

Conference Program

(subject to change)

Tuesday 3 November 2026

12.00pm – 5.00pm **Pre-Conference Workshop: Estuary management under the NSW Coastal Management Framework**
Shellharbour Civic Centre (Additional cost)

Wednesday 4 November 2026

8.00am **Conference Registration, Foyer, Shellharbour Civic Centre**

8.45am – 10.15am Session 1 – Opening Plenary

8.45am Welcome to Country
Aunty Jodi Edwards

9.00am – 9.15am Welcome from Shellharbour City Council
Mayor Chris Homer, Shellharbour City Council

9.15am – 9.55am **Associate Professor Brian Jones, University of Wollongong**

9.55am – 10.15am Address by Major Sponsor
Ingrid Emery, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

10.15am – 10.45am Morning Tea

Session 2 10.45am – 12.20pm	2A: Coastal planning & adaptation	2B: Tides, estuaries & catchments	2C: Coastal processes
Location:			
Chair:			
10.45am – 11.05am	NSW Coastal Management Manual (Part A) Revision Paul Donaldson <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>	A new baseline for NSW estuaries: lessons from the NEAP monitoring program Maarten De Brauer <i>Southern Cross University</i>	Nearshore waves NSW: Ten years of monitoring and modelling for coastal applications Bradley Morris <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
11.10am – 11.30am	The NSW Coastal and Estuary Management Program Implementation Plan Andrew Williams <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>	Adapting to Changing Coastal Systems: From Data to Decisions at Tuggerah Lakes Bronson McPherson <i>Manly Hydraulics Laboratory</i>	Ocean water level considerations for inundation studies at trained entrances in NSW Joel Bienefelt <i>Bluecoast Consulting Engineers</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
11.35am – 11.55am	Beyond Actions: Making Coastal Management Programs Work for Strategic Planning in NSW Emma Maratea <i>Rhelm</i>	A decadal update on the status of Lake Illawarra following entrance modification Danny Wiecek <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>	Coastal monitoring for evaluation of nearshore dredge placement and sand management effectiveness Ryan Nguyen <i>Hatch</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover

12.00pm – 12.20pm	Coastal management in action: a regional snapshot from Wollongong to Eden Aimee Beardsmore <i>NSW DCCEW</i>	From Catchment to Coast: Assessing the Estuary Condition of Elliott Lake, Shellharbour Claire Morgan <i>Water Technology</i>	Coastal Inundation Damages: What Are We Missing? Natalie Patterson <i>Haskoning</i>
12.20pm – 12.23pm	<i>Poster Presentation</i>	<i>Poster Presentation</i>	<i>Poster Presentation</i>
12.20pm – 1.10pm Lunch			
Session 3 1.10pm – 3.10pm	3A: Ocean and open coast	3B: Tides, estuaries & catchments	3C: Community caring for our changing coast
Location:			
Chair:			
1.10pm – 1.30pm	Protecting Today, Planning Tomorrow at Clarkes Beach Malcolm Robertson <i>NSW DPHI – Crown Lands & Public Spaces</i>	Integrating Foreshore Stabilisation, Public Access and Nature-Based Design in Constrained Coastal Settings Courtney Smith <i>Water Technology</i>	Sea Country and Moana: Practices of coastal care, Australia and New Zealand Melissa Nursey-Bray <i>Adelaide University</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
1.35pm – 1.55pm	Adaptive coastal management at Lady Robinsons Beach Megan Liu <i>Manly Hydraulics Laboratory</i>	Living Shoreline Mosaics: Integrating Erosion Management with Habitat Restoration Rebecca Morris <i>The University of Melbourne</i>	Visualising Sea Country: A regional collaboration honouring Gathang Language and Culture Ben Foster <i>Port Macquarie Hastings Council</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
2.00pm – 2.20pm	Contemporary Coastal Dune Regeneration Practice in the Southeast Luke Moroney <i>Shoalhaven City Council</i>	Cross-agency collaboration framework drives better outcomes in the Swan Canning catchment Stuart Waters <i>Twyfords Consulting</i>	At street level: Building trust through everyday engagement in coastal management Rebekah Lambert <i>Community Practitioner and Lived Experience Consultant</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
2.25pm – 2.45pm	Three decades of NSW breakwater appraisal: evolving methods and emerging datasets Kyle Hasler <i>Manly Hydraulics Laboratory</i>	Artificial Rockpools Enhance Biodiversity on a Sydney Harbour Revetment Melanie Bishop <i>Macquarie University</i>	Community participation in the management of Hastings Point Jordan Vickers <i>Tweed Shire Council</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
2.50pm – 3.10pm	2.50pm – 3.00pm Multi-decadal monitoring of Warilla Beach provides insights for coastal management in NSW Dylan McLaughlin <i>University of Wollongong</i>	Environmentally friendly moorings aid natural recovery in Australian coastal estuaries Lauren Hardiman & Leah Soo, <i>CSIRO</i>	Marine Estate Champions: A place-based program empowering community-led stewardship and action Chantelle Burns <i>NSW DPIRD</i>
	3.00pm – 3.10pm Bass Point littoral rainforest regeneration: delivering measurable coastal ecosystem recovery Bronwyn Anderson <i>Shellharbour City Council</i>		
3.10pm – 3.13pm	<i>Poster Presentation</i>	<i>Poster Presentation</i> : NSW ICOLL Dashboard: a leap forward to integrated management Julie Scopelitis , NSW DPIRD <i>Fisheries</i>	<i>Poster Presentation</i>
3.10pm – 3.40pm Afternoon Tea			

Session 4 3.40pm – 5.20pm	4A: Coastal hazards	4B: Planning, policy & legal	4C: Tides, estuaries & catchments
Location:			
Chair:			
3.40pm – 4.00pm	Lies, Damn Lies and Probabilistic Coastal Hazard Lines - What Should Change? Peter Horton <i>Horton Coastal Engineering</i>	Adapting to a Changing Coast: Planning Law Responses to Rising Risk Megan Hawley <i>Lindsay Taylor Lawyers</i>	Enhancing and Restoring Estuary Threatened Ecological Communities in the Shoalhaven Braiya White <i>Shoalhaven City Council</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
4.05pm – 4.25pm	Too Conservative? Challenging Coastal Erosion Hazard Interpretation Greg Britton <i>Haskoning</i>	Coastal land status: surprises, consequences, solutions and lessons Danny Bucher <i>NSW DPHI - Crown Lands</i>	Evaluating and mapping socio-cultural values in an estuarine environment to enrich communities Jim DelBene <i>The Australian National University</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
4.35pm – 4.55pm	Changing Land Use or Prolonging Legacy Development on the NSW Coast? Doug Lord	Planning for Coastal Hazards Alex Macvean <i>Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure</i>	4.35pm – 4.45pm The Creeping Forest: Saltmarsh Under Siege from Mangrove Encroachment Tim Glasby <i>NSW DPIRD</i>
			4.45pm – 4.55pm Rehabilitation of the Panboola Wetland: A Collaborative Model for Coastal Floodplain Recovery Max Osborne <i>NSW DPIRD</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
5.00pm – 5.20pm	State of Erosion: State vs State (plus NZ) Showdown on Coastal Hazards Paul Prenzler <i>Moffatt & Nichol</i>	The Egger case and seawall end effects James Carley <i>UNSW WRL</i>	5.00pm – 5.10pm How entrance training reshaped macrophytes and fisheries in Lake Illawarra Daniel Swadling <i>NSW Fisheries</i>
			5.10pm – 5.20pm Estuaries Don't Stand Still Jayden Kachel <i>JB Pacific</i>
5.20pm Close of Day One			
Welcome Reception, Georgia Rose, Shell Cove Marina			
7.00pm – 10.00pm	Sponsored by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands		

Thursday 5 November 2026

8.30am Conference Registration, Foyer, Shellharbour Civic Centre

9.00am - 10.00am Session 5 – Plenary

9.00am – 9.05am Welcome to Day 2

9.05am – 9.20am **NSW Coastal Council Address**
Dr Philip Haines, Chairperson, NSW Coastal Council

9.20am – 10.00am **Keynote Address:**
A/Prof Sarah Hamylton, University of Wollongong

10.00am – 10.30am Morning Tea

Session 6 10.30am – 12.40pm	6A: Beach nourishment & sand management	6B: Tides, estuaries and catchments	6C: Coastal planning & adaptation
Location:			
Chair:			
10.30am – 10.50am	From Shelf to Shore: Assessing Offshore Beach Nourishment for NSW Marc Daley NSW DCCEE	A blue carbon research prospectus for coastal wetland restoration in NSW Jeff Kelleway University of Wollongong	From statewide inundation mapping to local risk-based coastal adaptation planning Michael Rosenthal Rhelm
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
10.55am – 11.15am	NSW shelf sand bodies: Location, characteristics and potential suitability for beach nourishment Marie Ferland Australian Coastal Society	From strategy to scale: advancing blue carbon delivery in New South Wales Sian Fawcett NSW DCCEE	A community with a focus on the future – A Managed Retreat Approach Gerard Tuckerman Mid Coast Council
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
11.20am – 11.40am	How much sand is enough? Adaptive investigations for offshore nourishment sources Tom Fallon Bluecoast Consulting Engineers	Mapping Wetland Migration and Adaptation to Sea Level Rise Chris Adamantidis Worley	Supporting Coastal Adaptation Planning in New South Wales Danial Khojasteh NSW DCCEE
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
11.45am – 12.05pm	Beyond maintenance dredging: re-using Swansea Channel sand to support coast, community, habitat Hayden Nichols Haskoning	Are NSW saltmarsh and mangrove communities fated to be climate refugees? Tanya Mason NSW DCCEE	Knowledge to action: Coastal adaptation guidance for practitioners through CoastAdapt and AdaptLand&Sea Anne Leitch Griffith University
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
12.10pm – 12.30pm	Stockton Beach Mass Sand Nourishment Project Casey Johnston NSW DCCEE	Understanding why mangroves thrive or die: a new lifecycle approach for estuaries William Glamore UNSW WRL	12.10pm – 12.20pm The value of regional coastal hazard risk insights for adaptation planning Danica Brice NSW Reconstruction Authority 12.20pm – 12.30pm Coastal Management Program development: the ebbs and flows from Ballina Shire Issy Spinks Ballina Shire Council
12.30pm – 12.36pm		Poster Presentation: Reimagining coastal agribusiness in a changing climate Grantley Smith , Restore Blue	Poster Presentation: Applied perspective of balancing flood mitigation and protecting coastal zone values Katie Gilbey , Shellharbour City Council

		Poster Presentation: Reviving Everlasting Swamp: A science-based blueprint for blue carbon restoration in NSW Jessica Morris, NSW DCCEEW	
12.40pm – 1.35pm		Lunch	
1.45pm – 5.00pm		Session 7 - Field Trips (including afternoon tea)	
FT1: Lake Illawarra			
FT2: Shellharbour Open Coast and Elliott Lake			
FT3: The Shell Cove Marina and South Shellharbour Beach			
FT4: Bass Point and Killalea			
5.00pm		Close of Day Two	
Conference Dinner & Annual NSW Coastal Management Awards TBC			
7.00pm – 11.30pm		Dress Up Theme: <i>Taylor had her Eras Tour... now it's time for yours!</i> <i>Travel through time—past, present or future—and dress as the era that speaks to you</i> Sponsored by Haskoning	

Friday 6 November 2026

8.30am Conference Registration Foyer, Shellharbour Civic Centre

Session 8 9.00am – 11.00am	8A: Coastal & maritime Infrastructure	8B: Adaptation planning & coastal hazards	8C: Coastal & estuarine ecology
Location:			
Chair:			
9.00am – 9.20am	Investigating the Comparative Performance of Concrete and Rock Armour Breakwater Heads NSW Indra Jayewardene <i>Manly Hydraulics Laboratory</i>	Quantifying the statewide economic impacts of coastal hazards in NSW Rai Ibaceta <i>NSW Reconstruction Authority</i>	9.00am – 9.10am Environmental and anthropogenic drivers of humpback whale entanglement risk in NSW Elise Beaumont <i>University of Wollongong</i>
			9.10am – 9.20am Integrating estuary health into Coastal Management Programs Vanessa McCann <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
9.25am – 9.45am	Berm Breakwaters - From Iceland to Shell Cove, Shellharbour Ermanno De Almeida <i>Haskoning</i>	New developments and insights for coastal monitoring of ICOLLs Toby Tucker <i>UNSW Water Research Laboratory</i>	Assembly of shorebirds at continental scale: Insights from joint species distribution modelling Li Wen <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
9.50am – 10.10am	Holding the Line: Managing Legacy Coastal Protection Through CMPs Chris Beadle <i>Water Technology</i>	9.50am – 10.00am A Practical Framework for Identifying Future Erosion Risk in Estuaries and ICOLLs James Daley <i>Third Land Environmental Consulting</i>	9.50am – 10.00am Co-Design in Action: Empowering Communities to Shape Central Coast Lagoons Management Warren Brown & Ashley Kelly <i>Central Coast Council</i>
		10.00am – 10.10am Adaptive Equilibrium Planning Using Bézier Diagnostics for Headland-Bay Beach Erosion Roger Johnson <i>University of Newcastle</i>	10.00am – 10.10am Feeding public interest Genevieve Swart <i>The Illawarra Flame</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
10.15am – 10.35am	A scalable risk framework for environmental management of maritime infrastructure Michael Soltysiak <i>Stantec</i>	Integrating Net Ecosystem Values into Coastal Hazard and Climate Adaptation Planning Paul Seaton <i>Fugro</i>	10.15am – 10.25am Seagrass Health in Brisbane Water: Insights from Seasonal Surveys and Collaborative Partnerships Ben Cuereil <i>Central Coast Council</i>
			10.25am – 10.35am Are drift algae mats undervalued ecosystems in NSW? Rachael Przeslawski <i>Research Connect Blue</i>
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover
10.40am – 11.00am	Condition Inspection and AMPs for Government Authorities – Lessons Learnt from Implementation Rick Plain <i>Moffatt and Nichol</i>	Navigating the approvals maze for coastal restoration projects Emma Carmody <i>Restore Blue</i>	10.40am – 10.50am Roots, Resilience, and Rising Seas: Nature-Positive Strategies for Estuarine Foreshore Stability Daryl Lam <i>Water Technology</i>

			10.50am – 11.00am Quantifying the performance of a pilot living shoreline system, Moreton Bay, Queensland Michael Thomson <i>Alluvium</i>
11.00am – 11.06am	<i>Poster Presentations</i>	<i>Poster Presentations</i>	<i>Poster Presentations</i>
11.10am – 11.40am Morning Tea			
11.40am – 1.00pm Session 9 – Plenary			
11.40am – 12.20pm Keynote Address			
12.20pm – 12.40pm Keynote Address			
12.40pm – 1.00pm Conference Closing and Wrap-up Professor Emeritus Bruce Thom			
1.00pm Lunch			