



Department of Primary Industries

OUT12/8420

NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

(Attn: Mark Brown)

Dear Mr Brown

**Re: Preferred Project Report (PPR) / Summary of Submissions Report (RtS) for
the Concept Plan for Cronulla Sharks Development at 461 Captain Cook Drive,
Woollooware (MP10_0229)**

Thank you for your email dated 4 April 2012 requesting NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) - Fisheries comments on the Preferred Project Report (PPR) and Summary of Submissions Report (RtS) for Shark Park Development or any recommended conditions of approval for the proposal stated above.

DPI-Fisheries has reviewed the PPR and RtS considering aquatic habitat, aquatic reserve and aquaculture concerns and wishes to provide the following comment on this document.

The Department commends the inclusion of an assessment of potential impacts to the adjoining Towra Point Aquatic Reserve and the amended design of the riparian zone. This amended design will result in some improved functionality of the riparian zone than what was previously proposed at the environmental assessment stage of this project. However, it is noted that some further improvements to the ecological buffer of the adjoining wetland could be achieved by further reducing the proposed paving within the riparian zone.

As stated in DPI-Fisheries previous submission on this project (our ref: OUT11/21240), considering current Fisheries policies, existing site conditions and the adjoining wetland of conservation significance, DPI-Fisheries supports a 40m wide buffer zone at this site. However, as much of the proponent's justification for a 30m wide riparian buffer zone is based on the NSW Office of Water's (NOW) Guidelines for Riparian Corridors, DPI-Fisheries will support NOW's final recommendation regarding the width of the riparian buffer zone.

While in the PPR / RtS, the proponent has provided some justification for a 30m wide buffer zone, they have not addressed any potential benefits of an additional 10m wide buffer.

Further, as previously stated the Department recommends that the conditions of approval ensure that:

- mangroves are not harmed in upgrading the existing mangrove boardwalk, and
- foreshore boardwalks are to be set back from the crown of mangrove trees so that maintenance trimming of mangroves for safety purposes will not be required over time.

DPI-Fisheries would like to see included in the Statement of Commitments for this proposal a commitment to preparing and installing signage and adequate measures to manage trampling of vegetation and dumping of waste amongst mangrove habitat. Commitment to managing such potential impacts across this site should be made at the concept rather than detailed design stage.

For any further information concerning the above, please contact Carla Ganassin on (02) 9527 8552 or carla.ganassin@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Bill Talbot
Director, Aquaculture, Conservation & Marine Parks

27 April 2012