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**From:** DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au  
**Sent:** 18/03/2025 5:29:45 PM  
**To:** DA Submission Mailbox  
**Subject:** Online Submission

18/03/2025

MR Nigel Ampherlaw  
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Fairlight NSW 2094  
[REDACTED]

**RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093**

The quiet nature of North Harbour enables many locals, both adults and especially children, to partake in water based recreational activities in a very safe area that is not overwhelmed by marine traffic. The quiet nature of North Harbour has also resulted in an increase in marine life frequenting the area - I have video evidence of a Seal feeding and playing some 75 metres west of the current berthing structure. This is in addition to the Fairy Penguins that nest towards the entrance of North Harbour.

As attachments are not possible to this submission, I'd be happy to provide the video evidence to Council by email, if required.

Allowing any development that increases marine traffic will both make the area less safe for water based activities by Children, and discourage marine life entering the area. Council, and indeed RMS, need to seriously consider their obligations with respect to water safety for local residents and encouraging marine life to flourish in the area.

A 4 knot zone in a confined area does not provide sufficient safety margins where large boats, particularly yachts, are concerned - they are not sufficiently manoeuvrable. Council and RMS cannot ensure that only those vessels that are highly manoeuvrable and equipped with thrusters etc enter the area.

There is good reason why there have not been any marine accidents in the area - it is used largely by locals and not open to large scale boating, which would occur should the marina facilities be developed as envisaged. Council and RMS should do all things possible to ensure this does not change.