

**EX-HMAS ADELAIDE A STEP CLOSER TO  
THE CENTRAL COAST**

22 September 2009

NSW Premier and Minister for the Central Coast, Nathan Rees, said today that the ex-HMAS Adelaide was a step closer to its final resting place off the coast of Terrigal with the release of a Draft Plan of Management.

“Before the ex-HMAS Adelaide can be brought up the coast and sunk as an artificial reef and dive wreck, we need to have a plan in place that covers all the issues around preparation and ongoing management,” said Mr Rees.

“Weather permitting, scuttling of the ex-HMAS Adelaide is expected to occur in April next year, and it is important that we hear from the community about how to manage this important tourism asset before that happens.

“This project is the first of its kind in NSW, and it will really put the Central Coast on the map as a drawcard for local and international divers.

“Some of the issues we need to make sure are addressed in the Management Plan include:

- making sure diver safety is paramount
- ensuring the increasing number of visitors to the sight is managed properly
- protecting the local marine environment
- making sure the reef is protected and maintained.

“The Draft Plan of Management sets out these issues and proposes how they can be addressed. The exhibition of the draft plan gives everyone on the Central Coast the opportunity to have their say on these issues.

“The ex-HMAS Adelaide is going to be a terrific asset for the Central Coast, and we want to make sure we get its future management right.

“The HMAS Adelaide served the Australian Navy for 28 years and we want its future as a tourist attraction on the Central Coast to be just as successful.”

Mr Rees said the Draft Plan of Management was on exhibition until 18 October 2009 and could be viewed online at [www.lpma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au) or at:

- Maitland LPMA office, corner of Newcastle Road and Banks Streets, East Maitland, or
- 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 Street, Gosford.