Public Works
Manly Hydraulics Laboratory

Ocean Tide Monitoring

Manly Hydraulics Laboratory (MHL) has been monitoring ocean tides along the NSW coast since the early 1980s. The program is funded by the Office of Envrionment and Heritage (OEH) and currently records tides at 17 sites along the NSW coast, 4 sites offshore of the coast and at Lord Howe and Norfolk islands. MHL also stores NSW tidal information collected by the Department of Public Works dating back to 1889.

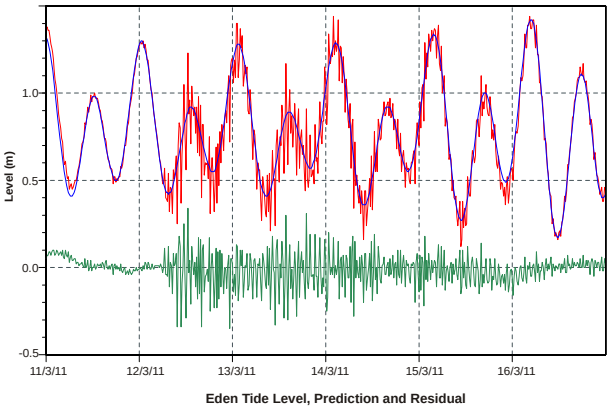
Services Provided

MHL installs, maintains, calibrates and conducts on-site status checks of the instrumentation. The data is quality controlled and stored on the MHL database. Data is provided in near real time via MHL's website to the public and to users on request.

Key Features

- 22 long-term sites established
- All onshore sites telemeter data in near real time
- Leading edge instrumentation and quality procedures
- Very high data recovery rates
- Tidal predictions

The sites are located in a range of tidal environments broadly grouped as offshore open ocean, onshore open ocean, ports and embayments, and entrances to estuaries.

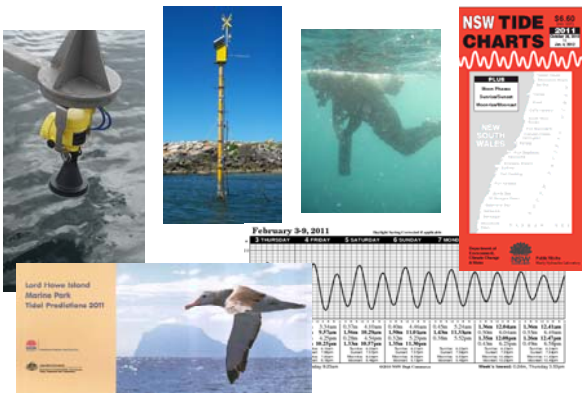


Eden Tide Level, Prediction and Residual

Benefits

The program provides benefit to the NSW public by supplying near real time tidal data together with long-term quality controlled datasets. This data can be used for coastal planning and investigations into coastal processes, navigation, flooding, erosion, climate change and sea level rise. The data can also be used to investigate the effects of extreme events such as cyclones, east coast lows and tsunamis.

Tidal predictions can also be produced from the data and provide a valuable tool for examining tidal anomalies and proving forecasts.



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