to control discharges of pesticide compounds, heavy metals and other contaminants from sewage treatment works and other point sources.	EPA	
1.3.2	Problems of non-point source pollution (eg resulting from urban development) will be addressed through a range of actions including the setting of ambient water quality objectives; the development of stormwater management plans; the promulgation of environmental guidelines; and encouraging the adoption and implementation by industry and developers of “best management practices” for minimising pollution.	EPA Local Councils	DLWC DUAP



# Goal 1

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.3.3	Water quality monitoring programs and environmental studies in coastal river systems, estuaries, inshore marine waters and coastal aquifers will be undertaken, as necessary, and regular reporting on the state of the environment for these ecosystems will take place.	EPA Local Councils DLWC	Sydney Water Hunter Water
1.3.4	Programs for monitoring water quality and the review of water quality objectives (consistent with the National Water Quality Management Strategy) will be provided and co-ordinated with the activities of relevant government agencies to increase the effectiveness of the programs.	EPA DLWC	Sydney Water Hunter Water
1.3.5	Contaminants in marine life will be monitored, where necessary, in conjunction with water quality monitoring programs, and the results published to ensure that biodiversity and human health are not threatened.	EPA NSW Fisheries	Sydney Water Hunter Water NSW Health
1.3.6	The cleanliness of Sydney and the Hunter region beaches will be monitored and improved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspecting and reporting on the condition of Sydney’s beaches and encouraging the community to report pollution incidents.</li> <li>• Collecting water samples several times a week and comparing them with health guidelines.</li> <li>• Investigating the causes of beach pollution and taking appropriate action.</li> <li>• Investigating the need for upgrading of stormwater facilities and undertaking any required upgradings on a priority basis.</li> </ul>	EPA	Local Councils Sydney Water Hunter Water DLWC NPWS Waterways Authority
1.3.7	The highest possible quality of coastal waters will be ensured by:	EPA DLWC	Local Councils NPWS DUAP



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establishing water quality and environmental flow objectives for coastal rivers and implementing through catchment plans;</li> <li>• basing waste water discharge limits on the relevant national water quality guidelines and the local ambient water quality objectives in accordance with the Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Waters (ANZECC, 1992);</li> <li>• assessing the quality of ocean and estuarine waters against local water quality objectives, where established, and otherwise by using the ANZECC (1992) Marine Waters standards as benchmarks;</li> <li>• monitoring dispersion of pollutants in coastal waters.</li> </ul>	Commissioner for Healthy Rivers	NSW Fisheries Sydney Water Hunter Water	
1.3.8	The discharge of contaminated stormwater to coastal waters will be minimised, with the aim being to ensure environmentally sound management of stormwater and prevent contamination in the future.	EPA DLWC Local Councils	Sydney Water Hunter Water
1.3.9	Trade waste management policies will continue to be monitored, enforced and reviewed to control the discharge of trade wastes into the sewerage system. This will include consideration of impacts on water quality before giving approval for discharges of trade wastes.	EPA DLWC Sydney Water Hunter Water	Local Councils
1.3.10	The causes of fish kills and algal blooms will be investigated and follow-up action taken where appropriate.	NSW Fisheries DLWC	EPA NSW Health
1.3.11	The National Plan to Combat Pollution of the Sea by Oil (the National Plan) will continue to be implemented.	Office of Marine Administration	EPA



# Goal 1

1.3.12	The control of discharge of toilet and galley waste from vessels in intensively used waterways will be enforced and adequate vessel sewage pumpout facilities in the State's intensively used waterways will be provided.	Waterways Authority DLWC Local Councils	EPA
1.3.13	The re-use of treated biosolids and effluent will continue to be investigated and promoted where ecologically sustainable. Trials of re-use in industry, agriculture and domestic uses will be extended as appropriate.	Sydney Water Hunter Water EPA NSW Agriculture	DLWC NSW Health Local Councils
1.3.14	The State Groundwater Policy will be developed and used in the management of the groundwater resources covered by the coastal policy to ensure the maintenance of essential linkages between groundwater, surface water and the coastal environment.	DLWC	Local Councils
1.3.15	A public inquiry into ocean sewage outfalls and effluent re-use opportunities will be undertaken and results used in formulating future Government policy on ocean disposal of effluent.	EPA	DLWC
1.3.16	Continued monitoring of the impact of Sydney ocean outfalls on the biota and water quality of the marine environment will occur.	EPA Sydney Water	NSW Fisheries
1.3.17	The NSW Government will continue to assist in the development of ballast water policy and guidelines for managing the discharge and uptake of ballast water, including implementation of the Australian Ballast Water Management Strategy.	Office of Marine Administration EPA	NSW Fisheries



## 1.4 OBJECTIVE

To manage the coastline and estuarine environments in the public interest to ensure their health and vitality.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.4.1	Research into effective procedures for soil and land rehabilitation and management, including coastal dunes and wetlands, will continue to be undertaken.	DLWC	NPWS NSW Fisheries
1.4.2	To improve the efficiency of responses to emergency pollution situations, including oil spills, regard will be had to the comprehensive set of coastal resource atlases identifying coastal and estuarine features affecting control operations which have been prepared for the NSW coast. Conversion of the atlases to a GIS format will be undertaken.	Office of Marine Administration	EPA DLWC
1.4.3	Detailed management plans for the coastline and estuaries, as provided for in the Coastline Management Manual and Estuary Management Manual, will continue to be prepared and implemented.	Local Councils DLWC	Relevant Govt Agencies
1.4.4	The Government's Coastal Management Program will continue to be implemented. Technical and financial assistance will continue to be provided to local government and agencies for the purpose of preparing and implementing coastal management plans, providing protective measures where appropriate, rehabilitating the coastal environment, and improving the recreational amenity of the coastline, as outlined in the NSW Government's Coastline Management Manual.	Local Councils DLWC	NSW Fisheries
1.4.5	Development proposals on the coastline and offshore, which are threatened by coastal hazards or where they pose a threat to the physical well being of the	DLWC Local Councils	NSW Fisheries



# Goal 1

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<p>coastline subject to the provisions of the Coastal Protection Act, 1979 will be approved subject to conditions which minimise impacts or rejected where they pose an unacceptable threat to the physical well being of the coastline.</p>		
<p>1.4.6 The Government's Estuary Management Program will continue to be implemented by providing technical and financial assistance to local government and agencies for the purpose of preparing and implementing estuary management plans, undertaking activities to rehabilitate the estuarine environment, and improving the recreational amenity of estuarine foreshores.</p>	<p>DLWC Local Councils</p>	<p>NSW Fisheries</p>
<p>1.4.7 Development proposals in or adjacent to estuaries will only be approved where conditions can be imposed which minimise potential impacts to the extent that they are acceptable under the Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act, 1948 and Fisheries Management Act, 1994.</p>	<p>DLWC NSW Fisheries Local Councils</p>	
<p>Development proposals in or adjacent to estuaries will be rejected where they have the potential to adversely impact on the physical amenity or ecology of the estuaries to the extent that they are unacceptable under the Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act, 1948 and Fisheries Management Act, 1994.</p>		
<p>Development within Crown owned estuaries must comply with the principles of Crown land management under the Crown Lands Act, 1989 and the Crown Land Foreshore Tenures Policy (Non Commercial Operations).</p>		
<p>1.4.8 Methods will continue to be developed and implemented to control the spread and impact of</p>	<p>DLWC NPWS</p>	



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
Bitou Bush on coastal dunes and foreshore environments.	NSW Agriculture Local Councils Coastcare Groups	

## 1.5 OBJECTIVE

To foster new initiatives and facilitate the continued involvement of the community in programs aimed at the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coastal areas.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
1.5.1	Local government and the Department of Land and Water Conservation, through programs such as Landcare, Coastcare and Rivercare, will continue to involve the community in implementing measures to protect and rehabilitate natural areas.	DLWC Local Councils CMCs/CMTs Community	NPWS NSW Fisheries
1.5.2	Catchment management committees and trusts will continue to play an influencing role in the protection and restoration of coastal environments.	DLWC CMCs/CMTs Local Councils Community	Relevant Government Agencies

# Goal 2

## TO RECOGNISE AND ACCOMMODATE NATURAL PROCESSES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

### 2.1 OBJECTIVE

To give the impacts of natural processes and hazards a high priority in the planning and management of coastal areas.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
2.1.1	Coastline, estuary and floodplain management plans will continue to be prepared by local councils and integrated into local environmental plans to address planning and development issues in accordance with the Coastline, Floodplain and Estuary Management Manuals.	Local Councils DLWC	Relevant Govt Agencies
2.1.2	Consideration will be given to controlling river traffic during and just after floods to minimise impact on foreshore land and properties.	Waterways Authority	
2.1.3	Physical and ecological processes and hazards will be considered when assessing development applications.	Local Councils DUAP	DLWC NPWS
2.1.4	<p>Initiatives will be taken to address the impacts of acid sulfate soils (ASS) through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consideration being given to the need for environmental studies which address ASS early in the planning and development process;</li> <li>• the use of ASS soils risk mapping undertaken by the Department of Land and Water Conservation and guidelines for their assessment and management prepared by the Environment Protection Authority in the assessment of any proposals likely to disturb ASS;</li> <li>• EISs being required for certain types of development if located on potential ASS soils in accordance with Schedule 3 of the EP&amp;A Regulation;</li> <li>• monitoring of the impacts of disturbed ASS and</li> </ul>	Local Councils DUAP EPA DLWC ASSMAC	NSW Agriculture NSW Fisheries RTA



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<p>requiring restoration and mitigation works to be undertaken progressively;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the preparation of management plans, as appropriate, to effectively manage project level impacts and the remediation of ASS sites.</li> </ul>		

**2.2 OBJECTIVE**

To recognise and consider the potential effects of climate change in the planning and management of coastal development.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
2.2.1	Studies on the influence of climate change for coastal areas will continue to be undertaken in association with the CSIRO Division of Atmospheric Research.	EPA	
2.2.2	Appropriate planning mechanisms will be considered for incorporating sea level change scenarios set by the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change.	Local Councils DLWC DUAP	EPA
2.2.3	The sea level monitoring station installed at Port Kembla Harbour will be used to monitor changes in sea level as a result of changes in climate as part of the national sea monitoring program.	Port Kembla Port Corporation	

# Goal 3

## TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE AESTHETIC QUALITIES OF THE COASTAL ZONE

### 3.1 OBJECTIVE

To identify and protect areas of high natural or built aesthetic quality.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
3.1.1	Significant coastal lands with scenic qualities will continue to be acquired under the Coastal Lands Protection Scheme.	DUAP	NPWS
3.1.2	Provisions to protect areas or items of high aesthetic value will continue to be considered when preparing planning instruments and plans of management.	DUAP Local Councils	

### 3.2 OBJECTIVE

To design and locate development to complement the surrounding environment and to recognise good aesthetic qualities.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
3.2.1	Guidelines such as the North and South Coast Design Guidelines and Guidelines for Tourism Development along the New South Wales Coast will be promoted to encourage good development and design in order to conserve the natural environment and integrate built features with the natural environment.	DUAP Tourism NSW	Local Councils
3.2.2	The use of good design principles will be encouraged to ensure more compact, human scale towns are developed with their own character within the constraints of existing infrastructure.	Local Councils DUAP	
3.2.3	Regional strategies for tourist signposting will be prepared and implemented in accordance with State-wide guidelines.	RTA Tourism NSW	Local Councils



	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
3.2.4	In preparing and amending regional and local environmental plans and development control plans and when assessing development applications, consideration of the design and locational principles contained in the Coastal Policy (Appendix C Table 3) will be required.	DUAP Local Councils	
3.2.5	Navigational aids, marine communication towers, warning signs and moorings will be positioned to have minimal adverse visual impact as far as possible and consistent with their purpose.	Waterways Authority	Local Councils

**3.3 OBJECTIVE**  
 To encourage towns to reinforce or establish their particular identities in a form which enhances the natural beauty of the coastal zone.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
3.3.1	Local and regional housing strategies for coastal towns will continue to be developed to encourage compact towns in a range of sizes and with a variety of forms. (Refer also 3.2.2.)	Local Councils DUAP	
3.3.2	The “Main Street”/“Small Towns” programs will continue to be implemented to promote the unique character of coastal town main streets and identify commercial areas and promote central mixed use areas.	State & Regional Dev’t Local Councils	



# Goal 4

## TO PROTECT AND CONSERVE CULTURAL HERITAGE

### 4.1 OBJECTIVE

To effectively manage and conserve cultural heritage places, items and landscapes.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
4.1.1	<p>The Underwater Archaeology Program for New South Wales will continue to protect important maritime archaeology resources of the State through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implementing policies and a procedures document on shipwreck sites;</li> <li>• continuing to develop and review the Shipwreck Atlas of NSW;</li> <li>• developing a shipwreck data base to assist in locating shipwrecks where dredging or other seabed disturbance is proposed;</li> <li>• continuing the program of locating shipwrecks in NSW coastal rivers (eg Clarence, Richmond);</li> <li>• increasing and facilitating local government and community involvement in the documentation, interpretation and protection of underwater cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	Heritage Office	
4.1.2	<p>Local and regional coastal heritage resources will be identified and assessed by heritage studies and, where appropriate, identified for conservation or protection by relevant provisions in regional environmental plans and local environmental plans and relevant provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993.</p>	Heritage Office Local Councils	
4.1.3	<p>The State will negotiate with the Commonwealth for the transfer of surplus Commonwealth Government</p>	The Cabinet Office	DLWC



	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
	lighthouses to the State Government to ensure their conservation and to maintain or improve public access to foreshore areas.	NPWS	
4.1.4	Planning instruments, development control plans and design guidelines will identify and consider significant views and vistas within and from towns, including street patterns and layout and items of heritage significance, in planning for towns.	Local Councils	Heritage Office DUAP

**4.2 OBJECTIVE**  
 To recognise the rights and needs of indigenous people and to ensure inputs by Aboriginal communities prior to making decisions affecting indigenous communities.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
4.2.1	The establishment of co-operative local heritage planning committees, including representatives of local Aboriginal communities, will be encouraged.	Local Councils	Dept of Aboriginal Affairs Local Land Councils NPWS
4.2.2	Aboriginal cultural and heritage values will be considered in the assessment of coastal Crown Lands, having regard to the Commonwealth Native Title Act, 1993.	DLWC NPWS	Dept of Aboriginal Affairs Local Land Councils
4.2.3	Criteria and procedures to enable the identification of coastal sites of significance to Aboriginal heritage will be established.	NPWS Dept of Aboriginal Affairs	State Land Council

# Goal 5

TO PROMOTE ECOLOGICALLY  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND  
USE OF RESOURCES

## 5.1 OBJECTIVE

To identify and facilitate opportunities for the sustainable development and use of resources.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
5.1.1	Land resource mapping will continue to be undertaken in coastal areas as a tool for use in identifying the suitability of proposed land uses.	DLWC NSW Agriculture	Local Councils
5.1.2	The land use requirements identified in regional industry and regional economic development strategies, including tourism strategies, will, as appropriate, be considered in the preparation of local and regional environmental plans.	Local Councils State & Regional Dev't Tourism NSW	DUAP
5.1.3	The systematic program of assessing and mapping rural land capability and agricultural land classification will continue in order to identify land which should be protected for agricultural purposes.	NSW Agriculture	Local Councils DLWC
5.1.4	Catch levels or harvesting strategies for major commercial and recreational fisheries will be established and enforced to ensure sustainability of the resource.	NSW Fisheries	
5.1.5	Access rights will be established to enable fish resources to be shared equitably between the various users.	NSW Fisheries	
5.1.6	Guidelines for preferred harvesting methods in major fisheries will be updated to ensure sustainability.	NSW Fisheries	
5.1.7	The identification and facilitation of key areas of opportunity for, and development of, aquaculture will be undertaken.	NSW Fisheries	Marine Ministerial Holding Corp



	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
5.1.8	Mineral exploration ventures which create potential opportunities for ecologically sustainable development and which do not adversely impact on environmentally significant sites will be identified and facilitated.	Dept of Mineral Resources	
5.1.9	The New South Wales Tourism Masterplan will be implemented to achieve key outcomes for New South Wales tourism and to improve the yield from tourism and the quality of its contribution to the future development of New South Wales.	Tourism NSW	Relevant Government Agencies
5.1.10	Nature-based tourism opportunities such as ecotourism will be encouraged through the implementation of the NSW Tourism Masterplan.	Tourism NSW	NPWS
5.1.11	Nature-based tourism and ecotourism operators should have regard to the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning publication "Guidelines for Tourism Development Adjacent to Natural Areas."	Local Councils Tourist operators	

## 5.2 OBJECTIVE

To develop land use and management plans which ensure the sustainable development and use of resources.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
5.2.1	A range of management planning approaches, including catchment plans, will be implemented in consultation with relevant agencies to ensure the sustainable development and use of natural resources while adequately protecting the environment.	DLWC	EPA NSW Fisheries DUAP NPWS NSW Agriculture



# Goal 5

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
5.2.2	Local councils will include in their management plans prepared under the Local Government Act, a statement of activities to be undertaken to protect environmentally sensitive coastal areas and to promote ecological sustainability of the council's coastal area.	Local Councils	
5.2.3	Management plans prepared for coastal areas will be considered in the preparation of REPs, LEPs and DCPs, so as to achieve integrated, responsible and ecologically sustainable development and use of resources.	Local Councils DLWC	NSW Fisheries
5.2.4	Policies on aquatic habitat management issues including environmental flows, dredging and the provision of fish passage will continue to be developed and implemented.	NSW Fisheries	EPA DLWC NPWS
5.2.5	Programs on the protection and restoration of fish habitats, such as mangroves, seagrasses and other wetlands will continue to be developed and implemented (Refer also 1.1.7).	NSW Fisheries	DLWC NPWS
5.2.6	State-wide planning processes for aquaculture will be co-ordinated through the Interdepartmental Committee on Aquaculture.	NSW Fisheries	
5.2.7	A requirement of a brood fish collection permit for aquaculture facilities is that a number of juvenile fish must be returned to a nominated waterway for stock enhancement.	NSW Fisheries	
5.2.8	Balanced land use decisions and increased effectiveness of regional coastal planning will be promoted through the availability of mineral and extractive resource information.	Dept of Mineral Resources	
5.2.9	Sand mining or extraction will not be permitted in coastal national parks or nature reserves. Sand mining	NPWS	



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
or extraction will be controlled on other environmentally sensitive lands through the environmental impact assessment process and coastal inventory.	Dept of Mineral Resources	
5.2.10 A management system incorporating individual port management plans for the fishing ports administered by the Department of Land and Water Conservation, will be established.	DLWC	NSW Fisheries
5.2.11 Local Councils will be encouraged to undertake forward planning for tourism, such as via the preparation of local and/or regional tourism development plans.	Local Councils	

**5.3 OBJECTIVE**  
 To develop and implement “best practice” approaches to achieving sustainable resource management.

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
5.3.1 Sustainable land and water management practices for the community will continue to be promoted through catchment management committees and trusts.	CMCs/CMTs Community Local Councils DLWC	
5.3.2 State government agencies will implement the actions detailed in the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development, as endorsed by the New South Wales State Government.	Relevant Government Agencies	
5.3.3 Existing aquaculture procedures and permits will be reviewed and new guidelines introduced.	NSW Fisheries	DUAP EPA



# Goal 5

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<p>5.3.4 The responsible recovery of mineral resources within the coastal zone will be ensured through the granting of leases which :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- require the proper rehabilitation of mined lands;</li> <li>- impose conditions in the lease agreement for the minimisation of adverse environmental impacts;</li> <li>- impose conditions for the prevention of disturbance of adjacent lands by recovery operations;</li> <li>- conserve and protect flora, fauna, fish, fisheries, scenic attractions, and features of Aboriginal, architectural, archaeological, historical or geological interest;</li> <li>- require the preparation of a mining rehabilitation and environmental management plan which will serve to document and monitor the environmental management strategy, including rehabilitation which will apply to the particular operation;</li> <li>- require the lodgement of a security deposit (performance bond) by the proponent, to ensure compliance with lease conditions;</li> <li>- require that any necessary development consent be obtained from the relevant consent authority under the EP&amp;A Act, 1979 prior to the granting of any lease.</li> </ul>	<p>Department of Mineral Resources</p>	<p>Local Councils Relevant Government Agencies</p>
<p>5.3.5 Department of Land and Water Conservation will continue to consider best practice to achieve sustainable resource management before giving concurrence for discharges of trade wastes to sewerage systems in country towns operated by local councils, so as to enable sustainable development (Refer also 1.3.9).</p>	<p>DLWC</p>	
<p>5.3.6 Opportunities for reuse and recycling of biosolids and effluent will be encouraged where consistent with guidelines produced by the EPA.</p>	<p>Sydney Water Hunter Water Local Councils EPA</p>	<p>NSW Agriculture</p>

# Goal 6

TO PROVIDE FOR ECOLOGICALLY  
SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT



## 6.1 OBJECTIVE

To ensure that future expansion or redevelopment of urban and residential areas, including the provision of infrastructure, avoids or minimises impacts on environmentally sensitive areas and cultural heritage.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
6.1.1	Coastal urban planning/settlement strategies prepared by DUAP will ensure recognition of environmentally sensitive areas or natural and cultural heritage resources when identifying suitable areas for urban growth.	DUAP Local Councils	NPWS
6.1.2	Local councils will prepare urban land release/settlement strategies prior to major rezonings of rural land for urban expansion or will ensure that any such rezonings are consistent with endorsed regional settlement strategies.	Local Councils DUAP	
6.1.3	Population projections, including an analysis of trends for coastal regions for the period 1996 to 2021, will be regularly updated and published to provide an assessment of growth and demand for urban development.	DUAP	
6.1.4	Canal estate developments will not be permitted and a State Environmental Planning Policy made to implement the policy.	DUAP	



# Goal 6

## 6.2 OBJECTIVE

To promote compact and contained planned urban development in order to avoid ribbon development, unrelated cluster development and continuous urban areas on the coast.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
6.2.1	Planning instruments and development control plans will define the boundaries of urban areas and indicate the amount and form of development which is appropriate for each location taking into account the environmental and servicing implications.	DUAP Local Councils	
6.2.2	The design of towns and buildings should have regard to energy efficient principles, for example compact town form related to transport networks, in order to reduce energy dependency.	Local Councils	DUAP

## 6.3 OBJECTIVE

To ensure rural residential developments are located in areas where impacts on the natural environment or valuable agricultural resources are minimised.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
6.3.1	Local councils will prepare rural residential release strategies prior to any major rural residential rezonings in order to preserve land with scenic and conservation values, prime agricultural land and land identified as having significant mineral or extractive resources. Regard should be given to the Department of Urban	Local Councils DUAP	NSW Agriculture



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
Affairs and Planning's Rural Settlement Guidelines and Rural Land Evaluation Manual in preparing these strategies.		

**6.4 OBJECTIVE**  
**To provide for choice in both housing and lifestyles.**

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
6.4.1	A greater choice in housing will be encouraged in coastal urban areas through local and regional housing strategies.	DUAP Local Councils	
6.4.2	Higher density residential development, in close proximity to coastal town centres, should be encouraged through the use of planning instruments and development control plans, to provide easy access to services and employment and create a sustained and stimulating town centre environment without strain on existing infrastructure.	Local Councils DUAP	

# Goal 7

## TO PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATE PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE

### 7.1 OBJECTIVE

To increase public access to foreshores when feasible and environmentally sustainable options are available.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
7.1.1	The acquisition of significant sites adjacent to the coastline to increase opportunities for public access to and along the foreshore will continue.	DUAP NPWS DLWC	Local Councils
7.1.2	Public facilities will be provided at appropriate locations and with appropriate safety standards to facilitate fair and equitable access to and enjoyment of the recreational amenity of the coast and estuary foreshores.	Local Councils	DLWC NPWS
7.1.3	Public access to council owned coastal lands should be facilitated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the preparation of plans of management for council community land which facilitate appropriate access;</li> <li>• the provision of appropriate access to council owned operational land;</li> <li>• leasing arrangements for council owned coastal land which maximise public access opportunities.</li> </ul>	Local Councils	
7.1.4	Special recreational vehicle areas will continue to be used as an environmental protection measure and as a means of limiting unauthorised motor vehicle activity in environmentally sensitive areas.	EPA	Local Councils DLWC NPWS
7.1.5	New tourism development in close proximity to foreshore areas will be required to include provision for public access to foreshores.	Local Councils	DLWC DUAP



## 7.2 OBJECTIVE

To ensure risks to human safety from the use of coastal resources is minimised.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
7.2.1	Safe and environmentally responsible recreational use of the coast will be promoted through public education programs and activities.	Dept Sport & Recreation	Surf Life Saving NSW Inc. NPWS
7.2.2	Areas for particular types of on-water activities will be designated and management plans prepared for intensively used areas to resolve conflict in the use of waterways and to ensure that boating and other usages of New South Wales waterways are safe, enjoyable and environmentally responsible.	Waterways Authority	Local Councils Relevant Government Agencies
7.2.3	Councils will ensure that a coastal safety assessment is considered in relation to any new coastal development located in close proximity to unpatrolled or inadequately patrolled beaches, to indicate the level and type of lifesaving facilities and personnel required to protect people attracted to beaches by any such development.	Local Councils	DUAP Surf Life Saving NSW Inc.
7.2.4	In preparing Section 94 contributions plans (s94 EP&A Act, 1979) and levying developer contributions, consideration should be given to costs of providing surf life saving services for the community.	Local Councils	DUAP
7.2.5	Beach signs and flags must be consistent with the standards recommended by the Standards Association of Australia.	Local Councils DLWC NPWS	Dept of Sport & Recreation Dept of Local Govt
7.2.6	Appropriate and relevant safety warning signs will be erected to ensure the safe use of the coast, eg in areas of potential cliff failure.	Local Councils DLWC NPWS	NSW Fisheries



# Goal 8

TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO  
ENABLE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT

## 8.1 OBJECTIVE

To coordinate and integrate data and information collection with management programs to ensure that it meets the needs of management.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
8.1.1	Information to promote integrated land use and waterway use decisions and increase the effectiveness of regional and local planning will be used and shared.	Local Councils Relevant Govt Agencies	
8.1.2	The Coastal Council is to be advised biennially as to how coastal data and information collated by agencies is being utilised in coastal planning and management programs so that the Council can act as a coordinating body. This information will be provided by way of agency annual reports or other agreed reporting mechanism.	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils	Coastal Council
8.1.3	Gaps in coastal information will be identified and where appropriate addressed in consultation with all levels of government, the private sector and the community.	Coastal Council	DLWC Relevant Govt Agencies

## 8.2 OBJECTIVE

To develop compatible data bases for coastal resource information.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
8.2.1	Consistent methodologies will continue to be developed for the collection, description and exchange of information, where appropriate.	Relevant Govt Agencies	



	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
8.2.2	A comprehensive review of Commonwealth, State and local government data bases and data systems and their compatibility will be undertaken in consultation with the Commonwealth with a view to developing an integrated coastal zone information system.	Coastal Council	DLWC NPWS

**8.3 OBJECTIVE**  
 To ensure that coastal information is made more accessible across all levels of government, the private sector and the community.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
8.3.1	Comprehensive inventories of coastal information, including submerged lands, will be developed and maintained by relevant agencies.	DLWC	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils
8.3.2	An integrated directory of coastal information and inventories will be developed.	Coastal Council	DLWC
8.3.3	Councils should include matters relevant to their performance in coastal zone environmental management in their state of the environment reports and refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- areas of environmental sensitivity;</li> <li>- important wildlife and habitat corridors;</li> <li>- any unique landscape and vegetation;</li> <li>- development proposals affecting, or likely to affect, environmentally sensitive land;</li> <li>- polluted areas;</li> </ul>	Local Councils Dept of Local Govt	Relevant Government Agencies



# Goal 8

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- any storage and disposal sites for toxic and hazardous chemicals;</li> <li>- waste management policies;</li> <li>- threatened species and any recovery plans;</li> <li>- any environmental restoration projects; and</li> <li>- vegetation cover and any instruments or policies relating to tree preservation.</li> </ul>		
8.3.4 The annual reports of local councils should contain details of programs undertaken by the council during that year to preserve, protect, restore and enhance the coastal environment.	Local Councils	Dept of Local Govt

## 8.4 OBJECTIVE

To develop adequate formal and informal education and awareness programs addressing coastal management issues.

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
8.4.1 Coastal management issues and programs will be published throughout the community, through a variety of media such as brochures, awareness campaigns and school material.	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils	
8.4.2 Encouragement will be given to those involved in coastal management to improve their knowledge and skills by attending formal education courses and relevant conferences and seminars.	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils	

# Goal 9

TO PROVIDE FOR INTEGRATED  
PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT



## 9.1 OBJECTIVE

To facilitate consistent and complementary decision making which recognises the three spheres of government.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
9.1.1	The Inter-Governmental Agreement on the Environment, the National ESD Strategy, the National Greenhouse Response Strategy, the National Biodiversity Strategy and related State strategies such as the draft State Biodiversity Strategy will continue to be implemented.	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils	
9.1.2	When preparing local and regional environmental plans, regard for consistency with the Coastal Policy will be required.	Local Councils DUAP	

## 9.2 OBJECTIVE

To ensure Government agencies efficiently and effectively implement the Coastal Policy in a co-ordinated and collaborative manner.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
9.2.1	The coastal planning and management activities of agencies will be consistent with the goals of the Coastal Policy.	Relevant Govt Agencies Local Councils	
9.2.2	The implementation of the Coastal Policy strategic actions will be subject to review and this will be reported to the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning and Parliament annually.	Coastal Council	



# Goal 9

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
9.2.3	To ensure that the goals, objectives and strategic actions of the Coastal Policy remain relevant and to enable the ongoing effective and efficient planning and management of the New South Wales coast, the Coastal Policy will be reviewed in five years.	Coastal Council	

## 9.3 OBJECTIVE

To ensure local government coastal policy and management is integrated and involves community participation and information exchange.

	Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
9.3.1	State Government agencies and local councils will continue to provide advice to community groups (such as Landcare, Coastcare, bush regeneration and catchment management committees) in order to facilitate ecosystem protection and rehabilitation.	Local Councils DLWC NPWS	
9.3.2	Councils should recognise the coastal zone as an environmentally sensitive area when preparing management plans under s402 of the Local Government Act. Details should be included in management plans of activities to be undertaken to protect the coastal zone environment, to promote ecological sustainability in the coastal zone and to implement the Coastal Policy.	Local Councils	
9.3.3	Councils in their annual reports prepared under the Local Government Act should report on programs undertaken in the coastal zone to protect, preserve, restore and enhance the coastal environment and	Local Councils	



Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<p>actions taken to implement the Coastal Policy. State of the environment reporting undertaken as part of the annual report should include details of councils' performance in coastal zone environmental management.</p>		

**9.4 OBJECTIVE**  
 To give consideration to the development of a national coastal zone management strategy.

Strategic Action	Prime Responsibility	Other Responsibility
<p>9.4.1 Relevant Government agencies will participate where necessary with other State/Territory and Commonwealth agencies in relevant forums in identifying significant coastal issues under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Commonwealth.</p>	Relevant Govt Agencies	
<p>9.4.2 Relevant Government agencies will participate with other State/Territory and Commonwealth agencies to consider sources of funding such as Coastcare for the implementation of coastal zone management principles.</p>	Relevant Govt Agencies	



Part C

# Appendices

# A. Significance of the Coast

*This appendix provides an overview of the natural and cultural environment of the NSW Coast and the activities and industries which are important. The ecological and socio-economic significance of the coast is highlighted.*

## 1. Environment

### Natural

The New South Wales coastal zone is characterised by a wide range of physical features, such as coastal plains, beaches and dunes, cliffs, estuaries and other enclosed water bodies, islands, mudflats, wetlands, hills and mountains. Over 30% is managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and approximately 10-12% is classified as urban development. The remainder is for rural or open space uses. There are 130 estuaries, of which 72 are permanently open and 58 intermittently open, and 721 ocean beaches.

The biological features of the coastal zone exhibit enormous variety and complexity, with a range of flora and fauna living and breeding in terrestrial and aquatic environments. The biological environment is also characterised by complex interactions between species and the physical environment which produce recognisable ecosystems. However, coastal fauna comprises species that are found in or occupy terrestrial and marine environments, and species that migrate within and between the terrestrial and marine environments, such as migratory fish and birds. Many of these ecosystems are sensitive and fragile requiring conservation and protection. Above all, they are a finite resource. Both biological and physical components of ecosystems are subject to constant change through natural processes. Human actions, both deliberate and unintended, have accelerated these changes.

The unique natural scenic areas of the coast are important not only for their visual amenity but also for the ambience they provide. They are an irreplaceable public asset. They must be preserved and managed for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

### Cultural

The coastal zone also contains large and varied terrestrial and submerged heritage resources of natural, historic, and Aboriginal values. The identification and appropriate conservation of heritage resources in intertidal and terrestrial sites is an essential factor in the management of the coastal zone.

## 2. Growth & Development

Coastal resources and environments have a multitude of values to the community. These include economic, aesthetic, cultural, social and ecological values. The diversity of natural resources and environments in the coastal zone has led to it becoming the focus for much of our economic, social and cultural activities. As such, a large proportion of NSW's population and consequently a significant proportion of the State's economic activities are located in coastal areas. This often results in a conflict of values and pressure on the environment which reinforce the notion of the coastal zone being the 'fragile environment'.

Over 80% of the State's population live in the local council areas along the coast. While many human activities rely on the opportunities offered by the

coastal environment, they may also have significant impacts on the coast and its resources. In the past, management of coastal lands and waters has resulted in some development that has had an adverse effect on the environment.

The State's population growth is being focused on the coast and as our population grows, so too does the need for housing, shops, factories, schools, transport, holiday facilities and recreational and public safety facilities. Between 1981 and 1991 New South Wales' population grew from 4.7 million to 5.9 million, a 25% increase. In the same period the population living in the non-metropolitan coastal local council areas grew from 1 million to 1.47 million, an increase of 45%.

Between 1981 and 1991, a total of 107,560 dwelling units were constructed in coastal local council areas, accounting for more than 41% of total annual dwelling unit construction in New South Wales in that period. The use and development of coastal zone resources for building purposes is closely linked to population growth; the rapid increase in the number of dwelling units located in the coastal zone accompanied the rapid growth of population in non-metropolitan areas of the coastal zone during this period.

The coastal area outside the Sydney metropolitan area is continuing to attract a significant number of retired people. The proportion of people aged 65 and over in the Hunter, Illawarra, North Coast and South Eastern Regions increased from 10.7% to 13.6% in the period 1981 to 1991. Similarly, the unemployment rate for the above regions increased from 7.3% to 13.6% over the same period. The population growth rate in these areas combined with relatively large percentages in the over 65 age group or in the unemployed category places great demands on the services in these areas where economic growth has been depressed.

Of the top ten regions in Australia for population growth and building, four are in New South Wales. Gosford-Wyong, Hunter, Illawarra and the Richmond-Tweed. These areas are rapidly emerging as extensive urbanised regions. Many people who move to take up residence in the coastal zone generally expect services to be maintained. This requires levels of facilities and amenities similar to those experienced in metropolitan areas. This places heavy demands on infrastructure that must be addressed, but in a way that minimises their effect on the coast's natural and cultural resources. Appropriate policies must be addressed in a way to manage the future expected growth in population along the coastline.

### 3. Tourism & Recreation

New South Wales, as the major tourist destination state in Australia, attracts a significant share of total Australian tourism and related economic activity. Estimates from the Bureau of Tourism Research show that combined international and domestic tourism to New South Wales in 1993/94 generated \$15 billion in gross expenditure (including domestic day trips) or approximately one-third of the Australian total. It is also estimated that 174,000 full time and part time jobs were derived from the tourism expenditure in that year (Bureau of Tourism Research, 1996).

In 1995 international and domestic tourists spent some 133 million visitor nights in New South Wales. Of these nights over 52 million or about 39%, were spent in New South Wales coastal regions outside the Sydney tourism region (Tourism NSW, 1995b and 1996).

Recreation plays a significant role in the lifestyle of many Australians, as well as accounting for a high proportion of consumer spending. A study of the economics of recreation found that recreation

accounted for about 13% of total commodity and service expenditure (ABS, 1994). The resources which are necessary for many forms of recreation are present in abundance along the coastal zone of New South Wales. The coastal zone supports a wide range of terrestrial and marine based recreation activities, from bushwalking to boating and sightseeing to SCUBA diving.

## 4. Natural Resources Use

### Fisheries and Aquaculture

The coastal zone provides a large part of the commercial fisheries resource for the State and a very large proportion of the recreational fisheries.

Fish are a renewable resource and often inhabit vast stretches of ocean, but there are finite limits to the numbers that can be harvested. Moreover, many important fish habitats are being degraded or reduced in area.

Commercial fishing is carried out in many estuaries and along the whole open coastline. The total state commercial fisheries catch is currently around 40,000 tonne each year, with a value of approximately \$150 million. This figure is for unprocessed product alone and does not take into account boats, equipment, etc. There are around 2,000 licensed commercial fishers in the State.

Recreational fishing is an extremely popular pastime, with surveys showing that approximately one third of the population fish at least once a year. In New South Wales about \$500 million is spent annually by recreational fishers on such items as fishing tackle, bait, accommodation and transport.

Aquaculture in the coastal zone is represented predominantly by the production of oysters. This is a

well established industry, with some 980 oyster lessees contributing to an annual production of \$30 million from some 4,700 ha of culture area. Prawn farming is concentrated in the north of the State and \$3 million worth of product is produced annually from 120 ha of prawn ponds. Mussel farming is carried out experimentally in Jervis and Twofold Bays on the South Coast. There is considerable potential to develop aquaculture systems for new species of fish, invertebrates and algae in the near future.

### Agriculture

In the early 1800s the coastal zone held much of the nation's pastoral industry. At the turn of the century, industries such as saw milling, dairying and horticulture blossomed and townships grew and commercial centres developed, particularly as transport needs and proximity to coastal shipping services increased. Today, a significant portion of the coastal zone is still actively farmed. Dairying and extensive horticultural production dominate due to increased opportunities for export. The spread of urban development is, however, reducing the amount of arable land available for cropping and grazing. This is expected to increase around the major coastal cities and regional areas unless planning mechanisms are enforced.

### Coal, Other Minerals and Extractive Resources

The coastal zone contains significant coal, minerals and extractive resources that are essential for the growth and economic development of the State. In recognition of the importance of these resources to the State, the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning has made a direction under Section 117(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979) to ensure that there is adequate recognition of coal, other minerals,

extractive and petroleum resources throughout the State and, where appropriate, to maintain access to obtain these resources.

### Forestry

The timber industry is important to the viability of many small coastal towns and is the primary source of timber products for the State. In the Bega region, for example, total employment generated by the timber industry is estimated to account for around 12.5% of all employed persons. The raw products produced by the industry include woodchips for export, pulp and paper, sawn timber and panels with many secondary processes adding value to a final product. The forestry industries make a modest contribution to both the local and State economies. The future of this sector of industry on the coast depends on the extent to which State Authorities make forests available for logging and the incentives and future harvesting security for plantation forests on private lands.

### Sustainability

Any future development of the natural resources of the coastal zone need to be designed and implemented in a manner which seeks to enhance and sustain the coastal environment.

## 5. Coastline and Estuaries

The coastline and estuaries of New South Wales are unique areas where the land physically meets the sea and where fresh water mixes with saline ocean water under the influence of tidal power. They are publicly owned areas of great significance to the community because of their beauty and because of their special cultural and ecological value.

Both the coastline and estuaries are subject to severe natural and man made hazards. These include natural phenomena like storms, cyclones and floods, as well as man made phenomena like sea level rise, water pollution and development which is not designed to accommodate the sustainability of estuarine or coastline environments.

Our coastline and estuaries are susceptible to a particularly large array of competing usage demands. Such uses include demands on these areas for:

- recreation and tourism (walking, swimming, surfing, diving, fishing, boating etc);
- commerce (fishing, aquaculture, shipping, agriculture, mining);
- assimilative capacity (stormwater, sewage and thermal effluent disposal);
- urban development.

Whilst many of these demands can be compatible with the coastal environment and with each other, it is not uncommon for them to be in conflict with each other and with the sustainability of natural ecosystems.

To address this area of conflict, and to protect and rehabilitate coastal and estuarine environments, the Government established coastal management and estuary management programs. These programs are focused closely on the development and implementation of location specific plans of management which aim at assessing and holistically managing these demands. In many cases this involves rehabilitation or environmental enhancement of the coastline and estuaries to ensure sustainability. Those programs are administered by the Department of Land and Water Conservation working in close partnership with local councils, catchment

management committees and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.

## 6. Ports and Harbours

New South Wales ports handle over 4,000 trading vessels every year and carry over 110 million revenue tonnes of cargo. The four major New South Wales ports of Sydney, Botany Bay, Newcastle and Port Kembla are all located within a 250 km stretch of the New South Wales coastal plain, in which is also found the bulk of the State's industrial infrastructure and a population of 5.6 million.

For many years Sydney Harbour was the centre for shipping activity in the State and it still has the most varied trade of all the New South Wales ports, ranging from passenger liners, general cargo and containers to a variety of dry and liquid bulk commodities. Sydney Harbour offers excellent shelter for shipping and is a deep water harbour that caters for a wide mix of commercial and recreational vessel activity.

Botany Bay, originally considered too shallow for shipping operations on a large scale, has been dredged and a modern port constructed and developed to become one of Australia's most important container ports. It is also the State's main oil and petrochemical port.

Newcastle and Port Kembla are predominantly bulk cargo ports, exporting large quantities of coal as well as importing raw materials for local metal industries, mainly iron ore, and exporting their products. Both ports are also important to the agricultural trade, exporting wool, cotton, grain and livestock.

The Port of Eden on the New South Wales far south coast principally caters for the export of woodchips and the import of petroleum products. Eden is also one of the major fishing ports on the south coast.

The Port of Yamba situated at the mouth of the Clarence River near Grafton provides a general cargo port for smaller cargo vessels. The port is used for the export of timber and livestock and the import of raw sugar from Queensland for refining at the local sugar refinery. Boat harbours at Iluka and Yamba provide facilities for the largest fishing fleet on the New South Wales North Coast.

A further 30 small ports along the New South Wales coast form a network of safe havens for boats. These ports provide facilities for the commercial fishing industry, charter boats and recreational craft. Boat ramps provide access to these ports and associated waterways for smaller craft.

## 7. Community Attitudes

The New South Wales Environment Protection Authority commissioned a comprehensive study and survey of the environmental knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviour of the New South Wales population in 1994. Water quality, air quality and waste management were most often cited as the two most important environmental issues in New South Wales today. In particular, 29 percent of respondents nominated ocean and beach pollution as one of the two most important issues and this was the highest ranking category of concern (EPA, 1994).

This highlights the concern of the community with coastal water quality, an issue addressed in some detail in the 1997 Coastal Policy.

## B. Principles Underlying the Policy

*This appendix provides details of the principles which were considered important in drafting the 1997 Coastal Policy. The principles can be used to guide decision making and clarify the basic philosophy of the goals and objectives of the policy. They should be read within the broader vision for the coast, being a coastal environment which is conserved and enhanced for its natural and cultural values while also providing for the economic, social and spiritual well-being of the community.*

### Natural Environment

- Life depends on the maintenance of natural processes and systems.
- Biodiversity has intrinsic value.
- Biodiversity provides a storehouse of materials potentially available for ecologically sustainable development and resource use.
- Future generations have the right to exist in and access the range of natural environments.
- Where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.
- The rights and needs of current land owners will be considered under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 in the review of coastal policies and programs.

### Natural Processes

- The coastal zone is complex and dynamic in nature and subject to natural forces of varying magnitude and intensity which can pose hazards to people and property.

- Natural processes may be affected by coastal development.
- Natural processes are affected by global climate change and the greatest impact is at the land-sea interface.
- The precautionary principle should be used in the assessment of natural hazard issues, including climate change and sea level rise.

### Aesthetic Qualities

- The intrinsic attraction of the coast includes aesthetic qualities, such as the visual amenity of the environment. Other intangible qualities are the sound of the surf, smell and feel of fresh sea breezes, and taste of salt water which provide sensory experiences for human enjoyment and well being.
- The attractions of the coastal environment are an important element for economic growth and development.
- Urban areas should enhance the natural aesthetic qualities of the coast and provide their own aesthetic quality.

## Cultural Heritage

- Cultural heritage gives a sense of history, place and identity, and is of economic as well as social and cultural importance to the community. It should therefore be recognised as an asset and conserved.
- It is important to recognise contemporary culture given the increasing rate of change.
- The protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage is essential for its intrinsic value and as part of the historic development of the country.

## Ecologically Sustainable Development and Use of Resources

- The sustainable development and use of resources can provide benefits for the community through continued employment opportunities, the production of goods and services, and generation of wealth and value.
- Decision making and planning processes to allocate resources for sustainable development and use should effectively integrate both long and short-term economic, environmental, social, equity and inter-generational considerations.
- A strong and diversified economy can enhance the capacity for environmental protection.
- Environmentally sound management practices can enhance our national and international competitiveness.

## Ecologically Sustainable Human Settlement

- The attractiveness of the coast in terms of climate, scenery and lifestyle places it in great demand, therefore human settlement must complement and appropriately contrast with the natural environment and be sustainable, varied and stimulating.
- Cultural heritage, including cultural landscape, is of economic and social importance to the community and therefore it should be conserved as settlements expand or redevelopment takes place.
- Human settlement requires infrastructure, services and employment opportunities at adequate levels and in appropriate locations.
- Consideration of competing land uses is necessary when deciding upon the suitability of land for urban and residential development.
- Compact towns with employment and higher density residential development are necessary to sustain good public transport and viable services, such as education, cultural attractions and retail development.

## Public Access and Use

- Access to and sympathetic use of publicly owned coastal lands is desirable where it does not conflict with environmental management objectives.
- Uncontrolled public access has the potential to irreparably damage fragile coastal environments.
- Human safety is a prime consideration when planning access to the coast.

### Information to Enable Effective Management

- Baseline data on natural systems, and the identification and assessment of natural and cultural heritage resources, is a pre-requisite for effective coastal zone management.
- The cost-effective collection, maintenance and integration of resource data will assist in efficient environmental management.
- Information and education services are essential to enable more effective public participation in all aspects of coastal resource use and decision making.

### Integrated Planning and Management

- Integrated management of the coastal zone incorporates local, regional, state, national and

international goals in an effective and efficient administrative framework.

- The co-operation and integration of all spheres of government and agency policies and programs is fundamental to effective and efficient coastal zone management.
- Integrated coastal zone management requires a multi-sectoral approach.
- Co-ordination of the activities of community and industry groups with government is needed for the effective and efficient management of the coast.
- The crossing of administrative and legal boundaries by natural processes must be recognised and accommodated.
- Broad and effective community consultation is needed for the efficient and effective management of the coast.

## C. Explanatory Notes for Local Government

*This appendix provides explanatory notes to assist in the implementation of the Coastal Policy by local councils. The explanatory notes relate to the making and amending of LEPs, assessment of development applications and reporting requirements for the Coastal Policy.*

The Coastal Policy relies in large part on local councils for its implementation. This is because councils have responsibility for the detailed planning and management of coastal areas and have a major role in facilitating and supporting the activities of community groups.

The extension of the policy to include coastal lakes, lagoons, estuaries, rivers and islands, means that the policy now applies to a larger and more diverse coastal zone.

It is therefore necessary to consider the implications for local councils, especially when preparing local environmental plans (LEPs), assessing development applications or undertaking the reporting requirements of the policy. It should be noted that the reporting requirements are based on existing requirements established by the Local Government Act.

### Application of the Policy

The definition of the coastal zone in Chapter 2 and the maps which accompany the coastal policy make it clear that the policy applies to a significantly expanded area. It is also clear, however, that the extent to which the policy applies and the way in which the policy applies will differ appreciably depending on location.

As a means of scoping the range of provisions which might apply, it is recommended that councils consider the coastal zone as actually comprising two related, but distinct, sub-zones. These are the *littoral coastal sub-*

*zone*, which comprises the area three nautical miles seaward and one kilometre landward of the open coast high water mark, and the *estuarine coastal sub-zone*, which is the area landward of the littoral coastal zone.

While most of the strategic actions of the policy could apply irrespective of location, the location and the issue under consideration will mean that some provisions are more relevant than others. For example, a planner dealing with a development application for a townhouse development in the littoral coastal sub-zone at Ballina would need to use the Coastal Policy in a different way to a planner preparing an amending LEP for a site upstream on the Shoalhaven River. In the first case, provisions relating to shoreline recession and climate change might be directly relevant, whereas in the second case, provisions relating to estuarine water quality and, possibly, biodiversity are likely to be most relevant.

In general, while most of the strategic actions which fall under objectives 1 to 7 of the policy could apply to both of the sub-zones, it is the strategic actions which relate to improving water quality and conserving biodiversity which will be most directly relevant to the estuarine sub-zone. Equally, some of the strategic actions which relate to coastal processes will apply most directly to the littoral sub-zone.

### Local Environmental Plans

The Coastal Policy is relevant to the preparation of LEPs in two main ways, as outlined in the Section 117 Direction which accompanies the policy.

The Section 117 Direction requires that LEPs which apply to the defined coastal zone:

- (a) include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with the coastal policy; and
- (b) not alter, create or remove existing zones unless an environmental study relating to the LEP has been prepared and considered.

A large number of the strategic actions contained in the policy are relevant to the making of LEPs. Table 1 summarises the most relevant provisions. Not all of these provisions will apply in all cases and, equally, there may be other provisions which are relevant. The provisions included in Table 1 should be considered as a minimum by councils when preparing new or amended LEPs which relate to the coastal zone.

Strategic action 3.2.4, which contains the most detailed information regarding the sorts of matters which should be considered by councils when preparing or amending LEPs, is outlined in Table 3 and is discussed further in the section below.

While part (b) of the Section 117 Direction implies that an environmental study is required prior to the consideration of any rezoning proposal in the coastal zone, this has not been the case in practice. The Director-General has the power under the EP&A Act (Section 74(2)(b)) to waive the requirement for a study where the proposal is considered to be minor or where adequate environmental information already exists. In these circumstances, the draft LEP is considered to be a justified inconsistency with part (b) of the Section 117 Direction.

In considering whether an environmental study should be required for a rezoning proposal in the coastal zone, it is recommended that councils adopt a precautionary approach. This should be based on:

- the nature of the proposal (eg conversion of non-urban land to urban);
- the scale of the proposal (eg the number of dwellings or people which would be facilitated by a proposal);
- the sensitivity of the environment (including a logically conceived area which may be impacted by development facilitated by the proposal); and
- the level of environmental information available in relation to the site (and any potentially impacted area).

## Development Control

The Coastal Policy is a prescribed matter pursuant to Section 90(1)(s) of the EP&A Act. This means that councils need to have regard to relevant provisions in the policy when assessing development applications.

Table 2 contains a list of the provisions of the policy which are most relevant to development control. Again, not all of these provisions will apply in all cases and, equally, there may be other provisions which are relevant. The provisions in Table 2 should be considered as a minimum by councils when assessing development applications which relate to the coastal zone.

Strategic action 3.2.4, which contains the most detailed information regarding the sorts of matters which should be considered by councils when assessing development applications, is outlined in Table 3 and is discussed further in the section below.

## Design and Locational Principles

Strategic action 3.2.4 refers to detailed design and locational principles which should be considered in the preparation of LEPs and DCPs and/or in the assessment of development applications. These principles are outlined and discussed in Table 3. Most of the principles in Table 3 could apply to both the littoral and estuarine sub-zones, however there are a number of principles which are only applicable to the littoral sub-zone as specified in the table.

The principles contained in Table 3 should be *considered* in the preparation of LEPs and DCPs and principles should be adopted as relevant. The adoption of relevant principles in LEPs or DCPs is the most effective way of implementing the principles.

In the absence of an LEP or DCP which incorporates the principles in Table 3, or other location-specific principles, most of the principles contained in Table 3 could be considered in assessing development applications under Section 90 by virtue of the fact that the Coastal Policy is a prescribed matter. The principles

in Table 3 relating to building heights would need to be incorporated in an LEP or REP in order to have effect.

## Reporting

The Coastal Policy does not establish any new reporting requirements for local councils in relation to the coastal zone, but rather uses existing requirements in the Local Government Act to facilitate reporting on the implementation of the policy.

Table 4 outlines the provisions contained in the policy which are relevant to reporting by local councils and provides advice on the level and type of reporting envisaged. Again, it is emphasised that the level of reporting will vary according to the location of the council and the area of the LGA which falls into the defined coastal zone. For example, a council which falls substantially into the coastal zone and contains large areas in the littoral coastal sub-zone will need to more comprehensively address the reporting requirements of the policy than a council with a small area upstream in the estuarine coastal sub-zone.

Table 1 Strategic Actions Relevant to the Preparation of LEPs

Strategic Action Number	Summary Provision
<b>Natural Environment</b>	
1.1.2	Dedication of areas with land and/or marine and estuarine conservation values.
1.1.3	Dedication of Crown lands and submerged lands.
1.1.3	Reservation of Crown foreshore land.
1.1.5	Classification of open space and conservation value land.
1.1.9	Conservation zonings in LEPs.
1.1.10	Marine park zoning and operational plans.
1.1.11	Open space networks/corridors.
1.3.7	Water quality and environmental flow objectives through catchment plans.
1.3.14	State Groundwater Policy.
<b>Natural Processes &amp; Climate Change</b>	
2.1.1	Incorporation of coastline, estuary and floodplain management plans into LEPs.
2.2.2	Sea level change.
<b>Aesthetic Qualities</b>	
3.1.2	Provisions to protect areas or items of high aesthetic value.
3.2.4	Design and locational principles for LEPs.
3.3.1	Local and regional housing strategies.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	
4.1.2	Coastal heritage resources.
4.1.4	Views, vistas, street patterns and layout, heritage items.
<b>Ecologically Sustainable Use of Resources</b>	
5.1.2	Regional economic development strategies.
5.1.3	Agricultural land.
5.1.7	Aquaculture.
5.1.8	Mineral exploration.
5.2.3	Integration of management plans into LEPs.
5.2.11	Local tourism development plans.
<b>Ecologically Sustainable Human Settlement</b>	
6.1.1	Coastal urban planning/settlement strategies (regional).
6.1.2	Urban land release/settlement strategies (local).
6.1.4	Canal estate developments.
6.2.1	Boundaries, amount and form of urban development.
6.3.1	Rural residential release strategies.
6.4.1	Housing choice.
6.4.2	Higher density residential development close to coastal town centres.
<b>Public Access and Use</b>	
7.2.4	Surf life saving services and Section 94 plans.

Table 2 Strategic Actions Relevant to Development Control

Strategic Action Number	Summary Provision
<b>Natural Environment</b>	
1.1.6	Voluntary conservation agreements.
1.1.7	Seagrass, mangroves, saltmarsh and other wetland associated species.
1.2.3	Fish habitat modification or alienation.
1.2.5	Threatened Species Conservation Act.
1.3.1	EPA licensing of STP and other point source discharges.
1.3.2	Non-point source pollution.
1.3.7	Waste water discharge limits.
1.3.8	Contaminated stormwater.
1.3.12	Vessel sewage pumpout facilities.
1.3.13	Re-use of treated biosolids and effluent.
1.4.5	Assessment of coastline development proposals.
1.4.7	Assessment of estuarine development proposals.
<b>Natural Processes &amp; Climate Change</b>	
2.1.3	Physical and ecological processes to be considered when assessing development applications.
2.1.4	Acid sulfate soils - environmental studies; DLWC mapping and EPA guidelines; requirement for EIS; monitoring and restoration works; management plans.
2.2.2	Sea level change.
<b>Aesthetic Qualities</b>	
3.2.1	North and South Coast Design Guidelines and Guidelines for Tourism Development along the NSW Coast.
3.2.4	Design and locational principles for development applications.
3.2.5	Siting of navigational aids, marine communication towers, warning signs and moorings.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	
4.2.3	Coastal sites of Aboriginal heritage significance.
<b>Ecologically Sustainable Use of Resources</b>	
5.1.11	Ecotourism developments and Guidelines for Tourism Developments Adjacent to Natural Areas.
5.3.3	Aquaculture procedures, permits and guidelines.
5.3.4	Development consent for mining.
<b>Ecologically Sustainable Human Settlement</b>	
6.1.4	Canal estate developments.
<b>Public Access and Use</b>	
7.1.5	Tourism development and public foreshore access.
7.2.3	Coastal developments and surf life saving facilities.
7.2.4	Surf life saving facilities and Section 94 levies.

**Table 3 Design and Locational Principles for Consideration in LEPs, DCPs and Developmental Control (Strategic Action 3.2.4)**

Principles	Reasons	Sub-Zone	How to Implement	Notes
Only developments which do not compromise the natural and cultural values of the area will be permitted on beaches and frontal dunes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> <li>• access</li> <li>• hazard prevention</li> <li>• conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	Envisages only developments for essential public purposes such as SLSC buildings.
Works to protect, restore and rehabilitate beaches and frontal dunes may be permitted where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> <li>• hazard prevention</li> <li>• conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	Works should preferably favour “soft” engineering approaches and be developed through a coastline management plan.
Undeveloped headlands will be preserved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> <li>• conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	Undeveloped headlands are a scarce resource. In circumstances where the zoning of an undeveloped headland permits development, a DCP which promotes low key development should be prepared.
Any developments on headlands already developed should be strictly limited to height and scale no greater than existing buildings and will require an environmental assessment, including an assessment of visual impact from adjoining beaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	<p>Where the existing height and scale of development is of a varied nature, or where further development is not considered appropriate, an LEP or DCP which provides clear design guidelines should be prepared.</p> <p>In urban areas, where building heights and scale are likely to be greater and more varied, the aim should be for new development to be compatible with the height and scale of existing buildings.</p>
Beaches and waterfront open space will be protected from overshadowing. The standard to be applied will vary according to local circumstances, however generally the standard to be applied is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in cities or large towns, no overshadowing before 3pm midwinter and 6:30pm Summer Daylight Saving Time;</li> <li>• elsewhere, no overshadowing before 4pm midwinter and 7pm Summer Daylight Saving Time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amenity</li> <li>• visual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> <li>• estuarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	The suggested standard in this principle may be difficult to apply in highly urbanised environments. An LEP or DCP which is tailored to local conditions and which has the overriding objective of minimising overshadowing may be required in these situations.

Table 3 Continued...

Principles	Reasons	Sub-Zone	How to Implement	Notes
Tall buildings (greater than 14 metres) will not be permitted outside cities, towns and growth centres except where they can be justified due to environmental planning considerations (eg hinterland topography), the prevailing scale of development or a relevant LEP, DCP or REP. Any such proposals should be subject to environmental assessment, public consultation and the concurrence of the Director-General of the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> <li>• amenity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> <li>• estuarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/REPs</li> </ul>	The height limit, public exhibition and concurrence provisions in this principle would need to be incorporated in an LEP or REP to have effect.
Applications for buildings taller than 14 metres within cities, towns and growth centres will be assessed on their merits having regard to the prevailing scale of development and in accordance with any relevant LEP, DCP or REP. As a general principle, buildings taller than 14m should generally not be permitted in urban areas unless subject to environmental assessment, public consultation and the concurrence of the Director-General of the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual</li> <li>• amenity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> <li>• estuarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/REPs</li> </ul>	The height limit, public exhibition and concurrence provisions in this principle would need to be incorporated in an LEP or REP to have effect.
Public setback lines will be set for every new development that immediately adjoins coastal lakes, estuaries, beaches, foreshores and cliffs. The amount of setback will be determined by consent authorities taking into consideration specific details of public access requirements, local topography, scenic factors (including the impact of the development as viewed from	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access</li> <li>• visual</li> <li>• hazard prevention</li> <li>• conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> <li>• estuarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	<p>This principle would most likely be implemented on a case by case basis in the assessment of individual development applications.</p> <p>The principle could also potentially be included in an amending LEP or DCP where an integrated redevelopment of a number of foreshore sites is proposed.</p>

Table 3 Continued...

Principles	Reasons	Sub-Zone	How to Implement	Notes
<p>the waterway and foreshore area), coastal hazards (including sea level rise considerations), building design criteria and pollution and siltation management measures. No new development will be permitted to impede public access to foreshore areas.</p> <p>Apart from facilities essential to surf life saving, community facilities, works to protect property and environmental restoration measures, no development will be permitted seaward of this setback line and developers will be required to dedicate this land for public use or enter into a satisfactory agreement for ensuring public access, use and maintenance of the area to a suitable standard, as a condition of the development.</p>				
<p>As a continuation of existing practice, any tourist or recreational development which is adjacent to, or proposes to utilise the natural assets of, a National Park, Nature Reserve or State Recreation Area must not compromise the natural values of the area. Any tourist developments adjacent to areas reserved or dedicated for conservation purposes must be consistent with the "Guidelines for Tourist Developments in Proximity to Major Natural Areas in the North Coast Region" prepared by the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning or other conservation-oriented design controls adopted in an LEP or DCP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conservation</li> <li>• visual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• littoral</li> <li>• estuarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEPs/DCPs</li> <li>• s90</li> </ul>	<p>This principle is designed to ensure that the relationship of any development proposed adjacent to or which utilises the natural assets of a conservation area is carefully considered. This relationship should be considered in terms of design, controls over domestic animals and weeds, clearing, landscaping, construction-phase and operational pollution controls etc.</p>

**Table 4 Strategic Actions Relevant to Local Government Reporting**

Strategic Action Number	Summary Provision	Notes
8.3.3	Councils to include matters relevant to their performance in coastal zone environmental management in their SoE reports.	Councils will need to make a judgement regarding the extent to which discrete reporting on the coastal zone should occur based on the area of the LGA in the coastal zone, the type of coastal zone and relevant coastal issues.
8.3.4	Annual reports to contain details of programs undertaken to preserve, protect, restore and enhance the coastal environment.	Programs should include those initiated by both councils and community groups.
9.3.2	Management plans prepared under s402 of the Local Government Act should include details of the council's proposed activities for the next three years in relation to the coastal zone, including implementation of the Coastal Policy.	Councils should include the coastal zone as an "environmentally sensitive area" under s403(2) of the LG Act and prepare a relevant section of its management plan accordingly.
9.3.3	Annual reports/SoE reports to report on environmental projects undertaken in the coastal zone and councils' performance in coastal zone environmental management, including implementation of the Coastal Policy.	This action is linked to 9.3.2 and requires councils to assess the extent to which activities proposed in its management plan in relation to the coastal zone have fulfilled objectives.

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