



**Paul Toole**

Minister for Lands and Forestry  
Minister for Racing

**Melinda Pavey**

Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **NEW COASTAL DREDGING STRATEGY TO IMPROVE WATERWAY SAFETY AND ACCESS**

The NSW Government will invest an additional \$8 million over four years to improve the accessibility and health of the State's waterways.

The Minister for Lands and Forestry, Paul Toole, and the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, Melinda Pavey, today released the *NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy*.

Mr Toole said the Department of Industry – Lands will work with Transport for NSW, Roads and Maritime Services, local councils and communities to improve access to State-owned regional ports and harbours.

“These waterways are the lifeblood of many communities and the NSW Liberal & Nationals Government is pleased to fund this essential dredging,” Mr Toole said.

“We will also be working with councils to develop long-term dredging plans for local waterways and enable councils to undertake their own dredging works to address the needs of their local communities,” Mr Toole said.

Of the \$8 million, \$6 million is for the Rescuing Our Waterways program and \$2 million for priority regional location projects.

All coastal councils are eligible to apply for funding under Rescuing Our Waterways, which covers up to 50 percent of the cost of dredging projects undertaken by council.

Ms Pavey said the *NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy* will improve boating safety and ensure the continued enjoyment of coastal harbours and rivers.

“State-owned ports and harbours that need ongoing dredging to maintain navigational access will be priorities,” Ms Pavey said.

“I encourage eligible local businesses, chambers of commerce, commercial operators and boating clubs to apply for funding through the Rescuing Our Waterways program with applications now open.”

More info: [www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/crown\\_land/coastal-harbours-and-river-entrances](http://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/crown_land/coastal-harbours-and-river-entrances)

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