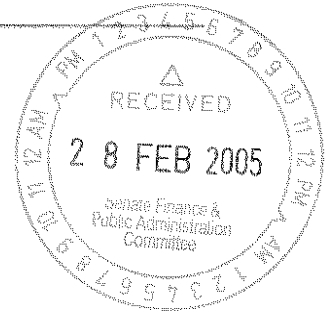


Fenn, Lisa (SEN)

From: John Asquith [KYANSAL@bigpond.com]
Sent: Friday, 25 February 2005 5:37 PM
To: FPA, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Tumb Creek Presentation to Wyong Council



Alistair Sands,

Attached is the power point presentation given to councillors at Wyong on Tumbi Creek in November 2003 which was requested by one of the Senators yesterday at El Lago.

I have found the two newspaper reports requested and will send them by fax to 6277-5809.

John Asquith



CCCEN Submission Tumbi Creek Dredging

John Asquith
Chairman
Central Coast Community
Environment Network
23rd November 2003

The Problem

- The Problem is not the dredging
 - Although dredging is not a sustainable solution
- The Problem is the Disposal
 - The spoil is nutrient rich and contains potential acid sulphate soil material.

Public Perception

- Contacts with our office and by members and the public indicate:

Strong opposition to disposal in the lake.

The Need for Dredging Tumbi Creek

- Economic/Social
 - Potential flooding of homes in a 1% event;
- Social
 - Swimming, and;
 - Recreational boat access.

Flooding

- Dredging proposed is high to allow for sedimentation build up.
- A rough estimate is that after about 4 years the flooding danger may increase due to sedimentation above a 1% event.

Swimming

- Water quality is poor due to:
 - Closure;
 - Ducks, and wildlife;
 - Drainage from homes and industry;
 - Low flow through creek
 - Modification of the stream shape.

Swimming after dredging

- Creek Water should be better due to dilution by lake waters;
- However, sources of pollution remain the same;
- Creek Water may still not meet *Recreational Water Standards for swimming*.

Boat Access

- Recreational Boat Access;
 - If there are only 20 small boats on creek
Cost of dredging per boat = \$15,000
(Based on dredging cost of \$300,000)

Disposal

- Current proposal is for dumping into lake with on going monitoring.
- Alternative costed by council is for trucking to off site dump and treatment for Acid Sulphate Soils.

What's wrong with Lake Disposal?

- Adds human induced nutrients to lake;
- Removes seagrasses;
- Placement @100mm thick will be difficult;
- Wind will re-suspend material
- Bad Message to community, and;
- A double standard by council.

An Alternative for Disposal

- Dispose of spoil into sewerage system;
 - By tanker to south Wyong Treatment works close by, and/or;
 - Minimise dredging quantity
 - Needs detailed investigation and trials by council

Treatment

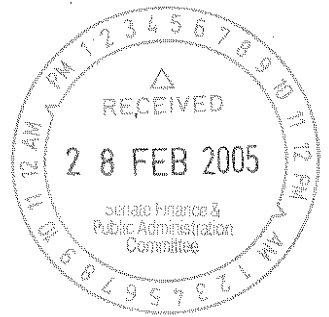
- Sewerage Treatment works;
 - Digests organic matter;
 - Removes sediment into ponds, any acidity could be easily treated.
 - Salt may be a problem
- Dredge output would be fed to comprise only a percentage of sewerage flow.

Future

- Tumbi Creek needs a rehabilitation plan, for;
 - The mouth, banks, catchment, and;
 - Water Quality.

Summary

- Don't dispose of this human induced spoil into the lake;
- The lakes needs less nutrient input not more;
- Allow time for investigation of alternatives.



N1661

Just dump it into the lake

From John Asquith

I AM writing in regard to the editorial and article on dredging of Tumbi Creek (*Herald* 16/11).

The key issue in this instance is not what is dug out of Tumbi Creek but rather, where it is to be dumped.

The proposal, being promoted by both State and Local government at a cost of \$300,000, is to dredge the mouth of the creek and dump the spoil into Tuggerah Lake as an 'experiment'.

The dredging will definitely improve the water quality and amenity of Tumbi Creek.

But dumping spoil in the lake in the guise of an experiment will do nothing to improve the condition of the lake.

The last thing Tuggerah Lake needs is more sediment put into it.

What we do need is good catchment management and removal of sediment where possible.

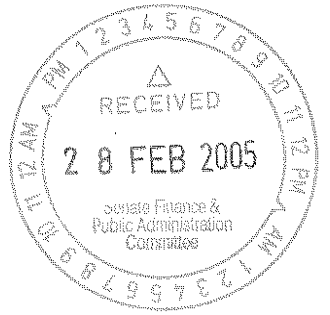
John Asquith
Ourimbah
November 18

cc H
19.11.02

CENTRAL

COAST

HERALD



Handwritten signatures:
 New Year
 CCH
 [Signature]

NEW LIFE INTO CREEK

BY ANY EDWARDS

CCH 14-12-02

N1895

ONE of the Central Coast's most complex environmental problems is closer to being solved.

After years of severe siltation and high bacteria levels, Tumbi Creek is likely to have clean water by the middle of next year.

Members of the Tumbi Creek Action Committee and residents heard Member for The Entrance Grant McBride and Wyong Shire Deputy Mayor Bob Graham announce yesterday that dredging of the creek would begin in February.

Marshall and Glenda Barnett said they had watched the creek go from being a popular swimming spot to a bog hole devoid of any wild life over the past five years.

'Today has been very pleasing,' she said.

'It's been a long and hard battle for all the residents.' The Barnetts said they and other residents had been lobbying Wyong Shire Council and the State Government intensely for two years to do something about the creek.

'At times you felt it was futile,' Mr Barnett said.

'But none of us are experts; you have to go with what they say is a solution.'

Mr McBride said methods of toxic silt disposal were looked at and approved through State departments before any announcement was made.

He said it was decided the dredge spoil would be dispersed thinly on the bed of Tuggerah Lakes.

'We have all been frustrated by the length of this



BATTLE WON: Residents Marshall and Glenda Barnett at Tumbi Creek, Tumbi Urmbi, yesterday. — Picture by Ryan Osland

process but this is a sensitive location,' the MP said.

'I am pleased that a workable solution has now been found and the necessary approvals to council have been given.'

Wyong council will begin dredging Tumbi Creek in two months at a cost of \$350,000.

The council has applied to the State Government for this cost to be shared equally,

because Tumbi Creek is State-owned and on Crown land.

Last month, the Central Coast Community Environment Network told the Her-

ald the dumping of the silt at the bottom of Tuggerah Lakes would add to the unnaturally high levels of sediment.

Chairman John Asquith said the silt should be taken

to a tip and treated.

Cr Graham said yesterday that he was confident the disposal of silt would not affect fish or other marine life in Tuggerah Lakes.

'If you keep it under water, it's non-toxic,' he said.

'If you bring it up it is toxic.'

This will be the fourth time the creek has been dredged since 1974.

The council will dredge a 50-metre-wide and two-metre-deep navigation channel through the shoals.

This is a short-term solution to problems in Tumbi Creek.

The Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan will be made public next year.

It will outline long-term plans for all of the Tuggerah Lakes catchment.

— Mrs. [Name] [Address]