



Department
of Industry

Our Reference: MN07H4

Jenny Cronan - Senior Recreation Planner Northern Beaches Council
PO Box 882
MONA VALE NSW 1660



Dear Jenny

Proposed dog off-leash trial at Station Beach, Pittwater

Thank you for your email of 7 November 2018 advising of Council's intentions to commence community consultation on 15 November 2018.

The Department of Industry - Lands & Water (the department) is comfortable with Council, as part of their community consultation process, placing the department's letter of 10 September 2018 and the Land and Property Management Authority letter of 6 November 2009 on its website, in an un-altered state, provided that all personal details are deleted from both letters. The department is also comfortable with this letter being placed on Council's website, provided that all personal details are removed.

I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate the department's concern in previous correspondence regarding the environmental sensitivities of the proposed site due to the presence of endangered seagrass species and the important breeding habitats they provide.

As outlined, the proposed trial would require Council to hold a valid tenure over the site with the department. To facilitate this, a licence application can be submitted by Council for consideration by the department.

In order to consider Council's licence application, the department will require a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and consent from NSW Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries (Fisheries). The granting of a license over the subject site for the proposed purpose would be subject to the department's satisfaction that the application is in line with the principles of Crown Land management and that our before mentioned concerns have been adequately addressed.

Please note the department's reference to Hitchcock Park in the letter of 10 September 2018 relates to the closest designated off-leash dog area and does not suggest the sites suitability as an off-leash dog swimming area. It is noted the Hitchcock Park borders the Careel Bay Intertidal Area - a declared Wildlife Protection Area established in accordance with the *NSW Companion Animals Act 1998*, where dogs are strictly prohibited.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, Mr Stan Rees, Natural Resource Management Project Officer, can be contacted, on (02) 9842 8327.

Yours sincerely

Ben Tax
A/Area Manager, Sydney & South Coast
Date: 15 November 2018

