

Source: *Erin McGauley. Stockton Beach, Worimi Conservation Lands*

# Stockton Beach Mass Sand Nourishment Project

**Michelle Fletcher** - Director Marine Coastal Estuary & Flood

**Casey Johnston** – Principal Project Officer Stockton Beach Mass Sand Nourishment

**Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water**

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Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society.

Artist and designers Skye Stephenson and Jade Deacon-Stephenson.

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# Overview

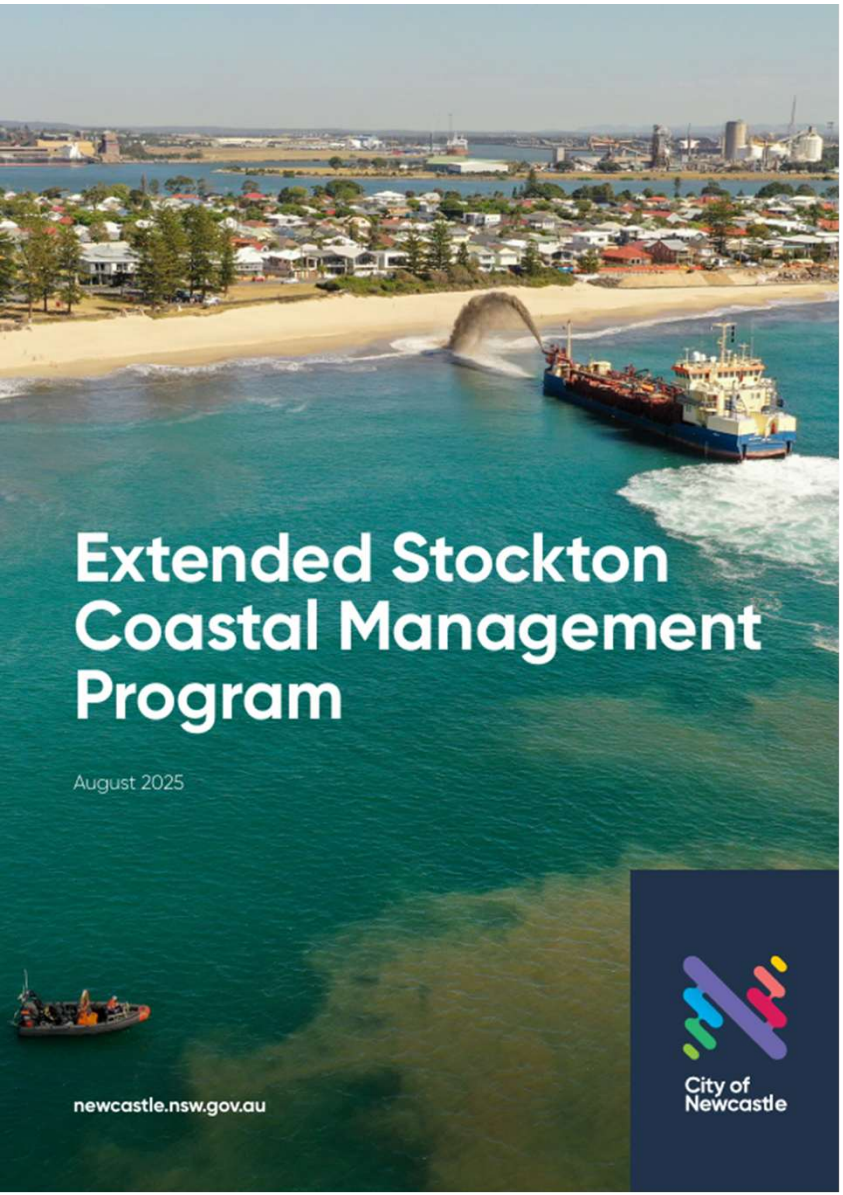
- Introduction
- Role of stakeholders
- Background
- Pilot project
- Progress to date
- Monitoring Evaluation Framework Overview
- Market Sounding
- Next steps



# Role of Stakeholders

- City of Newcastle
- Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
- Local Member
- Port of Newcastle
- Worimi
- Community Groups
- Stockton Special Advisory Panel
- Consultants
- Principal Project Officer






# Stockton Community

- Stockton Coastal Management Program 2020 & Extended CMP 2025
- First certified CMP in NSW!
- The CMP determined that 2.4M $m^3$ of nourishment sand is needed to protect assets, rehabilitate the coast and restore beach amenity
- MSN to be first of its kind pilot project in NSW

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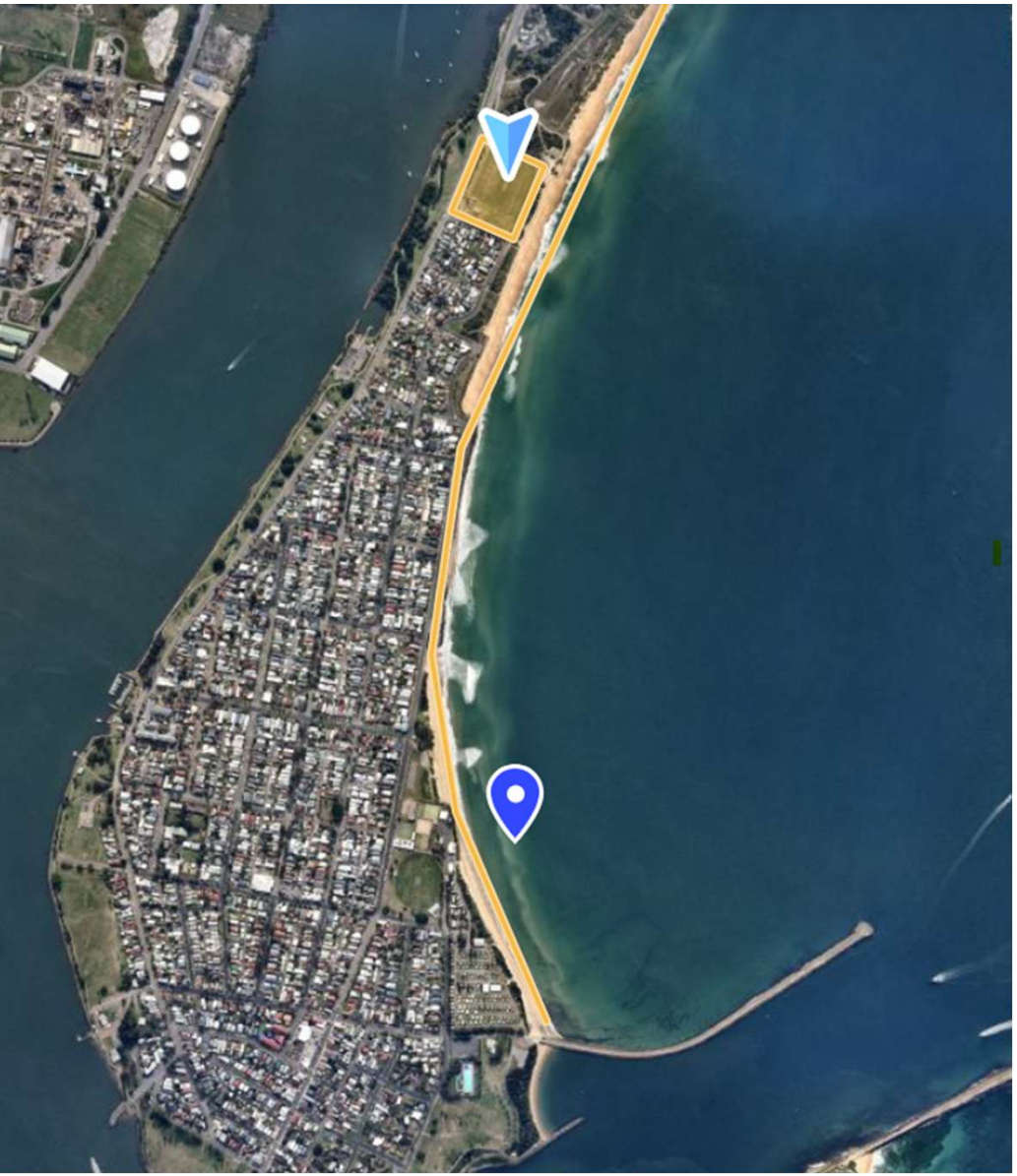
# Dredging for Coastal Amenity in NSW

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# Dial before you dig!

- Sand deposits
- Sand suitability
- Available depths
- Extraction environment extent
- Placement environment extent
- Cultural and Heritage
- Marine life
- Navigation
- Coastal environment





# Spatial Extent

- Extraction area 265ha
- Placement area 126 ha
- Combined 391 ha
- Corroba Oval 3.2ha (122 ovals!)

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# Project Path to Delivery

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| City of Newcastle directed to fast-track CMP for Stockton Beach by 30 June 2020 | Feb 2020 | Complete |
| Regional NSW Review of potential marine sand resources for beach nourishment in the Hunter-Newcastle region | May 2020 | Complete |
| Commencement of Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting | Jun 2020 | Complete |
| Stockton 2020 CMP certified | Jul 2020 | Complete |
| CERMP offshore exploration license granted | Feb 2021 | Complete |
| Regional NSW Sand assessment report - Stockton offshore sand exploration project | Nov 2021 | Complete |
| Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program (CERMP) grant program announced | Feb 2022 | Complete |
| CERMP application for Stockton made on behalf of NSW Government | May 2022 | Complete |
| Bluecoast Sand placement concept design | Sep 2022 | Complete |
| National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) granted $4.726M to NSW under CERMP with City of Newcastle committing $1.518M for sand nourishment in area E | Jan 2023 | Complete |
| Bluecoast Stockton Beach REF - Stockton Beach Renourishment | Feb 2023 | Complete |
| Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW) entered into funding agreement with City of Newcastle for $1.518M | Mar 2023 | Complete |
| DRNSW entered into Federation Funding Agreement (FFA) with NEMA for CERMP | May 2023 | Complete |
| NSW Government election commitment $21.5M Stockton Beach Repair project | Jun 2025 | Complete |
| DRNSW and Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) directed to develop Stockton Beach Repair Blueprint | Jun 2023 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting 1 | Jun 2023 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting 2 | Sep 2023 | Complete |
| 130,000m3 amenity nourishment delivered to Stockton Beach under Part A of the CERMP project | Oct 2023 | Complete |



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# Project Path to Delivery

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting 3 | Dec 2023 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Repair Blueprint published by DPE | Dec 2023 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Repair Project business case submitted to Treasury | Mar 2024 | Complete |
| CERMP offshore field investigations complete | Apr 2025 | Complete |
| Bluecoast Interpretive Report Stockton Beach nourishment sand source investigations | Aug 2025 | Complete |
| Bluecoast Offshore field investigation report | Sep 2025 | Complete |
| Bluecoast CERMP Stockton Beach Sand Nourishment Technical Report: Coastal processes and water quality 13 November 2025 | Nov 2025 | Complete |
| North Arm Feasibility Report | Dec 2025 | Complete |
| Extended Stockton CMP 2025 certified | Nov 2025 | Complete |
| COSMOS Underwater Cultural Heritage Statement of Heritage Impact Assessment | Dec 2025 | Complete |
| BMT Appointed to undertake Market Sounding and Procurement Strategy | Jan 2026 | Complete |
| Principal Project Manager appointed | Mar 2026 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting 4 | Mar 2026 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Review of Environmental Factors determined | Apr 2026 | Complete |
| Salients appointed to develop Monitoring Evaluation Framework | Apr 2026 | Complete |
| Stockton Beach Taskforce meeting 5 | Jul 2026 | Complete |
| Environmental Protection License application submitted | Jul 2026 | Complete |
| Crown Land License application submitted | Jul 2026 | Complete |
| Offshore Mining License application prepared | Jul 2026 | Complete |
| BMT Market Sounding and Procurement Strategy completed | Sep 2026 | Complete |

# Project Funding

- Stockton CMP development
- **$6.3 million** administered by the NSW Government and jointly funded by the Australian Government and the City of Newcastle Council
- NSW Government commitment of **$21.5 million** for mass sand nourishment at Stockton Beach
- Initial funding allowed for studies and permits to deliver 130,000m3 of sand and exploration studies and environmental assessments for the MSN
- Emergency works

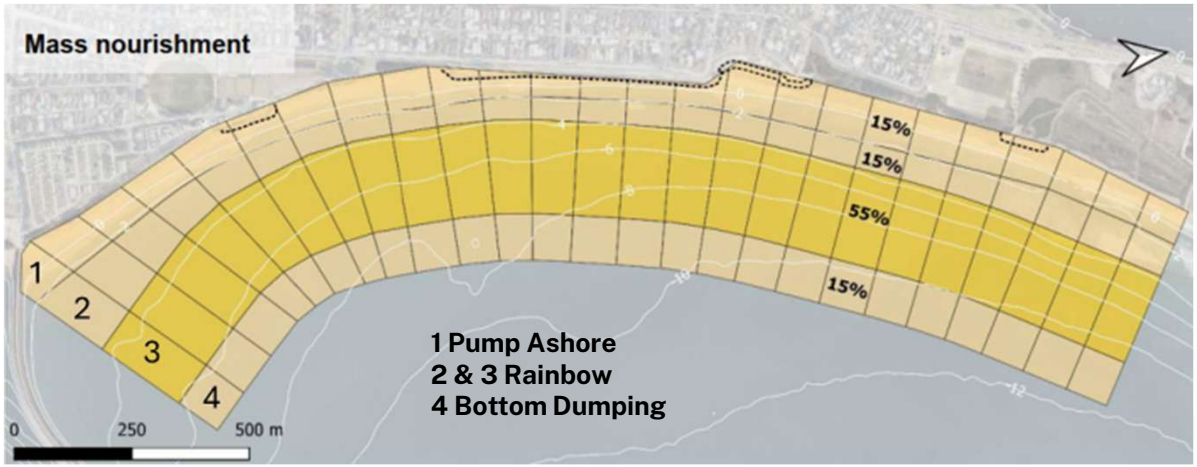




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# BMT Market Sounding and Procurement Strategy

- A questionnaire was developed for dredging contractors to determine:
  - Market interest and capacity
  - Vessel capability and availability
  - Mobilisation timeframes
  - Indicative pricing and cost drivers
  - Commercial and contract considerations
  - Risks, constraints and opportunities
- Seven dredging companies invited to participate
- Supporting information was provided to applicants




| | Beach (1) m³ | Bar (2) m³ | Nearshore (3) m³ | Offshore (4) m³ | Section total m³ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Box | 14,400 | 14,400 | 52,800 | 14,400 | 96,000 |
| Total | 360,000 | 360,000 | 1,320,000 | 360,000 | 2,400,000 |



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# BMT Market Sounding and Procurement Strategy

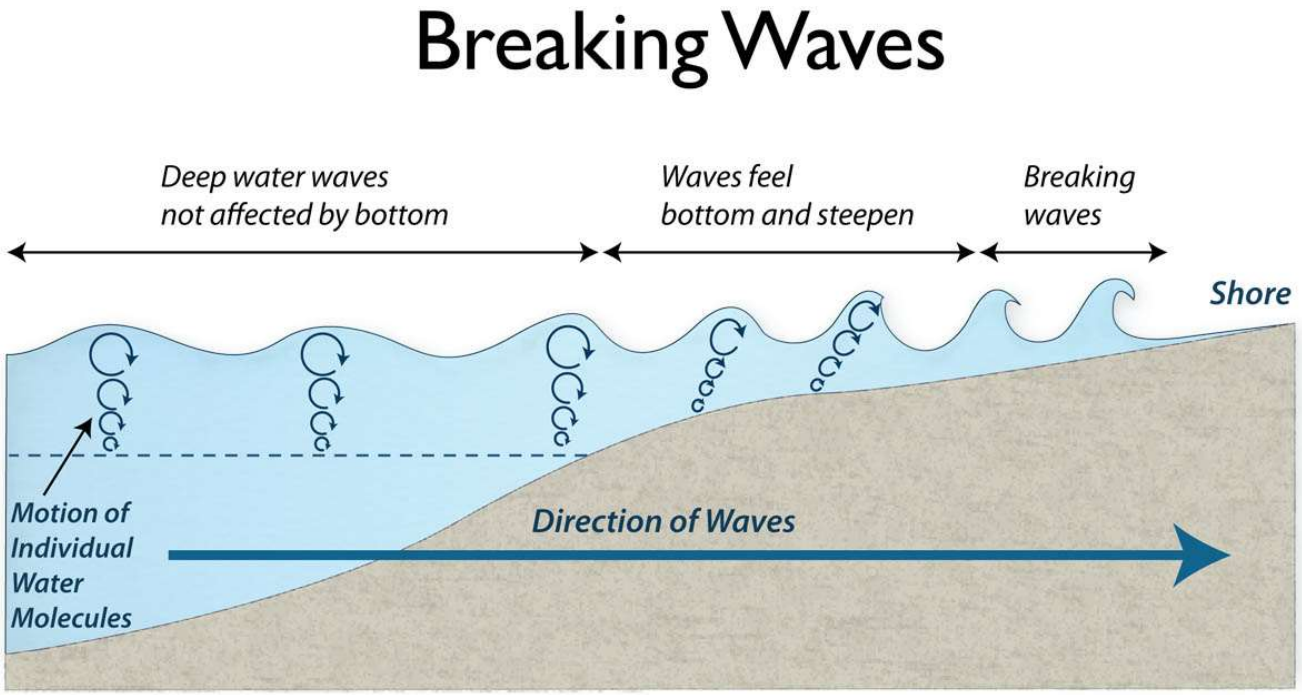
KEY FINDINGS

- Works are technically feasible
- Key factors affecting price and delivery include campaign size, procurement lead time, vessel availability, alignment with other regional works, delivery method and mobilisation/demobilisation.
- Bottom dumping is the most cost effective option and will provide the greatest volume of sand with the least number of days to deliver the project



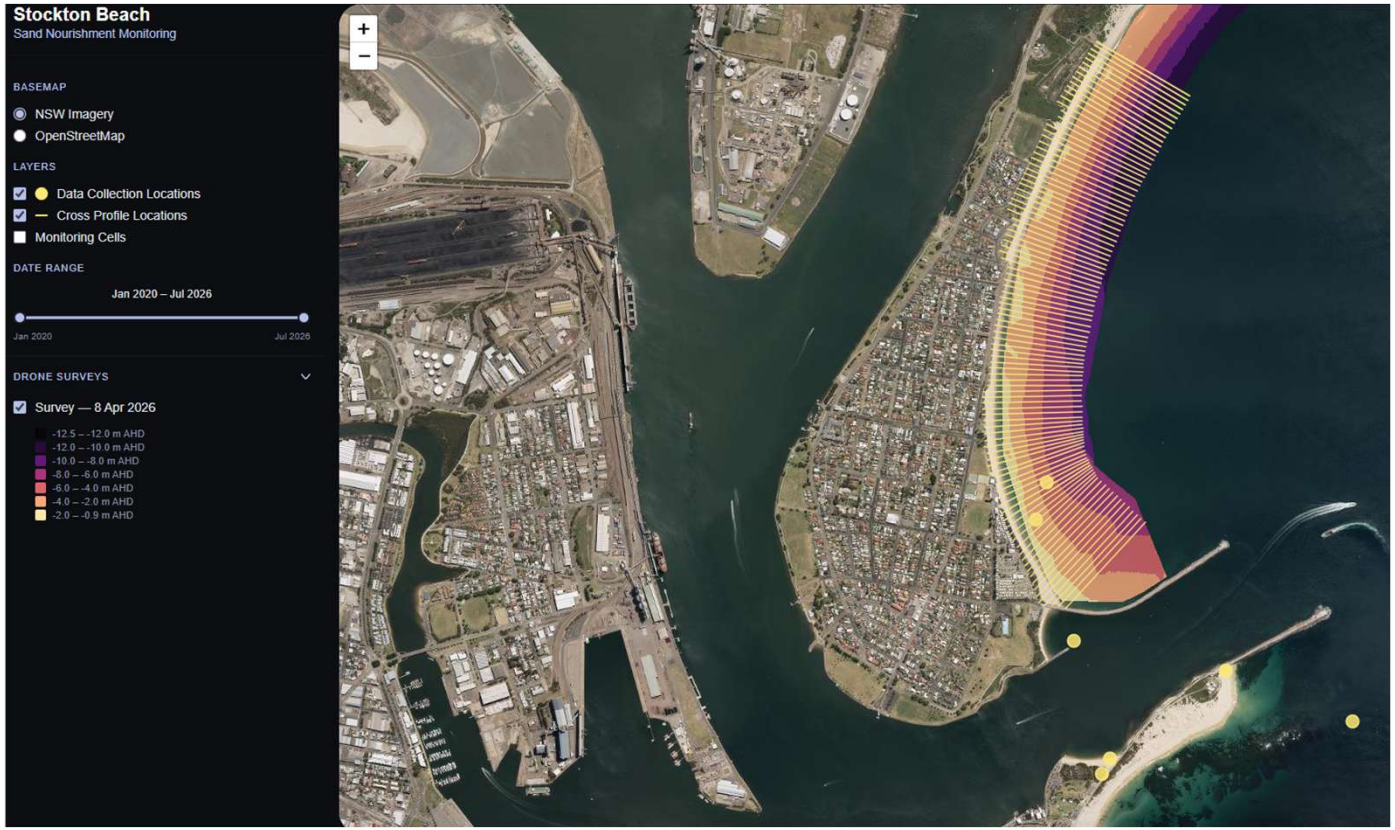
# Coastal Management

- Cycles of erosion and accretion
- Sand as a buffer for coastal erosion
- Bottom dumping & Rainbowing
- Visual doesn't equal protection
- Gold Coast model




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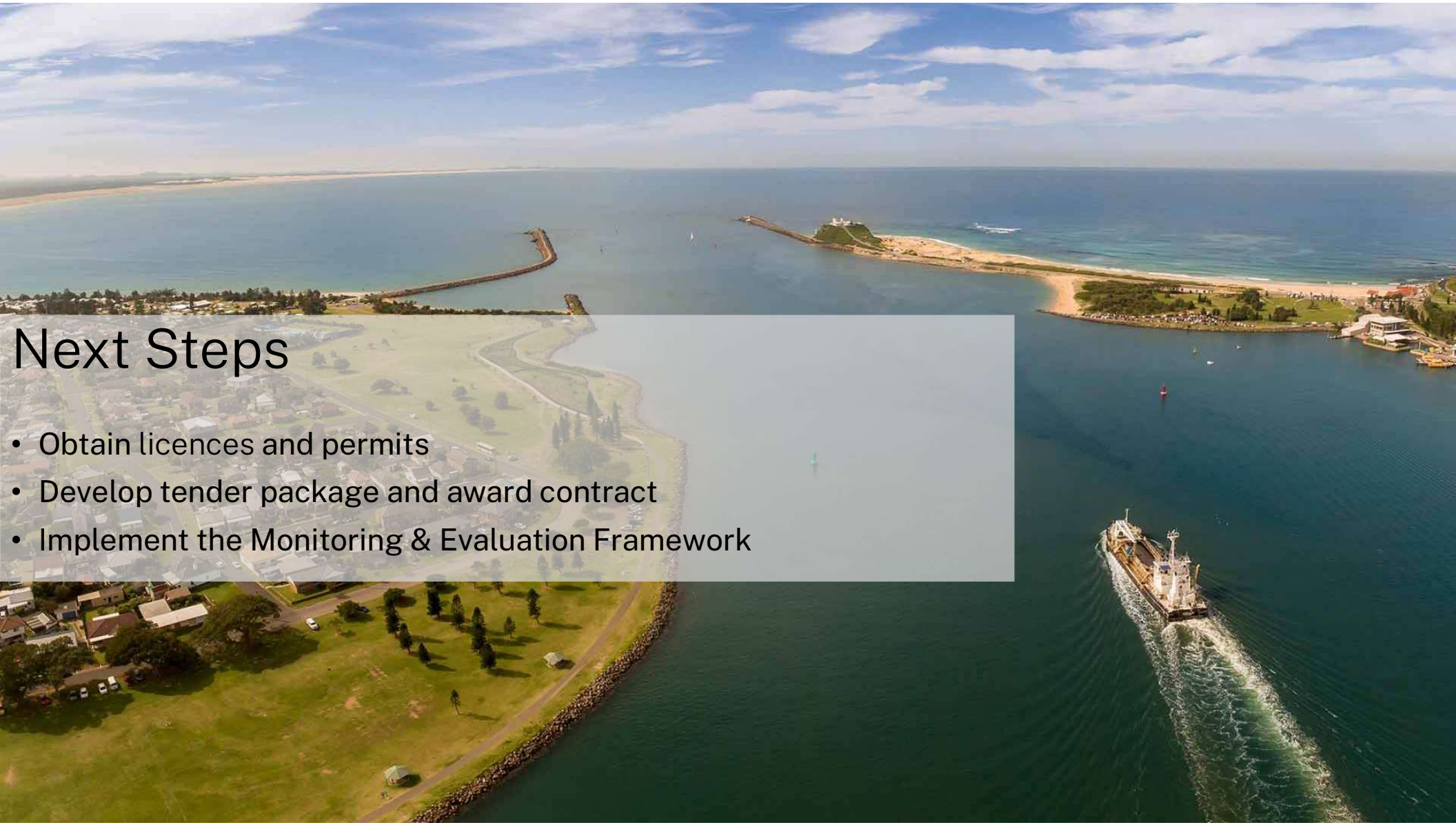
# Salients Monitoring Evaluation Framework




- Salients engaged to develop a Monitoring Evaluation Framework (MEF)
- Monitoring web page developed
- Assessment of drone, bathymetric and wave buoy data
- MEF will tell us how sand behaves and responds
- This project is expected to be delivered late Sep 2026



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# Next Steps

- Obtain licences and permits
- Develop tender package and award contract
- Implement the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

# When will we see the dredge?

- Contract development is underway
- Timing constraints reliant on tender submissions and contractor availability
- Licenses



# Thank you!




- Thank you for the ongoing commitment and advocating
- SSAP
- A first for NSW
- Progress to date
- Stick with us, we are almost there!

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