

North Coast Public Health

Covering both Mid North Coast & Northern NSW Local Health Districts

The Director
Northern Region
Department of Planning & Environment
Locked Bag 9022
GRAFTON NSW 2460

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission - Draft North Coast Regional Plan

The following comment is provided regarding the Draft North Coast Regional Plan, Direction 1.3 "Safeguard aquatic habitats and water catchments".

The NSW Government Strategy "draft North Coast Regional Plan" did not reference the NSW Department of Health NSW *Guidelines for Drinking Water Management Systems 2013* (<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Pages/NSWguidelines-for-drinking-water-management-systems.aspx>).

Page 15 of these Guidelines states:

"The ADWG note that protection of water sources is of paramount importance in reducing risks. Catchments can be protected by limiting access by humans and animals, limiting land uses to non polluting types that will not contribute to risk and the use of buffer zones. Development controls can be used to ensure that development within catchments is appropriate. Planning Instruments such as Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) may be used to help protect catchment integrity, for example inclusion of local provisions which restrict land use within catchments to types that will not pose a risk to water quality. Water catchment areas can be declared under the Local Government Act 1993 section 128 which may provide a layer of protection against land uses that pose risks to water quality"

It is suggested that these guidelines be referenced in the final plan.

Yours sincerely



Paul Corben

Director Public Health

2/6/2016