

# **Quinns Mindarie SLSC**

## **BEACH ACCESS NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

**(As per Clause 14A 6. Class 2 works: cleaning a beach)**

### **SCOPE OF PLAN**

**Area to which Plan applies:** Quinns Beach, bounded by Pearce Street to the north and Lot 211 (approximately 150m south of QMSLSC) to the south; identified as the 'Primary' and 'Secondary' areas on the attached map.

**Maps:** Attachment 1

### **Authorised Equipment**

**Kubota Tractor 2019 L4600D.**

Note that the Club purchased the Tractor with the approval from City of Wanneroo in 2019 for the safe delivery of equipment to and from Quinns Beach. The Club's 4WD Utility vehicle was considered cumbersome and not fit for this purpose. Considerations to exclude the 4WD from activity on the Beach included the excessive demand on the Engine (and the associated noise).

**2 x Can Ams 2017 HD8 Defender BRP 9EJL**

The Can Ams are standard Surf Life Saving WA equipment and are utilised by all Clubs in WA. They are primarily used to assist in emergency lifesaving responses. Can Am Operating procedures have been updated accordingly to mitigate safety issues.

### **Application**

This Noise Management Plan applies to class 2 specified works as defined in regulation 14A(1), part (c): the cleaning of public places, including footpaths, cycle paths, car parks and beaches; and (f) activities associated with hazard or emergency management;

Regulation 7 of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 does not apply to noise emitted from the specified works if the works are conducted in accordance with the noise management plan

## **Purpose of the Noise Management Plan**

To minimise the impact of noise associated with the cleaning of the beach precinct between the hours of 5:30am and 9:00am, while allowing an essential service to be provided safely, efficiently and with minimal inconvenience to the community.

## **Noise emission minimisation measures**

Noise minimisation under this Noise Management Plan is intended to be a process of continuous improvement. The measures listed below do not limit the implementation of additional noise reduction measures. Additional measures will only be introduced where they are not detrimental to any persons receiving noise from the specified works.

### **Kubota Tractor and Can-Am**

Operators will keep engine speeds to a minimum during the 5:30am to 9:00am period with additional precautions between the 5:30am to 7:30am period. Operators will use the optimal gear and engine speed combination to ensure the vehicles are producing the least amount of noise possible.

Maintenance on the vehicles will be carried out according to the manufacturer's specifications and the muffler will be inspected regularly to ensure it is in good working order.

The vehicles will only be used when necessary and as late as possible to keep noise at a minimum.

## **Beach raking and operational readiness**

The Quinns Mindarie SLSC Woodside Nippers Program, Youth and Seniors programs and Patrol operations commence in earnest in mid to late October of each year and finish in late March/early April each year, as required under the Club's Lifesaving Services Agreement with the City of Wanneroo. Under this agreement, beach patrols must be set-up and ready to commence by 8:00am Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. Patrol 'set-up' includes inspection of the beach and removal of any hazards ahead of the start of Club programs and community members attending.

General beach readiness procedure entails:

- 6:10am on beach, 6:30am start raking beach, 2 - 2.5 hrs to rake beach (dependant on seaweed and debris levels)
- Sand raked to a depth of 50mm, just the top layer to target debris including glass, cans, needles, rope, clothes, shoes, seaweed etc.
- Seaweed raked back to shoreline
- Completion of works usually requires circa 20 runs up and down the beach

## **Justification for operating vehicles from 5:30 am**

During the summer months, Quinns Beach is visited by thousands of beachgoers each week, from sunrise to sunset. Coupled with weather and tidal movements, this often results in rubbish and debris of various forms being deposited on the sand including glass, aluminium cans, needles, rope, clothing, fishing line and hooks, and considerable seaweed – all of which present a significant hazard to beach visitors. The frequency of visitors throughout the day and into the evening, and the availability of qualified volunteers, means that the beach cleaning must be conducted early Sunday mornings, in preparation for the busiest day of the week on the beach.

To rake the sand to remove the debris takes 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on time of year and weather conditions during the week. A 5:30am start helps to ensure the sand is free of hazards ahead of the commencement of Patrol services (8:00am), the morning influx of community members during summer and the start of the Woodside Nippers Program and Quinns Mindarie SLSC member activities on Sunday mornings (8:30am). This work can most safely and efficiently be carried out early morning, before community and Club members arrive at the beach.

Beach access from 5:30am not only compliments the City's fortnightly beach cleaning contract, but also supports compliance with the Lifesaving Contract between the City of Wanneroo and Quinns Mindarie SLSC to Patrol the Beach from 8:00am to 4:00pm on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

Additionally, access from 5:30am supports the Clubs morning training sessions for important skill development and fitness by providing a safe and efficient option for transporting training equipment to and from the beach.

## **Specified Works**

The patrol area, as dictated by the Lifesaving Services Agreement, together with the Club's operational footprint for weekend activities covers approximately 500m of beach (see attached map).

This area is raked, using a detachable Kubota Landscape Rake, to a depth of approximately 50mm to remove any surface material hazardous to Club members and the wider community. Any rubbish is removed from the raked material by hand and disposed of in the Club's general waste and recycling bins; seaweed is raked back towards the shoreline.

Additionally, the tractor is used to tow key rescue equipment on and off of the beach to support patrol operations, as well as equipment for the Club's various programs and mid-week training sessions. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Inshore Rescue Boats (IRBs)
- Jetski Rescue Powercraft
- Patrol shelter and lifesaving equipment

- Trailers containing, surf skis, paddle boards and rescue boards
- Surf Boats
- Nipper program equipment used by 300+ children aged 5-13 years

## **Operator Training Programmes**

SLSA qualifications and Standard Operating Procedures are integral to the conduct of all Surf Life Saving Clubs. Access to, and operation of, vehicles at Quinns Mindarie SLSC is no exception. All vehicle users are subject to education and qualification prior to operating any vehicle / craft.

The number of candidates and the specialist instruction for the use of the Tractor is limited to a select few. The Club's certification process includes a review of the noise management plan and advice on how to achieve optimal outcomes.

The Club currently has six authorised tractor operators who are trained to use the tractor for movement of equipment to support patrol and Club operations and the raking of the beach to remove hazards. Each operator is inducted in the tractor's use and advised not to exceed 1500rpm – this is to ensure safe operation and to mitigate any excessive noise. Drivers also undertake a visual inspection of the beach before commencing raking to decide how best to traverse the beach to minimise the number of runs required up and down the beach.

## **Community Information**

Community information regarding Club operations and this Noise Management Plan is available on the Club's website at [www.qmslsc.com.au](http://www.qmslsc.com.au).

## **Complaints Response Procedure**

Complaints in the first instance should be addressed to the President, Quinns Mindarie SLSC, and can be lodged by email to [info@qmslsc.com.au](mailto:info@qmslsc.com.au).

The Club will notify the City of any complaints received and will work alongside the City to ensure a thorough investigation is undertaken.

The outcome of any investigation and resolution steps (if any) will be communicated to the complainant in writing.

Quinns Mindarie SLSC will maintain a register of all complaints pertaining to noise and/or this Noise Management Plan and will make the register available to the City upon written request.

## **Responsibilities**

The President of Quinns Mindarie SLSC is responsible for the implementation of this plan.


## **Review**

The President of Quinns Mindarie SLSC is to review the operation and effectiveness of this plan and provide a report to the City of Wanneroo annually, detailing the results of the review and any recommendations for amendment to the plan.

Photos of the tractor cleaning the beach attached as **Appendix 2**

## **Approval**

Approved By:



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**Nathaniel Lee**

President, Quinns Mindarie Surf Life Saving Club

Date: 24/1/22

Valid until:

Three years after the day on which it is approved by the City of Wanneroo CEO