# Lake Macquarie Mooring Management Plan









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### **Chapter 1**

#### **Responsibilities of the Waterways Authority**

The specific responsibilities of the Waterways Authority in relation to Lake Macquarie are as follows:

- To promote the safe commercial and recreational use of NSW navigable waters (which are defined as being all navigable waters to a distance of 3 nautical miles offshore); and
- To protect the marine environment from degradation by vessel use; and
- To provide the infrastructure, including moorings that are required for safe, efficient and sustainable vessel use.

In discharging these responsibilities, the Authority issues boat and personal watercraft driver licences, vessel registrations, aquatic licences for special on-water events and mooring licences. The specific authority to issue mooring licences is provided by the "Management of Waters and Waterside Lands Regulations – NSW" under the Maritime Services Act 1935.

Prior to issuing a mooring licence the Authority is required, under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, to undertake an assessment of the environmental impact of the moored vessel. To facilitate this, the Authority has developed a specific policy and procedure that its Boating Service Officers follow when assessing all mooring licence applications.

#### Aims and Purpose of this Mooring Management Plan

Given the level of existing urbanisation in the Lake Macquarie area, the planned future growth and consequent demand for moorings within the Lake, the aim of this plan is to ensure that future mooring management practices support the Waterways Authority's marine safety and environmental sustainability goals.

The purposes of this plan are to ensure the following:

- Integrated decision making by the Waterways Authority, State and Local government agencies, particularly to ensure the appropriate location of moorings and appropriate land-based infrastructure to service them;
- Fair and equitable access to the Lake for all user groups within the region;
- An increased level of public participation in the decision making processes for which the Waterways Authority is responsible which would include any revision to the Plan;
- A strategic plan is in place in anticipation of further urbanisation likely to bring an increased demand for moorings.

#### **Mooring Management Plan development**

It is acknowledged that while it is the Authority's responsibility to focus on mooring practices, in doing so there is an overlap with the responsibilities of other governing bodies and legislation affecting the overall use of Lake Macquarie. The aim has been to develop a mooring management plan in consultation, and in principle support, with these agencies.

The Waterways Authority has made a commitment to develop an integrated framework for the management of moorings on Lake Macquarie.

During the early part of 2000, the Hunter Regional Office of the Waterways Authority developed a DRAFT mooring management plan. A consultative approach was taken and a number of meetings took place with representatives from:

- NSW Department of Land and Water Conservation;
- NSW Fisheries;
- Lake Macquarie City Council;
- Wyong Shire Council;
- The Office of the Lake Macquarie and Catchment Co-ordinator (A joint initiative between NSW government, Lake Macquarie and Wyong Councils);
- The Lake Macquarie Aquatic Services Committee (Community representative).

Following receipt of input from these representatives, the DRAFT document was produced. This was subsequently made available for public comment between August and October 2000. During this time a number of public forums were held to clarify the role and function of the proposed mooring management plan and to allow for direct public feedback.

The DRAFT Mooring Management Plan was subsequently amended to reflect the concerns of these submissions and again exhibited for further public comment between 19 December 2001 and 15 March 2002. Public meetings were held around the lake at the locations listed below:

Dora Creek Wangi Wangi Belmont Toronto Swansea

#### **Future Directions**

The Mooring Management Plan for Lake Macquarie incorporates the community values and concerns as presented in submissions and discussed at public forums. It also reflects the policies and concerns of the various government agencies that have been charged with the responsibility for the well being and development of Lake Macquarie and its environs.

This document is the tool by which the Waterways Authority can manage existing areas, expand moorings to recognised limits, and to authorise removal of moorings from areas where there is demonstrated environmental, safety or navigation concerns.

### **Chapter 2**

#### **Location of Lake Macquarie**

Lake Macquarie is a large coastal lake located south of Newcastle and approximately 120 kilometres north of Sydney. The lake has an overall length of some 22 kilometres in the north-south direction and is up to 8 kilometres wide. The lakeshore has many bays and headlands and is approximately 170 kilometres long. The maximum depth of the lake is approximately 11 metres with an average depth of 8 metres.

The lake covers an area of approximately 110 square kilometres and has a catchment area of 605 square kilometres. Much of the catchment is now urbanised, particularly the foreshore and surrounds. Heavy industry within the catchment includes the Eraring Power Station, Vales Point Power Station, Pasminco Metal Smelter and a number of coalmines. While the catchment is heavily urbanised, there are some remaining rural areas and tracts of State Forest, particularly in the western part of the catchment.

Lake Macquarie is connected to the Pacific Ocean at Swansea by a constricted channel that limits tidal interchange. Whilst there is limited tidal effect on the lake, the water level does vary in line with certain weather patterns.

#### **Mooring Definition**

A traditional mooring consists of a heavy 'block' which sits on the seabed; 'tackle', being a length of heavy ground chain, which is attached to a length of riser chain and rope, and a numbered mooring buoy. The bow of the vessel is attached to the block by way of the rope. As the wind changes, the vessel swings around the mooring block, dragging the chain around with it, the ground chain acting as a heavy 'shock absorber' to reduce the direct strain on both vessel and mooring block. The traditional mooring's ground chain can cause a scouring of the seabed for a radius of about three metres, causing extensive damage to seagrass.

In areas where navigation channels are particularly narrow, fore and aft moorings are used. In this case the vessel is attached to the mooring apparatus at its bow and stern, thereby allowing considerably less vessel movement than a swing mooring. These moorings may consist of two mooring blocks sunk into the seabed. Fore and aft moorings permit vessels to be moored in closer proximity than those on swing moorings.

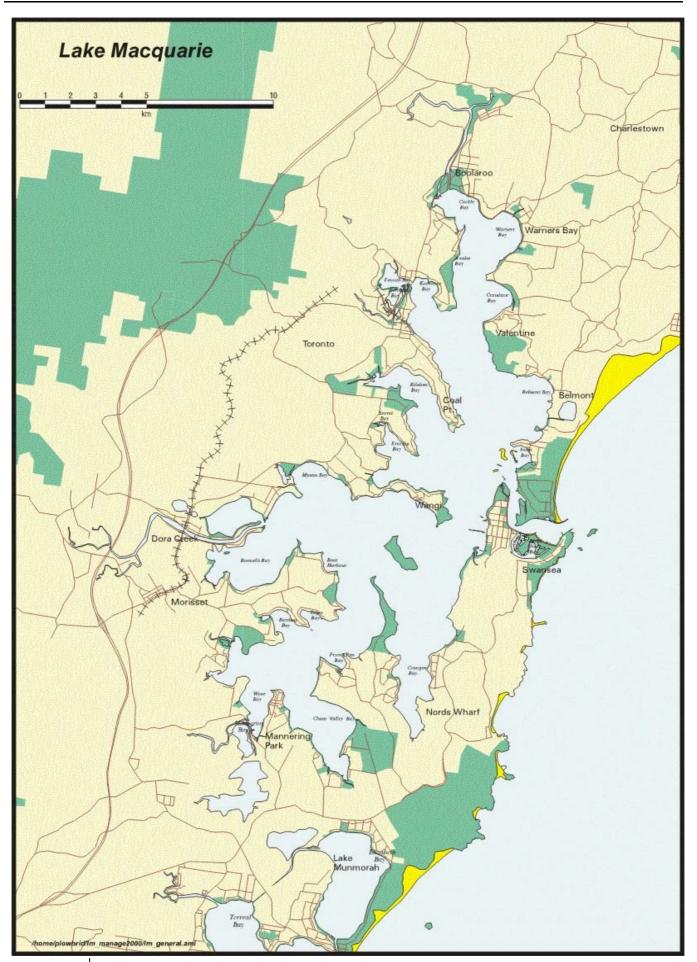
There are several types of moorings – private, commercial, club and courtesy moorings; and these may be either swing, fore and aft or pile moorings. A commercial mooring is one, which is leased from the Waterways Authority by a registered business that provides approved marine services to the boating public. Commercial boatsheds and private marinas, for instance, fall into this category. All other persons, who wish to moor a vessel, must obtain a private mooring licence from the Authority. Courtesy and emergency moorings, of which there are nine in Lake Macquarie, are provided by the Authority as a courtesy to the boating public and are available for use for a limited period only.

#### **Boating activity on Lake Macquarie**

Within the Lake Macquarie and Wyong local government, areas there are 22,638 registered boat owners and 42,701boat licensees.

Given that a significant boating population lives within the vicinity of the lake, the demand for moorings is high. During the last ten-year period, there has been an 11% growth in demand for mooring sites in Lake Macquarie. Currently, there are six (6) Priority (Waiting) List areas on Lake Macquarie. A Priority (Waiting) List exists when the demand for moorings exceeds the number of sites available.

Currently Lake Macquarie has 2,175 registered moorings. These moorings are situated in 42 distinct mooring areas that cover a total area of 716 hectares of the 11,000ha (see map, page 4).



#### **Mooring Locations - General**

The location of moorings in Lake Macquarie over the last thirty years has been primarily based on public demand. Where possible this has been met by the Waterways Authority provided that the location of a vessel in a particular site did not pose a threat to navigational safety or the degradation of the surrounding environment. Despite the level of demand, however, the total area devoted to moorings equates to only approximately 6.5% of the lake area.

From a navigational point of view, ideal mooring areas are those, which provide sufficient shelter from winds and waves; are sufficiently deep for the draught of the vessel being moored; allow movement of other vessels through a navigation channel; and are convenient for the boat owner.

Other important considerations include the location of seagrass beds and other, similar, aquatic habitats. A problem with respect to traditional mooring apparatus is the potential to damage these habitats. The changing winds results in the scouring of the seabed by the movement of ground chain that, in turn, leaves the surrounding circular area devoid of marine vegetation. To overcome the problem of damaged seagrasses, 'environmentally friendly moorings' (EFMs) are being developed. These moorings operate in a vertical alignment and hence the moving components do not come into contact with the seabed. After extensive testing EFMs may be introduced in sensitive seagrass areas. The introduction of the EFM will necessitate a review of the MMP.

#### Other agencies responsibilities

The following table lists the government agencies that have jurisdiction over the key boating related matters on Lake Macquarie:

Boating Related Matter	Principal Agencies Responsible		
Maritime law enforcement	Waterways Authority and Water Police		
Owner of bed and banks	Department of Land and Water Conservation		
Marine habitat protection	NSW Fisheries		
Foreshore lands	Local Government, Department of Land and Water Conservation and Planning NSW		
Dinghy storage on public parks/reserves	Local Government and Department of Land and Water Conservation		
Catchment management	Department of Land and Water Conservation and Local Government		
Public wharves, jetties and ramps	Local Government and Department of Land and Water Conservation		
Wetland leases/licences	Department of Land and Water Conservation and Local Government		
Marine pollution	Environment Protection Authority and Waterways Authority		
Other pollution	Environment Protection Authority and Local Government		
Dredging	Department of Land and Water Conservation NSW Fisheries Local Government		

In relation to the provision of boating related infrastructure on Lake Macquarie, the Authority's direct responsibilities are limited to moorings. However the Authority works co-operatively with the agencies responsible for the provision of the land-based boating infrastructure. Agencies such as Lake Macquarie and Wyong Councils, NSW Fisheries and the Department of Land and Water Conservation were represented on the Mooring Management Committee and it was agreed that the following legislation and policies administered by these agencies be recognised in the mooring management plan:

#### **Relevant Legislation**

# The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 and Regulation, 2000

A determining authority under Part 5 of the Act (for instance the Waterways Authority when assessing an application for a mooring licence) must consider the impact of a proposed activity on the environment.

Key matters for consideration include:

- Any environmental impact on a community;
- Any reduction on the recreational, aesthetic or value of a locality;
- Any effect on the locality;
- Any cumulative environmental effect with other or likely future activities.

#### **Crowns Land Act, 1989**

Sections 10 and 11 of the Act address the objects and principles of Crown Land management to ensure that Crown Land is managed for the benefit of the people of NSW. A key principle is that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown Land is encouraged.

#### **Fisheries Management Act 1994**

The Fisheries Management Act 1994 states as an objective the need to 'protect key fish habitats' and 'to promote ecologically sustainable development'. The Fish Habitat Protection Plan No. 2 states that, '...seagrasses are particularly important in the sustainability of commercial and recreational fisheries, primarily because of their roles in maintaining sediment stability and water quality, and in providing shelter and food critical to the survival of a wide variety of aquatic biota... *Posidonia australis* – do not recolonise areas after removal and are particularly susceptible to impacts...are now comparatively restricted in their distribution'.

#### **NSW Coastal Policy, 1997**

Two key goals of this policy are:

- To protect, rehabilitate and improve the natural environment;
- To provide for appropriate public access to and use of foreshores.

### Coastal Crown Lands Policy, 1991

This policy sets the framework for the responsible management of coastal Crown Land and reserves.

Key points of the policy include the:

- Conservation and maintenance of the intrinsic environmental qualities of coastal Crown Land;
- Optimisation of public access and use of coastal Crown Land;
- Provision of Crown Land for recreation, with due regard to the nature and consequence of coastal processes.

# Department of Land and Water Conservation – Crown Land Foreshore Tenures Policy 1991

The objectives of the policy are to:

 Conserve and maintain the natural and cultural environment of Crown tidal and adjoining foreshore lands.

- Facilitate and optimise the use of Crown tidal and adjoining foreshore lands consistent with sound environmental management.
- Facilitate and maximise public access to Crown tidal and adjoining foreshore lands.
- Retain Crown tidal and adjoining foreshore lands in public ownership.
- Administer existing and future occupations of Crown tidal and adjoining foreshore lands, consistent with objectives 1 to 4.

# Lake Macquarie City Council Development Control Plan (DCP) No. 3 - Lake and Foreshore Development

DCP No 3 was prepared by Lake Macquarie City Council in consultation with the Waterways Authority, NSW Fisheries and the Department of Land and Water Conservation, and involved a comprehensive community consultation process.

The principle aim of the DCP is to promote for the wise management of Lake Macquarie and its foreshores.

Key aims and objectives in consideration of the DCP include:

- The promotion of public accessibility to the Lake so as to provide for its greatest public use and enjoyment;
- The use and enjoyment of foreshore public reserves should not be compromised by special development privileges granted to private individuals;
- Generally, Council will not permit domestic waterfront development adjacent to a foreshore public reserve except for community jetties, where there is a public benefit and a demonstrated community need:
- The protection and enhancement of the visual character and natural landscape of the Lake;
- The promotion of coordinated management and development.
- Protection and rehabilitation of the natural environmental systems of Lake Macquarie from disturbance and degradation.
- The encouragement of tourism development

#### Wyong Shire Council's W2 Waterfront Structures

The main objectives are:

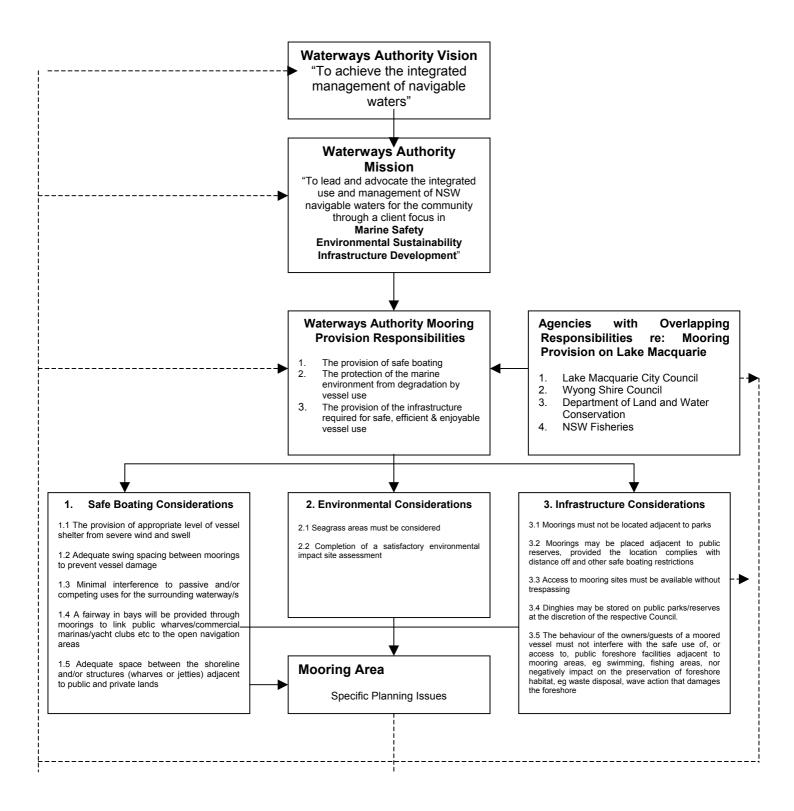
- To provide for the use of the lakes and rivers whilst not adversely affecting the amenity of the area or the possible future use of the lake system.
- To protect the visual character and natural landscape of the Shire's waterways.
- To promote the coordinated management of waterfront developments.

#### What are the principles on which this mooring management plan are based?

The mooring management plan is based on the following key principles and these are summarised, together with the administrative structure in which the mooring management plan operates, in the diagram on page 8.

- There are certain <u>safe boating considerations</u> upon which decisions regarding mooring numbers and locations are based. These include considerations of wind and wave conditions, the likelihood of vessel damage, other waterway users, access to open navigation areas and the distance between the shoreline and the mooring area.
- There are certain <u>environmental considerations</u>, which impact on mooring areas. These include seagrass protection, a minimum water depth and general environmental considerations including visual amenity, noise generation, waste disposal and the like.
- There are certain <u>infrastructure considerations</u>, which are taken into account. These related to the use of, and impacts on, public open space and private property issues.
- Based on these considerations there are a number of <u>specific conditions</u> governing the location and use of moorings on Lake Macquarie. These may be additional to the Waterways Authority's standard mooring licence conditions.

# The Administrative Structure in which the Lake Macquarie Mooring Management Plan Operates



#### 1. Moorings and Safe Boating Practices

In relation to the provision of safe boating practices, the Authority requires that the following condition for the location of moorings be met:

- 1.1 The provision of an appropriate level of vessel shelter from severe wind and waves.
- 1.2 Adequate swing spacing between moorings to prevent vessel damage.
- 1.3 Minimal interference to passive and/or other competing uses for the surrounding waterway/s.
- 1.4 A fairway in bays will be provided through moorings to link public wharves/commercial marinas/yacht clubs etc to the open navigation areas.
- 1.5 Adequate space between the shoreline and/ or structure (wharves, or jetties) adjacent to public and private lands.

In addition, the Authority's safe boating requirements, such as speed restrictions, navigation marks, no wash areas for vessels using waterways in or adjacent to the designated mooring areas, apply.

#### 2. Protection of the Environment

It is acknowledged that all human activities, including boating practices, have the potential to adversely effect the surrounding environment. Whilst the Waterways Authority shares the responsibility for managing the impact of these practices with other bodies, the Authority's direct responsibilities are limited to boating practices. However, there are other impacts that the presence of moorings may have on the surrounding land and which other state and local agencies manage. Hence the Authority has consulted with these agencies and has incorporated their requirements into this mooring management plan.

As studies are undertaken and more scientific information is available on the lake's ecosystem, knowledge gained may influence the suitability of moorings in specific lake areas. In such a situation the Mooring Management Plan would be reviewed with full community consultation.

A serious challenge for the Authority is to meet the demand from the boating public for mooring sites, whilst fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to managing the impacts that moorings have on the seabed.

To protect the marine environment from degradation by vessel use in or around designated mooring areas, the Authority requires that the following conditions for the location of moorings be met:

2.1 Seagrass and other marine habitat areas.

The Fisheries Management Act 1994 states as an objective the need to 'protect key fish habitats' and 'to promote ecologically sustainable development'. Habitat Protection Plans are developed to assist in the protection of key fish habitats.

Environmentally friendly moorings are being developed to eliminate damage to environmentally sensitive areas. The Waterways Authority in conjunction with NSW Fisheries, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Environment Australia is conducting a number of trials to determine the most suitable mooring system in seagrass areas. Trials will continue in various locations including Lake Macquarie.

NSW Fisheries together with the relevant government agencies will continue to research, monitor and trial Environmentally Friendly Moorings (EFMs). The most suitable system(s) will be determined by considering the following parameters:

- Effectiveness
- Cost of installation
- 3. Total cost and period of maintenance
- 4. History of successful operation
- Ease of installation

Once a suitable EFM is approved this style of apparatus would be phased in gradually following extensive consultation with the boating public and government agencies. Upon releasing, their findings a strategy will be developed to best manage the introduction of EFMs in Lake Macquarie.

- 2.2 With The behaviour of the owners/ guests of a moored vessel must not interfere with the safe use of, or access to, public foreshore facilities adjacent to mooring areas (eg swimming or fishing areas) nor negatively impact on the preservation of foreshore habitat or amenity, (eg visual aspects, waste disposal and wave action that damages the foreshore).
- 2.3 With respect to the above, the issue of any mooring licence is subject to a satisfactory environmental assessment. The assessment is carried out under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

#### 3. Infrastructure Provision

The Waterways Authority has specific responsibilities to ensure the provision of the on-water infrastructure. This responsibility specifically refers to the establishment of conditions, which enhance the safe, enjoyable and sustainable use of vessels on or around moorings, and includes the general mooring licence conditions, including vessel registration. However, the following specific conditions also apply:

- 3.1 Moorings must not be located adjacent to 'parks' that are public expanses of waterfront land with high public recreational usage. eg. Speers Point Park
- 3.2 Moorings where approved by this plan may be placed adjacent to 'public reserves', which are expanses of waterfront land with low public recreational usage, provided the location is suitable in terms of providing adequate space between the shoreline and the moorings (see section #1.5) and other safe boating requirements. Refer to specific area mooring plans to identify mooring limits.
- 3.3 Access to mooring sites must be available without the need for trespassing over private property.

It should be noted here that the storing of dinghies on public parks and reserves is at the discretion of the respective local council.

#### **Implementation**

#### **Mooring Management Plan Implementation**

During the development of the Mooring Management Plan the Authority introduced moratoriums on a small percentage of mooring areas while consultation with other government agencies and the community was undertaken. Following extensive consultation all areas affected by the moratorium will be re-opened subject to conditions.

Whilst the majority of moorings located in Lake Macquarie do comply with the plan, there are small number of moorings that do not fully comply with the new minimum conditions. These matters are addressed in the section entitled Mooring Areas.

It is not the desire of the Waterways Authority to cause a financial impost on clients to remove vessels and moorings from existing mooring areas if they do fall outside the new boundaries. Where the MMP indicates a mooring does not comply, the owner may:

- be asked to readjust the mooring location at the next service or;
- be given the choice of relocating the vessel and mooring in the near future (free of Waterways Authority administrative charges), or;
- attrition by cancelling the site when no longer required.

#### Conclusion

This Mooring Management Plan is a result of an initiative of the Waterways Authority whose core business is boat licences, registrations and moorings.

The Authority received valuable input from various community groups including individuals and as such has attempted to reflect the concerns and views of the community in this document.

This plan takes into account the concerns of the NSW Fisheries for habitat and has focussed on the need for Lake Macquarie City Council to develop and implement a foreshore dinghy storage policy. Lake Macquarie City Council and Department of Land and Water Conservation have examined the effects and ramifications of having vessels near the foreshores of bays generally and creeks specifically. The Waterways Authority has had an opportunity to examine its mooring placement and mooring boundaries in regard to safe navigation of vessels and potential future growth.

It is acknowledged that over time there will be changes in government policy and community expectations as they adjust to changing social, political and environmental forces, and so this management plan will not be static. The plan is a dynamic document and will be re-examined as required. However, as a minimum it will undergo a review in five (5) years and altered to reflect any necessary changes. Both the Mooring Management Committee and the Community Reference Group will review these changes before implementation occurs.

The Community Advisory Panel is a group comprising of representatives from the Boat Owners Association and the community. This group has facilitated the final stages of the Plan and it is the intention of the Authority to maintain this initiative as a means for the community to raise any future concerns concerning moorings on Lake Macquarie.

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Mooring Area: BALCOLYN

Bay Code: ZT

**Location:** Western sector of the southern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Balcolyn extends from Fig Tree Point in the east to Shingle Splitters Point in the west.
- The area is confined to one bay, which is only about one kilometre wide and one hundred metres deep with a northerly aspect.
- A reserve extends the full length of the foreshore that extends into a park at Shingle Splitters Point.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

### Boating Considerations:

- As the area is close to both the Balcolyn and Shingle Splitters boatramps, extensive parks and facilities, it is used extensively for waterskiing and aquaplaning.
- In a southerly breeze this area gets extensive use and during the summer north-easterly breezes, the western side of Shingle Splitters is used.

#### **Moorings**

 East of the launching ramp adjacent to a community hall, moorings will be permitted up to two wide and tapering to one at each end. Much of the water is shallow and muddy.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- There are few moorings in this area and they are spread along the length of the foreshore. They apply no pressure to public utilities or services.
- On the western end of this area is a launching ramp adjacent to a community hall.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Most of the moored vessels are owned by local home owners who value the ability to moor close to their homes.
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors alike, and the fact that the majority of the area has been left without moorings is valued.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

#### **Outcomes:**

- To permit access, moorings will not be placed in front of the launching ramp. Moorings will not be permitted west of the launching ramp for the following reasons;
- a) The area is to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.

**BARDENS BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

ΖN

Location:

Western side of the southern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Bardens Bay extends from Bluff Point in the south to the point at Brighwaters in the north.
- This area is in the local government area of the City of Lake Macquarie.
- This area is confined to one bay that is small, but deep and with a south-easterly aspect.
- The area is a small residential community, most of it being known as Windermere Park.
- The majority of this foreshore is absolute waterfront properties with a section of reserve on the north side.
- Two lagoons exist on the southern side of the bay. Both lagoons are very shallow and suitable for navigation by very shallow draught vessels only.

# **Environmental** Considerations:

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

### Boating Considerations:

- Mainly locals use the waters for all manners of boating activities.
- At any time, small boats may be seen with fishers on board, while the warmer months will have many waterskiers and aquaplaners using the water.

#### **Moorings**

 A small group of moorings will be permitted on the southern side of the bay, and the majority on the western and northern shores. These mooring will be permitted two or possibly three wide in these areas.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- Moorings are spread around the bay and most are owned by local landholders. Consequently, they do no apply pressures to public resources or utilities.
- A launching ramp exists on the south-west corner of the bay off Lakeview Road.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor in front of their homes.
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and the majority of the area has been left free of moorings.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

#### **Outcomes:**

- Existing moorings already define the proposed limits of the moorings within this bay.
- This area contains two shallow lagoons into which moorings won't be placed.

Mooring Area: BELMONT BAY

Bay Code: SB

**Location:** Eastern side of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

 This area is predominantly residential, with zones of commercial and industrial land.

 The foreshore has a mix of residential and commercial properties, jetties (private and public), licensed clubs, reserves and parks.

The eastern side of the bay is surrounded by flat land which is sandy in nature and continues eastward to the nearby ocean beach. It is within this area that the commercial area of Belmont is situated.

**Environmental Considerations:** 

 Belmont Bay has some of the state's most significant beds of the seagrass, Posidonia australis.

Belmont is a large bay that is relatively shallow.



#### **BELMONT BAY (contd.)**

# **Boating Considerations:**

- This waterways is used intensively by vessels involved in organised races and regattas, with the Belmont 16' Sailing Club and Lake Macquarie Yacht Club using this waterway intensively.
- Fishing vessels and general boating traffic also use the area.
- Belmont Bay is very exposed to westerly breezes and is not suitable for some style of vessels.

#### **Moorings**

- Belmont Bay has areas of high concentration of moorings.
- The cumulative effect of concentrated moorings between Belmont Public Jetty and Andersons Point has resulted in the mooring area being constrained to its present boundary. The few additional moorings will be limited to the filling in of existing 'holes'.
- Due to the high boat usage, it is intended to permit only low intensity moorings north of Belmont Public Jetty.
- There is a courtesy mooring for visiting vessels located at Green Point.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- Dinghies are stored near the mooring areas within the bay. Storage
  of dinghies is a local council responsibility and as such LMCC is
  addressing the issues of dinghy storage.
- There is a high demand for car parking spaces during summer.
- There is only one small launching ramp and the Belmont Public Jetty, both off Brooks Parade.
- Belmont public jetty has a sewage pump out facility for local and visiting boats.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- For the community at Belmont Bay, boating is an integral part of their lifestyle both as participants and spectators.
- To facilitate sailing activities, members of Lake Macquarie Yacht Club value moorings in close proximity to the club.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

### Outcomes:

- Once the popular mooring areas within Belmont Bay are full no new moorings will be allocated in these areas. However, moorings maybe available in other areas within the bay.
- Moorings will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**BLACK NEDS BAY** 

Bay Code:

SA

Location:

Eastern side of Swansea Bridge, Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- As Black Neds Bay is on the eastern side of Swansea Bridge it is the only enclosed area that has direct access to the ocean. The area is not restricted by the opening times of Swansea Bridge.
- Only the outer edge is navigable for shallow draught vessels in a marked channel.

**Environmental** 

Black Neds Bay is a very shallow bay that has extensive mangroves.

**Considerations:** 

**Boating Considerations:** 

 There are a number of commercial (fishing/charter) vessels within the bay.

**Moorings** 

- Black Neds Bay represents the closest mooring area to the ocean and is used by a number of commercial fishing boats and fishing charter vessels as well as local residents.
- Black Neds Bay has advantage for commercial moorings in that there is no need to be restricted by the opening times of Swansea Bridge.

Infrastructure Considerations:

 Access to moorings is restricted at times due to siltation at the mouth of the bay. Occasional maintenance dredging is required.

Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Due to its proximity to the sea it is highly valued by all members of the boating community particularly commercial operators.
- This area has fore and aft pole moorings. There are problems regarding ownership and maintenance of the poles, which Waterways is in the process of resolving.

Priority Waiting List Area: (Y/N)

Υ

Outcomes:

- A number of additional moorings may be available adjacent to the owners of absolute waterfront properties, in front of their respective properties.
- No additional moorings will be issued in the main mooring area, however, existing mooring sites can be offered to people on the Priority (Waiting) List. Moorings will be limited subject to standard procedures for mooring placement. i.e. water depth and navigation safety.
- Following consultation the Authority has identified some additional mooring sites 200 metres upstream from the main mooring area.
- Black Neds Bay is the subject of various studies and ongoing discussions and as such there maybe changes that occur in the future.

**BONNELLS BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZV

Location:

Far western sector of the southern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Bonnells Bay extends from the Shingle Splitters Point in the east, in a southward direction and thence northwards to Stingaree Point, which is on the southern peninsula formed by Dora Creek.
- This area is confined to one large bay, which has a northerly aspect.
- This area is a growing residential area with the community of Bonnells Bay being the centre of large housing developments.
- There is a mixture of parkland, waterfront reserves and absolute waterfrontage properties around the foreshore.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

Areas in the south west of the bay are shallow and have mangrove and estuarine life. No moorings will be placed near these areas.

### Boating Considerations:

- The waters are used for all manners of boating activities.
- At any time, small boats may be seen with fishers on board, while the warmer months will have many waterskiers and aquaplaners using the water, particularly the east shore of the bay as they take advantage of shelter from the north-easterly breeze.
- During school holidays, a church camp on the eastern shore of the bay is used extensively for water activities.

#### **Moorings**

- There will be three groups of moorings permitted within the bay.
- The majority of the foreshore will be left free of moorings for one or more of the following reasons;
- Waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg skiing, fishing, canoeing, swimming, etc.
- Waters in this area are very shallow
- Waters in this area are adjacent to parks.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

• The one concentration of moorings in the south-west appears not to place undue demands on public services or utilities.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

There are diverse demands and values placed on this bay by the community. There are persons, who desire extensions of the present mooring boundaries, while others believe that moorings are an impediment to their skiing activities. The mooring plan has attempted to balance the diverse requirements.

#### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

**Outcomes:** 

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map. Mooring Area: CAMS WHARF

Bay Code: ZC

**Location:** Southern end of Lake Macquarie on the eastern side

Distinguishing Features:

- Cams Wharf extends from Galgabba Point in the north to the Nords Wharf Public Jetty (end of Nords Wharf Road) in the south.
- The northern section of this area is undeveloped while the southern section contains tourist and resort areas and an area of waterfront properties.
- The northern section of this area is a waterfront, bushland reserve (Nesca Park), being some 1500 metres in length. The foreshore and native vegetation in this area is relatively untouched. South of this reserve is a privately owned, semi cleared foreshore area being more than a kilometre in length. This area is a site for potential development. During holiday periods this private property is used extensively by local people for camping and boating. The area is very scenic and attracts all manner of boating activity.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns

### Boating Considerations:

- This area is used extensively for all manners of water activities, especially for waterskiing.
- Owners of cruisers and yachts may be found at anchor in the area for days at a time enjoying the peace and beauty of the area.

#### **Moorings**

- Most of Cams Wharf will be left free of moorings so as not to conflict with existing water and land users.
- A small group of commercial moorings is permitted inside the west cardinal marker adjacent to Rafferty's Resort. This cardinal marker marks an offshore rock shoal and keeps vessels at a safe distance from the rocks. These moorings do not comply with the normal offshore distance requirements, but have the effect of reinforcing the cardinal marker, in that they force vessels away from the rock platform into deeper, safer water.
- There is a group of moorings in front of absolute water frontage homes immediately north of the Nords Wharf Public Jetty. It is intended that they be a maximum of two vessels wide at any point and tapering to one vessel wide at each end.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- There are only a few moorings in this area and they are owned by nearby landholders. Moorings do not affect public resources or utilities.
- The foreshore has some development for its full length. The northern section contains a private property on which a number of caravans are placed. Adjacent to this is Rafferty's Resort.
- A roadside reserve and park is adjacent to the northern section of Government Road. This park has picnic amenities, toilets, an open

shower and a launching ramp for boats. The southern section of Government Road has absolute waterfront properties, many of which have private jetties.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

 There is a lot of boating activity that occurs in Cams Wharf and the community desire open spaces for their vessels to operate without encumbrance from moorings.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

#### **Outcomes:**

- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.
- a) The majority of the area has been left without moorings for the following reasons;
- b) The area is to be maintained without moorings for its environmental and scenic values.
- c) The waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg., skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.

Mooring Area: CHAIN VALLEY BAY

Bay Code: ZK

**Location:** South end of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- Chain Valley Bay extends from Black Neds Point in the northwest, eastward to include Karignan Creek and westward on the southern shore to the inlet channel of the Vales Point Power Station.
- This area falls entirely within the local government area of the Wyong Shire Council.
- This is a large bay, being about four kilometres in length, with an east/west orientation.
- The foreshore of approximately eight kilometres in length is surrounded by a thirty metre reserve. The surrounding land is largely flat, sandy and comprising of eucalypts and melaleucas. The majority of this land is relatively untouched with only pockets of residential area nearby.
- The bay itself has large areas of shallow water close to foreshore and extending in some cases to distance of hundreds of metres. The foreshore is in a reasonably natural condition.
- Mine subsidence in the southeast corner, at the mouth of Karignan Creek, has caused an area that was once tree covered to sink below the surface of the lake. This area is being used as a wildlife sanctuary.
- Vales Point Power Station is sited on its southern shore.

### Environmental Considerations:

There are large shallow areas within this bay and an area of State Recreation Reserve.

### Boating Considerations:

The bay is used by recreational fishers in small boats and extensively by waterskiers.

#### **Moorings**

- Moorings will be limited to three small areas close to concentrations of residences.
- The small group at the mouth of Karignan Creek has been placed sufficiently offshore so that vessels at speed may circle the moorings without breaching the 'distance off' regulations. This means that skiers may take off and be dropped at the eastern end of the sandy spit adjacent to the launching ramp. The placement of this group should encourage vessels to move in a consistent direction.
- The two groups of moorings, one on either side of the Chain Valley Bay south public jetty have been placed sufficiently close to each other to prevent vessels taking off at speed from the jetty without breaching the 'distance off' regulations.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- The moorings in this area are low density and spread over a number of small areas. As such, they do not apply pressure to public resources or utilities.
- In the south-eastern corner of Chain Valley Bay, there is a caravan park on the northern side of this area. There is a jetty used by the public off the caravan park.
- At the mouth of Karignan Creek is a launching ramp. A small park is adjacent to the launching ramp and this has picnic and toilet facilities.
- Chain Valley Bay South has a public jetty and a small shopping centre within a hundred metres of the water.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

The community has expressed a variety of expectations in regard to the use of this waterway. There are some conflicts between those who enjoy the serenity of the area and those who use its protected waters for skiing or riding PWCs.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

No moorings will be placed in Karignan Creek

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map

**COAL POINT** 

**Bay Code:** 

SE

Location:

Western side of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- With the exception of a number of very small reserves and parks, the foreshore has absolute waterfront properties, many of which have private jetties.
- With the exception of the reserves, there is no native vegetation and few trees have survived.
- Coal Point is a 'finger of land that is steep, narrow and projects into the lake in a south-easterly direction.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- The waters around Coal Point are used for every kind of water activity. Through the warmer months these waters are particularly busy with yacht and dinghy racing, fishing vessels, skiboats, PWCs, sailboards etc.
- The southern side of the point affords protection from the northeasterly breeze.

#### **Moorings**

Concentration of moorings will be kept relatively low.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

 Moorings are generally low densities over a long foreshore. Persons who live nearby own most vessels. These moorings do not place pressure on utilities or services of the area.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

Vessels in the area are generally owned by locals who value the proximity of moorings for reason of security and access.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

#### Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map. Mooring Area: COCKLE BAY

Bay Code: ST

**Location:** Northern extremity of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- Shallow waters on western side (Teralba), mangroves on northern estuary of Cockle Creek.
- Deeper waters on rocky foreshore of Speers Point.

Environmental Considerations:

There is significant mangrove growth on the northern side of the bay and moorings will not be permitted anywhere near mangroves.

Boating Considerations:

- Cockle Bay is used for many boating activities. Speers Point Park is regularly used by families for picnics and games, while the waters are used for sailing, fishing, skiing, PWCs and swimming. As well, local sailing and rowing clubs use the bay for competitions.
- There is minimal boating activity in Cockle Creek.

**Moorings** 

 At present moorings are situated on the western side of the bay with consideration for activities by the adjacent rowing club.

Infrastructure Considerations:

- Speers Point Rowing Club activities take place on the western side of the bay and they launch vessels from the Booragul foreshore.
- Club house and storage facilities also exist for the Speers Point and Teralba Sailing Clubs.
- Two launching ramps exist at the mouth of Cockle Creek.

Community Values & Associated Issues:

- The local rowing club values an unrestricted waterway. Moorings have been arranged to permit maximum usage of the bay for rowing.
- Moorings have the effect of keeping ski boats and other vessels at speed away from the residential areas.

Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**CROUDACE BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

SC

Location:

North eastern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Thomas Halton Park dominates the north-eastern side of the bay.
- A medium density residential area dominates the southern side of the bay.
- In the park area, no natural foreshore vegetation remains and consequently foreshore erosion has taken place. Seawalls that prevent erosion dominate the residential areas.
- Sheppards Creek enters the eastern side of Croudace Bay.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

The bay is reasonably deep and large in extent.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- The bay is a very popular area for skiing and is used by the local sailing club.
- There are two large boat launching ramps one at Hartleys Point and the other within Thomas Halton Park.
- Currently all moorings are on the southern side and are relatively dense.
- The surrounding hills afford shelter for skiers from the prevailing northeasterly breezes of summer, which adds to its popularity.

#### Moorings

- Moorings will only be permitted on the southern side of this bay so as not to conflict with the present land and water usage. These moorings have the effect of protecting nearby homes from the cumulative effects of the noise from the large numbers of vessels that use the area for skiing.
- The arrangement of moorings allows a vast majority of the bay to remain open and free for other uses.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- Dinghies are stored near the mooring areas within the bay. Storage
  of dinghies is a local council responsibility and as such LMCC is
  addressing the issues of dinghy storage.
- There is a high demand for parking spaces particularly during summer.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor in front of their homes.
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and as such, the Authority has left areas free of moorings.

Priority Waiting List  $\,N\,$  Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on



**DORA CREEK** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZW

Location:

This area is in the far western sector of the southern end of Lake Macquarie

# Distinguishing Features:

- Dora Creek extends westward from the line between Stingaree and Pipers Points
- A navigable tributary off Lake Macquarie, lined with a medium level of urban development on property with 'public reserve' waterfrontage and absolute waterfrontage.
- History of vessels moored on fore and aft moorings on the waters edge and/or tied to jetties.
- Land owner clearing and occupancy of 'public reserve' land
- A narrow navigation channel allows access into the creek.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

- At some locations there is insufficient water depth to maintain an adequate distance from the lake bed in all conditions to minimise any environmental damage.
- Areas of the banks of Dora Creek may be susceptible to erosion, due partly to the removal of natural vegetation and concentrated human activity.
- The actions of the owners/guests of a moored vessel around or on moorings has the potential to negatively impact on the preservation of foreshore habitat, eg native habitat clearing and removal across 'public reserve' land.

### Boating Considerations:

The full length of the creek is covered by a four knots speed restriction for all mechanically propelled vessels. As such this area is used for fishing, canoeing, swimming, or as a scenic cruise by runabouts and cruisers. The majority of the traffic within the creek is locals.

#### **Moorings**

- Currently moorings have been placed adjacent to the foreshore on both sides of the creek. Alongside both absolute waterfront properties and reserve frontages.
- The moorings in this area are of low density and spread along both sides of a long foreshore. People who live locally own most moorings.
- On the northern side of the Dora Creek peninsula lies Lake Eraring. No moorings are permitted within Lake Eraring as this area is very shallow and the bay is to be left for its environmental and scenic values.



### Infrastructure Considerations:

- Dinghy storage and jetties on 'public reserve' land.
- The behaviour of the owners/guests of moored vessels located adjacent to 'public reserve' land has the potential to interfere with competing demands by visiting boaters for use of public foreshore facilities adjacent to mooring areas, eg swimming, fishing areas.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Unique location in Lake Macquarie for boat owners to moor and access their boats from the immediate waters edge.
- Historically moorings are used by adjacent landowners.
- Belief that moorings add value to waterfrontage real estate.
- Owners believe they are acting in the best interest of the area and argue that improvements are a major contributing factor to the recreational and aesthetic value of the area.
- Unauthorised structures.
- Shoreline stability and riparian vegetation.

# Priority Waiting List • Area: (Y/N)

· No

#### Outcomes:

- Moorings in front of absolute waterfront properties will be permitted under the following conditions;
- a) Such moorings are not proven to be detrimental to the environment, the creek bank, vegetation or creek bed.
- b) The existence of the moorings does not breach any Lake Macquarie City Council, NSW Fisheries or Department of Land and Water Conservation regulations.
- c) Moorings placed adjacent to an absolute waterfront property will be cancelled upon the sale of the property, or the termination of the lease of the tenant of that property.
- d) The new owner of the property, or the holder of the lease over the property, may apply for a mooring in front of that property. If the applicant fulfils the normal requirements of the Waterways Authority, and the regulations of any other authority that may be necessary, then the licence will be reissued.
- Moorings alongside the bank of public reserves. See map.

Designated mooring areas have been established. See map for more information.

Existing moorings will remain in current locations, until the licensee surrenders the licence. In such situations an application for the vacant position may be made and approved under the following conditions:

- The location is in a designated mooring area.
- The size and type of the replacement vessel is appropriate.
- The mooring apparatus is a fore and aft device and located off the creek bank. The distance off the bank would be determined with due consideration to water depth and navigation safety. In addition it will result in improved public access to use the creek or reserve and minimise the impact of vessels and their propeller wash on the bank.
- Moorings will not be placed in mangrove areas.

Mooring Area: FENNELL BAY

Bay Code: SU

**Location:** Extreme western part of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- Fennell Bay includes all waters west of the Fennell Bay Bridge, including Stoney Creek, LT Creek and the waters of Edmunds Bay.
- The area is an established residential area with the exception of the small section on the eastern side of Stoney Creek adjacent to Sara Street, which is zoned as light industrial.

#### **Fennell Bay**

- This bay is about a kilometre in length and width. It is shallow for its entirety, particularly in the far western and northern section.
- The Blackalls Park is on the south-west shore of the bay, and a foreshore reserve runs west of the park in front of established residences. There are a number of jetties along the foreshore.

#### **Edmunds Bay**

 This bay is situated on the southern side of Fennell Bay and is nearly one kilometre in length. It is very shallow with large deposits of silt.

#### LT Creek

Entering Fennell Bay from the north is LT Creek which, rises in the nearby hills. It is reasonably narrow and shallow for its entire length and is navigable for little over a kilometre.

#### **Stoney Creek**

- The road reserve near the rail bridge was once a hive of activity as this was the local swimming club. The area fell into disuse, but the immediate area has been reclaimed by a local Landcare group and is now an informal park.
- The foreshore vegetation between the rail bridge and the mouth of the creek has undergone significant re-emergence and much of the foreshore is now covered with mangroves. There is a very positive correlation between the existence of moored vessels against or near the bank and damage to nearby vegetation of the foreshore reserve.
- The whole area is relatively shallow.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

 Significant areas of mangroves and estuarine wildlife exist within the area.

### Boating Considerations:

- An eight (8) knot speed zone exists within the bay for all mechanically propelled vessels and four (4) knots in the two creeks.
- The area downstream of the Stoney Creek road bridge has been dredged to 1200mm to permit access to the industrial area upstream.
- Only very shallow draught vessels are able to use Edmunds Bay.
- West of Blackalls Park vessels with a shallow draught only can use

this.

The Fennell Bay bridge restricts the size (height) of vessels that enter the bay from the lake.

#### **Moorings**

#### Fennell Bay

- Moorings will be restricted into two small areas within Fennell Bay near the concentration of residences.
- Moorings are permitted in the area west of Blackalls Park. At present, there are a small number of moorings in this area, which will be permitted to double in size.
- On the northern side of Fennell Bay, west of the Fennell Bay Bridge is a group of absolute waterfront residences. As the water in this area is deeper than anywhere else in the bay, it is suitable for mooring of deeper draught vessels. A small area here has been allocated for moorings.

#### **Stoney Creek**

- Moorings adjacent to reserves or other public lands will be restricted to current mooring sites.
- On the eastern side of the creek, moorings will be permitted alongside the absolute waterfront properties. Several of these properties are associated with marine activities and so commercial mooring licences have been issued. The remaining area along the eastern side of the creek has natural bushland, which is mainly Casuarina. The area is flat and flood prone. No moorings will be allocated along this shore in an effort to maintain the natural vegetation and prevent possible degradation of the banks that might be associated with accessing nearby vessels.

#### L T Creek

From the mouth of the creek there are absolute waterfront properties on both sides for approximately five hundred metres, at which point a water pipe passes over the creek. Beyond the pipe the absolute waterfront properties continue on the south side, but the north side has reserve, and other public land/road.

#### Infrastructure Considerations:

The moorings in this area are few and spread over a wide area. They present no demands on public utilities or resources.

#### Community Values & • Associated Issues:

- The community values the ability moor their small shallow draft vessels in a protected area.
- The vast majority of the area is left without moorings.

# Area: (Y/N)

Priority Waiting List N Except for Stoney Creek where there will be a Priority (Waiting) List for current moorings alongside the Crown reserves.

#### Outcomes:

- Moorings in creeks in front of absolute waterfront properties will be permitted in line with the following;
- a) Such moorings are not proven to be detrimental to the environment, be it creek bank, vegetation or creek bed

- b) The existence of the moorings does not cause a breach of the regulations or policy guidelines of NSW Fisheries, Department of Land and Water Conservation and Lake Macquarie City Council.
- c) Moorings placed adjacent to an absolute waterfront property will be cancelled upon the sale of the property, or the termination of the lease of the tenant of that property.
- d) The new owner of the property, or the holder of the lease over the property, may apply for a mooring in front of that property.

#### **Stoney Creek**

- Moorings adjacent to reserves or other public lands will be restricted in numbers to the current mooring sites.
- Existing moorings will remain in the current locations subject to normal conditions and following is considered:
- ◆ The size and type of the replacement vessel is appropriate.
- The mooring apparatus is a fore and aft device and located off the creek bank.
- Moorings will not be placed in mangrove areas.

#### Priority List

(Waiting)

Υ

#### **Edmunds Bay**

- Due to lack of depth, no moorings would be considered in this area.
- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

#### LT Creek

- Moorings will be permitted in front of absolute waterfront properties on the following conditions:
- a) The mooring licence will be cancelled upon the sale of the property concerned or the termination of the lease in regard to a tenant.
- b) The mooring site complying with the regulations and policies of NSW Fisheries, Department of Land and Water Conservation, and the Lake Macquarie City Council.

Upon the sale of the property, or renewal of the lease of the property, the mooring licence may be reissued if the requirements of the Waterways Authority, NSW Fisheries, Department of Land and Water Conservation and the Lake Macquarie City Council have been met.

Mooring Area: FISHING POINT

Bay Code: SV

**Location:** South west part of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

With the exception of a very small reserve at the tip of Fishing Point, the foreshore has absolute waterfront properties, many of which have private jetties.

 Fishing Point is a 'finger of land' that is reasonably steep, narrow and projects into the lake in a south-easterly direction. Most of its foreshore is rocky.

**Environmental Considerations:** 

There are no significant environmental concerns.

**Boating Considerations:** 

The waters around Fishing Point are used for every type of water activity. Through the warmer months these waters are particularly busy with yacht and dinghy racing, fishing vessels, water ski boats, PWCs, sailboards etc.

**Moorings** • Concentrations of moorings will be kept low.

Infrastructure Considerations:

Moorings in this area are low density and generally owned by nearby landowners. Therefore, no pressure is placed on utilities or services.

Community Values & • Associated Issues:

Vessels in the area are generally owned by locals who value the proximity of moorings for reason of security and access.

Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

FRYING PAN BAY

**Bay Code:** 

ZH

Location:

Is the middle section of the southern end of Lake Macquarie.

#### **Distinguishing** Features:

- Frying Pan Bay extends from the tip of Summerland Point in the north to the tip of Frying Pan point in the south.
- This area is in the local government area of Wyong Shire Council.
- The north-east section of this bay has absolute waterfront properties with a few private jetties. Most of the foreshore has been developed by way of seawalls and grass verges.
- The southern section has a narrow waterfront reserve running its full length. The whole area is an established residential area with a small commercial retail area.
- The bay is very picturesque and used largely by locals.

#### **Environmental** Considerations:

There are no significant environmental concerns within the bay.

#### **Boating Considerations:**

- The bay is used for all types of water activities such as waterskiing, canoeing and sailing.
- The eastern corner has a small lagoon into which shallow draft vessels may enter. There is a small launching ramp and jetty in this lagoon. The lagoon is the central point of a small park near which most boating activities take place.

#### **Moorings**

Concentration of moorings will remain relatively low in this bay.

#### Infrastructure Considerations:

- This is a small bay with a westerly aspect that has a park in the southeast section with a swimming enclosure, launching ramp, picnic and toilet facilities.
- The moorings within this bay are of low to medium density and spread around the whole bay and do not apply undue pressure upon public resources or utilities.
- There is a pump out facility located at Summerland Point.

#### Community Values & **Associated Issues:**

- Members of the community value the ability to moor their vessels within the bay.
- The vast majority of the area is left without moorings for other boating activities.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

- In line with policy, moorings will not be placed off the small park and a 100 metre corridor is to be left. This will allow free movement of vessels in and out of the adjacent lagoon and to the launching ramp.
- The swimming enclosure would be considered part of the park area, but moorings will be permitted on the northern side of the enclosure, at the normal distance of 50 m. The placement of moorings here has the effect of acting as a buffer and keeping high speed and towing vessels away from the enclosure. This will create a safer environment for those using the swimming enclosure.
- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their preset limits as shown on map.

**GWANDALAN** 

Bay Code:

ZΕ

Location:

The southern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- This area lies within the local government area of the Wyong Shire Council. It is in the far south of Lake Macquarie and lies on the western shore of Crangan Bay, which is situated on the eastern side of the lake.
- Gwandalan extends from the southern end of Crangan Bay and northwards on its western shore to Diamond Drill Point.
- The southern end of Gwandalan is relatively untouched bushland. Generally, the foreshore and surrounding vegetation are natural. The northern area is comprised of established residential areas.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns.

### Boating Considerations:

The area is used for all forms of boating activities although it would generally not be as busy as some other areas that are more accessible by visitors.

#### **Moorings**

- Concentration of moorings in Gwandalan will be kept low.
- The southern most area to be left free of moorings.
- Mooring areas are to be permitted north of the launching ramp/public jetty.
- Areas in the northern section will be left free of moorings for use by other forms of boating activities.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- The moorings in the area are of low density and spread over a large area. They do not apply pressure to public resources or utilities.
- The reserve at the southern end has a public launching ramp and a small jetty to assist in the launching of and retrieval of vessels. Toilet facilities are also available.
- At the northern end of the area is the Gwandalan Bowling Club, which has a substantial jetty, which is available for use by members of the public who visit the club.
- The small bay off Koowong Street has a launching ramp, jetty and swimming enclosure.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

The community has expressed a variety of expectations in regard to the use of this waterway. Many residents value the ability to moor a vessel in front of their properties, or see moored boats in general as being part of the lake 'landscape'.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

Moorings will be limited to areas shown on the attached maps.

Mooring Area: KILABEN BAY

Bay Code: SF

**Location:** Western sector of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

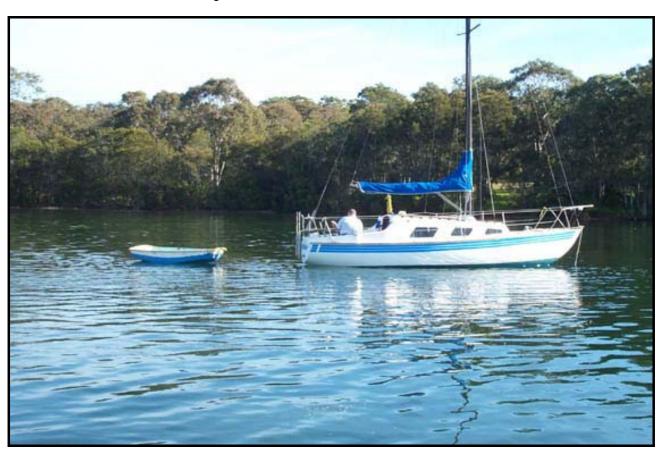
Distinguishing Features:

 The bay is set deeply into a larger bay, which is formed between Coal Point and Fishing Point.

- The area has four (4) identifiable sections. The Rathmines Park dominates the south east of the bay. The southern shore of the bay has an unbroken foreshore reserve along its length, behind which is a residential area. The western shore is shallow and muddy, with areas of mangroves. The northern shore has absolute waterfront properties.
- The area on the northern side of the bay, like a number of locations around the lake foreshore, has absolute waterfront properties, many with private jetties. The foreshore is largely retaining walls and there is no native vegetation and no trees have been left. The majority of this area has reasonably deep water, but the western end is relatively shallow.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

- Significant areas of mangroves and shallow estuary exist in the western area of this bay.
- The western end of the bay is part of an estuary where the water is very shallow, muddy and has mangroves and associated wildlife. Some of the land beyond this facade has been badly degraded and damaged.



### Boating Considerations:

- Because this area is so protected, it is used extensively for skiing and aquaplaning. Many yachts and cruisers use the area as a safe anchorage when spending a couple of days on the lake.
- This area is one of the most protected in the lake and consequently, many vessels may be found at anchor here or skiing within the bay. On occasions there are conflicts between the competing interests of skiers and anchored vessels and between skiers and moored vessels. The water in the area is reasonably deep.

#### Moorings

- The present mooring areas will be decreased to reduce any potential damage to mangrove areas that are considered environmentally significant.
- The width of the 'string' of mooring areas on the western side of the bay has been reduced from the plan formulated in 1995.
- There is a courtesy mooring located near Styles Point.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- Generally, the moorings are of low density and spread over a considerable distance on two sides of a bay. Therefore, moorings do not cause undue pressure on the bay.
- Rathmines Park has a very large concrete ramp, once used for pulling aircraft from the water, however it is not suitable for boat trailers, although it does get limited use.
- The 'F' jetty is a popular spot for vessels to berth and use the nearby picnic and toilet amenities.
- The concrete jetty on the western side of Styles Point has a sewage pump out facility for local and visiting vessels. There is a launching ramp adjacent to the jetty and on shore picnic and toilet amenities.
- The area affords protection in unfavourable weather conditions and is popular for all types of water based activities during the summer months.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- The community has expressed a variety of expectations in regard to the use of this waterway.
- Many residents value the ability to moor a vessel in front of their properties, or the scenic value of moored boats.
- Other residents believe that the waters should be left free of moorings to allow for skiing, or believe that they should have control of the water in front of their property.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

#### Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their current limits as shown on the map. Mooring Area: KOOROORA BAY

Bay Code: SD

**Location:** North west part of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Kooroora Bay will be deemed to extend eastwards from the Fennell Bay Bridge to Bolton Point, Boughton Point and northwards to the eastern tip of Marmong Point. Kooroora Bay is an open bay with a southerly aspect.
- A waterfront reserve follows this foreshore for its full length. The foreshore between Boughton Point and Marmong Point is approximately three kilometres in length and runs in a northerly direction and most is part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Lake Macquarie State Recreation Area.
- With the exception of a small part of Kooroora Bay, the foreshore is quite rocky and at times steep.
- From Bolton Point to Marmong Point the area is a rocky exposed foreshore with no natural 'bay' formation. Eucalypts and an understorey of native plants that are missing in so much of the developed areas of the lake largely dominate the area.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns.

# **Boating Considerations:**

- The waters are used extensively for waterskiing and aquaplaning.
- The area is protected from the summer prevailing north-easterly breeze.
- In the area from Bolton Point to Marmong Point the waters are used frequently by vessels involved in fishing, and by vessels at anchor who wish to enjoy the serenity and picturesque surrounds.
- A boat ramp, public jetty and swimming enclosure is found within Kooroora Bay.

#### **Moorings**

- The area off parks and the State Recreation Area will be left free of moorings.
- In this area are four groups of moorings. Two of these in a small shallow bay to the western end of Kooroora Bay and the main mooring group which comprises of a group on either side of the public jetty/swimming enclosure. A sixty metre corridor has been left to ensure access to the jetty.
- The concentration of moorings in this area will have the effect of keeping skiers and other vessels at speed, which are often creating noise, away from the shore, the swimmers and the adjacent waterfront homes. The arrangement of the moorings will allow access to the launching ramp, but will encourage the majority of the boating activities to take place farther offshore or in front of the park at Bolton Point where they will be more distant from nearby homes.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

 There are two public jetties and a large park with picnic and toilet amenities. This area is very popular for families in the warmer months.  The majority of moorings are concentrated in the area of the swimming enclosure. There is adequate waterfront car parking. Dinghy storage does not seem to present a problem.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many in the community appreciate the large area of unspoilt bushland that is part of the State Recreation Reserve.
- Vast majority of area has been left free for a variety of boating activities, including skiing.

Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on man

LITTLE WANGI

**Bay Code:** 

SI

Location:

Northern side of the peninsula in the centre of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Little Wangi is that length of foreshore immediately adjacent to Watkins Road. It is exclusively, an established residential area, known as Wangi Wangi and which has a reserve along its waterfront for its full length.
- The foreshore reserve slopes steeply in places to the water. It has some remnant old growth timber, but the majority of the reserve has had its native vegetation replaced with lawns and gardens.
- The length of the foreshore has a number of shallow bays and small headlands.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns.

### Boating Considerations:

- There is a public jetty midway along this shore.
- The shoreline affords protection from southerly breezes.
- The area is used for fishing, aquaplaning and as a quiet anchorage.

#### **Moorings**

- Concentrations of moorings will be kept low.
- The Plan has broken the length of the mooring area into six smaller groups which 'mould' into the small bays. The 'headland' areas have been left free of moorings. The groups of moorings vary from only one mooring wide in some sections, and up to four moorings wide in other areas.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

 The moorings in this area are low densities and mostly owned by persons, who live nearby, therefore these moorings do not place a demand on local utilities.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

Low density moorings that permit maximum use of the waters by all boaters.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

- That the area immediately in front of the Wangi Amateur Sailing Club be left free of moorings to permit egress of sailing dinghies.
- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

MANNERING PARK EAST

**Bay Code:** 

ZL

Location:

The southern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Mannering Park East is the area west of Vales Point Power Station water inlet to the tip of Vales Point.
- This area is in the local government area of the Wyong Shire Council.
- This area is part of the south-western shore of Chain Valley Bay and forms part of the eastern side of the peninsula that is Vales Point.
- The majority of this foreshore has a thirty metre reserve, except for the western section on Vales Point, which has absolute waterfront properties.
- The reserve is grass covered with little natural foreshore and no natural vegetation.
- The area is predominantly residential.
- Largely because of the intimate nature of a caravan park, there is a feel of community in this area.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

### Boating Considerations:

The caravan park gives this area a focus of concentrated activity. A sailing club adjacent to the caravan park gives the water a focus of attention. The water is given to all forms of usage; fishing, sailing, canoes etc..

#### **Moorings**

- Concentration of moorings will remain relatively low.
- The small area off Grace Street, Mannering Park is only large enough to take half a dozen small, shallow draught vessels.
- There is one area of medium density moorings adjacent to the caravan park.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

 Dinghy storage in the area of the main mooring area presents some problems.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor close to their homes.
- The area is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and large areas have therefore been left free of moorings.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

- The mooring areas will not be extended farther than its present boundaries.
- The area west of the mooring area and extending to Vales Point is shallow and not suitable for moorings as they would constitute a navigation hazard or hinder the flow of vessels along the foreshore.

MANNERING PARK WEST

**Bay Code:** 

ZΑ

Location:

The extreme southern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Mannering Park West extends from the tip of Vales Point in the north to the most southerly point of Wyee Bay.
- This area is in the local government area of the Wyong Shire Council.
- This area forms the eastern side of Wyee Bay, which in turn is the western shore of the Peninsula, which is Vales Point. The majority of this foreshore has a thirty metre reserve, except for a small section at the northern end, which has absolute waterfront properties. The reserve is largely grassed covered to the water's edge and many of the native casuarina has been removed, resulting in an unstable bank.
- The area is used predominantly by residents.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

Mangroves exist in the southern most section.

### **Boating Considerations:**

 The water is given to all forms of usage; fishing, sailing, canoes etc., but especially waterskiing.

#### Moorings

- The concentration of moorings will remain relatively low. No moorings will be placed in the southern most section, which is shallow and has areas of mangroves.
- The area of water immediately south of the fishing cooperative that extends for about two hundred metres. Moorings in the north will be permitted to be two wide and tapering to one wide in the south. This group of moorings will be used for commercial moorings as required.

## Infrastructure Considerations:

- Generally the moorings are low density and spread over a large length of foreshore. They therefore do not apply pressures on public utilities or resources.
- Between Vales Point and the Fishing Co-op there is some parkland with toilet and picnic facilities, a swimming enclosure and a boat launching ramp.
- In summer the launching ramp and small beach on the end of the point receives a great deal of use.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many locals own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor close to their homes.
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and so the majority of the area has been left free of moorings.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map. Mooring Area: MARKS POINT

Bay Code: SQ

**Location:** Eastern side of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- Marks Point is a prominent hill that forms the southern boundary of Belmont Bay on one side, and the northern edge of the Swansea Channel on the other.
- Marks Point is an established residential area with a mix of waterfront properties and a majority of properties with a narrow reserve between water and property.

**Environmental Considerations:** 

 Well established beds of Posidona australis seagrass exist in this area.

Boating Considerations:

• Much of the area is relatively shallow. It is an area exposed to winter westerly breezes. The area, being part of Belmont Bay is used for all manner of boating.

Moorings

- The moorings directly off the Marks Point Marina are predominantly commercial, being associated with the adjacent marina. It is intended to relocate some existing private moorings in this area to make one section of moorings exclusively commercial, therefore fulfilling the policy of the Waterways Authority of having commercial moorings grouped together and separate from private moorings.
- Due to the presence of *Posidonia australis*, moorings will be permitted in existing sites only so as not to cause further damage. It is essential that any new mooring that is issued following a cancellation, have its mooring block placed in the same position so as not to cause any further seagrass damage.

Infrastructure Considerations:

 The majority of the boats associated with this mooring area belong to nearby residences, therefore car parking and dinghy storage is not a major problem.

Community Values & 
Associated Issues:

- The marina is a focus for much boating activity in the area and as such most activity in Marks Point is commercially related.
- Many of the homes in Marks Point have panoramic views and value the spectacle of boating and all its facets in this area.

Priority Waiting List Y

Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Due to the presence of Posidonia australis seagrass, moorings will be restricted to the current sites.

MARMONG COVE

**Bay Code:** 

SH

Location:

Northern end of Lake Macquarie

#### Distinguishing Features:

- This is a small bay with a northerly aspect, being approximately four hundred metres deep and three hundred metres wide.
- The area near the point on the western shore is cleared and is the home of the Lake Macquarie City Council's Art Gallery.

#### Environmental Considerations:

- A creek flows in from the south and along the western shore. This shoreline, although severely degraded and infested with lantana and other noxious plants, still has mangrove trees surviving.
- The mangroves within the area are separated from the mooring area.

#### **Boating Considerations:**

- Cumulative effect of the concentration of moorings has resulted in no other water activities taking place within the area.
- There is deep water launching ramp and a small reserve.
- The largest marina complex on Lake Macquarie.

#### **Moorings**

- For its size, it has the greatest concentration of moorings on Lake Macquarie.
- Moorings have been arranged in two groups within the bay with a marked navigation channel running down the centre to give access to the marina complex and the launching ramp.
- Commercial moorings are in the smaller western section while private moorings are located in the eastern side of the bay.

#### Infrastructure **Considerations:**

- For the number of vessels in the area, either within the marina complex or at moorings, there is a lack of facilities in the area. There is no provision made for dinghy storage, a problem that is being addressed by the LMCC. There is public car parking areas and as well, a large car park provided by the adjacent marina for its clientele.
- A waterfront reserve runs around the complete foreshore. On the eastern shore lies a park with picnic amenities and a launching ramp for boats. The southern shore is dominated by a commercial marina that has two long piers and a capacity of well over one hundred vessels. There is a disused slipway and large vessel lifting capability and storage area associated with the marina complex.

#### Community Values & . Associated Issues:

No residential area looks onto the bay, so the heavy concentration of vessels in this area is not seen as a problem, but the general boating facilities would be seen as advantageous.

#### Priority Waiting List Y Area: (Y/N)

**Outcomes:** 

Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**MYUNA BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

7X

Location:

This area is in the north-west corner of the southern section of Lake Macquarie.

#### Distinguishing Features:

- Myuna Bay extends from Pipers Point adjacent to the Dora Creek Peninsula to Goonda Point, being the southern most point of Wangi.
- A reserve surrounds the whole of this area. This area covers the foreshore of the low intensity residential area of Eraring and the large wide bay known as Myuna Bay.
- Much of the foreshore in the southern and western part of this area is relatively shallow close to the shore.
- The low intensity development of this area gives a serene and picturesque appearance in a quiet corner of the lake. Waters in this area afford protection from the west.

#### **Environmental** Considerations:

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

#### **Boating Considerations:**

- Many fishing vessels can be found in the area, as well as vessels at anchor seeking peace and quiet.
- Moorings
- It has untouched scenic value and will be left free of moorings.

#### Infrastructure Considerations:

This sparsely populated area has no moorings and no demand for infrastructure.

#### Community Values & Associated Issues:

The values of this sparsely populated area have not been ascertained, however the 'larger' community appreciates the picturesque and untouched foreshore.

#### Priority Waiting List Area closed. Area: (Y/N)

- No moorings will be permitted in the area for the following reasons;
- a) Waters to be maintained without moorings for their environmental and scenic values.

NORDS WHARF

Bay Code:

ZD

Location:

Southern end of Lake Macquarie on the eastern side

### Distinguishing Features:

- This area is in the southern most section of the lake on its eastern side. The suburb is known as Nords Wharf and is the extremity of the City of Lake Macquarie. This area extends from Nords Wharf Public Jetty in the north to the southern extremity of this bay, Crangan Bay.
- The northern section of this area is largely absolute waterfront properties, while the southern section is partially developed or natural bushland. The condition of the foreshore and native vegetation is commensurate with the surrounding development.
- The southern end of Crangan Bay encompasses Browns Bay and remains relatively undisturbed bushland and the nearby coal mining company controls this area.
- Wyong Shire Council controls the southern extremity of Crangan Bay.

#### **Environmental**

#### Considerations:

 There are no significant environmental concerns. The southern end of Crangan Bay represents relatively untouched natural area and should be preserved in its present scenic state.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- The waters of this bay are used for all manners of water activities and in holiday periods, many family groups can be found. The area is particularly popular for waterskiers.
- Browns Bay is serene, untouched and is popular by owners of yachts and cruisers to anchor in a protected area.
- South of the boat ramp is the 'Scout Association Recreational Camp' which generates to passive boating in the bay.

#### **Moorings**

- The moorings in this area will be low density and will extend the length of the foreshore with the exception of offshore from parks.
- Moorings will be placed so as to permit other boating activities to exist without undue interference.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- There is a boat ramp at the southern end of the bay.
- The moorings in the area are of low density and generally owned by persons living nearby. They do not apply pressure to public utilities or resources.
- There are two parks on this foreshore.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- The community has expressed a variety of expectations in regard to the use of this waterway. Many residents value the ability to moor a vessel in front or their properties, or see moored boats in general as being part of the lake 'landscape', whilst others believe that the waters should be left free of moorings to allow for skiing, or believe that they should have control of the water in front of their property and decide whether or not moorings should be placed.
- Waterfront property owners' value access to their property by water and feel they own the water directly in front of their property.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.
- In Browns Bay no moorings will be permitted in this area for the following reasons;
- a) Waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg., skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.
- b) The area is to be maintained without moorings for its environmental and scenic reasons.

Mooring Area: POINT WOLSTONCROFT

Bay Code: ZG

**Location:** Middle portion of the southern end of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Point Wolstoncroft West is that area from the northern tip of Point Wolstoncroft, the length of its western foreshore to the tip of Summerland Point.
- Approximately four kilometres of this shoreline is part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's State Recreation Areas, on which is sited the NSW Sport and Recreation's Point Wolstoncroft camp. There is a small area of waterfront reserve and the remaining 500 metres of this foreshore has absolute waterfront properties, some of which have private jetties.
- The residential area in the south of this area is known as Summerland Point. The foreshore is rocky in the northern part and long, sandy, narrow beaches in the southern part. Family groups through the warmer months use the southern foreshore and hence there has been degradation of the natural bush.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns in Point Wolstoncroft.

### Boating Considerations:

The western side of this point is very scenic and affords protection in the summer from the prevailing daytime breeze, the north easterly. These protected waters are used largely by waterskiers, yachts and cruisers at anchor who wish to take advantage of the calm conditions.

#### Moorings

The majority of Point Wolstoncroft is part of a State Recreation Reserve no moorings will be permitted adjacent to the Reserve.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

 There are only a few moorings in this area and they are owned by nearby landowners. As such, they do not apply pressure to any public resources or utilities.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

Vessels in the area are generally owned by locals who value the proximity of moorings for reason of security and access.

### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

#### Outcomes:

- No moorings will be permitted in the western foreshore of the Point Wolstoncroft Sport and Recreation Centre for the following reasons;
- a) The waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg., skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming etc.
- b) The area to be maintained without moorings for its environmental and scenic value

Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

Mooring Area: PULBAH ISLAND

Bay Code: ZU

**Location:** Northern end of the southern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- This island, almost two kilometres long and five hundred metres wide, dominates the northern end of the southern section of Lake Macquarie. It is a National Parks and Wildlife Service's Nature Reserve.
- The island is steep and rocky, having sheer walls on the west and east sides, steep slopes on the south and a long sandy bay on the north side.
- The surrounding water is generally deep, over ten metres.
- There is a no camping policy on the island as there are no facilities and the National Parks and Wildlife Service has no plans to provide facilities on the island.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

■ The northern part of the island has been degraded by reason that this is the only accessible part of the island. As there are no facilities, toilets or bins, the area on the northern side is used regardless by those who camp on the shores. The island has thick areas of bitu bush and other noxious plants.

# **Boating Considerations:**

- The area around Pulbah Island is very popular for boaters. During summer, many vessels will be at anchor on its southern side, which offers shelter from the north-easterly breezes.
- The northern side of the island offers an excellent overnight anchorage, as it is totally protected from any southerly winds.
- Pulbah Island is often the destination for a community of boats and their owners and friends who wish to do nothing for a couple of days.

#### Moorings

- There is a courtesy mooring located on the southern side of Pulbah Island.
- No private or commercial moorings will be placed near Pulbah Island, which is a State Recreation Reserve.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- This area receives great use from a variety of boat users, both daytrippers in small vessels and large vessels at anchor seeking peace and quiet, or protection from strong winds.
- There are neither toilet nor garbage services in the area which has proved to be detrimental to the public's enjoyment of the island.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

 The State Government has declared this area a Nature Reserve. It has qualities of natural beauty, which are recognised by those who visit the island.

# Priority Waiting List • Area: (Y/N)

Area closed.

- There will be no moorings around Pulbah Island for the following reasons;
- The waters are to be left free of moorings for the use by other boating activities
- The waters are to be maintained without moorings for their environmental and scenic values.



SAWMILL BAY

**Bay Code:** 

SX

Location:

South western section of the northern half of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- The surrounding area is established residential area near the waterfront and newer homes on the slopes overlooking the water.
- The foreshore is comprised of absolute waterfront homes, many of which have a jetty associated with the property.
- There is no natural foreshore or vegetation associated with the area.
- The area is relatively protected, having Fishing Point to the north to protect it from the summer north-easterly breezes.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

The water is shallow on the southern shore.

### Boating Considerations:

 The area is used for fishing and for skiing, wakeboarding, aquaplaning etc

#### **Moorings**

 Within this bay, the mooring area will be altered to permit greater access for the public to the foreshore park and its amenities.

## Infrastructure Considerations:

- The western section of this area is dominated by the reserve, which is grass covered with examples of large old growth trees. At present, this reserve has few amenities, but LMCC intends to raise the status of this reserve to one, which will be recognised by the Plan as one of a park. For this reason, the mooring arrangement will reflect the intending higher status of the reserve.
- The area has low intensity moorings and therefore does not place pressure on utilities or services.
- There is a nearby launching ramp at Secret Bay that allows for access to this bay.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

The local boat owning community values the ability to moor their vessels close to their homes.

Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

**Outcomes:** 

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**SECRET BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

SW

Location:

Southern side of Fishing Point on the south-west section of the northern part of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- This area is predominantly absolute waterfront properties, many of which have private jetties. In the north west corner, the small lagoon is only relatively shallow and can only be navigated by very shallow draught vessels.
- The area west of Balmoral Place launching ramp and public jetty is narrow and confined and not used a great deal for navigation, but mainly for locals to obtain access to the lake.
- The cumulative effect of the moorings precludes the use of the bay for other water activities.

#### Environmental Considerations: Boating Considerations:

- The bay has shallow areas, in which moorings will not be placed.
- There is very little boating activity in Secret Bay.

#### **Moorings**

- Moorings are not permitted within the lagoon due to its shallow depth.
- Due to the small size of the bay, its confined nature and little use, moorings have been permitted closer to the shore than would normally be the case.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

The vessels within Secret Bay are generally owned by adjacent landowners and therefore place no pressures on utilities or services.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

 Residents desire to have their vessel moored out the front of their property on a protected mooring.

#### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

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- Outcomes: In the lagoon, moorings will not be permitted.
  - Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

SHEPPARDS CREEK

**Bay Code:** 

SR

Location:

Eastern side of Croudace Bay on the north east corner of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Sheppards Creek is a narrow tributary, which flows into Croudace Bay.
- The majority of the creek has absolute waterfront properties and the remainder, is part of a reserve.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

- Due to siltation the mouth of the creek has become very shallow and has required remedial action by LMCC. It is thought that the siltation within the creek may be related to up stream housing development.
- Areas of mangrove exist within the creek. Care will be taken not to allow moorings to interfere with their growth.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- Very little boating activity occurs in the creek, as it is narrow. The creek is predominantly used for storage of on-water vessels i.e. vessels moored alongside properties.
- The creek is utilised as a thoroughfare into Lake Macquarie.

#### **Moorings**

- The moorings in the creek are fore and aft pole moorings.
- Sheppards Creek is a popular mooring area however, the number and size of vessels is restricted due to the severe constraints of the creek. Consequently, the Creek has a Priority (Waiting) List.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

Lake Macquarie City Council has proposed a walkway around the Lake that may restrict boating in this area.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Sheppards Creek is a small close knit community who has a feeling of ownership of the creek. As such there are expectations that their vessel will be permitted adjacent to their property.
- A number of vessels are moored alongside the Valentine Bowling Club. The Club must give written approval before the licensee accesses their mooring.

# Priority Waiting List Y Area: (Y/N)

#### Outcomes:

- The Authority will continue to monitor the size and type of vessel who use the creek.
- Moorings in front of absolute waterfront properties will be permitted under the following conditions;
- a) Such moorings are not proven to be detrimental to the environment, be it creek bank, vegetation or creek bed.
- b) The existence of the moorings does not cause a breach of the regulations and policies of NSW Fisheries, Department of Land and Water Conservation and Lake Macquarie City Council
- c) Moorings placed adjacent to an absolute waterfront property will be cancelled upon the sale of the property, or the termination of the lease of the tenant of that property.
- d) The new owner of the property, or the holder of the lease over the property, may apply for a mooring in front of that property.

If the applicant fulfils the requirements of the Authority, and other agencies that may be necessary, then the licence will be reissued.

**SILVERWATER** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZS

Location:

Western side of the southern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Silverwater will extend from Johnnys Point in the east to Fig Tree Point in the west.
- This area is about a kilometre wide, is shallow and has a northerly aspect.
- The area is a small residential community known as Silverwater.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

• There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

# Boating Considerations:

- Mainly locals use the waters for a range of boating activities.
- At any time, small boats may be seen with fishers on board, while the warmer months will have many skiers and aquaplaners using the water.

#### **Moorings**

 Moorings follow the majority of the foreshore in a narrow band. The majority of vessels on these moorings belong to nearby home owners.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

There are few moorings in this area and they are spread along the length of the bay. They apply no pressure to public utilities or services.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Locals who value the ability to moor close to their homes own many of the moored vessels.
- The vast majority of the area being free of moorings permits other water activities to take place.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map

**SUGAR BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZΡ

Location:

This area is in the middle of the southern section of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Sugar Bay extends from the Brightwaters Point in the south to Fishery Point in the north.
- This area is confined to one bay, which is small, but deep and reasonably narrow with an easterly aspect, surrounded by a quiet residential area.
- The southern shore has absolute waterfrontage properties, many of which have private jetties. The northern shore is a narrow reserve for the majority of its length.

### Environmental Considerations:

 The northern section of this bay is shallow and has small independent groups of mangroves. Moorings will be placed well clear of these areas.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- Mainly locals use the water for all manner of boating activities.
- At any time, small boats may be seen with fishers on board, while the warmer months will have many waterskiers and aquaplaners using the water.

#### **Moorings**

- For the rest of the bay, moorings will be permitted to follow the foreshore, but not to fill in the bay.
- The southern moorings will only be one or two wide, the western section three or four wide and the northern side up to three wide.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- Most moorings within the bay are owned by nearby landowners. The moorings are spread around the bay so there is no concentration of problem associated with dinghy storage.
- The moorings do not apply pressure to public utilities or services.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor close to their homes.
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and as such the majority of the area has been left free of moorings.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

**Outcomes:** 

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**SUNSHINE** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZR

Location:

Central part of the southern section of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Sunshine extends from the point off Sunshine Parade in the south to Johnnys Point in the north.
- This area is a long foreshore of two kilometres with a north-easterly aspect.
- Its southern end is dominated by absolute waterfront properties, many of which have private jetties.
- The middle section is a large park used for picnics and camping, while the northern section has a waterfront reserve in front of a residential area, which is on a reasonably steep slope.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

### Boating Considerations:

- The waters are used extensively for sailing, skiing and fishing.
- On the southern shore is a public jetty, small reserve with toilet facilities.
- Between the sailing club at Sunshine and the northern end of Sunshine Park, the area receives intensive use during the summer, from the local sailing club and sailors from far and wide who attend state and national titles which are hosted by this club. The park has a launching ramp and toilet facility.
- Less boating is conducted in the area north of Sunshine Park to Johnnys Point due partly to its rocky and steeper foreshore and distance from boating facilities.

#### **Moorings**

In the southern section along the length of Sunshine Parade, there are two small groups of moorings.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

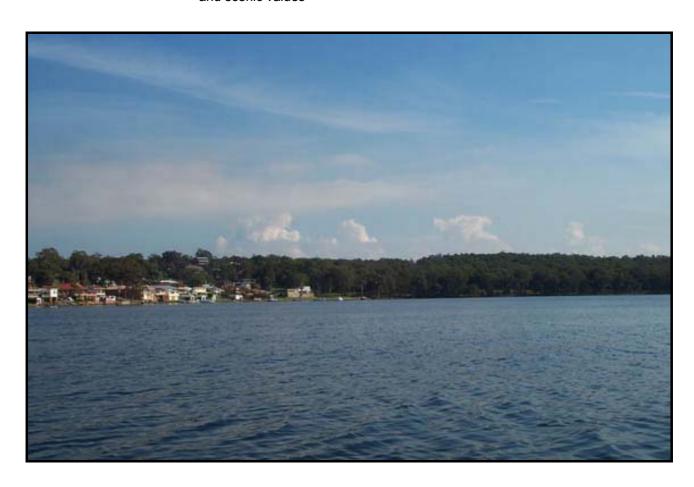
- The moorings in this area are small in number and of low density and do not apply pressure to public utilities or services.
- The area has a public jetty, toilet and picnic facilities, launching ramp and large natural parkland.
- The launching ramp and spacious facilities ensure many boats use the area for skiing, aquaplaning, canoes, etc.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

The members of the sailing club and users of powerboats, value the unencumbered waterway. Locals are often involved in boating activities, either as participants or as spectators.

### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map
- With the exception of a small group, there will be no moorings north of the sailing club for the following reasons;
- a) The area represents a high intensity use reserve
- b) The waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg., skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.
- c) The waters to be maintained without moorings for their environmental and scenic values



Mooring Area: SUNSHINE EXTENDED

Bay Code: ZQ

**Location:** This area is in the middle of the southern section of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Sunshine Extended extends from Fishery Point in the south to the point off Sunshine Parade in the north.
- This area is confined to one small and shallow bay with an easterly aspect and is a small residential community, most of it being known as Sunshine.
- The foreshore is surrounded by absolute waterfront properties, many with private jetties.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns within this area.

### Boating Considerations:

- Sunshine Extended is a small bay and is used mainly for fishing from small boats.
- There is not sufficient room for extensive usage of boats.
- Cumulative effect of the concentration of moorings has resulted in no other water activities taking place within the area.

#### Moorings

- This bay represents a small but dense group of moorings, most of which would be owned by persons living locally. Moorings are spread evenly around the bay.
- Moorings are placed around the foreshore two or three deep with a partial access corridor down the middle from the mouth of the bay.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

There are some problems with dinghy storage and access to the water, but these tend to be resolved at a community level.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor in front of their homes.

### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

- The bay is close to its limit of moorings at present.
- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map

Mooring Area: SWAN BAY

Bay Code: SJ

**Location:** Eastern side of Lake Macquarie, adjacent to Swansea Channel

### Distinguishing Features:

- A lease was issued to permit dredging of the bay to a depth of approximately 3.5 metres creating a channel approximately 170 metres wide around the foreshore. The Department of Land and Water Conservation authorised the lessee's dredge to 'break through' the sand spit at the southern end of Swan Bay, connecting it with the Swansea Channel. This has resulted in substantial flow of water through Swan Bay and changed its characteristics considerably.
- The properties surrounding Swan Bay are well established residential areas and predominantly have a narrow reserve between the property and the water.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

 The major part of the bay is shallow. Significant beds of Zostera capricorni exist in the shallows.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- The bay affords protected moorings for boats.
- Due to its small size the waterway has restricted use but is on occasions used by vessels towing aquaplaners and by fishermen.

#### **Moorings**

- Due to limitations to the access of moorings from the land, moorings will only be two wide close to the shore and a further one row of moorings on the far side of the newly established channel.
- The rows of moorings adjacent to the shoreline will have the effect of protecting the shore, properties and structures from vessels at speed and their associated noise. Therefore, no vessel at speed should be able to navigate within 100 metres of the shore.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

Moorings are of low intensity therefore do not present a problem in terms of dinghy storage or for car parking.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

The community value peace, tranquillity, and the arrangements of mooring assist with meeting this need.

# Priority Waiting List • Area: (Y/N)

Y

Outcomes:

Moorings are available in this area as depicted on the relevant maps.

Mooring Area: SWANSEA CHANNEL

Bay Code: SA

**Location:** Eastern side of Lake Macquarie connecting it to the ocean

### Distinguishing Features:

- The vast majority of Swansea Channel is reserve or parkland.
- This waterway is predominantly very shallow for its full length except for the marked navigation channel that winds its way from the lake to the ocean.
- At the Swansea Bar there is a full tidal range, with approximately 1.8m of water over the bar at low tide.
- The Swansea Bridge causes a constriction to the flow of water. At 'The Dropover', despite there being a considerable flow of water, there is virtually no tidal effect.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There is significant sand movement within parts of the channel. This sand movement has the effect of changing the depths of the channel dramatically in a short period. This has resulted in regular maintenance dredging being required.

### Boating Considerations:

 An 8 knot zone exists from Swan Bay to the southern tip of Coon Island. This acts to protect swimmers, marinas and navigating vessels from vessels at speed in this congested section of waterway.

#### **Moorings**

- Waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities eg. Fishing, swimming, canoeing.
- Moorings would be deemed to constitute a hazard to navigation.
- There are 2 courtesy moorings available on the eastern side of Swansea bridge.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- The area is serviced by five boat launching ramps, two that have excellent amenities such as car parks, fish cleaning tables, toilets and picnic facilities.
- Because of the changing nature of the depth of the water on regular basis maintenance, dredging is required annually to permit deep draught vessels to transit the channel.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

- Access to Lake Macquarie from the ocean is through the Swansea Channel. Siltation within the channel is an issue that needs to be addressed from time to time.
- There is an expectation by many that the channel depth be maintained to allow all recreational vessels to transit without problems.
   This depth would equate to about 2.4 metres.

#### Priority Waiting List •

Area: (Y/N)
Outcomes:

- Area closed.
- There will be no moorings allocated in this area.
- The existing moorings will not be re-issued.

**SWANSEA FLATS** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZΒ

Location:

Eastern side of Lake Macquarie, south of Swansea Channel

### Distinguishing Features:

- This area will be deemed to extend from the northern most section of Swansea west of Coon Island, southwards along the lake foreshore to Galgabba Point.
- This area has a sand bottom for its full extent, is extremely shallow (depths of less than a metre may be experienced for more than five hundred metres offshore) and has extensive areas of seagrass.
- The foreshore is mainly reserve, with some parkland.
- The surrounding land is flat, has almost no elevation and is part of the well-established residential suburb of Swansea.

### Environmental Considerations:

- This area is shallow and has large areas of the seagrass, Zostera.
- The foreshore, seagrasses and seabed show significant effects of the existing concentration of pole moorings.
- Anecdotal evidence would suggest that this area has silted up considerably over a period of years.

#### Boating Considerations: Moorings

 This area has been a historic mooring facility for Swansea residents and is their only lakeside mooring area.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- The proximity of vessels to the shore and their 'shoestring' placement has resulted in boat owners accessing their vessels by driving over reserves.
- In the area south of the Fishing Co-op to Galgabba Point, off Lake Road a launching ramp extends into a relatively shallow, kilometre long marked channel that leads into the deep water of Lake Macquarie.

Residents' value having their vessels moored close to their properties.

There is a public jetty south of the launching ramp.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues: Priority Waiting List •

Area: (Y/N)
Outcomes:

- Y
- This area is very limited in its suitability for moorings due to the depth of water, siltation, proximity to shore and limitations of channel leading into the area. However following extensive consultation with the public and relevant government agencies, moorings will remain in this area subject to conditions.
- Due to the above limitations, the area is more suitable for shallow draft and smaller vessels than for large motor cruisers. There will be limitations on the type of vessel that will be permitted to moor within the area.
- Swansea Flats is the subject of various studies and ongoing discussions and as such the plan will be altered to reflect any future changes.

**TAYLORS BAY** 

**Bay Code:** 

ZF

Location:

Western side of the northern end of Crangan Bay at the Southern end of Lake Macquarie.

### Distinguishing Features:

- Covers the area from Diamond Drill Point northwards to the tip of Point Wolstoncroft.
- The residential area surrounding the bay is Gwandalan, while the adjacent NSW Sport and Recreation Camp is know as Point Wolstoncroft. The peninsula on which the NSW Sport and Recreation camp is situated is part of the National Parks and Wildlife Services State Recreation Areas.
- A small rock bluff that stands out from the rest of its relatively flat surroundings dominates the south-east corner of this bay. The southern corner of this bay has a residential area. The vast majority of the area is crown land and used for the above mentioned recreation area.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

There are no significant environmental concerns in Taylors Bay.

### Boating Considerations:

- Taylors Bay is very scenic, unspoiled and used extensively by vessels at anchor wanting to 'get away from it all'. Fishing, waterskiing and other water related activities also take place.
- The area affords protection from the winter westerlies.

#### **Moorings**

- There are only a few moorings in this area.
- The majority of this area is part of a State Recreation Reserve, and as such no moorings will be permitted adjacent to the Reserve.
- Between Diamond Drill Point and the small launching ramp, there is one compact group of moorings within this bay. The moorings will be up to four wide and tapering to each end.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- Due to the small number of moorings in this area, they do not apply pressure to public resources or utilities.
- The NSW Sport and Recreation Camp is in Taylors Bay. There is one commercial mooring in this area and it is associated with the government owned and run camp. This mooring may be used from time to time for rescue or authorised visiting craft. The mooring is off the camp's jetty and swimming enclosure, which is within Taylors Bay.

# Community Values & • Associated Issues:

There are few residences within the prescribed area, but visitors from the greater area use the area for recreational purposes.

Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

- Unless required by the NSW Government, land owners, there will not be any further moorings beyond the existing group on this foreshore for the following reasons;
- a) The waters are to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg. Skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.
- b) The area to be maintained without moorings for their environmental and scenic values.
- c) Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on the map.

**TORONTO** 

**Bay Code:** 

SP

Location:

Western sector of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

#### Distinguishing Features:

- Toronto will be deemed to extend northwards from Dewey Point in the south to the Fennell Bay road bridge in the north.
- The area is a foreshore of about two and a half kilometres that forms a very shallow bay.
- There is a mixture of absolute waterfront properties, reserves, parks and commercial areas along this foreshore.
- Much of the foreshore has been developed to include retaining walls. There is no natural vegetation, including trees, remaining.
- The area is a mixture of residential waterfront properties, many with private jetties, reserves, parks, and retail commercial area. A small marina, public jetty and launching ramp exists near the commercial heart of Toronto and a licensed club with marina facilities exists nearby.

#### Environmental Considerations:

The water is reasonably deep except for the area north of Fig Tree

#### **Boating Considerations:**

The area is used mainly as an area for sailing, both dinghies and yachts, as well as small fishing vessels.

#### **Moorings**

- Moorings will be kept away from the public foreshore areas near the commercial heart of Toronto to prevent possible conflict with the use of the water.
- Immediately offshore from the Toronto Public Jetty has been set aside for commercial moorings. The moorings have been placed in such a way as to allow a corridor from the south and north to the public jetty.

#### Infrastructure Considerations:

- The Toronto Public Jetty is utilised by a number of commercial vessel operators. On the jetty is a public sewage pump-out facility. Because of a lack of suitable commercial facilities on the lake, this jetty and its nearby utilities, eg garbage, car parks, become particularly strained during weekends in the summer months.
- North of Fig Tree Point, a small launching ramp has been provided for shallow draft vessels.

#### Community Values & **Associated Issues:**

- Members of the RMYC value ability to moor close to the club and associated facilities.
- The community is largely involved actively in boating or enjoys watching.

#### Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

- Moorings will continue to be permitted near the Royal Motor Yacht Club but only to the existing perimeter.
- Mooring areas are close to their limits.
- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

Mooring Area: WALLABY BAY

Bay Code: ZJ

**Location:** Southern end of Lake Macquarie

Distinguishing Features:

- Wallaby Bay extends from the tip of Frying Pan Bay in the north to the tip of a rocky outcrop in the south.
- This foreshore has a narrow reserve running for its full length. The southern end is called Sandy Beach.
- The southern section is undeveloped and land that is flat in nature.
- Behind the reserve in the northern quarter of this area are waterfront residential properties on a reasonably steep slope. They have the appearance of being 'tucked into the trees'.

Environmental Considerations: Boating Considerations:

- There are no significant environmental concerns along this waterfront.
- Many groups use Sandy Beach south of Wallaby Bay mainly for waterskiing in the warmer months.
- The area affords protection from the north-easterly summer breezes.

**Moorings** 

 This small area is open to westerly and southerly winds and it has an uneven and generally shallow rocky bottom making it only suitable for small vessels.

Infrastructure Considerations:

There is a swimming area and launching ramp.

Community Values & Associated Issues:

Members of the local community value this open space.

Priority Waiting List •

Area: (Y/N)

N

**Outcomes:** 

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on the map.

**WANGI BAY** 

Bay Code:

SG

Location:

South West corner of the northern section of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Wangi Bay extends from Wangi RSL Club in the south-east, the Wangi District Workers Club in the west, to the south east tip of Arcadia Vale. The bay is open and circular in shape.
- There is a retail commercial area adjacent to the Wangi RSL Club, and other than the two clubs, the rest of the area is an established residential area. The western vista of the bay is dominated by the Wangi Power Station that is no longer operative.
- A waterfront reserve extends for the majority of the bay. Much of the reserve has remnant old growth trees, but lawns have replaced all other native flora. The foreshore shows signs of erosion through loss of native flora and undermining by wave action.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

 Foreshore erosion has resulted from removal of understorey and foreshore vegetation. Moorings may well be acting to keep underway vessels away from the shore and therefore assist in reducing further damage.

# **Boating Considerations:**

- The bay receives a great deal of boating use in the warmer months. The nearby Wangi Sailing Club sails both dinghies and keelboats.
- The area is protected from southerly and westerly breezes but is exposed to north-easterly breezes.
- The launching ramp attracts all types of trailerable vessels and at any time there can be many vessels on the bay involved in fishing, skiing, aquaplaning etc.

#### **Moorings**

- Cumulative effect of concentrated moorings between the Wangi RSL and Wangi Workers Club has resulted in the mooring area being constrained to its present boundary.
- The area between the Wangi launching ramp and the Wangi Workers Club has a large and concentrated group of moorings. The mooring area will not be permitted to extend beyond its present boundaries, but 'holes' will be filled in.
- There is a courtesy mooring available in Wangi Bay.

### Infrastructure Considerations:

- This area represents a relatively dense mooring area and therefore there are the associated problems of dinghy storage. This problem is being addressed by the LMCC.
- Wangi Workers Club jetty has a sewage pump out facility available to local and visiting boats.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many in the community value the ability to moor close to the sailing and registered clubs.
- Some members of the community value being able to leave their dinghies on the foreshore for convenient access to vessels on moorings.

# Priority Waiting List N Area: (Y/N)

**Outcomes:** 

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**WANGI POINT** 

**Bay Code:** 

SO

Location:

Peninsula in the centre of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Wangi Point is the group of small bays and headlands at the eastern end of the Wangi peninsula.
- The majority of Wangi Point forms part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's (NPWS) Lake Macquarie State Recreation Area.
- The area controlled by NPWS is one of the most pristine areas of bushland on the lake foreshore.
- The northern most section is controlled by the LMCC and is used as a caravan park.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

The area is adjacent to a State Recreation Area with relatively untouched shoreline.

### Boating Considerations:

- A launching ramp for small vessels exists in the corner of the bay beside the caravan park.
- Waters are used extensively for passive use by caravan park guests and local residents.

#### **Moorings**

- The existing moorings within the area are positioned immediately offshore from the Caravan Park. The existing moorings protect the water activities that occur in this bay.
- The adjacent area is part of a State Recreation Area.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- Off Wangi Point, there is a caravan park, which dominates the small bay. There is a lot of holiday activity in the bay due to the high concentration of tourists associated with the caravan park.
- In this area there is a boat launching ramp.

### Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor vessels in front of their homes.
- The public value the scenic attributes of moored vessels
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and as such, the Authority has left ample free area to accommodate these needs.
- The 'larger' community, and boating fraternity in particular, values the untouched rugged nature of the foreshore and their ability to use these protected waters for all types of boating activities.

# Priority Waiting List • Area: (Y/N)

Ν

- Moorings will be retained in this area. The existing area in the east will be extended and an additional area at the western end has been created.
- Future moorings placement will not hinder access to boatramp, jetty and reserve.
- Passive use corridor to be maintained.

WANGI SOUTH

Bay Code:

ZY

Location:

The northern edge of the southern section of Lake Macquarie.

# Distinguishing Features:

- Wangi South extends along the southern peninsula of Wangi, from Goonda Point in the west to the south-east tip of Wangi Point in the east.
- This area is a long east-west foreshore of about five kilometres in length, which has a reserve running its full length.
- The eastern tip is part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Lake Macquarie State Park.
- With the exception of a small park, there are waterfront residential properties for the full length of this area.
- The area is rocky with steep foreshores descending into deep water.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

 Caulerpa taxifolia exists in this area and will be taken into consideration when placing moorings.

### Boating Considerations:

- Many vessels anchor along this shoreline during summer, sheltering from the north-easterly breeze. It provides protected and quiet anchorage under the right conditions.
- Ski boats and aquaplaners also use these uncluttered waters as they too take advantage of still water created by the protection given by the nearby peninsula.

#### **Moorings**

 There are a small number of moorings in existence in the eastern area of Wangi.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

There is a park on the only reasonably flat area along this foreshore and it has picnic and toilet facilities as well as a launching ramp. This ramp cannot be used in southerly winds.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- Many of the local people own vessels and value the ability to be able to moor vessels in front of their homes.
- The public value the scenic attributes of moored vessels
- The bay is very popular for a range of boating activities and is utilised by both locals and visitors and as such, the Authority has left ample free area to accommodate these needs.
- The 'larger' community, and boating fraternity in particular, values the untouched rugged nature of the foreshore and their ability to use these protected waters for all types of boating activities.

# Priority Waiting List • Area: (Y/N)

• N

Outcomes:

 Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.

**WARNERS BAY** 

Bay Code:

SS

Location:

Northern end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- The vast majority of Warners Bay is surrounded by a reserve which is used regularly by recreational walkers and family groups. A walking track follows the foreshore and is regularly used by residents.
- The surrounding area is largely residential and the commercial area of Warners Bay dominates the central part.
- A major arterial road separates the reserve from the residential and commercial areas.
- There is little natural vegetation that exists however, LMCC is undertaking restoration of the foreshore and planting of native trees.
- The reserve is popular for organised activities on summer evenings.

### **Environmental Considerations:**

- A majority of Warners Bay is relatively shallow.
- Some beds of Zostera seagrasses exist in this area.

# Boating Considerations:

 The waters are used extensively for waterskiing, wakeboarding and PWCs.

#### Moorings

- Two groups of moorings exist in this area; one off Cherry Road and the other group off the residential area at Rocky Point.
- The arrangement of moorings south of the Lions Park has the effect of keeping vessels at speed, ski boats away from the residential areas.
- Moorings will not be permitted in the majority of Warners Bay, as it would conflict with present land and water usage.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

- There are car-parking concerns at Cherry Road since the construction of the walking track and the installation of road bollards.
- Access to the water is gained by either of the launching ramps at Eleebana or Cockle Creek.
- The public jetty has limited use due to surrounding shallow water.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

The community value open space and the waterway free of encumbrance.

#### Priority Waiting List N

Area: (Y/N)

- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map.
- Moorings off Cherry Road are restricted to twenty (20) due to the lack of car parking facilities.
- Moorings immediately south of the Lions Park will be allowed to extend farther offshore to act as a buffer and protect vessels navigating in the area of the rocky shoal immediately west of the Lions Park.

WYEE BAY

Bay Code:

ZM

Location:

Extreme end of Lake Macquarie

### Distinguishing Features:

- Wyee Bay extends from the southern most point in Wyee Bay, northward along the western side of the bay, westward to include the area of Morisset Hospital and northward to Bluff Point.
- The Morisset Hospital site is part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's State Recreation Area.
- This area is in the local government area of the City of Lake Macquarie.
- This area is spread across a number of small bays and points and is known as Wyee Bay in the south and Morisset Park in the north.
- The majority of this foreshore is largely undeveloped, ranging from a couple of small residential areas with absolute waterfront properties, extensive park land areas associated with the Morisset Hospital to seemingly untouched and natural bushland.
- Much of the water in the area, particularly the head of the bays, is very shallow. Generally, due to the lack of development, the foreshore is more stable than in developed areas. The land in this area is generally flat.

# **Environmental Considerations:**

 This area contains areas of shallow water with estuarine habitat and a State Recreation Reserve.

### **Boating Considerations:**

- Extensive skiing and aquaplaning takes place in this area in the warmer months.
- A caravan park with launching ramp results in a higher than normal use of the waterway during the summer months.
- Hire houseboats use this area for a quiet anchorage.

#### **Moorings**

- There are a number of small groups of moorings within this relatively large area.
- Areas to be maintained without moorings for its environmental and scenic value.

# Infrastructure Considerations:

• This area has few moorings spread over a large area of foreshore. Therefore, they apply no pressures on public utilities or resources.

# Community Values & Associated Issues:

- The area consists of a number of very small communities.
- There are some conflicts as some persons believe that the area should be left in a serene state for passive water activities only, while others utilise it for skiing and active water pursuits.

# Priority Waiting List Narea: (Y/N)

- Mooring areas will not extend beyond their present limits as shown on map
- Moorings will be restricted for the following reasons;
- Waters to be left free of moorings for use by other boating activities, eg., skiing, fishing, PWCs, canoeing, swimming, family activities, etc.

#### **APPENDICES**

- 1. Map of Lake Macquarie North
- 2. Map of Lake Macquarie South

