From: SCHAPER Dan [Dan.Schaper@des.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2016 5:19 PM
To: DLO.NP; CAMBOURN Neil
CC: KLAASSEN Ben; COOK Clive; DLO DES
Subject: RE: PHONE CALL TAKEN FROM MEMBER OF PUBLIC: Vehicle use on Wonga Beach - Tropical North Queensland

I have phoned [s.73 irrelevant] was happy with info provided.

Summary below;
While not a ‘tenure’ generally the area below high water mark would be State Marine Park, Commonwealth Marine Park commences at low water mark.

It is not illegal to drive a vehicle in State Marine Park, restricted access area’s can be declared under the Marine Parks Act 2004, but this is not an action we would normally pursue due to;

- The marine park below high water is probably the best place for vehicles environmentally, the dunes and areas above high water are where vegetation, seabirds and turtles will nest. If beaches are to be closed to vehicles it needs to occur above high water, once vehicles get to the Marine Park the damage is done and there is less impacts driving below high water than the dunes above high water.
- The tenure above high water is key, preventing access before they get to the beach. While I’m not familiar with all of Wonga Beach apart from info provided, in most areas this is esplanade where Council have management responsibility. Section 936 of the Local Government Act 1993 also allows the Governor in Council, by gazette notice, to place the foreshore under the control of the local government and allows the local government to manage and regulate the use of the foreshore. Foreshore is defined in the Act as ‘the land lying between high water mark and low water mark at ordinary spring tides’. I believe Council may of already done this for all beaches in the Douglas Shire. This effectively means Council as the one entity can manage the entire area (where esplanade above) and are often best placed to deal with local issues.

Advised that [s.73 irrelevant] enquiry to the Ministers Office has also been sent to our colleagues in Department of Environment and Heritage Protection who will provide further information regarding wildlife management.

Regards,
Dan

From: DLO.NP
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2016 12:17 PM
To: SCHAPER Dan; CAMBOURN Neil
Cc: KLAASSEN Ben; COOK Clive; DLO EHP
Subject: PHONE CALL TAKEN FROM MEMBER OF PUBLIC: Vehicle use on Wonga Beach - Tropical North Queensland

Dan, Neil

I have taken a call from [s.73 irrelevant] regarding the below matter. Please note that I have requested EHP respond as the lead in the first instance with regards the Beach Stone Curlew and advised QPWS input to be provided by A/RD GBR region. I had spoken with Dan on Tuesday to clarify whether QPWS was the “manager” of the parcel of land between low and high tide.

The phone call came to Minister Office, and while I had originally asked if we could arrange to call back was very adamant that be put through to the DLO to discuss concerns. I took the phone call where confirmed that was not working with any other groups is just very concerned about the damage to the Curlew’s environment and was trying to get information about who was responsible for what parcels of land.

[s.73 irrelevant] had determined that GBRMPA were the authority responsible for “land” from the low tide mark and out to sea, Council were responsible for the land from High tide mark inwards. From an earlier conversation with Dan about this, I advised that
generally QPWS Great Barrier Reef region would be responsible for land between Low and High tide marks, however, I would ask for an expert from QPWS to contact to discuss concerns for the management of any QPWS land. I did indicate that I was aware that most of concern lies above the high tide mark.

I seemed to be wanting to get names of people who might be appropriate to contact. I advised that I would discuss this with the Regional Director and ask him to give a call. I asked for the Regional Director’s name and advised it was only for information. I did not give out any numbers, but re-confirmed that I would ask the Regional Director to call Dan – can you please call on mobile: 

I advised was very happy with my response, but would be happy to receive more information from the Regional Director, or other content expert.

Thanks

Dana Chauvel
Senior Department Liaison Officer
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing
P 07 3330 6271 (Ext 26271) M Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15187, City East QLD 4002

From: Environment [mailto:Environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2016 11:39 AM
To: DLO.NP
Subject: FW: Vehicle use on Wonga Beach - Tropical North Queensland

Kind regards,
Cat

Cat Milton
Assistant Electorate Officer

Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef
Member for Mount Coot-tha
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Hi Gary

I’m going to put this into MECS for NPSR to note only. Relates to CTs01327/16.

Thanks

Dana Chauvel
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