MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 23 July 2014

TENDERS CALLED FOR DREDGING SWANSEA CHANNEL

Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, Kevin Humphries, and Member for Swansea Garry Edwards said today tenders have been called for navigational dredging in Swansea Channel.

“Earlier this year, the NSW Government announced $2.5 million for a large once-off dredging campaign following successful interim dredging last summer,” Mr Humphries said.

“The work is proceeding through a funding agreement made possible between Crown Lands and Transport for NSW, with the work expected to be completed in time for the 2014 boating season, subject to suitable conditions and availability of a suitable dredging contractor.

“This project delivers on the NSW Government’s pledge to rebuild regional infrastructure neglected by the former NSW Labor Government and to maintain safe boating access along the NSW coast.”

NSW Trade & Investment Crown Lands has engaged the Department of Finance & Services Public Works for the project and contract management services. The tender is available for a four week period on the Government’s E-Tender web site www.tenders.nsw.gov.au.

Mr Edwards said the channel’s regional significance as the entrance to Lake Macquarie, which is currently used by 18,000 boats, made this project particularly important to the region.

“This is a watershed event for Lake Macquarie, in particular the Jewel in the Crown, Swansea Channel,” Mr Edwards said.

“The commitment by the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government to restore accessibility and the environmental health of NSW estuaries means that waterways like Swansea Channel and Lake Macquarie can reach their true potential as a national and international boating and recreational haven.”

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