



# The Manning River and Estuary CMP Engagement Program

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1

## Our approach

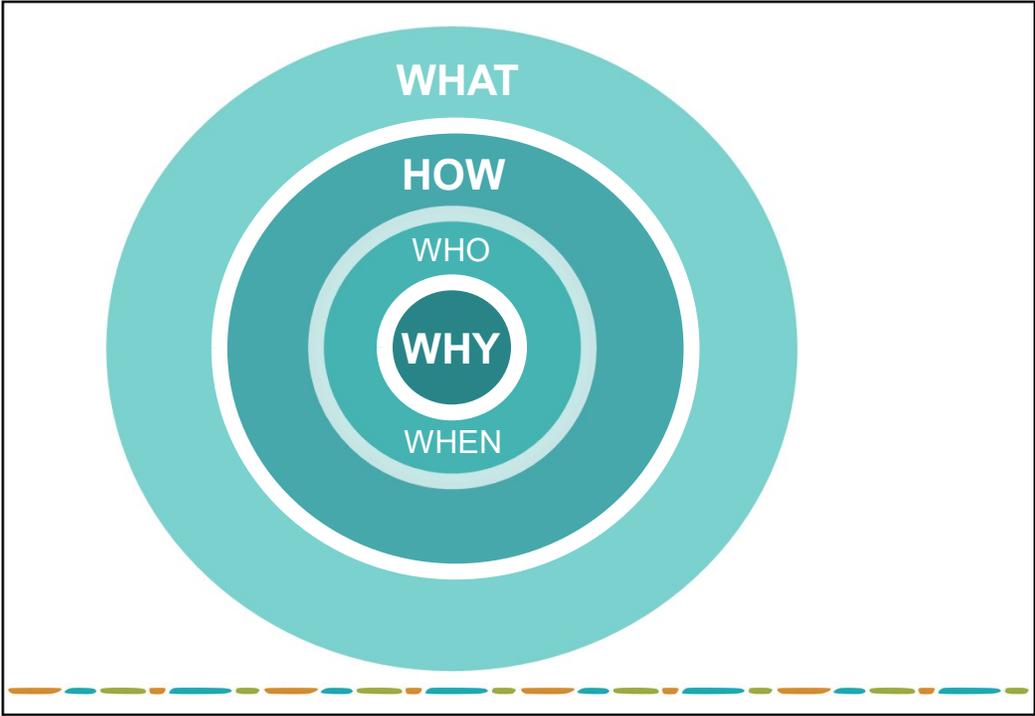
Manning River Estuary and  
Catchment Management  
Program



Manning River Estuary  
Coastal Management Program



2



3

## WHY did we engage stakeholders?

*Looking after the waterways  
we love is a shared  
responsibility*



4

## WHY?

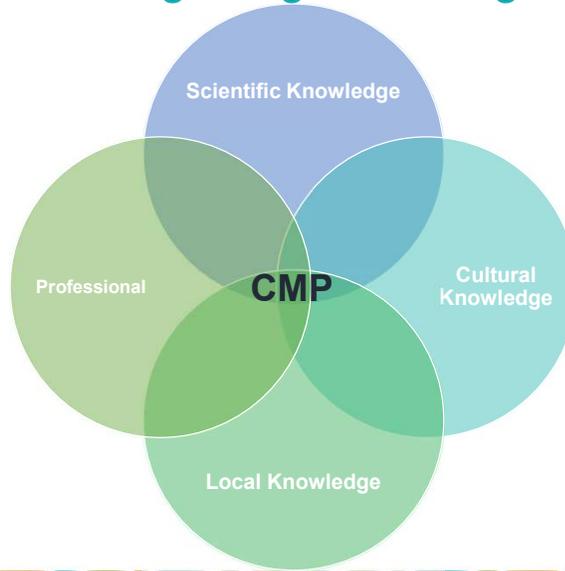
Those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.



5

## WHY?

### Capturing and integrating knowledge



6

## WHY? Support practice change



7

## Conceptual framework Public Participation Spectrum



	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis and decisions	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	To place the final decision making in the hands of the public

8

## WHO did we engage? Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholder Group	Power H, M, L	Interest H, M, L	Support +ive, -ive	Involvement	Interest and Communication Strategy
DPE	H	H	+ive	Collaborate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TWG</li> <li>• CRG</li> <li>• Discussion Groups</li> <li>• Review draft</li> </ul>
Local Land Services	H	H	+ive	Collaborate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TWG</li> <li>• CRG</li> <li>• Discussion Groups</li> <li>• MOU for implementation</li> <li>• Review draft</li> </ul>
Council staff	H	H	+ive	Collaborate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• Intranet stories</li> <li>• Review draft CMP</li> </ul>
Environmental interest groups	L	H	+ive	Collaborate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulletins</li> <li>• Webinars</li> <li>• focus groups</li> <li>• public exhibition</li> </ul>
Traditional Owners	M	L	+ive	Consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage LALC to consult</li> </ul>

9

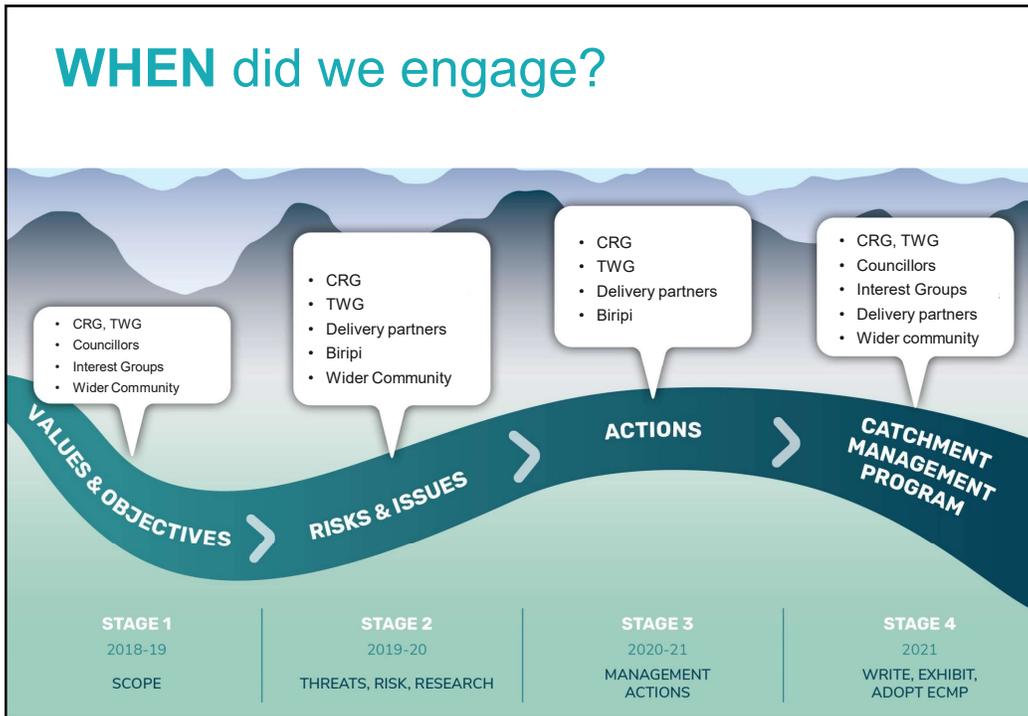
## WHO? Governance structure



10



11



12



## HOW did we engage?

### Community values

- Quantitative and qualitative
- Online survey – 122 responses
- 4 consultation workshops
- 2 pop-up surveys
- Photography competition
- Yarning circles
- Values report

13

## Reference Group interviews

One-on-one telephone interviews

- Vision
- Issues
- Opportunities
- Actions
- Stakeholders

Thematic analysis



project team

14

## HOW?

### Farmers

*What are the drivers, barriers and enablers for practice change?*

- Social science project
- 24 Farmer interviews
- 2 Focus groups
- Thematic analysis
- Report



15

## HOW?

### Biripi Consultation

*"Historically Aboriginal people have been punished for speaking out."*



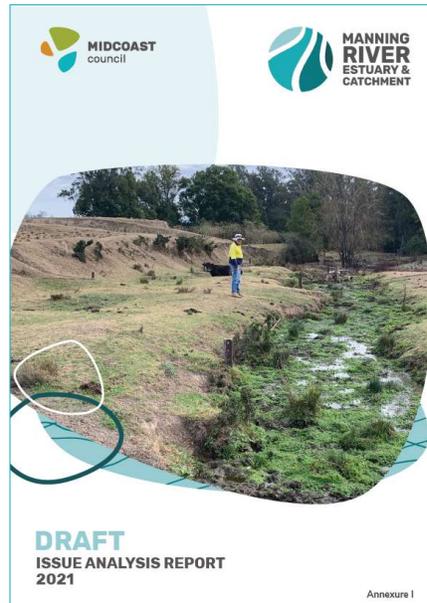
- Engaged CEO of the LALC to consult with community
- 3 workshops
- Targeted interviews
- Group discussions
- Surveys: residents of Purfleet and members of the LALC

16

## HOW?

### Issue analysis

- Issue paper
- Peer review
- Zoom Discussion groups
  - What's working and what's not?
  - Opportunities
  - Management options
  - Research projects



17

## HOW?

### Management actions: 9 thematic workshops

- Describe and clarify the action
- Is it in or out?
- Does it belong in another program?
- Who are the lead agency and supporting partners?
- Ballpark budget
- Timing
- Interactions with other actions/sequencing



18

## WHAT did our community tell us?



Photo

“Water is life... we share the river as a central part of the wild ecosystem that provides habitat for us and all wildlife from iconic animals to tiniest microbes.”

“Connecting to nature and myself, watching and experiencing animal and plant life, amazing sunsets, moon-rises and skies!”

“There’s a deep sense of history – childhood days, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents who have farmed this land, lived, worked and relaxed along the river.”

19

## Biripi report

*“Birrbaygal Biripi People are known as the guyiwan, the shark people.”*

*We are connected to Water though our tribal totem.*

*As garuwagal bathuGal (Saltwater Freshwater people) we maintain our healing from the water.*

*It connects us to culture, our LORE and our land Birrbay Barray (Biripi country)”*



20



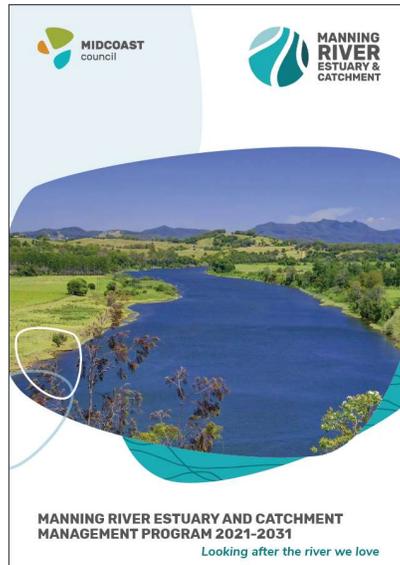
# Farmers

*"I'm really enjoying seeing young people coming through and changing our practices.*

*The old timers are dropping away and the young ones are combining a lot of agricultural science and coming onto properties with a better array of farming methods."*



21



22

## Reference Group



It's our Manning River.  
We need the river  
and the river needs us.