



Primary Industries



Out11/17246

The Director
Metropolitan & Regional Projects North
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Tom Fitzgerald

Re: MP 09-0019 – Riverside Tourist cabins, New Entrance Road, South West Rocks.

Dear Mr Fitzgerald,

Thank you for referring to the above Environmental Assessment to the Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries (DPI-F) for comment. I apologise for the delay in our response.

The objects of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act) are to conserve fish stocks and key fish habitats and promote ecologically sustainable development, including the conservation of aquatic biological diversity. Secondary objects of the Act focus on the sustainable management of recreational and commercial fishing and aquaculture.

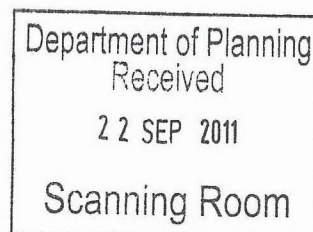
The following comments are provided for your consideration:

1. The environmental buffers proposed are inconsistent with buffer distances and set-out in DPI-F "*Policy and Guidelines for Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation 1999*". However, DPI-F acknowledges and supports the rehabilitation objectives for SEPP 14 No.436 and considers the design, long term maintenance and monitoring proposal as sufficient to off-set any inconsistency with desired buffer distances.
2. It is recommended that a list of appropriate stakeholders be developed, and that these stakeholders be consulted during the rehabilitation process and monitoring program. This could take the form of a rehabilitation steering committee, and would help ensure appropriate advice on management actions is being provided and assist in keeping key stakeholders advised of progress and adaptive management issues.
3. DPI-F requests that it be included on this list, and as such, receive progress reports for consideration and/or comment.
4. It is recommended that the Wetland Management Plan (James Warren & Associates, November 2010) and in particularly the monitoring and maintenance programs, as outlined in the plan, be conditions of approval.

Should you have further inquiries with respect to the issues raised please feel free to contact me on 02 66261370.

Yours Sincerely

Marcus Riches
Senior Fisheries Conservation Manager (North)
Fisheries Ecosystems



19 September 2011