



Kevin Humphries MP

Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water

Minister for Western NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

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COFFS HARBOUR SLIPWAY TO REMAIN OPEN

The NSW Government is currently investigating options to open the Coffs Harbour Slipway on an interim basis while additional testing is done prior to finalising the Remediation Action Plan (RAP), Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water Kevin Humphries announced today.

Mr Humphries said the NSW Government is working with the Coffs Harbour Fisherman's Cooperative to minimise disruption to local business and fisherman while additional testing is undertaken to determine the extent of contamination at the site.

“Investigations undertaken by Crown Lands have shown the slipway site and the submerged sediments contain contaminants at levels exceeding the Australia and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) guidelines,” Mr Humphries said.

“It is absolutely vital that the safest and most effective remediation option is undertaken and that is why I have asked NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands to undertake additional site testing.

“Crown Lands will now complete a risk assessment of each of the proposed remediation options and undertake trials to support development of a site Remediation Action Plan.

“Remediation works are required to de-contaminate the hardstand area and submerged land near the base of the slipway to ensure that the local environment restored to an acceptable level for all users.

“Once additional testing is completed and the RAP finalised, Crown Lands will consult with the EPA to determine the most appropriate remediation strategy.

“Crown Lands and Roads and Maritime Services are working together on a reinvestment package to enable the slipway to be upgraded and fully operational next year.”

Mr Fraser welcomed the move towards opening the slipway during the testing and remediation works.

“We have listened to the local community and businesses who asked us to look at what options there are to have the slipway opened during these works and will ensure all options are examined,” Mr Fraser said.

MEDIA: Jeremy Scott - 0467 741 200