

Guidelines

Surf Schools on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa

AIM

These guidelines provide for the use of Seven Mile Beach Gerroa by surf school operators under short term licence arrangements.

Council acknowledges the social and economic value of surf schools but also recognises the need to ensure the beach and the amenity of its use by the general public is not unreasonably affected. The guidelines do not provide for the exclusive use of any part of Seven Mile Beach by surf schools.

Surf schools are restricted to specified locations along Seven Mile Beach.

DEFINITIONS

<i>Council -</i>	<i>Kiama Municipal Council</i>
<i>Crown land manager -</i>	<i>Kiama Municipal Council</i>
<i>Surf school -</i>	<i>a business responsible for the instructing a group of people in the art of surfboard riding on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa</i>
<i>Licence fee -</i>	<i>monetary amount imposed on an individual surf school under short term licence either by Council published fees and charges or Crown Lands scheduled fees</i>
<i>Beach -</i>	<i>that part of the beach known as Seven Mile Beach Reserve between the mean high water mark (MHWM) and mean low water mark (MLWM)</i>
<i>Surf school zones -</i>	<i>those areas of the beach area of Seven Mile Beach Reserve including the corresponding water area that can be used for surf school operations and not restricted to the general public at any time identified on the accompanying plan - Surf Schools on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa</i>
<i>Exclusion zones -</i>	<i>those areas of Seven Mile Beach Reserve including the corresponding water area that are not permitted to be used for surf school operations and identified on the accompanying plan - Surf Schools on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa</i>
<i>Lifeguard patrol zone -</i>	<i>the area of Seven Mile Beach patrolled by Council lifeguards during the operating season for public swimming</i>
<i>Short term licence -</i>	<i>approval to operate a surf school from the beach by the crown land manager for a period up to twelve months</i>
<i>Tracks -</i>	<i>those designated and marked walking tracks through the Seven Mile Beach Reserve connecting with the beach area</i>

OPERATIONAL

1. Number of Surf Schools

The maximum number of surf schools that can operate in any specific surf school zone on Seven Mile Beach is three (3).

Suitability of the number of individual surf schools in each zone will consider maximum participant numbers, areas of surf school operations, lifeguard patrol areas and general public/recreational usage access.

2. Surf School Zones

Seven Mile Beach has three surf school zones and two exclusion zones.

i). The surf school zones are identified as:

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|----------------------|--|
| Surf School Zone A - | between the <i>west side mouth of Crooked River</i> and <i>Track 1</i> |
| Surf School Zone B - | between Seven Mile Beach Reserve <i>Track 6</i> and <i>Track 7</i> |
| Surf School Zone C - | between Seven Mile Beach Reserve <i>Track 7</i> and the <i>Kiama local government boundary</i> |

ii). The exclusion zones are:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Exclusion Zone 1 - | extends from the <i>northern end of Seven Mile Beach Gerroa</i> to the <i>west side mouth of Crooked River</i> |
| Exclusion Zone 2 - | between Seven Mile Beach Reserve <i>Track 1</i> and <i>Track 6</i> |

The surf school zones and exclusion zones are shown on the accompanying plan – Surf Schools on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa.

3. Surf School Operations

i) Surf School Zone A – a surf school is permitted to use up to 40m of the beach and extending into the water area. The respective ends of the beach area occupied by the surf school are to be clearly identified with flags/signposts. Where more than one surf school operates in Zone A, they must be separated by 50m.

Maximum total 40 participants.

Surf School Zone A also comprises the patrolled lifeguard service. When the patrolled section of beach is operating, surf schools must be 50 metres clear of flags. The lifeguard patrol service has priority use of the beach and water area at all times.

ii) Surf School Zone B – each surf school is permitted to use up to 100m of the beach and extending into the water area. The respective ends of the beach area occupied by the surf school are to be clearly identified with flags/signposts. Where more than one surf school operates in Zone B, they must be separated by 100m.

Maximum total 60 participants.

iii) Surf School Zone C – each surf school is permitted to use up to 200m of the beach and extending into the water. The respective ends of the beach area occupied by the surf school are to be clearly identified with flags/signposts. Where more than one surf school operates in Zone C, they must be separated by 100m.

Maximum participants per surf school – determination on merit.

iv) No exclusive right exists for surf schools in Surf Zones A, B & C. The general public is permitted to use these areas at all times.

v) Surf schools can generally operate between the hours of 7:00am – 6:30pm seven days a week however individual licences may contain specific operating times.

vi) A maximum of five sessions per surf school per day is permitted.

vii) The client to instructor ratio for a surf school is not to exceed 8:1.

viii) Temporary signage for a surf school must be consistent with the licence issued by Council and only placed in the designated area of operation. No additional signage or advertising is permitted.

4. Licensing

All surf schools must have a current licence from Council to be able to operate. A short term licence does not infer any continuing or new licence arrangement for the use of the beach/reserve area.

5. Qualifications

Prior to the issue of any licence to operate, the surf school operator must provide written evidence to Council that any relevant requirements of Surfing Authorities or peak bodies have been met.

6. Licence fee

The licence fee for a short term licence may be applied under Council's Fees and Charges or Crown Lands prescribed fees. Initial short term licences issued under these Guidelines will adopt the current Crown Lands fee for short term licence applications of \$438 p.a.

7. Insurance

Prior to any licence being issued by Council, the surf school must demonstrate evidence of a certificate of currency for Public Liability Insurance with an insurance company authorised by the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority or the Australian Securities and Investments Commission to the sum of \$20M.

8. Use of public infrastructure

Surf schools are not permitted to utilise the footbridge across Crooked River to gain access to or from the beach.

The rotunda in Ricketts Reserve on Burke Parade Gerroa is not to be used by surf schools for any purpose.

No access by surf schools is permitted to Seven Mile Beach through the Seven Mile Beach Holiday Park and including *Tracks 1 and 2*.

The surf school manager/responsible person is to ensure that the public toilet facilities located next to the Seven Mile Beach Holiday Park kiosk and in Emery Park, Gerroa are made known to surf school participants.

9. Roles and responsibilities

At all times surf schools are responsible for their own assessment of the safety of the prevailing and forecast weather conditions and the skill limitations of participants. In issuing a licence to a surf school on Seven Mile Beach, Council is not responsible for assessing or monitoring safe operating conditions for surf schools.

10. Development consent

Development consent is required to be obtained for the operation of a surf school under short term licence prior to Council executing the licence agreement.

Plan

Surf Schools on Seven Mile Beach Gerroa



Document Control

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