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To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Online Submission

18/11/2024

MR Enzo Allara AM
13 King AVE
Balgowlah NSW 2093
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

I am writing to express my strong objection to the Development Application DA2024/1216 by North Harbour Marina located in Gourley Avenue, Balgowlah.

I am a long term resident of the area (over 50 years) and value what the North Harbour community has been able to create and maintain for the benefit of residents and visitors. This proposal will have a significant negative impact on the local environment and community if it is allowed to proceed as currently proposed.

CREATION OF A DEEPER NAVIGATION CHANNEL FOR LARGER BOATS

To develop such a channel requires major dredging of the seabed. The initial dredging will have a significant detrimental effect on the marine life and the eco system. With tidal movement, boat wakes and waves, the newly dredged channel will gradually be refilled and will then need continuous dredging to make it workable for larger boats.

This is an area of delicate and endangered marine life, and particularly the meadows of Posidonia seagrass found in the area.

The NSW Government already recognizes the need for protection of this ecosystem and has posted a sign at Forty Baskets Beach asking people to be mindful of and help protect our endangered species in this area - particularly the Posidonia seagrass. They go on to highlight that for those caught damaging these sea beds, "Penalties apply for harming the endangered Posidonia seagrass found here including fines of up to \$220,000 and two years in prison".

Any proposed channel is likely to be smack in the middle of the endangered seagrass which the NSW Government is already trying to protect.

If we are serious about protecting these natural habitats, then we need to ban any attempt to dredge in these areas.

IMPACT ON LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The local infrastructure is already barely able to cope on summer weekends and Public Holidays. Adding facilities for very large yachts with their inherent logistics management, will only result in additional pressure on current strained facilities making it even more chaotic for

locals and visitors.

IMPACT OF COMMERCIAL MARINA

This development proposal aims to turn the existing Community marina into a Commercial marina with all the logistical challenges that it will bring. The proposal to add a licensed cafe operating from 6.00am to 9.00pm will also add unwanted noise pollution to the area.

In summary, I do not support any part of this Development proposal as it will have unacceptable detrimental impacts on the marine environment of the area, unwanted noise and logistical problems from larger boats and cafe.

It is hard to see how the local community would benefit from such a development.

Thank you for considering my objections.