Far North Coast environmental zones review: Have your say

The NSW Government today invited community members across the Far North Coast region to have their say about key environmental issues in council plans.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure has organised five meetings to allow people to speak one-on-one to staff from the government-appointed consultant conducting the review.

The consultant, Parsons Brinckerhoff, will review environmental issues in planning instruments in the Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore and Tweed council areas.

The review will in particular look at concerns that areas which were clearly rural land were being zoned for environmental protection or subject to environmental mapping (known as overlays).

Members of the community are invited to attend drop-in sessions organised in each of the region’s five council areas to run from 11am-2pm and 4pm-7pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyogle</td>
<td>Kyogle Memorial Hall, Banquet room</td>
<td>Stratheden St, Kyogle</td>
<td>Monday 18 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lismore</td>
<td>Lismore Workers Sports Club</td>
<td>202 Oliver Ave, Goonellabah</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballina</td>
<td>Lennox Head Cultural &amp; Community Centre</td>
<td>1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head</td>
<td>Wednesday 20 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Byron</td>
<td>Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall</td>
<td>55 Dalley St, Mullumbimby</td>
<td>Thursday 21 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tweed</td>
<td>Murwillumbah Community Centre</td>
<td>Nullum St, Murwillumbah</td>
<td>Monday 25 February</td>
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Those wanting to attend the sessions do not need to register.

Parsons Brinckerhoff was appointed after a competitive tender process and will ensure an independent, arm’s length assessment of this issue.

Their project team includes specialists in environmental planning and ecology.

Parsons Brinckerhoff has already met with each of the five councils to obtain background information and will consult with other government agencies and stakeholders.

As part of the review, it will also visit sites which have been earmarked for the environmental zones.
If you can’t attend the drop-in sessions, you can make comments to the consultants in writing. This can be done:

- By emailing ezonesreview@planning.nsw.gov.au or;

Submissions may become publicly available.

The closing date for comments is 5pm on Monday 11 March 2013.

For more information, visit the department’s website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/reviews, email ezonesreview@planning.nsw.gov.au or contact departmental officer Stephanie Schofield on (02) 9228 6247.

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