

Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study Review Engagement Summary



Central Coast Council publicly exhibited the Draft Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study Review from 9 October to 5 November 2025, supporting transparent decision-making and community engagement in flood risk management.

Council is committed to keeping the community safe and well-informed about flooding. For Tuggerah Lakes, a Floodplain Risk Management Plan was adopted in 2015, based on a 1994 Flood Study. Recognising the need for up-to-date information, Council has undertaken a comprehensive review, beginning with a new Flood Study.

Manly Hydraulics Laboratory (MHL) was engaged to complete this work, supported by funding from the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. The project has been delivered in line with the NSW Flood Prone Land Policy, with outcomes helping to inform future land use planning and flood risk management.

During the exhibition, the community could provide feedback via:

- An online submission form on the Your Voice Our Coast (YVOC) platform
- Council's Floodplain Management inbox that operates during public exhibition periods.
- Attending community drop-in sessions at Tumby Umbi and Halekulani to speak directly with Council and technical representatives
- Handwritten submissions at community drop-in sessions

How you connected



35 submissions
17 received via Your Voice Our Coast, **16** received via email and **2** handwritten submissions received at drop-in session.



2 Community drop-in sessions, **9** attendees on 21 October and **17** attendees on 23 October



Your Voice Our Coast
1,090 views



Social media – **19,328** people reached via organic posts on Facebook and Instagram resulting in **195** interactions



Coast Connect print news delivered to **62,000+** readers on 16 October and again on 30 October



Customer Service Slide displayed 17-31 October across digital screens across Council Facilities and offices



Coast Connect eNews - Delivered to **20,419** recipients, with **2,966** opens and a **5.7%** click rate



Media release delivered to **119** recipients.



Hard copies at **2** libraires, Bateau Bay and Lake Haven.

Community feedback reflected a broad range of views. While perspectives varied, several consistent themes emerged:

Requests for flood mitigation actions

Suggestions included dredging, maintaining waterways, constructing breakwalls and reopening historical ocean entrances. These matters are outside the scope of the Flood Study Review and will be considered in subsequent phases, including the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMSP) and Coastal Management Program (CMP).

Environmental concerns

Issues such as erosion, pollution, water quality and impacts on biodiversity were raised. While important, these are beyond the scope of the flood study and are more appropriately addressed through coastal and environmental programs.

Technical questions

Submissions sought clarification on modelling inputs, calibration events, assumptions and data sources. These matters have been considered and are generally addressed within the technical sections of this report.

Planning and socio-economic impacts

Concerns were raised about potential impacts on development, property use, insurance affordability and financial stress. Where possible, these issues were addressed on an individual basis, otherwise they will be considered more appropriately in future planning and risk management frameworks.

Alignment with local experience

Many respondents provided observations of past flood events. Overall, feedback indicated the modelled flood behaviour was broadly consistent with community experience.

Most feedback related to broader floodplain management considerations rather than the study's technical scope. However, several submissions contributed to minor refinements, including technical clarifications and readability improvements.

All submissions were reviewed and responded to where appropriate. Feedback has informed updates to the study and will continue to support subsequent stages of floodplain and coastal management planning.

What's next?

The updated draft report has been presented to Council's Coastal, Estuary, and Floodplain Risk Management Sub-Committee (March 2026), Environment and Planning Committee (May 2026) and has been adopted by Council (August 2026). Progressing to the next stage of the Floodplain Management Process will be subject to funding and Council prioritisation.

Find out more and stay up to date at

<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/tuggerah-lakes-flood-study-review>