

BBWQIP eNewsletter No. 11 (Feb 2011)

Hello Everyone,
Happy New Year! Thank you to those people who have already submitted their feedback/comments on the draft Botany Bay and Catchment Water Quality Improvement Plan. I have had a few requests for extensions of time to put in submissions so the deadline for submissions has been extended by a week until the **14th of February 2011**.

Botany Bay & Catchment Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)

The draft water quality improvement plan (WQIP) developed for Botany Bay and its catchment is now out for public comment. The draft Botany Bay WQIP is based on the extensive scientific and modelling work and community/stakeholder consultation undertaken in this catchment over the past few years.

You can download the full draft WQIP or just the executive summary at:

<http://www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbcci/feedback.html>

Once you have had a look at it we would love to hear what you think. You can provide your comments/feedback by filling out the electronic feedback form (see link below) **by the ~~6th of February 2011~~ 14th Feb 2011**. It will only take about 15 minutes, or a little longer if you have very detailed and/or specific comments to make.

Alternatively, I can come out and hold a short "overview and feedback" workshop with your community group or council. Please give me a call on 02 9895 6244 to book a time/date.

Anyone providing feedback (electronically or via a workshop) can elect to go into the draw to win a \$50 gift voucher from the ABC Shop. To submit your comments or feedback electronically, click on the link below

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LLXTYTX>

Water Quality Monitoring Network

The real-time water quality monitoring stations are now up and running at 5 locations (2 Georges River, 2 Cooks River and one Botany Bay). They are collecting data on turbidity, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll a (measure of nutrients), temperature, light (PAR) and salinity at all locations every 10 minutes.

The web layout, access and teething issues have now mostly been resolved. The website displays the last 14 days worth of data (grouped and individual parameters) from each of the buoys.

You can access the real-time data via the BBWQIP website click on the image at:

www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbcci/monitoring-network.html

Botany Bay Water Quality Decision Support System/Tool (DSS)

The Botany Bay Water Quality DSS is now completed and has been used to develop the draft WQIP mentioned above. It has been specifically designed for use by councils and/or groups of councils as well.

To support the uptake and use of the Botany Bay Water Quality DSS by councils in the catchment, training sessions were held in July and October 2010. Those who attended the training received a free copy of the Botany Bay DSS. If you were unable to attend the training and would like to put your name on a waiting list for a possible future





training session in April please send me an email to register your interest. When the tool is next upgraded (likely to be Feb/Mar 2011) I will make it available for download from the BBWQIP website.

Botany Bay Water Quality Improvement Grants

The two rounds of grants have resulted in 11 projects being funded. The projects will end up improving the water quality for 246 hectares of the urbanised portion of the Botany Bay Catchment. Thanks to the funding support of our partners (mostly councils) in the projects a total of \$700,000 of BBWQIP funds were allocated towards a total value of \$3.2 million for all projects. The locations and a brief description of all the projects can be found at

www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbcci/improvement-grants.html

Several projects are now complete and brief case studies will be written for all projects once they are completed. When the final edits are done on the case studies they will be loaded onto the BBWQIP website.

Update on Progress

The major activities being undertaken in the BBWQIP and their status are listed below:

Activity	Status
July 2009 – June 2010	
Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting Plan	Completed
Reference Committee	3 Meetings Held Nov 09, Mar 10, Jun 10
Update Website/Logo/Newsletter Template	Completed
Development of Decision Support System/Tool	Completed
Discussion Paper for Developing a Water Quality Improvement Plan	Released March 2010
Botany Bay Research Seminar / DSS Planning Workshop	Held Dec 2009
Real-time Water Quality Monitoring Network	Installed
Round 1 WQ Improvement Grants	Closed Dec 2009 4 Projects Funded
July 2010 – June 2011	
Round 2 WQ Improvement Grants	Closed May 2010 7 Projects Funded
Decision Support System Training	Held July 27th 2010 Held Oct 13th and 14th 2010
Draft Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)	Released November 2010
Public Consultation on Draft WQIP	Nov 2010 – Feb 2011
Final WQIP	Expected end March 2011
Promotion of WQIP	April – June 2011

If this newsletter has been forwarded to you and you would like to receive future newsletters (about every 2-3 months) please send an email to bbcci@cma.nsw.gov.au with join in the subject line. Likewise if you're not interested in receiving future newsletters please reply to this email and let me know and I will take you off the email list.

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