

# **Riversymposium 2007**

## **Brisbane 3-6<sup>th</sup> September**

Have we agreed yet? Using a meta-framework to implement the water plan.



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Focus on implementation - Is it enough to write the plan?

## **Problems in water management**

1. Perception amongst professionals is that we have the scientific evidence- why hasn't the plan been implemented?
2. Nothing came out of the last plan - why are we doing this one?
3. What we really need is catchment management? Is it? Will catchment management deliver the outcomes we are looking for?

# Description and location of the Port Hacking Catchment

Botany Bay



Pacific Ocean

Cronulla Peninsula

# Background

- Original Plan in 1992
- Updated in 2007
- Agreement on structure for the plan
- Agreement on indicators
- Agreement on investment strategy

# Some headwaters images



# In the estuarine section



# Who are the stakeholders?

# Who are the implementers?

Sutherland and Wollongong Local Government Authorities

Port Hacking Panel

National Parks

Maritime NSW

Roads and Traffic Authority, State Rail Authority

Residents and visitors

Community groups - bushcare/ landcare/ streamwatch groups etc

Recreation groups-Kayak,Dragon Boat, fishing, personal water craft

Individual land holders - agricultural and coal mining interests

# Process of updating the Port Hacking Integrated Management Plan

The Estuary Management Process - 8 steps <sup>1</sup>

1. Form an Estuary Management Committee
2. Assemble Existing Data
3. Carry Out an Estuary Process Study
4. Carry Out an Estuary Management Study
5. Prepare a Draft Estuary Management Plan
6. Review Draft Estuary Management Plan
7. Adopt and Implement the Estuary Management Plan
8. Monitor and Review

1. Estuary management program administered by the Department of Natural Resources (now DECC).



# The real process



# Four key meta-themes

Boundaries - Agreement on conceptual and jurisdictional boundaries

Agreement and alignment on values and priorities, agreement on the spatial areas and values for protection

Protection of key values

Participation of stakeholders

Giving the acronym BAPP.

# Methods

## **Survey**

Ranked the objectives from the 1992 plan

Asked participants to rank objectives from the previous plan

Asked participants to rank issues from the previous plan

Confirmed original goals.

## **Workshop process**

Reported on the survey

Mapped locations where issues occurred

Focus on agreement resulted in the determination of system wide priority issues in 2006.



The objectives were grouped thematically into 5 themes as follows:

- Ecology
- Governance and Management
- Human influence
- Sedimentation
- Water quality and flows.

# Agreement achieved

- Agreement on the issues
- Agreement on objectives
- Agreement on mechanisms for implementing the plan through local government
- Agreement on mechanisms for monitoring the plan
- Agreement on the investment strategy
- Agreement on boundaries - and map developed

Yet to

- Test the agreement to adopt the plan
- Get agreement to fund some of the scientific data studies required

