

7 Implementing the Strategy

The draft Narrabeen Lagoon Entrance Management Strategy considers how Council currently manages the Narrabeen Lagoon entrance and whether improvements could be implemented. The draft Strategy reviewed the activities Council currently employs, namely mechanical openings and entrance clearance operations, and identified, analysed and evaluated possible alternative options. The draft Strategy presents a prioritised set of recommendations for implementation that are expected to improve the management of the entrance both in terms of efficiency and outcomes.

Table 7-1 below outlines the suggested prioritised implementation strategy and recommendations going forward for management of the Narrabeen Lagoon entrance. Options for the Short Term relate to mechanical opening of the lagoon for flood mitigation purposes and options for the Medium / Long Term relate to managing large volumes of sand in the longer term, with a view to maintaining an open entrance for as long as is practicably possible. These options are still in draft form, for consideration by the community during public exhibition.

Table 7-1: Draft Entrance Management Strategy prioritised recommendations

Management Option Type	Option Description	Recommendation	Priority
Short term	Maintain mechanical opening of the lagoon entrance for the primary purpose of flood mitigation	Develop a flexible set of trigger conditions to allow for openings to be undertaken in a wider range of conditions, including extenuating scenarios.	High
		Refine guidelines for where the pilot channel is to be excavated, locating it in a position that works more effectively with the natural configuration of the entrance. Review and update Council's OMS procedures and REF for lagoon openings.	High
		Enhance collection of data, including through the use of remote data sensing equipment, and use this data to refine flood forecasting, improve the location of the entrance channel etc. and evaluation of the success of entrance openings.	Medium
		Enhance publicly available information on Council's website and the MHL flood warning webpage to support understanding of how and why Council manages the Narrabeen Lagoon entrance. Information could include a decision matrix/tree, trigger levels for mechanical openings, and real-time updates on conditions.	Medium
Medium / Long Term	Continue periodic entrance clearance operations	Review design and frequency of entrance clearance operations on an ongoing basis, with consideration for factors including beach rotation and climate change. Investigate more frequent, smaller scale, strategic removal of sand from the flood tide shoals. Consider trialling a focus on the western shoal or a regime tidal channel.	High

Management Option Type	Option Description	Recommendation	Priority
	Mobile sand pumping option	Review mobile sand pumping if lower cost pricing is available from a contractor delivered scheme rather than Council purchasing pipes and pumps.	Low
	Review processes for entrance clearance	Review payment methods and procurement strategy for contractor; and Review tracking method for excavation depths and extent during works.	Medium
	Reshape, revegetate and maintain Birdwood Park dune	Reshape the dune, with relocation of sand away from western side and re-creation of the beach on the western side of the dune.	High
		Revegetate the denuded areas of the dune, to stabilise it and to limit wind-blown sand entering the lagoon. Extend the vegetation as far north as practicable, to reduce alongshore width of the lagoon entrance berm to reduce sand entering lagoon.	High
		Maintain the dune. Maintain the vegetation, monitor the profile of the dune and adjacent beaches and manage sand movement. Consider sand-catching fences.	Ongoing