

**Submission
No 241**

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Ms Jillian Spring

Date received: 31/07/2012

The Committee
NSW Public Land Management Inquiry
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5.
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Committee Members,

In relation to access to Public Land by people, has definitely 'gone to the extreme' and needs revision with action to the Will of the People. Access to Public Land is less than acceptable and is of considerable concern.

Yes, in delicate areas, after careful consultation, investigation (some of which has been already done) - fair enough, some areas will be in this category.

One thing I, and in conversation with people (one - my daughter horrified that turtles and dugongs can be caught, eaten - *the traditional method* by aboriginal people - the turtles cooked - alive - upside down over a fire, and dugongs we continually hear are small in numbers - are also able to be killed for traditional reasons!), horrifies us!

Revision of access re fishing, beaches, horse-riding, national parks, tourism - caravan parks, forshore loss which I expand in my submission - a submission twice presented in the trying to hold onto these Public/Crown Lands for enjoyment, tourism and employment previously but is very relevant to this inquiry.

National Parks land not to be zoned exclusively to National Parks and thus excludes farmers, hobby farms, home-owners from living, working and thus keeping the land clear of weeds, lantana, feral animals - not to be penalised by a 'protective zone' (to the 'saving' of the NP), on their properties next to a National Park, yet, actually being infested by weeds, lantana, feral animals FROM THE National Park.

Cattle to be allowed to be grazed in National Parks - keeping the rubbish weeds/lantana down - SAVING THE National Park and ALL CREATURES in the park from AN OUT OF CONTROL FIRE-STORM caused by such out of control undergrowth of weeds and explodable lantana .

Re Feral pests - shooting of these animals, I agree - but humanly, ie by experienced marksmen who will cause a quick result - not only to wound the animal as happened with horses in the Grafton area and I am sure in other areas.

I present this Submission and re Public Lands in Brunswick Heads NSW - see: Attachment

Yours faithfully
Jillian Spring

1.

The Minister for Crown Reserves,
Ms Katrina Hodgkinson
Level 30 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

29th November 2011

Dear Minister Hodgkinson,

I know that it is my duty to keep you informed of MY WILL on anything that comes *before Parliament*, or that should come before Parliament.

IT IS MY WILL that you take immediate action to have Brunswick Heads Foreshore Reserves Strategic Plan August 2008 Department of Lands, stopped, only adopting plans allowed by THE WILL of the community.

As you will note, I am forwarding my Submission of the 20th February 2008 in reference to The Brunswick Heads Foreshore Reserves Strategic Plan – Draft – December 2007.

The reason for this: I addressed this issue then; the same issues are in the fore again, of which I am very disenchanted about as we thought we had covered all the concerns, needs and wants of the community.

In the 'new' Brunswick Heads Forshore Plans continually mention **village and doing the community will, 'the Simple Pleasures' theme but on reading the information from the State Government's Land and Property Management Authority..of Crown Land and the foreshore areas of Brunswick Heads**, I note this is not so.

I thought the earlier plan was a LABOR grab for foreshore land; now I find this seems not to be apparently so? Is this so? If my comprehension is wrong, I say, "Thank you", that 'the plans' in the current Foreshore /caravan parks & associated areas will not be adopted and The Community 'Simple Pleasures' theme will continue; the hypocrisy in the State Government Brunswick Heads Document will be deleted ...for ever, the People's Will being honoured.

I disagree with all the destructive impositions to the people of Brunswick Heads by the plans over our Crown Lands, the Lands that belongs to us, The People.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,
Jillian Spring.

2.

The Regional Manager
Department of Lands
PO BOX 272
GRAFTON NSW 2460
Email: CLWR.NorthCoast @lands.nsw.gov.au
FAX:

20th February 2008

Dear Regional Manager,

Following is my Submission re:

The Brunswick Heads Foreshore Reserves Strategic Plan-Draft – December 2007.

PLAN

P3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ISSUES

*Public access to the foreshore

*Holiday Park boundaries

- *Opportunities for additional tourist facilities or Commercial development where appropriate
- *Conflict/tourist facilities & long-time residents within the parks

COMMENT: From whom does this 'conflict' statement arise?

*Decline of the commercial fishing industry.

COMMENT: Dredging of the Brunswick River was voted for years ago, in a referendum because a silted river is not conducive to a commercial fishing industry, or tourists.

The flooding because of this silted river causes flooding to the surrounding towns/country plus the inefficient outlets from the North Arm of the Brunswick River into the main Brunswick River.

PLAN

P4 MAJOR OUTCOMES

This strategic plan confirms & supports the location & importance of the 3 existing holiday parks within the broader context of the Brunswick River foreshores, & identifies opportunities to consolidate these facilities & address many of the concerns that have been

Raised by the community over the past 10 years. The plan also identifies opportunities to provide a new accommodation area, a low key commercial activity (eg cafe/kiosk) within a

Recreation setting & generally improved recreation facilities throughout the reserve network, which will further enhance the range of holiday choices & recreation options for the village. These, combined with the potential redevelopment of the boat harbour precincts, will significantly improve the overall amenity of the Brunswick River foreshores. Improved public access to the foreshores & connectivity through the reserve network for locals & visitors alike.

COMMENT: Note above: VILLAGE theme.

3.

P9 SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

UNIQUENESS: To retain & enhance the national flavour & character of Brunswick Heads in line with 'the simple pleasures' theme.

RECREATION: To encourage local community & visitor use of the public foreshore lands & waterways.

EQUITY : To provide equity of public access to all public foreshore land.

P10 CROWN LANDS COMMITMENT.

*Maintaining safe & navigable river entrances & port facilities to support the commercial fishing & tourism industries.

*Development or activities must be consistent with the plan, & must comply with other relevant statutory requirements.

***Community consultation is an integral component in the preparation of this study, & continuous review & incorporation of community attitudes, expectations & requirements into the ongoing development & management of the foreshore reserve network is critical.**

P11 NSW CARAVAN and CAMPING EXPANSION PROGRAM

P14 BRUNSWICK DRAFT ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005

*Reduced navigability – shoaling & the bar

P15 BRUNSWICK HEADS COASTAL PARKS – SHORELINE REDEMPTION REPORT

.....foreshore erosion, encroachments, boat storage

P13 RELATED STUDIES

TAKING CARE OF BRUNSWICK BRUNSWICK HEADS COMMUNITY and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY 2004-2009

VISION STATEMENT:

"Brunswick Heads is a **vibrant** diverse coastal **village** **Community committed to retaining** its **low-key, family friendly** atmosphere, improving & protecting the beach, river & estuarine environment & encouraging sustainable & innovative business development. We welcome those who share our vision & help in achieving it."

COMMENT: Note: Committed to retaining low-key, family friendly atmosphere & village.

BUILT and NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:

To improve both the built & natural environment of Brunswick Heads to ensure that it is both functional **& in keeping with the character of our low-key coastal village.**

COMMENT: Note:in keeping with the character of our low-key coastal village.

4.

P13 cont PROJECTS RELATING TO THE FORESHORE RESERVES STRATEGIC PLAN:

*To build upon existing pathways to create, where necessary, an appropriately lit circuit of walking/cycle/bridle trails that will connect Brunswick's points of interest withing & to other Byron Shire Communities.

*To develop a socially sustainable tourism strategy in line with the community's vision.

COMMENT: This plan was not on display at enough venues – should have been at the Byron Shire Council Chambers, Mullumbimby, NSW.

BRUNSWICK HEADS BUSINESS EXPANSION and RETENTION (BRE) SURVEY 2006

OPPORTUNITIES RELATING TO THE FORESHORE RESERVES STRATEGY PLAN:

*Maintain the town's identity & character – keep it simple

*More town beautification, streetscaping, more trees

*Develop more parking strategies

COMMENT: re parking: NOT at the expense of existing parking!

Streetscaping? NOT MORE LARGE CEMENT EDGED 'BLISTERS' I hope(!).

More trees? See other comments re trees etc. & eliminating grass areas!

PROPOSED ACTION

PRECINCT 1 – SIMPSONS CREEK: (isn't this the South Arm of the Brunswick River?)

P20 * Remove the public toilets & picnic facilities from Pilgrim Park & landscape the area now the driver/reviver stop has relocated.

ACTIONS:

1. PILGRIM PARK

*Review the need for public toilets & recreation facilities.

*Restrict car access onto the reserve areas.

*Develop a **village** entry statement in the open area north of the Bowling Club.

COMMENT: Note: **village**

Re the 'gateway' statement at the southern entrance of Brunswick Heads **village** . This is another icon that should be saved & built on for what it is!

***We already have a 'gateway' for Brunswick Heads village – ie – A NATURAL, EASY-ON-THE-EYE landscaping at Pilgrim Park & the land as is, on the eastern side of the road – on the river side.**

*Toilets, BBQs & picnic facilities to stay – the driver/reviver used Pilgrim Park, the area being an easy & safe area to stop & rest.

***PILGRIM PARK was not there because of the driver/reviver.**

*People still go there to rest, enjoy the **NATURAL LANDSCAPE**, the roosters (very popular).

*The river bank – yes, control the erosion.

***PILGRIM PARK as is, is the cultural area.**

PRECINCT 2 – TERRACE RESERVE CARAVAN PARK (why now HOLIDAY PARK?)

CHARACTER....

.....This is the major provider of accommodation close to town, parks & the beach.

5.

ISSUES

*HP boundaries

*Public access along foreshore & through HPR

*Creek bank encroachments & erosion (**creek? !! ..it is a RIVER!**)

*Increasing demand for tourist accommodation V's long term sites

*Establish The Terrace Caravan Park as a high quality tourist park

*Develop a relaxed & informal theme which compliments the creekside location(**creek!**)

***Expand the cabin sites**

***Close part of Brunswick Terrace & add to the reserve**, provide some angle parking along BT & expand the Holiday Park onto the old tennis court. (**Holiday Park! It is The Terrace**)

***PHASE OUT LONG TERM RESIDENCY & EXPAND TOURIST ACCOMODATION/WHILE MINIMISING SOCIAL IMPACTS ON RESIDENTS.**

COMMENT:

***Re high quality: This is to be in all the parks & is an insult, really saying the current (as has been for years) living areas are, dare I say – slums! MINIMISING SOCIAL IMPACTS –BUT REALLY INSULTING!!**

*Erosion yes, needs to be addressed but does it have to happen with such razor-cut zeal & triple bottom line principles?

*A compliance program? As in all areas, yet I constantly read throughout the plan:

.....informal theme, low-key areas, village, icon, 'simple pleasures'

*Introduce limited commercial development to activate the spaces & enhance leisure & recreation options

*Formal pathway only in some areas

2. PARK ENTRY

*Closing part of Fingal Street & some internal roads within the park

COMMENT:

Discussion/detail needed

3. *(again!) reduce number of long-term sites as appropriate to achieve improvements to the layout & stronger tourist/holiday focus.

4. THE TERRACE

***Provide 60deg parking along, plus close part of BRUNSWICK TERRACE, avoid established Trees.**

PRECINCT 3

COMMENT:

No cafe/kiosk at Torakina Park – parents need relief & a break from children wanting to go to the shop **NEEDED - many areas/parks** – open space, so children/adults can walk/run/play – FREE!!

6.

PRECINCT 4 – TOWN PARKS/COMMUNITY LAND

THE TERRACE to MASSEY GREENE

COMMENT:

Re 1. **The Terrace Park(the shell park) *to stay as is**, people like it is, the sound shell/toilets -painted or all repairs needed as in plan/ P29.

Poor connectivity throughout the reserves is not as bad as the negative assertions in the plan. Some sections need/could be attended to but with detail shown to the community.

OPPORTUNITIES

*Connectivity will encourage more extensive use of the park system ---

COMMENT: *Landscaping is fine the way it is.

***LANDSCAPING: MEANING ?**

Are we to get more cement blisters taking over our roads, identical to every other town or too many tree plots taking over open space.

*Also thick tree grouping can be a danger to people by perverts hiding & watching then.

ACTIONS

Prepare an overall landscape plan, including an implementation strategy (priorities, costing, funding sources etc), for all three parks which provides for the following:

1. **TERRACE PARK / SEE ABOVE**

2. **BANNER PARK / AS ON P.29 except** for the formal pathway needs further consultation.

3. **MEMORIAL PARK**

*Additional park furniture

COMMENT: NOT IN OPEN SPACE!

*A formal path to Massey Greene/Banner Park/ out to the small rock groyne

*Enhanced large open grassed space

COMMENT: More detail needed.

P.30 PRECINCT 5 – MASSEY GREENE HOLIDAY PARK (caravan park!!!)

CHARACTER

.....A small beach at the eastern end (used to be a beach right along & still a little patch of sand next to the old boat ramp JS) Vegetation within the park is minimal, with some Norfolk Island Pines & native hibiscus along the foreshore. The park is a major provider of

Family oriented holiday accommodation between the boat harbour & towns.

COMMENT: Vegetation is minimal because of the wide streets, LOVELY MATURE NATIVES GRACE THE FENCE BOUNDARY AT THE TWEED STREET AND THE EASTERN ENTRANCE.

ISSUES

*Public access to the river foreshore. (**COMMENT: NOT THE BIGGEST PROBLEM**)

*Condition of seawall (**COMMENT: SOME SECTIONS NEED REPAIR**)

*Boat storage on the beach & along the wall

*Holiday Park boundaries (**MASSEY GREENE!!! CARAVAN PARK!!!**)

**Increasing demand for tourist accommodation V's long-term sites*

*Traffic congestion around the HP entry

*Poor connection between the boat harbour & town

7.

P.31 OPPORTUNITIES

*Establish MGHP (Massey Greene **Caravan Park !**) as a family friendly tourist park

COMMENT: * IT IS NOW!! !!!!!!! Canoes, kayaks a good addition/tinnies already there.

*Then where to store !!!!!!! **as not to be allowed to be anchored!!!!!!**

*Capitalise - - - - - develop a riverside theme in keeping with the *smaller scale of the park.

(COMMENT: ** SMALLER ---- ??? !!!!)

*Relocate the HP (**CARAVAN PARK !**) entrance to the western boundary to remove traffic congestion at the current location & strengthen ties with the boat harbour.

COMMENT: With the turning bay, parking, yacht club needs, boat harbour, **caravan park** traffic, revamped boat ramp, access to the sandy river edge, road entrances/exits, I can envisage massive congestion on the western boundary plus the addition of the managers residence/office ----- (which should stay where it is!).

*Phase out long term residency throughout the HP & expand tourist accommodation while minimising social impacts on residents

COMMENTS:

***Leave long-term resident sites as is, as this is a good mix & has been proven over many years. This allows convenience for many people who need easy access to shopping, DRS, chemist etc.**

*The extra camping/caravan sites – they can go on the old highway site & plus to Ferry Res.

**Minimising social impacts on residents ----- put these residents BEFORE the triple bottom line (\$\$\$?).

P32. 3. RIVER FORESHORE

*10m setback to structures & 5m public access along the river-front where possible

*.....& prohibit boats from river edge

COMMENT:

*Casualness/family icon gone & more detail needed on all plans

*Adjust the existing Tweed Street boundary

PRECINCT 6 – BRUNSWICK BOAT HARBOUR

CHARACTER

.....,Commercial fishing is now in serious decline & the previous focus of the CO-OP has shifted. -----is operating in a limited capacity, but the PEACEFUL AESTHETICS of the HARBOUR are OUTSTANDING(my emphasis js).

ISSUES:

*Limited commercial fishing from Brunswick Heads

*Boat Harbour/ river entrance from the sea is dangerous for navigation

*The existing harbour infrastructure is not being utilised to its capacity

COMMENT:

Re ISSUES - *a very silted river caused the demise of the commercial fishing, dangerous navigation plus the gazettement of the marine park to stop fishing.

*Prawn harvesting was the primary fishing trawler activity & then the trawlers also sailed elsewhere but birthing at Brunswick Heads & unloading there.

***FLOODING** causes problems in many area/towns – **due to the silted river!**

8.

P34.OPPORTUNITIES

*Establish the Boat Harbour as a major icon fro Brunswick Heads, & the northern gateway to the town – a high quality public space

*Make the harbour a more dynamic public space, with a diverse range of activities which complement the maritime theme.Some improvements, re boat ramp; B.H. Rescue areas.

COMMENT:

**a high quality public space, & a more dynamic space ----- is this keeping to the statements in the Brunswick Heads Foreshore R Strategic Plan 2007 re the SIMPLE PLEASURES theme?*

*This smack of insult to what people now enjoy!

*Investigate the potential for the site across the road, on the southern side of Tweed Street, to provide facilities which enhance future harbour precinct operations.

P35.ACTIONS

1. GENERAL

*Review the current management & lease arrangements

2.COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

*Investigate additional commercial development/increase vibrancy

4.FISH CO-LP

*Review the current licence agreements & management arrangements with the fish CO-OP & discuss future development options with regard to their freehold land.

5.INVESTIGATION AREA 3

*Investigate the suitability for:

----additional parking

----environmental conservation/protection

P38.PRECINCT 8 – FERREY RESERVE HOLIDAY PARK

ISSUES:

*Public access/foreshore

*Condition/seawall

*Expansion of the H.P. onto the former Pacific Hwy

*Capacity for the park to accommodate additional long-term sites

OPPORTUNITIES

* 'a fisherman's paradise' theme, permanent residents & a wide range of holiday accommodation types

*Investigate the potential to provide additional long-term sites to accommodate long-term residents from Terrace Reserve & Massey Greene Holiday Park

COMMENT:

*All other options with close community involvement & re Fins, old Pacific Hwy & onto Boat Harbour.

9.

P40. ACTIONS

1. GENERAL

- *Minimise disturbance to native vegetation when considering new development & improvements
- *Provide additional landscaping
- *Ensure an appropriate zoning is applied in the new Byron Shire Council LEP.

3. BRUNSWICK RIVER FORESHORE

- *Implement measures to achieve 10m setback to structures & 10m public access corridor along the Brunswick River foreshore to link Riverside Drive & new timber boardwalk beneath the highway bridge
- *Close the section of Riverside Drive with the holiday park & add to the Reserve

P41. PRECINCT 9 – WESTERN FORESHORE LANDS

- *Low lying & flood affected
 - *Two(2) freehold properties not developed within
- ISSUES
- *Public access/ foreshore
 - *Potential for additional riverside recreational facilities
 - *Access to the two (2) freehold properties
 - *High conservation value vegetation
 - *Flooding

P42. ACTIONS

- *Investigate potential for additional recreational use or environmental conservation.

GEOLINK 2007: re vegetation (js)

COMMENT:

- *Wattles are not a high conservation priority.

P8. CROWN LANDS MANAGEMENT PRINCIPALS

CROWN LANDS ACT 1989

- *environmental (?building environment or trees, grass etc js)
- *best interests fo the State! (my emphasis)

COMMENT:

*Yet, on the foreshore at Pyrmont(Sydney) Mr. Frank Sartor has allowed high-rise (no., floors I am not sure)to be built in 2007 & building is continuing.

re P3 of The Plan to P13.

Re P3 Strategic Plan --- from: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. PUBLIC RESERVE NETWORK

- *Keep facilities low-key & in keeping with the surroundings to enhance the 'SIMPLE PLEASURES' THEME.

10.

I present my Submission. Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Jillian Spring