

## Advisory Committee Meeting

28<sup>th</sup> August 2013

### Summary of Discussions - Key Issues & Sand Movements

**Sand Delivery** – The total sand delivered over Contract Year CY12 (the 10 months from October 2012 to July 2013) was 325,892 m<sup>3</sup>. This volume was only 60% of the estimated sand transport for this period which was in the order of 545,000 m<sup>3</sup>. This was largely due to flood debris that blocked some of the pipe work after flooding of the Tweed River occurred in January and February 2013 which took some months to clear.

**Sand Movements - Letitia beach** has been showing signs of rebuilding following severe erosion by major storms in January, February and April as well as King Tides in June. There was extensive erosion of Fingal head beach caused by two swell events coupled with King Tides and emergency nourishment works were carried out by Tweed Shire Council to protect the surf club. It is important to note that other beaches in the Tweed-Byron also suffered from serious erosion due to these events.

**Duranbah** fared relatively well to the recent ocean storms when compared to the other beaches. This was due to the natural entrance bypassing of sand across the Tweed River which aided in beach re-building and created a buffer from large storm waves.

The **southern Gold Coast beaches** continue to show large seasonal fluctuations in width while there is an overall reduction in sand volumes. This is most evident at Kirra which is currently only 88,000m<sup>3</sup> above the pre-pumping conditions that were surveyed in 2000 causing the recent re-exposure of Little Groyne.

**Kirra Reef** – The exposure of Kirra Reef has expanded from 1,004m<sup>3</sup> in 2011 to 3,334m<sup>3</sup> in 2013. Further re-exposure of the reef was observed in the August 2013 oblique aerial photographs and a biological monitoring study is scheduled for February 2014.

**Tweed River Entrance** – The entrance condition is currently compliant as the bar has dramatically narrowed to a crest width of some 50 meters which is consistent with the loss of sand from the entrance area over the last year. Entrance conditions will be reassessed and any need for dredging reviewed after the next hydrographic survey is completed in October.

**Sand Placement** – There was some discussion surrounding the ability of the project to pump to Kirra now that it is becoming more vulnerable to storm erosion. The Project manager explained that it was possible, however the project should not be perceived to be catering to the likely impacts that will be created by GCCC's decision to lengthen Kirra Groyne as this is a management issue for Council.

An update on the **ministerial feasibility studies** was given as well as a range of **communications initiatives** that are currently underway.