



Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy

2014-2023

Sustain. Enhance. Promote.

Did you know...

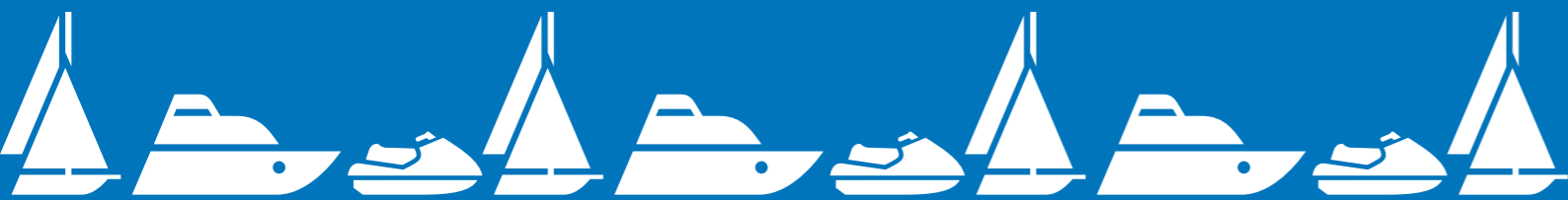
The Gold Coast currently holds about 40,000 (11%) of the State's 240,000 vessel registrations and is recognised as a key national centre for the production of marine craft.

Abbreviations

BMP	Broadwater Marine Project	GCWA	Gold Coast Waterways Authority
CG	Coordinator General	GOLDOC	Commonwealth Games Organising Corporation
CGC	City of Gold Coast	IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
CMP	Coomera Marine Precinct	LGA	Local Government Authority
CST	Cruise Ship terminal	MSQ	Maritime Safety Queensland
DSDIP	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	QLD	Queensland
DNPRSP	Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing	SBS	Sand Bypass System
DNRM	Department of Natural Resources and Mines	SMP	Sand Management Plan
		DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads

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Message from the Chairman

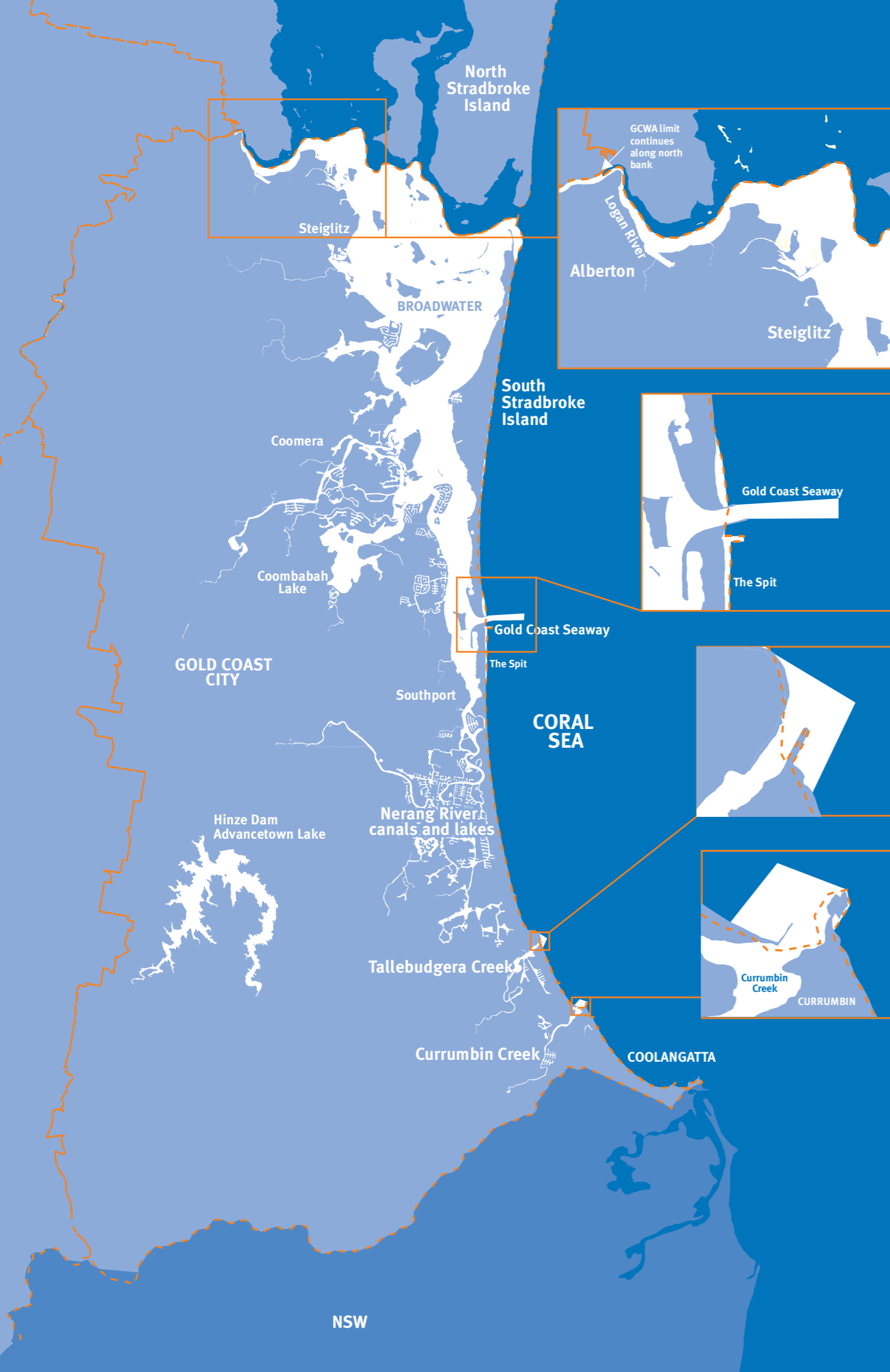
The waterways of the Gold Coast are of great importance to residents, visitors and businesses on the Coast. They are a tremendous asset that attracts visitors to our city and provides a great venue whether we choose to relax and unwind or get the adrenalin pumping with any one of the many water based activities.

In 2012 the Queensland Government created a \$120 million state-wide Marine Infrastructure Fund. Importantly the government also established the Gold Coast Waterways Authority to deliver benefits to residents, visitors and businesses and oversee the \$35.3 million portion of the state-wide funding that was allocated to improve the access to and management of Gold Coast waterways.

In accordance with the *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act 2012* the Gold Coast Waterways Authority has developed this ten year Waterways Management Strategy. This document has been developed in consultation with the City of Gold Coast and the Gold Coast community and having regard to the requirements of state and federal legislation and agencies. This strategy will be delivered through the Waterways Management Program which is a four year rolling investment plan that will be updated and published annually and will detail the investments needed to implement the strategy.

This strategy is an important achievement that will turn the attention towards the waterways in recognition that they are a fantastic asset which we all need to understand, look after, respect, enjoy and share.

Gary Baildon AM
Chairman
Gold Coast Waterways Authority



Background

On 1 December 2012 the Queensland Government established the Gold Coast Waterways Authority (GCWA) to improve access to and management of the waterways and to ensure that the waterways continue to be a great asset available to residents, visitors and businesses on the Gold Coast.

The Gold Coast Waterways Authority was given responsibility for inland waterways including rivers, canals, lakes and dams within the City of Gold Coast local government area as well as the areas at the mouth of the Nerang River, Currumbin Creek and Talgebudgera Creek.

The Gold Coast Waterways Authority has developed this ten year strategy in consultation with the City of Gold Coast and the Gold Coast community that will guide the use, management and development of the waterways.

The area covered by the Gold Coast Waterways Strategy is shown on the area of responsibility map opposite.

As a key driver of local industry and tourism, the waterways, along with the city's ocean beaches, must be protected and maintained so that they remain a valuable asset to the community.

Our vision

A waterways network (and relevant facilities and reserves) that is sustainably managed to reflect and support an appropriate balance between the recreational, tourism, environmental, economic development and commercial aspirations and objectives of the Gold Coast community and visitors.

We want to shine a spotlight on the waterways so that they become something that residents of the Gold Coast can use, understand, protect, respect, enhance and enjoy as much as the City's beaches.



Purpose of this document

The Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy 2014-2023 sets out a vision and major objectives for the development and care of the waterways over the next decade. It aims to turn the attention of locals, visitors and businesses towards the waterways in recognition that they are an important, but often undervalued asset for the community. The strategy also identifies specific areas and actions that will be needed to achieve the vision and deliver the objectives.

The document links to the plans, strategies and laws of other local, state and national government agencies and is intended to influence the plans and priorities of individuals, businesses and agencies with an interest in the waterways. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority will collaborate with these organisations, the community and businesses to align priorities recognising that the success of the strategy depends on their participation.

The document recognises that the Gold Coast Waterways Authority has a major responsibility

for funding and for taking the actions needed for implementation. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority's responsibilities for implementation are detailed in the Gold Coast Waterways Authority's four year rolling program of works, the Gold Coast Waterways Management Program.

This document outlines strategies to understand, look after, respect, use and share the waterways of the Gold Coast.





Community engagement

A draft strategy was released for community consultation in September 2013. The strategy was available from the Gold Coast Waterways Authority in printed form but most people read and commented on the document online.

During the consultation period almost 700 responses including 28 written submissions were received.

The community consultation emphasised that there is an ongoing need to balance the competing needs of the many individuals and groups who use the waterways whilst protecting the environment.

Strategic alignment

The strategy has been prepared in the context of State Government and Council strategies, plans and projects as well as the plans and priorities of the private sector. It also fulfills the requirements of the *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act 2012*.

Refer below for State Government and Council strategies that relate to this strategy.

While development of the strategy has been led by the Gold Coast Waterways Authority, actions required for implementation will not be the sole responsibility of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority. Other organisations such as the City of Gold Coast and the private sector will be asked to accept responsibility for parts of the strategy.

Relevant material

The documents below are references to state and local legislation, strategies and plans that have been used to develop the Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy.

- » Ocean Beaches Strategy 2013-2023 City of Gold Coast
- » Transport Strategy 2013-2023 City of Gold Coast
- » Draft Economic Development Strategy 2013-23 City of Gold Coast
- » Nature Conservation Strategy 2009-2019 City of Gold Coast
- » Gold Coast City Plan
- » Draft Total Water Cycle Management Plan City of Gold Coast
- » Transport Infrastructure Act 1994
- » Transport Infrastructure (Waterways Management) Regulation 2012
- » Maritime Safety Queensland Act 2002
- » Maritime Safety Queensland Regulation 2002
- » Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995
- » Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Regulation 2008
- » Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994
- » Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation
- » Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995
- » Local Government Act 2009
- » Sustainable Planning Act 2009
- » Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 2004
- » Fisheries Act 1994
- » Marine Parks Act 2004
- » Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008

Current trends and issues

This strategy addresses key trends and issues that are faced now and that are likely to emerge in the next ten years.

Issue	Implications
Waterways are increasingly popular	<p>Popularity of waterways and improvements in access means that growth in use has continued. This means that there is a growing need to manage congestion, balance competing needs of users, ensure safety and increase capacity.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority believes that there is a great opportunity to make better use of the waterways while continuing to protect their environmental value and ensuring that the individuals and groups who use the waterways do so safely.</p>
Access to waterways is limited	<p>Existing and future demand from recreational users, passenger and tourist vessels, and maintenance vessels needs to be managed across a diverse range of existing and future facilities. Opportunities to establish new facilities are often limited due to existing development, access constraints and significant environmental values. Existing facilities should be optimised and embellished where possible, and new sites identified and secured to address future demand. Management initiatives should respond to expected demand, including opportunities to work with the private sector regarding alternatives such as dry stack storage.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority is considering feasible solutions to this issue by monitoring use and identifying potential new locations for boating infrastructure and amenity.</p>
Broadwater Marine Project (BMP)	<p>The Broadwater Marine Project (BMP) or Cruise Ship Terminal (CST) and associated developments are outside the scope of this strategy. The project is being led by the Department of State Development Infrastructure and Planning in Brisbane in partnership with the City of Gold Coast.</p> <p>Despite this, during the community consultation on this strategy, feedback was provided about the Broadwater Marine Project or Cruise Ship Terminal. In particular some respondents were concerned that a strategy for the Gold Coast's waterways would be difficult to finalise until the outcomes of the Broadwater Marine Project were known.</p> <p>The Board of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority considered this but recognised that there is a lot to be done and that the majority of objectives in this strategy will remain relevant and important whether or not the Broadwater Marine Project proceeds. The decision has been made to continue with development and implementation of the strategy and to remain ready to respond to the outcomes of the Broadwater Marine Project once they are known.</p>



Issue	Implications
Waterways environment is important and requires protection	<p>The environmental impact of increased use and development must be understood and managed. The creation of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority provides an opportunity to promote collaboration and co-operation to work towards improved outcomes.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority is committed to preserving environmental values. As part of this commitment, the Gold Coast Waterways Authority will allocate funding for continued research into environmental issues such as strategies to monitor and protect seagrass beds.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority will also move away from using Swing Moorings and implement new infrastructure and mooring arrangements that deliver better outcomes for the environment as well as increased mooring density for vessels.</p> <p>Climate change – the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports increasing confidence that impacts including storm surge, increased severity of weather events and sea level rise will affect coastal areas such as the Gold Coast. The implications of these possible changes on infrastructure and planning must be considered.</p> <p>Moreton Bay Marine Park - A large part of Gold Coast waterways is within the Moreton Bay Marine Park. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority will work closely with the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing (DNPRSR) to jointly deliver outcomes sought by this strategy in that area.</p>

Current trends and issues

Issue	Implications
The valuable contribution that Gold Coast waterways make is underestimated	<p>The Gold Coast has traditionally promoted strengths such as its great weather and fantastic beaches however there is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the waterways and recognise the value of the waterways network.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority will support and encourage aquatic events and activities to increase awareness of the waterways.</p> <p>Waterways connect the community – too often waterways have been regarded as something that divides the Gold Coast community by making road traffic congestion worse or as a backdrop for the conflicting interests of waterway users. Steps will be taken through this strategy to encourage the community to see the waterways as an important link for the community and as a positive and important place where families get together or where interest groups can meet to pursue their hobbies and sports. There is an opportunity to turn the focus of the Gold Coast community towards the waterways, supporting connections along and across the waterways, to Moreton Bay communities to the north and to national and international waters.</p> <p>Alignment between land use and waterways planning – some parts of the existing urban environment turn away from waterways rather than embrace, activate or sensitively manage these frontages. There is an opportunity to change this through improved coordination and alignment between land/water use and infrastructure planning within government strategies, policies and decision making.</p>
Waterways must be safe	<p>As the popularity of the waterways increases the need to proactively manage the safety of individuals and groups who use the waterways is of paramount importance.</p> <p>To this end, the Gold Coast Waterways Authority and its enforcement partners will continue to implement initiatives that will affect behaviour and make the waterways safer for all those who use them. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority and its partners will also work with community groups to promote public safety and to establish codes of conduct for behaviour on the water.</p>

Issue	Implications
Users must respect others	<p>The issue of speed and behaviour has been identified during consultation on the Waterways Strategy as a very important issue that affects many waterways users as well as those who live beside the waterways.</p> <p>Problems have been caused by various user groups wanting to enjoy the limited space on or beside the waterways but doing this through incompatible activities. For example water skiing and jetskis travelling at speeds above 6 knots can sometimes be incompatible with those who want to enjoy tranquility in their waterfront home; surfers at Currumbin Alley can come into conflict with boaties crossing the bar and trainee sailors at Hollywell can find it hard to manoeuvre and avoid motor boats travelling at high speed through the channel. There are many other examples of these incompatible uses. It will be important to get the speed limits and regulations right and then to enforce the rules effectively to solve these potential problems.</p> <p>The Gold Coast Waterways Authority will work with enforcement partners and the community to make sure that the laws governing speed, wash, noise and behaviour are up to date and account for the latest technology. They must also account for the greater development beside the water and the greater density of users on the water. This will be supported by management plans for specific areas where the potential for conflicting use exists as well as for specific user groups such as surfers, boaties and sailors.</p> <p>Responses to these challenges will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better infrastructure such as new channels and better navigation aids to improve access and safety, • better education and information on ways to enjoy the waterways safely and respect other users, and • better enforcement, including use of technologies such as cameras to support and augment the enforcement activities. • better communication with effective engagement through social media channels.

Current trends and issues



Issue	Implications
<p>Gold Coast Seaway is an important strategic asset</p>	<p>The Gold Coast Seaway and Broadwater system is complex and evolving. The Seaway is the Gold Coast's primary gateway to international waters and currently provides an important public health service as it accommodates the city's release for excess recycled water. The Seaway is also a busy and sometimes congested area used by many diverse groups including boaties, divers and surfers crossing to South Stradbroke Island. The condition and management of the Seaway, the Sand Bypass System and the delta requires careful monitoring and management to meet current and future expectations of the community.</p>
<p>Waterways management is a complex jurisdictional environment</p>	<p>Jurisdictional coordination – waterways management, planning and regulation is complex with a diverse range of jurisdictions and interests. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority has an important new role as a central point of coordination to improve alignment and efficiently plan and deliver waterways outcomes. The Gold Coast Waterways Authority was created to respond quickly and effectively to the needs and priorities of the Gold Coast and to solve local issues locally by bringing together the relevant agencies to tackle emerging issues.</p>
<p>Holistic water cycle management is needed</p>	<p>Improved water quality requires a holistic approach to water cycle management. The scope of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority includes dams, lakes, rivers, canals and estuaries and the growing pressure on natural systems from urbanisation and community enjoyment must be balanced to ensure the natural qualities that make our waterways attractive and valuable are not lost over time.</p>





**Sustain.
Enhance.
Promote.**

Our Objectives

Objectives

Enjoyment of waterways is sustainable, safe and efficient.

Investment in improved waterways access balances diversity of use and protects environmental values.

Decisions flowing from the Strategy are informed by sound research and are guided by consultation with stakeholders and by future demand while also meeting investment criteria.

Plans and actions for the waterways are coordinated with and responsive to other related activities.

Strategic Outcomes

These objectives can be achieved by taking actions that deliver three strategic outcomes being sustain, enhance and promote.

Outcome	Overview
Sustain	Those who enjoy the waterways do so safely and responsibly. The waterways remain an important asset now and into the future.
Enhance	The opportunity to enjoy the waterways is increased efficiently and sustainably so that capacity keeps pace with demand.
Promote	Residents, businesses and visitors value and enjoy our unique waterways. Enjoyment and use of the waterways is promoted in a responsible way, based on the best research and in coordination with related plans.



Sustain

Those who enjoy the waterways do so safely and responsibly. The waterways remain an important asset now and into the future.

What does this mean for the community?

- » Environmental values are protected
- » Waterways are maintained and free from hazards
- » Channels and navigation aids are maintained, reliable and adequate
- » The Gold Coast Seaway is maintained and safe

What are our key actions?

1.1	Maintain channels to adequate depths and widths
1.2	Maintain Navigation Aids
1.3	Maintain the Gold Coast Seaway
1.4	Manage moorings and marinas efficiently
1.5	Manage the use of waterways to balance safety and access for users
1.6	Protect the environment in and beside the waterways
1.7	Prevent and if necessary respond to marine pollution
1.8	Maintain destinations on the waterways
1.9	Maintain existing waterways access facilities

Sustain

Sustain - Detailed Actions	
1.1	Maintain channels to adequate depths and widths (see map on page 13)
1.1.1	Clear abandoned vessels
1.1.2	Implement the Sand Management Plan for channels, destinations and anchorages including environmental approvals, dredging, beach and shoreline nourishment, hydrographic surveys and investigation of the sale of sand
1.1.3	Provide sand for beach and foreshore nourishment in collaboration with the City of Gold Coast
1.1.4	Create and maintain dredge spoil handling facilities needed for the dredging program
1.1.5	Continue the work of groups such as the dredging working group
1.2	Maintain Navigation Aids
1.2.1	Review the way in which navigation aids are maintained to ensure the best use of resources while meeting safety requirements
1.2.2	Implement the Navaid maintenance program
1.3	Maintain the Gold Coast Seaway
1.3.1	Investigate the use of renewable energy for the Sand Bypass System
1.3.2	Implement an engineering solution to address scouring of the seaway wall
1.4	Manage moorings and marinas efficiently
1.4.1	Collect marina fees on behalf of the Queensland Government
1.4.2	Review and update mooring policy and arrangements
1.4.3	Implement mooring policy in partnership with Water Police
1.5	Manage the use of waterways to balance safety and access for users.
1.5.1	Engage with all key user groups and individuals to fully understand their needs and identify options and priorities
1.5.2	Review speed limits, wash, noise and behavior management arrangements
1.5.3	Implement new speed limits and other changes from the review
1.5.4	Develop area management plans for areas where the potential for conflict between users is highest. For example Currumbin Alley and the Gold Coast Seaway

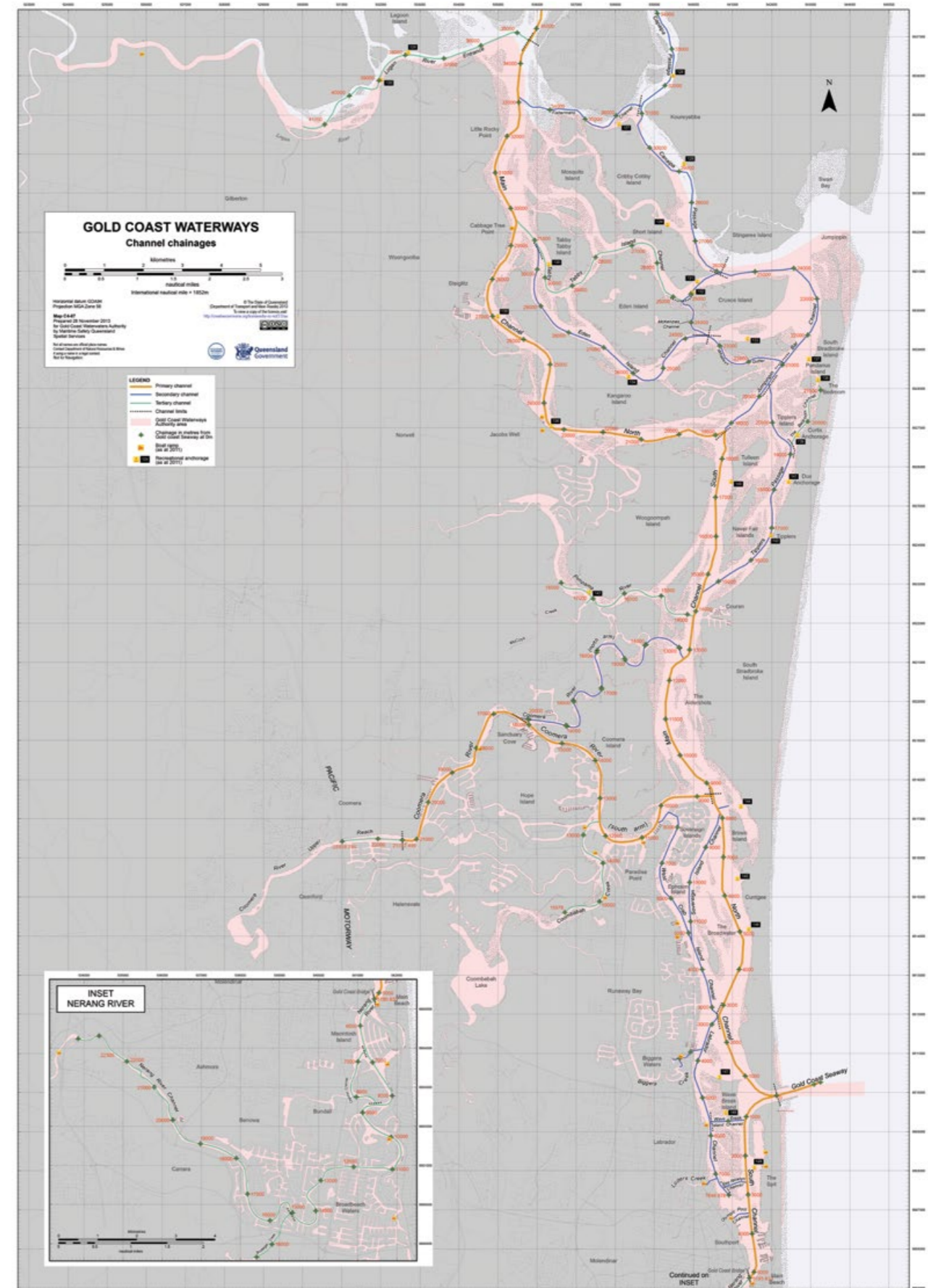
Sustain - Detailed Actions	
1.6	Protect the environment in and beside the waterways
1.6.1	Implement arrangements to ensure the best use of waterside land under the custodianship of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority
1.6.2	Conduct and fund research into the environmental effects of dredged areas and implement offset measures including seagrass replenishment programs
1.6.3	Work with environmental authorities to protect and manage waterways' environmental values
1.6.4	Investigate and implement actions to protect water quality such as management of sewerage from boats, phasing out of 2-stroke motors and enforcing limits for living aboard vessels on swing moorings
1.7	Prevent and if necessary respond to marine pollution
1.7.1	Publish information and initiate campaigns to ensure awareness of responsibilities and consequences of marine pollution
1.7.2	Ensure that staff are trained, adequate plans are in place and resources are available to respond to and clean up spills
1.7.3	Work with the City of Gold Coast, private landholders and State Government departments to reduce pollution from storm water discharges
1.8	Maintain destinations on the waterways
1.8.1	Monitor use of and demand for waterways destinations
1.8.2	Partner with the City of Gold Coast, government agencies and the private sector to ensure waterways destinations are available and meet community expectations
1.9	Maintain existing waterways access facilities
1.9.1	Manage boat ramps, pontoons and other marine infrastructure facilities to optimise performance
1.9.2	Manage demand for marine infrastructure to minimise congestion

Performance Measures for Sustain Actions

- » Dredging projects are delivered to scope, on time and within budget
- » Surveyed depths and widths in navigation channels meet design parameters
- » Comprehensive review of speed and behaviour on the waterways
- » Collaborative networks established with agency partners and other stakeholders
- » Prompt and appropriate response to pollution incidents
- » Sand Bypass System operations appropriately aligned to littoral drift demands
- » Seaway risk mitigation and scour management options adopted
- » Increased moorings, reduced unmet demand and better environmental performance
- » Infrastructure designed and located to protect environmental value
- » Environmental values of the waterways protected



1.1 Maintain channels to adequate depth and widths





Enhance

The opportunity to enjoy the waterways is increased efficiently and sustainably so that capacity keeps pace with demand.

There is an opportunity to invest in the waterways to give greater amenity to Gold Coast residents, visitors and businesses and in doing so, make the waterways an even more valuable asset.

Enhancing the waterways will retain different areas for different purposes. Generally the northern area of the Gold Coast waterways, which is in the southern Moreton Bay area, will remain less developed and will provide opportunities to enjoy a more natural environment. Existing developed areas in the central Gold Coast's waterways including parts of the Coomera and Nerang Rivers, the Southport Broadwater and inland lakes, are appropriate for more intensive recreational and commercial use. The southern area of the Gold Coast's waterways that includes Currumbin and Tallebudgera Creeks are also less developed and require careful management to balance community use and expectations.

What does this mean for the community?

- » Greater recreational options to be enjoyed beside and on the water
- » New destinations for social, sporting and cultural activities with access by boat, aircraft and land
- » Improved transport options
- » Greater opportunities for businesses on and beside the water

What are our key actions?

2.1	Complete the channel network with new dredging projects and navigation aids
2.2	Manage space on the waterways to balance the needs of all users in a way that protects the environment and maximises the recreational and commercial benefits
2.3	Identify and encourage the provision of new and improved waterways destinations
2.4	Provide additional public waterways access facilities, anchorages and destinations
2.5	Improve coordination of land zoning, infrastructure and waterways planning to focus attention on the waterways as a central feature of life on the Gold Coast
2.6	Support and encourage businesses related to the waterways
2.7	Improve efficiency of the Sand Bypass System
2.8	Ensure that the Gold Coast Waterways Authority is flexible and ready to respond to other major projects as they emerge

Enhance

Enhance - Detailed Actions	
2.1	Complete the channel network with new dredging projects and improved navigation aids
2.1.1	Improve channels by completing the missing links in the network such as the south Labrador Channel and the 'two channels strategy'
2.1.1	Review navigation aids and if necessary install new aids to ensure safe operation of the improved network
2.1.2	Ensure the Gold Coast Waterways Authority staff have the resources, training and equipment needed to manage the safe operations of the improved network
2.2	Manage space on the waterways to balance the needs of all users in a way that protects the environment and maximises the recreational and commercial benefits
2.3	Identify and encourage the provision of new and improved waterways destinations
2.3.1	Continue the work of the destinations working group
2.3.2	Collaborate with the City of Gold Coast in planning and construction of destinations such as the redevelopment of Appel Park Wharf in Surfers Paradise, the redevelopment of the Southport Parklands and the development of the Cultural Precinct
2.3.3	Encourage appropriate private sector development of destinations
2.4	Provide additional public waterways access facilities, anchorages and destinations
2.4.1	Trial alternate moorings to increase mooring density and improve environmental performance
2.4.2	Implement a small Marine Infrastructure Investment program for new boat ramps and pontoons
2.4.3	Identify and secure land needed for additional facilities in collaboration with the City of Gold Coast
2.5	Improve coordination of land zoning, infrastructure and waterways planning to focus attention on the waterways as a central feature of life on the Gold Coast
2.5.1	Collaborate with the City of Gold Coast to 'focus on the waterways'
2.5.2	Support and encourage events on the waterways
2.5.3	Improve development outcomes and plan for demand whilst accommodating the need to protect water quality and environmental values
2.5.4	Collaborate with the City of Gold Coast to improve public access to the shoreline through investments such as the extension of riverside walkways

Enhance - Detailed Actions	
2.6	Support and encourage businesses related to the waterways
2.6.1	Review regulations and management of waterways related businesses and reduce impediments
2.6.2	Identify and pursue opportunities to support new waterways businesses and to support the viability of existing waterways businesses
2.6.3	Ensure space on the waterways is managed so that, wherever possible, businesses can operate safely, successfully and in an environmentally sustainable way
2.7	Improve efficiency of the Sand Bypass System
2.7.1	Investigate and, if viable, implement 'green energy' options for sand bypassing
2.7.2	Investigate commercial viability and environmental acceptability of back passing sand to help with beach and foreshore nourishment
2.8	Ensure that the Gold Coast Waterways Authority is flexible and ready to respond to other major projects as they emerge

Performance Measures for Enhance Actions

- » Identified projects or alternatives delivered to scope, on time and within budget
- » The Gold Coast Waterways Authority investments leveraged by partner investments in supporting facilities
- » Improved waterways and destination access opportunities
- » Projects receive community support and/or program amended following consultation
- » Identified Sand Bypass System improvement projects delivered to scope, on time and within budget
- » Appropriate representation of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority interests in Broadwater Marine Project planning should it proceed
- » Planning for foreshores and adjacent areas integrates with waterways' values
- » Infrastructure investments reflect community and stakeholder priorities arising from consultation
- » Improved understanding of the values and use of anchorages and other destinations





Promote

Residents, businesses and visitors value and enjoy our unique waterways. Enjoyment and use of the waterways is promoted in a responsible way, based on the best research and in coordination with related plans.

The opportunity is to turn the attention of the Gold Coast towards the waterways so that they are appreciated and valued in the same way the Gold Coast community values its ocean beaches.

What does this mean for the community?

- » Better understanding and appreciation of the contributions made by and the opportunities for use of the waterways
- » Awareness of opportunities for an active lifestyle
- » Better research and greater understanding of the waterways
- » Economic benefits from successful businesses that are related to the waterways

What are our key actions?

3.1	Partner in the promotion of the waterways with businesses, government and tourism organisations
3.2	Inform and educate the community about the waterways and their appropriate use
3.3	Undertake and support research into the waterways to assist management
3.4	Support education about safe, responsible and sustainable use of waterways

Promote

Promote - Detailed Actions	
3.1	Partner in the promotion of the waterways with businesses, government and tourism organisations
3.1.1	Establish partnership with Gold Coast Tourism and Tourism and Events Queensland for higher profiling of waterways
3.1.2	Secure support from Queensland's Tourism Department for promotion of waterways
3.1.3	Support and encourage major events that include a focus on the waterways
3.1.4	Collaborate with Commonwealth Games Organising Corporation (GOLDOC) about use of waterways as part of events and activities before, during and after The Commonwealth Games
3.2	Inform and educate the community about the waterways and their appropriate use
3.2.1	Review current information available and identify gaps
3.2.2	Investigate commercial opportunities for providing better information to support waterways use. For example advertising, online information, Gold Coast waterways 'app'
3.2.3	Maintain updates on the Gold Coast Waterways Authority's website on the outcomes of consultation and with current reports and information
3.3	Undertake and support research into the waterways to assist management
3.3.1	Convene International waterways symposium
3.3.2	Support ongoing research relevant to Gold Coast waterways
3.3.3	Review international and national examples of effective waterways management
3.4	Support education about safe, responsible and sustainable use of waterways
3.4.1	Develop a waterways recreational online support tool

Performance Measures for Promote Actions

- » Educational initiatives and resources undertaken are easily accessible
- » Improved documentation and agreed consensus regarding the evolution of the Seaway
- » Recognition of the Broadwater as a defining Gold Coast asset
- » Research and investigation outcomes documented and accessible
- » Improved understanding of demand patterns and factors
- » Improved information broadly accessible

Investment criteria

The *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act 2012* mandates that "investment criteria for deciding priorities for improving and maintaining navigational access, developing and improving public marine facilities and other Waterways Management initiatives and options for financing the priorities" must be included in this strategy.

In making decisions on investments to deliver these outcomes the Gold Coast Waterways Authority Board will consider the following investment criteria.

- » Degree of alignment with strategic objectives;
- » Return on investment/value for money;
- » Contribution to safety;
- » Contribution to economic development/objectives;
- » Contribution to community/social objectives;
- » Alignment with environmental objectives.



Gold Coast Waterways Management Program

Implementation of this strategy will be predominantly through the Waterways Management Program which is released before the start of each financial year. This will be a one plus three year rolling program of works that details projects and activities that are undertaken by the Gold Coast Waterways Authority.

The Waterways Management Program is published on the Gold Coast Waterways Authority website www.gcwa.qld.gov.au.





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