

Monday, 21 September 2009

EX-HMAS ADELAIDE RESERVE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT ON PUBLIC DISPLAY

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, has announced the public exhibition of a plan of management for the off-shore reserve where the ex-HMAS Adelaide naval vessel will be sunk off the Central Coast.

“The ex-HMAS Adelaide, a 138-metre long escort frigate with 28 years naval service, is being prepared to be sunk in waters off Terrigal as an artificial reef and recreational dive site,” Mr Kelly said.

“The aim of the plan of management is to set a strategic direction for the off-shore reserve and outline the operational and day-to-day management of the reserve once the ship is sunk.

“This project is the first of its kind in this state and will put the Central Coast on the map with only a handful of other dive states in New South Wales.

“It will provide a major tourism boost to the Central Coast region as the site will be a national and international attraction for divers.

“Work is currently being undertaken to prepare the ship for scuttling and this is expected to occur next April (2010) depending on weather conditions at that time.

“The plan of management is on exhibition from 21 September until 18 October 2009.

“It can be viewed on the LPMA website at www.lpma.nsw.gov.au or during business hours at the following locations:

- Maitland LPMA office, corner Newcastle Road and Banks Streets, East Maitland,
- Gosford Council’s customer service centres at the Erina Centre, Kincumber and Woy Woy; Gosford City Library, and the council’s office at 49 Mann St Gosford.

Written submissions are invited on the plan and should be addressed to the project manager ex-HMAS Adelaide Project, Land and Property Management Authority, PO Box 2155, Dangar NSW 2309 or emailed to Natalie.Heise@lpma.nsw.gov.au.

“This project demonstrates the Rees’ Government’s commitment to the State Plan to foster an environment for living that encourages more people to get out and experience the great diversity of activities available through the Crown reserve system,” Mr Kelly said.