



[BYRON BAY SURF LIFESAVING CLUB Inc.](#)

Registered charity, Charitable Collections Act, 1934. Registration No. CC 1276

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BYRON BAY SLSC BRIEF

Access and Relocation of Designated Surf Patrol to Wreck Beach if Risk Assessment has deemed necessary due to beach or surf conditions

To	Byron Shire Council (Attention- Simon Richardson, Mark Arnold, Phil Holloway, Michael Mathews, Chloe Dowsett) SLSFNC (Attention- Wilson Cregan, David Rope, Ben Redman)
From	Executive – Byron Bay SLSC
Date	3.11.2020
Issue	<p>Unsafe beach and surf conditions can result in Main Beach being unsuitable for Surf Patrol access, set-up and safe swimming. The Wreck Beach (South end of Belongil Beach in front of First Sun Holiday Park) could be utilised as a safe alternative Patrol Area once Risk Assessed. BBSLSC is seeking assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain suitable and safe access for members, public, rescue equipment and other emergency services to the Wreck Beach from the car park• Allocate an area of beach from the southern end of the Wreck Beach extending 200 metres along length of patrol area where dogs are on leashes so it is safe for the general public, patrol and emergency teams.
Background	<p>Recent erosion and related debris at Byron Bay Main and Clarkes Beach has resulted in significant safety and beach access concerns. Also extreme weather and surf conditions can affect the capacity to provide safe Surf Patrol services and access of emergency vehicles to Main Beach.</p> <p>Concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water safety for swimmers and craft due to the debris (some logs and branches knocking and tangling) and pollution (e.g. syringes and rubbish washed down from dunes)• Eroded beach access and debris and litter from eroded areas on Main and Clarkes Beach is a major risk for injury.• Eroded beach access has affected the capacity to launch rescue equipment and provide access for other Emergency Services• The limited beach space and exposed rocks due to debris and erosion has meant beachgoers and swimmers are going to other unsafe or unpatrolled beaches like Belongil and the Wreck.• Branches, trees and miscellaneous rubbish and debris washing through Main Beach hampers launching of rescue and training

	<p>equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting any beach and water activities (like nipper activities, surf sports and training) can be a high risk at Main Beach <p>Consultation and agreement has been obtained from the Australian Lifeguard Service, Surf Life Saving Far North Coast and Surf Life Saving NSW.</p>
Recommendations	<p>Byron Bay SLSC is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance from Byron Shire Council (BSC) and relevant NSW Government Departments to provide suitable access from the Main Beach Car Park to the Wreck Beach (area in front of First Sun Holiday Park at southern end of Belongil Beach) • Assistance from BSC to rezone an area from the Main Beach Car Park to 200 metres along length of patrol area as a dog-on-leash area when Surf Patrols or Beach and Surf Activities are conducted at the Wreck Beach
Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Byron Bay SLSC Executive through Paul Pattison (President Byron Bay SLSC) at president@byronbaysurfclub.org • Surf Rescue Duty Officer and BBSLSC Captain - Jimmy Keogh at sue.jimmy@bigpond.com • Australian Lifeguard Service through Scott McCartney at smccartney@australianlifeguards.com.au • SLS Far North Coast through David Rope at david.rope@surflifesavingfnc.com

Paul Pattison (President)

On behalf of Byron Bay Surf Life Saving Club