

## Media Release – Mission Beach Safe Boating Infrastructure Project Update

### From Andrew Cripps MP Member for Hinchinbrook

Additional boating infrastructure for Mission Beach is a step closer, following the assessment of 20 infrastructure concepts developed from submissions from the local community to improve marine safety in Boat Bay, Member for Hinchinbrook, Andrew Cripps announced on 14 November 13. Mr Cripps said Aurecon Australia Pty Ltd was appointed in September of this year to undertake the identification, analysis, selection and design for the development of maritime infrastructure to deliver safety outcomes for boat users at Mission Beach. “These preliminary concepts have now been assessed against multiple criteria including engineering, environmental, social amenity and costs, with two potential options now selected for design development and on-going evaluation” Mr Cripps “The outcomes from the assessment process to date will be made available at a presentation

by Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP) officers to local community groups, which I will also be attending, at Mission Beach on 29 November.” Mr Cripps said ecological investigations involving marine fauna and flora surveys will commence next week to determine potential impacts from any new infrastructure, as support from GBRMPA is also required. “Today we have also released the first of what will now be monthly progress reports, in order to keep the community well informed about the project” Mr Cripps said. “These progress reports will be provided to stakeholders, and will also be available on the DSDIP website, which is currently being updated to include a project specific page, to allow the public to follow the development of the project”. “Depending on outcomes the construction of the preferred solution is planned to commence in the first half of next year subject to State & Commonwealth approval and seasonal condition with completion of works expected by the end of 2014.”

## Open Jetties

Clump Point and Dunk Island Jetties were officially opened on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Hon Andrew Cripps, Mayor Bill Shannon, Senate Ian McDonald and Hon Bob Katter were amongst the dignitaries in attendance. The new Clump Point jetty is wider and stronger than the original and forms part of the upgraded marine infrastructure. In his speech the Hon Andrew Cripps mentioned the LNP were working towards providing safe marine facilities located every 30kms on the Queensland Coast. He also said the marine facility upgrade at Boat Bay would be completed by the end of 2014.

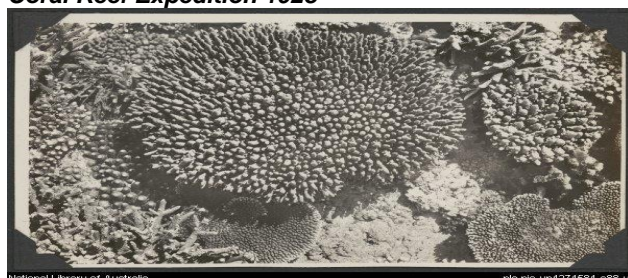


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### Coral Reef Expedition 1928



## The Kennedy Track

**South Mission to Kennedy Bay**  
Access

Kennedy Esplanade South Mission  
Beach (near boat ramp)

*Length*

1.2km Lugger Bay

2.1km Morgans Lookout (Tam  
O'Shanter Point)

2.7km Turtle Bay

3.5km Kennedy Bay

**Total 7km**



### **Track grade**

Moderate fitness

High mobility

### **What to bring**

Water, hat, sunscreen, camera.  
Lots of places to have a picnic.

### **Please note**

No swimming, stingers can be  
present from Nov to June.  
Crocodiles can inhabit this area.  
Cassowaries frequent this track.  
There are no rubbish bins  
provided, please take your  
rubbish with you.



### Open Track

I love the Kennedy Track, I always have. My love affair with this beautiful, moderately challenging track began in early November 2003, and seeded my passion for North Queensland. Arriving in Mission Beach in our caravan with our two youngest sons, we set up camp at the Beachcomber Coconuts Caravan Park in South Mission Beach. With that job done, we then set out to buy a bottle of milk, instead we bought a house. The next day we walked the Kennedy Track and lovely was shortened to love.

I try to walk this track I love, with its magnificent trees that greet me along the way like an old friend as often as possible. A few of the uphill climbs leave me a little breathless but that pales into insignificance compared to the gob smacking, breath taking beauty that greets me every step of the way. Long stretches of beach, rainforest that grows on the water's edge, old mangroves and creeks, little water falls at the right time of year, island vistas, splashes in the water that tell me that there's stuff going on and secret, private places for me to rest, reflect and relish. There is always wildlife on this track, happy to ignore me while they go about doing their thing, and most times I come across another person to wave to and say hello.

But it's also the human connection on this track that creates another layer for me. I think about the original owners of this place, the Djuru and how they would have enjoyed its richness. And sadly the terrible injustices inflicted on them in this place.

I think about the first white explorer, the track's namesake, and how he tried to forge his way through this place. I think about the small group of local people who in 1988 built sections of it by hand so I can walk this track with a degree of comfort.

Nature has also had her say here. In the last decade, two major cyclones ripped through, each time forcing the Kennedy Track to close. It's a people owned track and both times our council found the funds to repair and restore. Thank you!

As a result, The Kennedy Track is open and available with sections that include wheel chair access to Lover's Beach. It's a place for all of us and for all reasons. A place to marry, celebrate the birth of a child, to say hello or goodbye, a place to fish, rest or exercise, a place to enjoy. Above all, for me, it's a place to love.

The Kennedy Track is proof that the best things in life are free.

For further information contact the Mission Beach Visitor Centre 4068 7099.

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