

A Foreshore Fishing Focus at The Entrance Reserves

What was the problem?

This project aimed to address the significant problem of recreational fishing and related litter, at two locally iconic and high profile tourist destinations at The Entrance. Given the location and proximity of Picnic Point and Terilbah reserves to the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary, fishing related litter entering the waterway was subsequently flowing into the ocean.



Tangler bins installed

What did we do?

EDUCATION

- Face-to-face – conducted interviews with fishers and established an ongoing presence and discussion with fishers on the site over the full project period
- Media – press articles, radio interviews, social media and updated Council webpage
- Signage – investigated signage requirements
- Postcards developed as part of the project – designed to be small, portable, user-friendly, useful and able to be shared with others

Project features

Approaches used

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| ✓ | Cleaning and clean-ups |
| ✓ | Improved infrastructure |
| ✓ | Education and awareness |
| ✓ | Enforcement |
| ✓ | Community involvement |

Project details

Project length and timing

30 January 2014 to 30 September 2014

Cost

\$25 000 plus project management

How was effectiveness/results evaluated

The surveys of the fishers in combination with visual and photographic inspections of the two sites and the Tangler bins, were the major measures of the project's effectiveness. All surveys and inspections were undertaken by Take 3 (environmental organisation) in consultation with Wyong Shire Council.

What was the result?

- EPA's Local Litter Check numbers of the hotspot area showed a reduction of 65%
- Tangler bins yielded over 3800 items, 85% of which were fishing items (over a period of three months)
- Local awareness of the littering issue, and specifically the quantity of fishing litter generated, has been increased via the installation of the Tangler bins

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Installed, serviced and monitored eight Tangler bins (four at each site)
- Reviewed the number, placement and frequency of collection of public place litter bins
- Monitored the level of bin usage in specific public place bins within target locations
- Investigated enhanced lighting options at night-time fishing hotspots

CLEAN UP

- Conducted four dedicated clean-up events

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

- Engaged Take 3 volunteers and paid staff as the primary delivery mechanism for all on ground activities during the project

What did we learn?

- The weekly presence of Take 3 volunteers inspired confidence with the fishers which enabled the Tangler bins to be highly successful.
- Earlier installation of the Tangler bins would have been beneficial to facilitate engagement with fishers. Installation was delayed due to delay in delivery of bins.
- Some engagement of fishers was missed because of the locality of Picnic Point and Terilbah reserves; however, as some fishers use both fishing areas the stakeholder engagement extended indirectly beyond the Picnic Point Reserve location.
- Engagement with fishers has also found that maintenance of bins with regular collection of waste is crucial to reinforcing their continual use.

Legacy

Local fishers at The Entrance are showing ownership over the Tangler bins and have become ambassadors by encouraging other fishers to use the bins.



Tangler bins

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