

18 August 2020

Mr Paul Hickey, General Manager

Cr David Wright, Mayor

Ballina Shire Council

Re: Beach Access Arrangements for Local Recreational Fishers

We the undersigned representatives of fishing clubs in the Ballina Shire, request that the requirements for recreational fishers to continue 4WD access to Seven Mile and South Ballina Beaches be addressed prior to any decision to close a beach to public access.

We understand community concerns with an excessive numbers of vehicles on these beaches and the unsafe and environmentally destructive behaviour exhibited by some users.

If the closure of a beach to members of the public is being contemplated at either Seven Mile or South Ballina Beaches, then recreational fishing clubs in the Ballina Shire stand ready to work with Council to develop an appropriate process that enables members of their clubs to become Authorised Persons and be provided with means to access the beach.

Recreational fishing is recognised as the largest participation sport in Australia and Ballina Shire is no different.

Access to beaches for fishing is fundamental to the lifestyle of many residents.

Yours faithfully,

[Handwritten signatures]
BILLY GIBSON [Redacted]

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