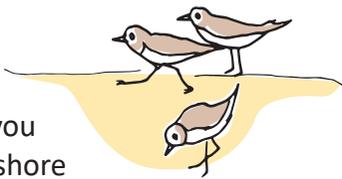


WHAT CAN I DO?



There are many things you can do to keep our foreshore reserves healthy for the enjoyment of everyone.

In your own backyard:

- Be a responsible pet owner: keep cats inside at all times, keep dogs secured in backyards and on a lead when walking through foreshore reserves
- Grow wildlife friendly plants – particularly local natives and non-invasive species
- Compost or dispose of garden waste (including lawn clippings and weeds) responsibly and not in foreshore reserves.

In foreshore reserves:

- Get to know your local wildlife and plants
- Respect foreshore reserves and refrain from extending your garden outside of your property boundary
- Leave existing vegetation in foreshore reserves as it has a functional role in protecting property from wave action and storms
- Leave dead hollow trees, hollow logs and leaf litter
- Use designated walkways to access the beach.



TAKE ACTION

Join a Council volunteer bushcare or other local conservation group.

Participate in citizen science activities and community environment events.

Contact Council to:

- Deal with dangerous limbs, fire concerns and many other issues
- Report bad behaviours
- Report cats and foxes
- Find out about local law permissions, such as mowing and clearing vegetation along fence lines.



GET IN TOUCH

Postal address: PO Box 1943,
Hervey Bay, QLD, 4655

www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au



Phone: 1300 79 49 29
Fax: (07) 4197 4455



enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au



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FORESHORE RESERVES

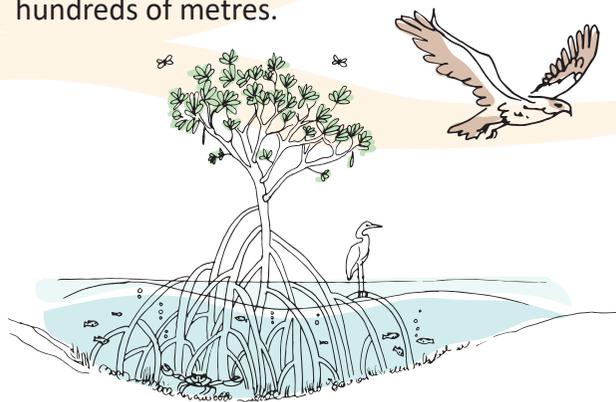


Respecting our
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

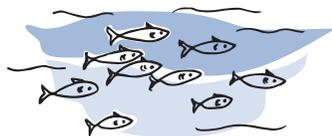
Fraser Coast
REGIONAL COUNCIL

AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN NATURE

There are many foreshore reserves across the Fraser Coast region. These reserves can be narrow strips of vegetation on the edge of the beach, undulating sand dunes covered with vegetation, or seemingly impassable mangroves and mudflats that stretch for hundreds of metres.



We often forget how important these areas are, not just for the enjoyment factor we receive from using them, but for the role our foreshores play in nature. They are complex and ever-changing ecosystems that survive in harsh conditions. One minute they are baking under a hot, drying sun and being buffeted by strong, salty sea breezes. The next minute they are trying to stand strong as fierce, crashing waves impact them from sub-tropical storms. It is truly an amazing and resilient ecosystem.



CARING FOR THE FORESHORE

Foreshore reserves provide an important buffer zone between the ocean and urban development. Rock platforms, mudflats, sand dunes and coastal vegetation are natural features that help slow down and reduce the impact of waves.

Over time, urban development has encroached close to our foreshores because we love spending time and living near the beach.

Some foreshore reserves now have to be protected to reduce our impact on the fragile sand dunes and vegetation. This includes fenced areas, rock walls and designated walkways to access the beach.

To help look after these sensitive areas:

- please follow the directions from signs and structures and use designated walkways
- pick up rubbish, even if it's not yours
- join one of the many volunteer groups looking after our foreshore reserves
- report any clearing or poisoning of foreshore vegetation to Council.



ENJOYING FORESHORE RESERVES



Getting out and enjoying our foreshores is great for our wellbeing; relaxing in the sun, enjoying the sounds of the water lapping and shorebirds calling or just watching the afternoon slip by.

Low tide is a very active time on Fraser Coast beaches as people can walk long distances on the exposed sandflats, mudflats and rock platforms. This also means that lots of people are walking through the foreshore reserves, perhaps stopping at a picnic table, watching the sun rise or set, or catching up with friends and family.

It's a great place to be.



There are special places along our foreshores that are protected for their role in providing habitat to threatened plants and animals. For example, the artificial osprey nest at Point Vernon and patches of littoral vine forest and rainforest at Dundowran and Toogoom.