

TWEED SAND BYPASSING

Advisory Committee & Community Meeting

8th March 2017

Summary of Discussions – Key Issues & Sand Movements

Sand Placement – Unusual conditions has affected sand delivery for this period. Approximate pumping quantities are: October 13,000m³, November 26,000m³, December 30,000m³, January 15,000m³, February 19,000m³ and 17,000m³ delivered in the first week of March 2017.

Tweed River Entrance / Dredging – Dredging of the entrance bar commenced in February 2017, to date approximately 15,000m³ of sand has been removed. A compliant channel is yet to be established. It is estimated an additional 15,000m³ of sand may need to be removed. Dredged sand has been relocated to the Duranbah and Snapper Rocks placement areas. Delays have been caused by damage to the dredge vessel during operations.

Ministerial Feasibility Studies – New dredge placement areas are proposed off Bilinga and Tugun to improve operational flexibility in future campaigns. Back passing sand from the entrance bar to NSW by dredge is being pursued with NSW Department of Planning.

Environmental Monitoring – Unusual metocean conditions have been recorded with persistent ENE conditions over the summer period. Duranbah, Rainbow Bay, Coolangatta, & Kirra have recovered well from the June 2016 storm event. However, persistent northerlies in the second half of 2016 have impacted on beaches and surf amenity.

Communications – Tweed Sand Bypassing will host a booth at the Quiksilver Pro 2017 event and communications material will be distributed. Tweed Sand Bypassing App will soon be live and available for download online. A new brochure and flyer is being finalised to help promote the App. Magazine titled 'sand' is nearly finished and a mini version will be printed for the Quiksilver Pro event.

Community Beach and Entrance Reports – Fingal beach is in good condition, Rainbow Bay has been scoured out from persistent northerly conditions although surf conditions are generally considered good. Coolangatta Bay has an excess of sand creating unfavourable conditions and Kirra has had minimal sand movement with beach widths reducing. North Kirra is reported to have an abundance of sand with good swimming conditions and overall good surf amenity. Bilinga beach is holding well and SLSC happy with current condition. Tugun has a very good beach width and replenishing quickly after storms. Duranbah has had average surf conditions with a narrow beach width in northern corner, the board riders club would like to see nourishment up the beach. Snapper has been generally good for surf conditions but requires more sand. Northerlies have been affecting the beach conditions.

Marine Rescue reported no recent incidents or issues related to the entrance bar. However, the bar is still considered dangerous for vessels and reported to have very rough conditions of late.