

Media Statement

1 August 2022

Council committed to work with community regarding kayaks and personal watercraft

Gladstone Regional Council understands and celebrates the Agnes Water and Seventeen Seventy community's important cultural connection to the water and foreshores.

We are committed to working with the community to ensure this connection continues to thrive into the future in a way that is neither detrimental to the environment nor poses a safety risk to other beach users.

Council will be commencing a clean-up operation to remove illegally dumped items and abandoned watercraft from the beach, dunes and mangroves around the Round Hill Creek Foreshore, Seventeen Seventy.

An approved temporary 'laydown area' for kayaks and personal watercraft will be established on site to give residents the opportunity to move their vessels and prevent them mistakenly being considered as 'abandoned'.

Items found outside the 'laydown area' on 15 August 2022 will be considered 'abandoned' and will be removed alongside other illegally dumped items.

This operation follows a request by Maritime Safety Queensland to assist their clean-up of the area as part of their 'War on Wrecks' program, and a further complaint about safety issues related to small watercraft in the beach area.

Council will be contacting owners in the future to work to determine a permanent solution for storage.

ENDS