

## 5 IMPLEMENTATION

### 5.1 How to implement this plan

The implementation of this plan relies on the participation and agreement of all levels of government and the community. As such there is a shared responsibility amongst stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the plan. It is proposed a Statement of Joint Intent (SOJI) be developed to formally acknowledge the commitment of major stakeholders in implementing the plan. Although this document is non-binding, it sends an important message to the community about the intentions of stakeholders to work together towards achieving the goals set out in the plan, and signals support for and acceptance of the recommended strategies.

Stakeholder	Responsibilities
Local Government authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where relevant, implement actions outlined in plan</li> <li>• nominate or employ an accountable personnel to report to and participate in quarterly meetings of the implementation committee to oversee coordination and implementation of the plan</li> <li>• write implementation of the Wallis Lake Estuary Management Plan into the position description and role accountabilities of key agency personnel</li> <li>• provide feedback to organisations represented on the progress of implementation and issues arising</li> <li>• enforce legislation and water quality guidelines as outlined in the plan</li> </ul>
State Government agencies and public authorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources</li> <li>• Department of the Environment and Conservation</li> <li>• NSW Department of Lands</li> <li>• MidCoast Water</li> <li>• NSW Fisheries</li> <li>• MSB Waterways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where relevant, implement actions outlined in plan</li> <li>• nominate or employ an accountable personnel to report to and participate in quarterly meetings of the implementation committee to oversee coordination and implementation of the plan</li> <li>• write implementation of the Wallis Lake Estuary Management Plan into the position description and role accountabilities of key agency personnel</li> <li>• provide feedback to organisations represented on the progress of implementation and issues arising</li> <li>• enforce legislation and water quality guidelines as outlined in the plan</li> <li>• include specifications in contracts and leases requiring contractors/leasers to adopt relevant guidelines</li> </ul>
Local industry groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wallis Lake Fishermen's Cooperative</li> <li>• Oyster Growers</li> <li>• Tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where relevant, implement actions outlined in plan</li> <li>• nominate or employ an accountable personnel to report to and participate in quarterly meetings of the implementation committee to oversee coordination and implementation of the plan</li> </ul>
Local community groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forster Local Aboriginal Land Council</li> <li>• Great Lakes Environment Association</li> <li>• Landcare groups</li> <li>• Progress associations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participate in environmental monitoring</li> <li>• assist with implementation of actions outlined in the plan</li> <li>• demand meaningful engagement with the relevant management agencies and processes</li> <li>• involvement in the implementation committee to oversee coordination and implementation of the plan</li> </ul>

[Table 5.1: Shared responsibilities for implementing the WLEMP (Modified from the WLCMP)]

The WLEMC that has supervised the development of the WLEMP will be re-elected and become the Wallis Lake Estuary Management Implementation Committee (WLEMIC), whose role will be to guide the recommended management actions of the plan and oversee the monitoring process. It may be necessary to recruit representatives from new stakeholder groups depending on the nature of the management actions.

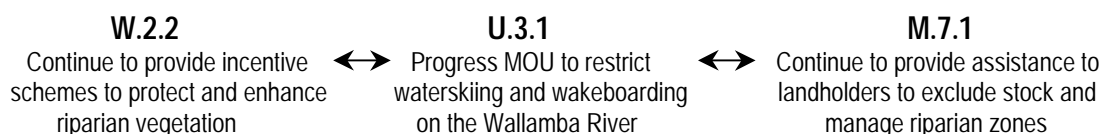
It is recommended that funding be sought to employ a project coordinator to oversee the implementation of the plan. This person would be based at Great Lakes Council in the Natural Systems and Estuaries branch and would be responsible for liaisons between stakeholders and data acquisition and management for performance assessments of the recommended strategies. This will ensure coordinated action in implementing the plan by all levels of government and the community.

Management Objective		<i>Successful implementation of the Wallis Lake estuary management plan</i>
Action No	Action	
I.1	Achieve full stakeholder sign-off on WLEMP and formalise agreement in a SOJI. This will ensure that all stakeholders agree to and are aware of their responsibilities under the plan	
I.2	Form the Wallis Lake estuary management implementation committee	
I.3	Appoint a project coordinator to oversee the implementation of the plan	
I.4	Develop a detailed project budget plan – to be overseen by the WLEMIC	
I.5	Work towards cooperative resourcing of estuary works by all levels of government and the community	
I.6	Ensure commitment to the monitor, report and review process to measure the success of the management actions and modify as necessary	
I.7	Ensure adequate and ongoing funding	
I.8	Implement the plan review process ensuring community participation and facilitate continuing improvement with review	

[Table 5.2: Implementation summary table for the WLEMP]

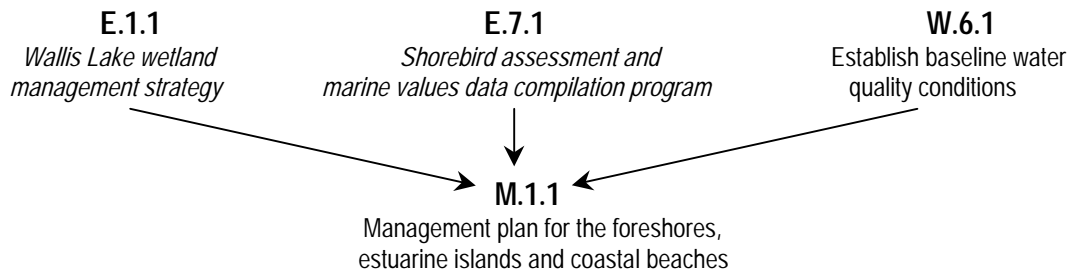
## 5.2 Order of implementation

The priority rank designated to each action determines the approximate timeframe in which the actions are to be implemented (see section 3.2). However, some of the actions represent a stepwise progression towards achieving an overall management objective and therefore the order in which they are implemented can be crucial. For those actions where this is important, the following diagrams illustrate the order in which they must be implemented.

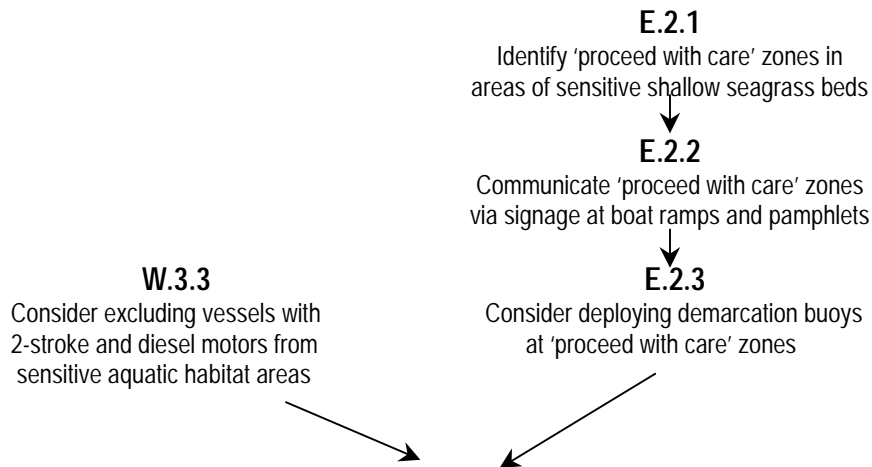


It is important that a coordinated effort be made to implement actions W.2.2, U.3.1 and M.7.1 in concert. This is because landholders are reluctant to fence if waterskiing and wakeboarding activities continue to exacerbate erosion, resulting in the fences having to be moved back from the

shoreline in the near future. Further, riparian vegetation cannot be enhanced if it is being trampled and grazed by stock.



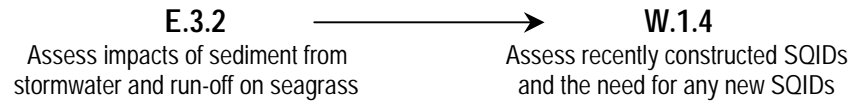
The results of actions E.1.1, E.7.1 and W.6.1 will strongly influence the foreshore management plan for the Wallis Lake foreshores, estuarine islands and coastal beaches (action M.1.1).



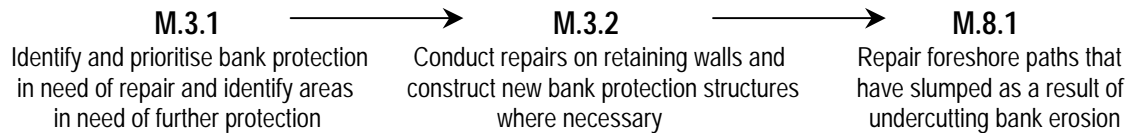
### U.1.1

Develop and implement a *Wallis Lake recreation/boating management strategy*

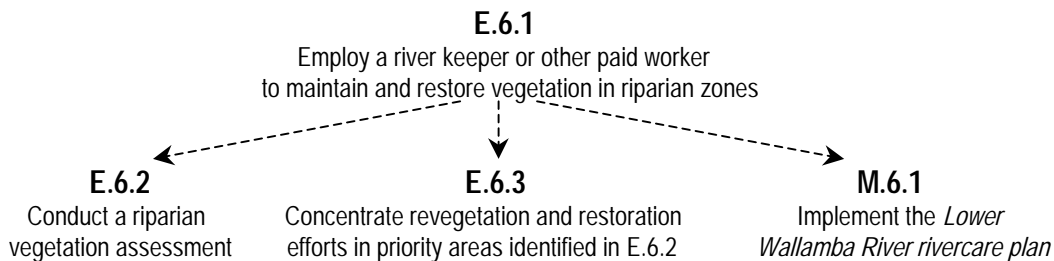
The 'proceed with care' zones (actions E.2.1-3) and action W.3.3 will contribute to the development of the *Wallis Lake recreation/boating management strategy*.



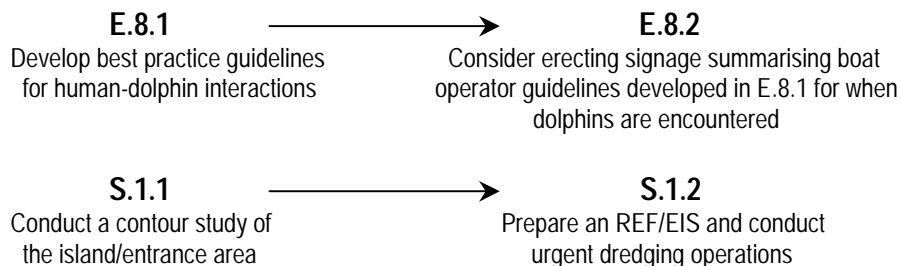
If nearby stormwater drains (action E.3.2) are shown to be compromising the health of seagrass beds, then these areas should be considered when assessing the need for any new SQIDs (action W.1.4).



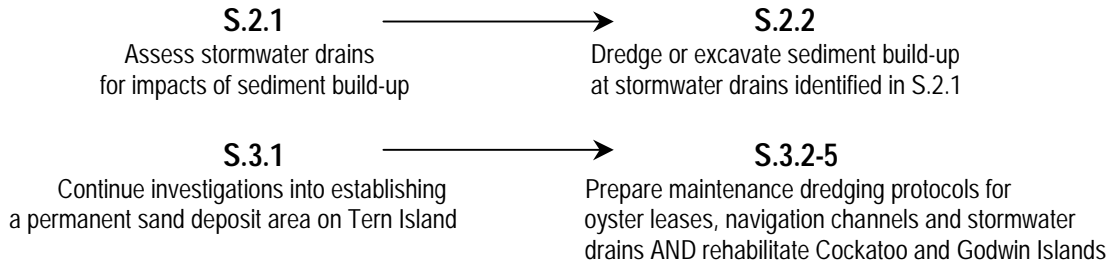
Bank protection structures should be identified (M.3.1) and repaired (M.3.2) prior to any repairs to footpaths that have slumped as a result of undercutting bank erosion (M.8.1).



It is preferable that a river keeper be employed (action E.6.1) to coordinate efforts to assess (E.6.2) and revegetate/restore (E.6.3) riparian vegetation and to implement the *Lower Wallamba River rivercare plan*.



It is important that an initial contour study of the lake be conducted prior to any dredging operations so that the rate of infilling can be monitored for future planning and cost/benefit analyses.



Before any maintenance-dredging program is developed a permanent sand deposit area must be operational to accommodate the dredged material.

