

Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypassing Project

Advisory Committee Meeting

27th May 2015

Summary of Discussions – Key Issues & Sand Movements

Sand Delivery – The amount of sand pumped in Contract Year 14 to date has been 227,630m³. Most of this sand was delivered to Snapper Rocks East with 22,648m³ delivered to Duranbah over three placements. Further 3,300m³ has since been delivered and more sand to be placed week of 25 May.

Sand Movements – Sand transport at this time is less than last year. The estimated net longshore sand transport is only slightly higher than actual amount that has been pumped. The recent East Coast low didn't have an impact on Letitia Spit, possibly due to the wave direction being north east. Fingal head beach amenity has improved since 2013.

Tweed River Entrance – Recent survey in April indicated some infilling in the entrance, with some improved clearance from the reduction in Frosty's Foot. The April survey did indicate a compliant channel.

Duranbah – Requires approximately 36000m³ to restore to pre-June 2007 and has delivered approximately 18,000m³. Surf Quality remains excellent.

Southern Gold Coast Beaches – Snapper East sand volume has reduced since dredging stopped however has stabilised since 2013. Rainbow bay is in a re-building phase, and gaining in width. Coolangatta is experiencing a reduction in beach width, now in a retreat phase. Kirra is experiencing a large recovery in the beachscape; however will eventually indicate retreat and central Kirra width has reduced. From North Kirra to Currumbin, there have been increases in the volume of sand movements – this is the start of full natural sand supply conditions returning to Currumbin. The greatest build-up is at Bilinga.

Kirra Reef – Monitoring shows positive signs, with further exposure of reef rock, and an increasing species diversity developing.

Sand Placement – The CY14 program target quantity has been set at 375,000 m³. Duranbah placements need to be spaced appropriately so Snapper gets nourished.

Ministerial Feasibility Studies – Backpassing risk assessment and cost benefit analysis, briefs have been sent out and RFQ's received. 2A/2B dredging placement investigation.

Advisory Committee Member Reports – Further concerns were raised regarding the entrance conditions and lack of channel present. Surfing standard for the time of year with lagoons in Rainbow Bay were present, with excellent banks through to Kirra.