



**33RD
NSW COASTAL
CONFERENCE
2026**

*Focussing on our
Changing Coast, for All*
4 – 6 November 2026
Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina

Conference Program

(subject to change)

Tuesday 3 November 2026

12.00pm – 5.00pm **Pre-Conference Workshop: Estuary management under the NSW Coastal Management Framework**
Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina (Additional cost)

Wednesday 4 November 2026

8.00am **Conference Registration, Foyer, Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina**

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:		Tasman	Jetty	Anchorage
Chair:				
10.45am – 11.05am	NSW Coastal Management Manual (Part A) Revision Paul Donaldson NSW DCCEEW	A new baseline for NSW estuaries: lessons from the NEAP monitoring program Maarten De Brauer Southern Cross University	Nearshore waves NSW: Ten years of monitoring and modelling for coastal applications Bradley Morris NSW DCCEEW	
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover	
11.10am – 11.30am	The NSW Coastal and Estuary Management Program Implementation Plan Andrew Williams NSW DCCEEW	Adapting to Changing Coastal Systems: From Data to Decisions at Tuggerah Lakes Bronson McPherson Manly Hydraulics Laboratory	Ocean water level considerations for inundation studies at trained entrances in NSW Joel Bienefelt Bluecoast Consulting Engineers	
5 min	Changeover	Changeover	Changeover	
11.35am – 11.55am	Beyond Actions: Making Coastal Management Programs Work for Strategic Planning in NSW Emma Maratea Rhelm	A decadal update on the status of Lake Illawarra following entrance modification Danny Wiecek NSW DCCEEW	Coastal monitoring for evaluation of nearshore dredge placement and sand management effectiveness Ryan Nguyen Hatch	
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:	Tasman	Jetty	Anchorage
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:	Anchorage	Jetty	Tasman
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>
5.20pmClose 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, Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina**

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

		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 Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina 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			
7.00pm – 11.30pm			

Friday 6 November 2026

8.30am

Conference Registration Foyer, Crowne Plaza Shell Cove Marina

Session 8 9.00am – 11.00am	8A: Coastal & maritime Infrastructure	8B: Adaptation planning & coastal hazards	8C: Coastal & estuarine ecology
Location:	Anchorage	Jetty	Tasman
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			
<i>Professor Emeritus Bruce Thom</i>			
1.00pm Lunch			