



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BIRDLIFE SHOALHAVEN COMMITTEE
3 LOUISA GROVE, VINCENTIA
23 MAY 2016**

Meeting opened at 2:00pm

Attendance and apologies

Present: Rob Dunn, Brett Davis, Barry Virtue, Matthew Jones, Chris Grounds, Karen Davis

Apologies: Mike Jefferis

Acceptance of the agenda

The agenda circulated to committee members on 15th May was accepted and the President called for any additional agenda items. Brett mentioned three additional agenda items that he would present in his reports.

Previous committee meeting minutes

There were no minutes from previous committee meetings. After the formation of the branch in 2014 there had only been three people on committee (Barry, Karen, Brett) and committee meetings had been convened on an ad-hoc basis when required. Late in 2014 Chris agreed to become our Conservation Officer and this was ratified at the 2015 AGM. Although good conservation work was done during this time, this committee was basically in caretaker mode awaiting the establishment of a larger committee with appropriate roles and agendas. This was achieved at the 2016 AGM on April 4th, with the addition of Rob, Mike and Matt, and this committee meeting on the 23rd May was the first meeting after the 2016 AGM.

Moving, Seconding and Voting

It was agreed by all present that all moved motions would automatically be seconded and carried unanimously unless any one member objected, in which case a formal vote would be carried out.

President's Report:

Rob reported that since his election at the April AGM he had attended a meeting of the Milton / Ulladulla District Birdwatchers (MUD Birders) and given a short presentation on the work done by BirdLife Australia and how BirdLife Shoalhaven fits into the local, national and international conservation efforts. Rob also reported that he would be attending the BirdLife Australia Branch Network Forum meeting in Melbourne on May 26th and 27th, representing BirdLife Shoalhaven. He also mentioned that he had studied the membership data provided to the branch by BirdLife Australia (BA) and noticed that BA membership was spread remarkably uniformly across the northern, central and southern regions of the Shoalhaven.

Key Correspondence

Brett reported the usual large volume of correspondence from BA, but noted a number of phone calls and emails from members of the public interested in attending birdwatching activities in the Shoalhaven. He had been directing them to the BirdLife Shoalhaven website where details of birding activities are shown in both the newsletters and the Calendar page, and confirmed with Barry Virtue as a representative of Shoalhaven Birders that they were happy to receive enquiries from members of the public regarding attendance at Shoalhaven Birders activities. Brett stated that while it was and is beneficial for our members to be able to attend the birdwatching outings of the MUD Birders and the Shoalhaven Birders, in the long run he believes that we need to have our own schedule of regular birdwatching outings. These outings should -

- be on weekends to attract the most number of people possible
- not conflict with the 3rd Sunday in the month Shoalhaven Birders outings

- preferably visit places not regularly scheduled on MUD Birders and Shoalhaven Birders programs
- visit places that need to be conserved so that our Atlas data can become meaningful

Webmaster Report

Brett reported that at the AGM we had 131 Facebook "likes" which had increased to 141, and that our 39 Twitter "followers" had increased to 42. He believes that we could get many more Facebook "likes" and Twitter "followers" if more reports and photographs were posted, preferably from more contributors than just himself. The more contributors and interesting posts we have, the more likely we are to "value add" to our members and to the general public, the more likely we are to attract additional Facebook and Twitter followers, and the more likely we are to attract new members. He suggested that we ask selected BirdLife Shoalhaven members to become social media contributors. They should be -

- computer literate
- familiar with Facebook and Twitter
- capable photographers
- from diverse locations i.e. Milton, Bay and Basin, Nowra / Berry, Shoalhaven Heads / Wollumboola

After a short discussion it was agreed that Brett would approach suitable members to become contributors to our online social media.

Newsletter Editor Report

Brett reported that the Winter edition of the seasonal BirdLife Shoalhaven newsletter is due out in July. He has been trying to produce the newsletters in the middle of each season i.e. mid July, October, January, April but the timing has not been rigorous and does not need to be. Producing the newsletter sometime during the season should be adequate. He believes that the frequency and timing of newsletters is correct, and also that we should consider scheduling future committee meetings just prior to newsletter publication dates so that committee decisions can be included in the newsletters in a timely manner? i.e. first week of July, October, January, April. After a brief discussion it was agreed that discussion of the scheduling of committee meetings would be deferred to a future meeting.

Treasurer report - financial report

Karen tabled the financial report - see **Appendix 1**.

Conservation Officer Report

Chris gave a brief summary of the issues and submissions that he has been dealing with - the continuing support of the Lake Wollumboola Protection Association in its efforts to have the catchment of Lake Wollumboola included in the Jervis Bay National Park; the establishment of the Bherwerre Wetland in Larmer Avenue at Sanctuary Point; and the protection of migratory and resident shorebirds from a proposal to permanently open Shoalhaven Heads - see **Appendix 2**. Chris also mentioned correspondence he had had with Angela Jenkins, the Shoalhaven City Council Threatened Species Officer, regarding their offer to BirdLife Shoalhaven to participate in the monitoring of disturbance to shorebirds that may be caused if a development application for a Seaplane joyflight and taxi service was approved. This correspondence is shown in **Appendix 3**. Discussion of the offer was deferred to General Business.

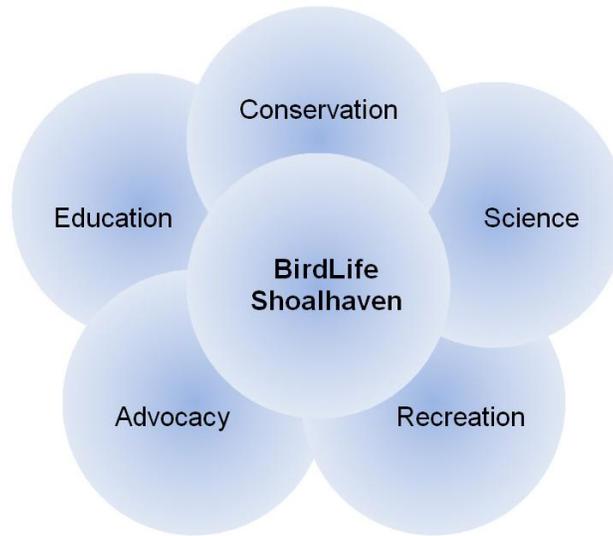
Review of Governance Arrangements, BLS Strategy and Working Arrangements

The documents shown in **Appendix 4** show our existing mission, goals, KPIs and working arrangements with proposed changes by Rob in red. With a new Committee and potentially a new phase of growth for BLS, it was timely to review these documents. Under "Goals" Rob recommended some cosmetic changes and the deletion of BirdLife Australia project titles as these will change over time, as some already have. Chris also made suggestions to cover education and improved the wording of the proposed changes. Rob also suggested that we delete "How we will measure our success", but after discussion it was agreed not to delete these. Except for changes to increase the committee quorum to four, delete "Executive" from "committee" and changing paragraph 24 to "All key BirdLife Shoalhaven correspondence"), the "Working Arrangements" have been left the same as they can only be changed through an AGM or SGM and all seem to remain relevant. It should be noted that BLS is not a separate legal entity and as a branch it comes under the Constitution of BirdLife Australia. Consequently we are required to apply with their working arrangements and adopt their values as detailed in paragraph 5 of the Branch Working Arrangements.

The documents shown below were those agreed upon after discussion by the committee.

BirdLife Shoalhaven Mission Statement

Our vision: A bright future for Australian birds



Our mission: To give Australian birds a bright future by finding solutions to the threats they face and by inspiring action to ensure birds and their habitats flourish.

Goal 1 Improve conservation outcomes

- provide a local face and voice for BirdLife Australia
- provide a focus on regional and local conservation matters and advocate for the conservation of birds and their habitats
- conduct research and conservation programs and participate in BirdLife Australia projects
- champion local conservation causes

Goal 2 Promote the appreciation and understanding of birds

- encourage and support the activities of members who are actively participating in BirdLife Australia's programs and other bird projects
- promote and foster recreational bird watching
- organise and participate in outings, activities and events of interest to members, their guests and the community
- promote an interest and understanding of birds and their conservation in the wider community by arranging and participating in community events
- pursue the education of members and the community in matters of birds and their conservation to assist development of their interest, understanding and participation

Goal 3 Build a strong BirdLife Australia and BirdLife Shoalhaven

- engage and inform all members
- grow the member and supporter base by promoting membership of BirdLife Australia
- build networks and connections with other BirdLife branches and like-minded local and regional conservation organisations and groups

HOW WILL WE MEASURE OUR SUCCESS

- by the increase in the membership of BirdLife Shoalhaven
- by attendance at outings and talks
- by the number of events and activities undertaken

BirdLife Shoalhaven Working Arrangements

1. These working arrangements are based on the BirdLife Australia (BirdLife) Branch Working Arrangements and only cover key issues relevant to BirdLife Shoalhaven (BLS).
2. These working arrangements will be reviewed by the Committee and any changes approved by the Members at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Special General Meeting (SGM).
3. BLS must operate in accordance with the BirdLife Branch Working Arrangements.
4. Under the Constitution of BirdLife, BLS cannot have the status of a separate legal entity.
5. BLS will adopt the following values when conducting its business:
 - We encourage leadership and innovation
 - Our work is based on sound research
 - Our advice and advocacy is frank and independent
 - We are inclusive, tolerant and fair
 - We collaborate and contribute to common goals
6. All BirdLife Members who reside in the Shoalhaven Local Government area will be deemed to be members of BLS, unless they choose to opt out. BirdLife Members who reside outside the area may also register as a member of BLS.
7. No membership fees are payable to become a BLS Member.
8. BLS Members are eligible to participate in the activities of BLS, to receive communications and nominate and vote for the Committee.
9. Visiting members of BirdLife from other Branches shall be eligible to attend meetings or other Branch functions but cannot nominate candidates or vote.
10. The Committee will consist of President, Secretary and Treasurer (at a minimum) and shall be elected annually at the BLS AGM.
11. Meetings of the Committee will be held four times a year by whatever means it sees as appropriate.
12. The timing of the BLS AGM will be set by the Committee but not later than the end of February. The AGM will cover reports on activities of the Branch, approval of the financial report for the year ending 31 December, election of the Committee for the coming year, review of the operating plan and working arrangements and any other business.
13. The Secretary shall give notice of the AGM and call for nominations to the Committee at least 40 days before the AGM. Completed nomination forms may be lodged at least 28 days prior to the AGM. The Secretary must distribute the agenda and papers, including names of all Members nominated no less than 21 days prior to the AGM and include procedures for lodging proxy votes.
14. If there are insufficient numbers of nominations, nominations can be taken from any Member present at the meeting. If more than one Member has nominated for the same position, the outcome shall be determined by ballot. All proxies should be in writing and received by the Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
15. If a Committee member position becomes vacant between AGMs, the Committee may co-opt a Member to fill the vacancy.
16. The Committee shall have the authority to appoint no more than two additional persons to the Committee for a period up to the next AGM for the purpose of providing advice on a specified matter, or to fill newly created committee positions.
17. All Committee Members will hold office from one AGM to another and may be re-elected.
18. The Committee may call a SGM to discuss any urgent matter and shall be bound to upon receiving a written request signed by at least 5% of the Members or by the BirdLife Board. The meeting agenda and papers shall be given to Members no less than 14 days before the meeting.
19. Quorums for meetings shall be ten Members for AGMs and SGMs and four Members for Committee meetings.
20. The Committee will liaise with BirdLife National Office on all operational issues. The Committee must advise the National Office of the receipt of all donations and submission of proposals to fund research, conservation or education projects. A submission for reasonable Branch expenses may be submitted to the National Office. BLS will need the approval of the National Office to set up a bank account. The Treasurer will be responsible for receiving, paying and handling funds and keeping the records of BLS's finances. The annual financial accounts must be approved at the AGM and signed by the President and another Committee member, other than the Treasurer prior to submission to the National Office.
21. No Member shall receive any pecuniary interest from BLS, unless the Committee approves the reimbursement of a Member's expenses incurred in fulfilling BLS's objectives.
22. The Committee, or Members delegated by the Committee, may arrange fundraising, periodic meetings, talks, functions, birdwatching outings and campouts and other activities, for purposes that help achieve the BLS objective's, with all members allowed to attend, plus other persons approved at the discretion of the Committee
23. All BLS materials must be produced with the BirdLife Shoalhaven logo.
24. All key BirdLife Shoalhaven correspondence on local conservation causes must be approved by a majority of the Committee.

BirdLife Shoalhaven Focus, Activities and Priorities

The list below - prepared by Rob - outlines ideas for an expanded focus for BLS in the future in line with our three goals. It is based on the meetings and discussions Rob has had with members of the committee since the AGM. There was broad consensus in principle on most of these ideas. Rob stressed that the list is a very ambitious, long term wish list. The aim over the coming weeks/months is to see what we want to commit to in the next year or so and can realistically deliver.

CONSERVATION & RESEARCH

Chris said he would continue to provide conservation articles in the quarterly newsletter. These will generally have a local / Shoalhaven focus though often in a broader context, keep conservation issues in front of members and inform and educate the membership. It also provides members with an opportunity to archive these sources for future reference. In particular the existing agenda should continue at our discretion, viz. Lake Wollumboola, Heritage Estate, Bherwerre Wetland, Shorebirds and their habitat, especially as that relates to tourism and dogs on beaches issues, Myola Spit. As well, new matters of conservation interest can be covered as they arise and are researched. A recent example would be the Report of the Shoalhaven Heads taskforce which called for a permanent, non-navigable entrance for one of the key bird sites on the Shoalhaven coast (see Appendix 2).

Chris had suggested identifying key Shoalhaven sites for conservation monitoring, recognizing particular sites as of critical significance and about which BLS committee should be preparing a research, data and resource file for use in proactive or response conservation. This could potentially be combined with a suggestion of Matt's to begin a project to identify **Important Shoalhaven Bird Areas** for not only conservation as per Chris' point, but also supporting a focus on bird tourism and promotional purposes, based on threatened species, habitats, endemics, etc.

Rob indicated that the branch could take on the role of **IBA Guardians** or promote work of existing guardians for Jervis Bay, Ulladulla to Merimbula, Barren Grounds and Budderoo, and Lake Wollumboola. Joy Pegler has indicated her willingness to be a guardian for Lake Wollumboola. Barren Grounds is being surveyed by one of the Illawarra groups and the coast south of Ulladulla is mostly out of our area. Karen agreed to try to find a BLS member to take on the task of IBA Guardian for the Jervis Bay IBA and would do it herself if her search was unsuccessful. Rob agreed to clarify the scope of the work before a final commitment is made.

Chris was keen to provide background material, e.g. BirdLife Policy documents, council and committee resolutions for Committee members to archive and reference to support their participation in decision making re conservation matters, and to continue with supportive communications as letters and submissions and other communication regarding conservation matters, especially where that has been sought in support of BLS members.

Rob stated that it was important to retain 'spare' capacity within the BLS agenda, Committee and officers to enable a response to conservation matters and other priority issues which will arise in the course of the year. This requires recognition of the continuing workload.

NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL NETWORKING

Brett was comfortable to continue the current format and distribution of our quarterly newsletter, and to maintain our current web-site, Facebook & Twitter social networking pages.

BIRD OUTINGS, TALKS, EVENTS

Barry, Mike and Karen will continue to be involved in outings by Shoalhaven Birdwatchers & MUD Birders and to run additional BLS outings.

Develop an agenda of presentation/workshops

Rob indicated we should use our newsletter, website and social media to promote the MUD Birders evenings in Milton on second Tuesday of every other month (March, May, July, September, November). We should also hold BirdLife Shoalhaven presentation evenings in Nowra/Sanctuary Point/Tomerong on non-MUD Birders evenings (February, April, June, August, October) where possible. Rob also indicated that we should endeavour to make one of the Milton and one of the Sanctuary Point/Tomerong events higher profile speaker events to attract a larger audience and media. MUD Birders have already organized Joseph Forshaw, an expert on parrots, for 13 September.

A range of other possible opportunities

We could participate in and promote the Twitchathon on the weekend of 29/30 October. The hosting of a conservation film is another possibility. Chris indicated that he was in discussions about showing a 90 minute film by David Gallen entitled "Understory". Rob proposes to have BLS stalls at the World Environment Fair at the Jervis Bay Maritime Museum on 4 June and other field day events. Council's Bushcare team are planning twilight public tours of Bushcare sites and are keen to involve birders in this. Presentations at other organisations' meetings will allow BLS to be promoted more widely.

FUNDRAISING

Rob stated that we currently have approximately \$600 from funds supplied by BirdLife Australia for our meeting and minor administration costs. Gold coin donations from the sale of books, BirdLife magazines and calendars, event entries, and fundraising by Twitchathon participants (to be clarified) could be put towards the costs of new initiatives. Rob indicated that we could try to identify grants and approach Council to fund new initiatives. Being able to show that we have been able to source our own donations will be important for this. Council support could come from their Unspoilt Shoalhaven budgets.

NEW INITIATIVES

It would be timely to consider the design and printing of promotional leaflets and e-materials on BirdLife Shoalhaven, key species, places to go bird-watching, bird walks for caravan parks/motels, bird hides, interpretative walks etc., or the use of existing books and pamphlets as the basis for the design of trails e.g. JBMM Wirracoo walk, Hyams Beach, some of which already exist, but are poorly promoted. These would be similar to the successful geology walk established by Mike in Ulladulla. Identifying possible locations for bird hides could be a worthwhile project. Bherwerre Wetlands is one being discussed, but Rob suggested that we draw up a wish-list.

LINKS

Rob stated that it was important we further develop a BLS network and profile. A good deal of work has occurred over the last two years in developing links with appropriate people and organizations and this should continue, be consolidated and enhanced with sources such as NPWS, NPA (Milton-Ulladulla), LWPA, JBRA, Shoalhaven Council – councilors, staff and committees, Shoalhaven Landcare, Bay and Basin Camera Club, Shoalhaven Bushwalkers, etc. Also with BirdLife Australia, BirdLife Southern Highlands, and the Illawarra groups. Rob also expressed a desire for us to build positive dialogues and relationships with Council, possibly as part of their Unspoilt Shoalhaven program.

Rob agreed to prepare a list of proposed actions following the discussion at the meeting, showing a possible 'owner' for the likely next step and a realistic target date. For longer term, complex items the first step might be preparation of an overview paper to be workshopped at a future meeting. This would be distributed for comment and amendments made. The final list could then be used as a basis for updates on progress at future committee meetings.

General Business

The Seaplane Development Application (DA15/2262)

The DA is for a seaplane joyflight and taxi service to operate in 4 landing areas in the Shoalhaven - near Pig Island / Manildra, near Greenwell Point, near Shoalhaven Heads and in St Georges Basin. Chris has been contacted by Angela Jenkins from SCC about BirdLife Shoalhaven being involved in flights on the seaplane three times a year to monitor its effect on birds. The committee believed that agreeing to monitor the activities of the seaplane would be a tacit endorsement of the DA. We have serious concerns about the proposal, especially with the three landing areas at Shoalhaven Heads, Greenwell Point and St Georges Basin. We agreed that we were happy to be involved in the monitoring should the DA be approved, but only as an independent body and not as a partner.

Calendar

Currently the various activities of the Shoalhaven Birders, MUD Birders, BirdLife Shoalhaven and BirdLife Australia are all reported in different locations in the newsletter. Brett agreed to combine all the information into one calendar in the newsletter and on the website for ease of use by our members.

Next Meetings: Monday 29th August and Monday 28th November at a venue to be decided.

Meeting closed at: 4:14pm

Appendix 1

INCOME AND EXPENSES

29 February 2016 to 23rd May 2016

Bank Balance at 29/2/2016		593.60
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Income

Birdlife Funding 2015	0.00	
Hall Hire refund	0.00	0.00

Expenses

Hall Hire (AGM 2016)	0.00	*
Domain Name 2 yrs	35.88	
Meeting exps	36.84	
Postage	0.00	
Bank Fees	<u>0.60</u>	
		73.32

Balance as per cashbook	\$	<u>520.28</u>
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Add

Unpresented Cheque	# 004	Hall Hire	150.00
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Bank Balance at 23/5/2016		<u>670.28</u>
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Note: \$90 to be refunded from AGM Hall Hire giving a true balance of \$610.28

Appendix 2

SHOALHAVEN HEADS ESTUARY TASKFORCE COMMITTEE – 30 MARCH 2016 (ITEM 16)

Planning and Development 16. Study to investigate options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads-update File 9825E Index

RECOMMENDED that:

a) **the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce recommends through the creation of a permanent or a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven Heads** as it is the only way in which river flow and the maintenance of an essentially marine environment can be established at the Heads.

b) The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce concludes that the permanent opening would increase the amenity, recreational environment and economic development of the community and the NSW tourism initiative of the Grand Pacific Drive.

c) A memo from Dr Will Glamore on the additional investigation be included as an appendix to the report 'Management Options for improving flows of the Shoalhaven River at Shoalhaven Heads'.

d) Dr William Glamore be invited to a public meeting at Shoalhaven Heads to present the findings of his report.

e) A brochure be sent to all Shoalhaven Heads residents and be placed on Council's internet outlining and incorporating the findings of the report by Dr Will Glamore and the Taskforce's recommendation for a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven heads.

f) A media release be organised to present the findings of the report and clearly highlight the needs for Federal and private enterprise funding and include the Taskforce recommendation relating to the permanent or a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance at Shoalhaven Heads.

g) Progress on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the report be presented to the Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce and to Council on a regular basis through its Natural Resources and Floodplain Management Committee

h) That members of the Taskforce be thanked for their active contributions to this study.

Note by General Manager:

It is important that Councillors note that the report from Dr William Glamore (University of NSW, Water Research Laboratory), previously adopted by Council (Min 15.822), does not recommend a permanent or semi-permanent entrance. The report found that from an environmental point of view the estuary is performing well. The report recommends catchment based initiatives to manage acid sulfate soil issues and sporadic water quality issues as well as a review of the now outdated flood study. The Shoalhaven Heads Estuary Taskforce and Council previously supported the findings of this investigation (min 15.822). However, at its last meeting, the Taskforce recommended the creation of a permanent or a semi-permanent non-navigable river entrance in order to establish a marine environment that in the view of the Taskforce would increase the amenity of the area, recreational and economic development opportunities. If council adopt the latest recommendations from the Taskforce, it is proposed that the media release and brochure clearly separate the report from Dr William Glamore which has an environmental focus and the latest recommendations from the Taskforce which have an economic development focus.

Appendix 3

MAY 18 2016

To Chris CO BLS from Angela Jenkins EAO SCC Threatened Species Officer

Council are in the process of assessing a **development application for seaplane activities** on the **Shoalhaven river**. Details of the application can be viewed on Council's website under DA tracking **(DA 15/2262)**. As you would be aware there are a number of important shorebird habitats on the river and estuary. There will be a number of conditions imposed to limit the impacts of the activity and protect these habitats and will include the **requirement to develop a shorebird protection plan in consultation with NSW NPWS and monitoring of activities**. A **shorebird induction program** will also be developed as part of their shorebird protection plan for flight operators.

One of the conditions will require the applicant to engage a member of Birdlife Australia to undertake monitoring of the sea plane activities three times per year- Prior- during and post breeding season. A monitoring report would need to be prepared for the applicant to submit to Council in accordance with the requirements of the consent and the shorebird protection plan.

We have suggested that the Birdlife Australia person be taken on the flight paths as the best method for observations and recording.

It would be appreciated if you could review the condition below and give written agreement (email is fine) on behalf of Birdlife Australia to undertake such works. If you have any recommendations or questions in regard to the monitoring requirements or arrangements then please contact myself or Nicholas Cavallo (development planner) on 4429 3203 at your earliest convenience.

I also wanted to suggest that if you agree to do the monitoring and the applicant wants it to be on the ground not in the air- make sure you come up with a reasonable fee for service for any on ground works. Council will not get involved in these negotiations – it would be between yourself/birdlife Australia and the applicant. The applicant obviously wants to keep costs to a minimum and has indicated that it would cost him \$300 per flight, which I would think is a reasonable cost to outlay per monitoring session. He would be required to arrange a minimum of 3 monitoring reports per year as outlined previously.

Proposed conditions re monitoring. – & shorebird protection [received as second email same day]

Shorebird Protection Plan

1. Prior to the use commencing a Shorebird Protection Plan must be developed in consultation with Nowra National Parks & Wildlife Services to minimise impacts on threatened shorebirds. The Plan must include, however not be limited to, the following:

- a) reporting of bird strikes and near misses,
- b) the approved Revised Water Alighting Area Maps – with Shorebird Habitat Overlays and Appendix 3A5 – 1 Map of Water Alighting Areas (Register),
- c) development of an induction manual with subsequent training provided to all pilots which includes shorebird species information (shorebirds identification booklet), why shorebird habitat needs protection (information about migratory birds and the importance of shorebird habitat in the Shoalhaven region) and birdlife Australia/National Parks & Wildlife Services shorebird officer contact details,

d) The noxious macroalgae *Caulerpa taxifolia* is present in St Georges Basin, in order to control the spread of this pest plant pilots must be trained in its identification. The approved *Appendix 3A5 – 1 – Map of Water Alighting Areas* must be revised requiring the pilot to visually inspect anchors, ropes, chains, water rudders when retracted and tops of floats for pieces of *Caulerpa taxifolia* and remove and discard of them prior to each take off from the St George's Basin Water Alighting Area,

e) if any fauna (threatened or protected) are located within an approved Water Alighting Area an alternate approved Water Alighting Area must be utilised to avoid disturbance and/or striking any fauna, and

f) in cases where native fauna is injured, these must be transferred to the care of Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) Native Animal Network Association (NANA) or other similar organisation as soon as possible.

Evidence that the Shorebird Protection Plan has been developed in accordance with this condition of consent must be submitted to Council prior to the use commencing.

Monitoring and Reporting

2. In the interests of effectively and efficiently monitoring the potential impacts of the seaplane operation on shorebirds, three times per annum a Birdlife Australia volunteer or the Nowra National Parks & Wildlife Services shorebird co-ordinator (or equivalent) must be taken along the flight paths immediately prior, during and immediately after peak breeding season. The following information, however not limited to, must be reported on during these flights:

a) date and time,

b) direction of flight (including from which Water Alighting Area),

c) observation of bird flock movements (i.e. how quickly they return to feed, what direction their flight takes), and

d) behavioural observations of Osprey located in proximity to Shoalhaven River (opposite Manildra).

A report must be prepared summarising the empirical observations of the three flights which is then submitted to the owner/operator of the business. The flights required to satisfy this condition are not to be considered in the calculation of maximum flights nor maximum days of operation as per condition 8 of this consent.

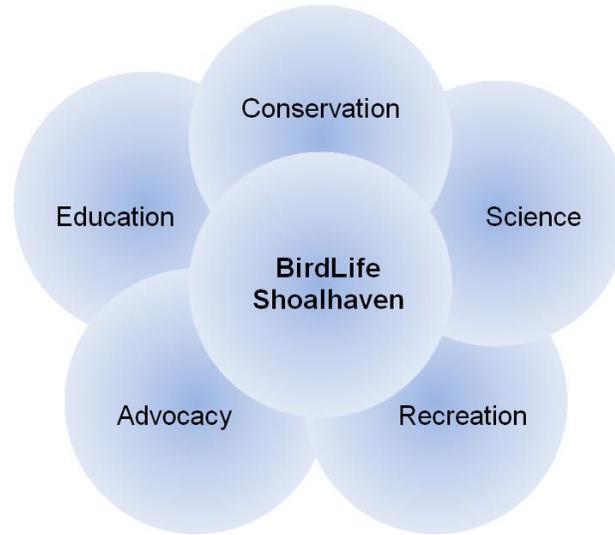
Return email May 18 2016 Chris to Angie

I will have a look at the DA to start. The things you are suggesting are very much those you mentioned in our conversation at council a little while back.

Your timing is terrific as we have a major BirdLife Shoalhaven Committee meeting coming up next Monday and I have to brief the committee on current conservation issues and actions. I now intend to include this matter and will let you know the feedback of the committee as quickly as I can. I cannot see a problem with monitoring flight participation in conjunction with NPWS but imagine yourself and the NPWS Threatened Species Officer [David Bain] would have an interest in that as well. Perhaps some ground monitoring under the flight path would be helpful as well - some co-ordinated monitoring. I will get back to you.

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- provide a focus on regional and local conservation matters and advocate for the conservation of birds and their habitats
- conduct research and conservation programs and participate in BirdLife Australia national projects where possible
- support the Important Bird Areas program
- support the Beach Nesting Birds project
- support the Shorebirds 2020 project
- contribute data to the Birds Atlas
- champion local conservation causes

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10. The Committee will consist of President, Secretary and Treasurer (at a minimum) and shall be elected annually at the BLS AGM.
11. Meetings of the Committee will be held four times a year by whatever means it sees as appropriate.
12. The timing of the BLS AGM will be set by the Committee but not later than the end of February. The AGM will cover reports on activities of the Branch, approval of the financial report for the year ending 31 December, election of the ~~Executive~~ Committee for the coming year, review of the operating plan and working arrangements and any other business.
13. The Secretary shall give notice of the AGM and call for nominations to the ~~Executive~~ Committee at least 40 days before the AGM. Completed nomination forms may be lodged at least 28 days prior to the AGM. The Secretary must distribute the agenda and papers, including names of all Members nominated no less than 21 days prior to the AGM and include procedures for lodging proxy votes.

14. If there are insufficient numbers of nominations, nominations can be taken from any Member present at the meeting. If more than one Member has nominated for the same position, the outcome shall be determined by ballot. All proxies should be in writing and received by the Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
15. If a Committee member position becomes vacant between AGMs, the Committee may co-opt a Member to fill the vacancy.
16. The Committee shall have the authority to appoint no more than two additional persons to the Committee for a period up to the next AGM for the purpose of providing advice on a specified matter, or to fill newly created committee positions.
17. All Committee Members will hold office from one AGM to another and may be re-elected.
18. The Committee may call a SGM to discuss any urgent matter and shall be bound to upon receiving a written request signed by at least 5% of the Members or by the BirdLife Board. The meeting agenda and papers shall be given to Members no less than 14 days before the meeting.
19. Quorums for meetings shall be ten Members for AGMs and SGMs and three Members for Committee meetings.
20. The Committee will liaise with BirdLife National Office on all operational issues. The Committee must advise the National Office of the receipt of all donations and submission of proposals to fund research, conservation or education projects. A submission for reasonable Branch expenses may be submitted to the National Office. BLS will need the approval of the National Office to set up a bank account. The Treasurer will be responsible for receiving, paying and handling funds and keeping the records of BLS's finances. The annual financial accounts must be approved at the AGM and signed by the President and another Committee member, other than the Treasurer prior to submission to the National Office.
21. No Member shall receive any pecuniary interest from BLS, unless the Committee approves the reimbursement of a Member's expenses incurred in fulfilling BLS's objectives.
22. The Committee, or Members delegated by the Committee, may arrange fundraising, periodic meetings, talks, functions, birdwatching outings and campouts and other activities, for purposes that help achieve the BLS objective's, with all members allowed to attend, plus other persons approved at the discretion of the Committee
23. All BLS materials must be produced with the BirdLife logo.
24. All correspondence on local conservation causes must be approved by a majority of the Committee.