

# FAQS

## 1. What is the Draft Guuranda - Yorke Peninsula Coastal Access Strategy?

It's a 10-year strategy that aims to safeguard the pristine and fragile coastal areas of Guuranda – Yorke Peninsula by guiding responsible and sustainable management and access to our coasts. The strategy aims to balance sustainable vehicle access to the coast with the preservation of coastal ecosystems, cultural heritage, and the safety of all beach users. It identifies a vision, principles, strategies and opportunities for action to achieve this.

## 2. Why is the strategy needed?

The strategy is needed because current management approaches need to change so that vehicle access can be continued in a manner that is sustainable, responsible and protects the coast for future generations.

Unfortunately, the secret is out that Guuranda –Yorke Peninsula is home to some of South Australia's most pristine beaches, with social media driving a visitation boom that's becoming unsustainable.

This means that the number of people accessing the Yorke Peninsula coast via vehicles is increasing every year, which is resulting in environmental damage, trampled vegetation and damage to dune systems and native animal habitats, erosion, pollution, destruction of heritage sites and safety issues for beach goers.

This also means that access to beach camping sites using 4WDs and caravans are becoming increasingly unsafe, and the fragile coastal environment is being harmed beyond repair.

## 3. What does the strategy propose and why is it important?

The Draft Strategy provides suggested options for how we can all better work together to sustainably manage access to the Yorke Peninsula coast to ensure it remains a healthy place to visit for generations to come. This will ensure that people continue to visit their favourite beaches while hopefully reducing damaging behaviours such as making new tracks and unnecessarily driving through fragile coastal sand dunes.

The strategy is important because it aims to protect our delicate coastal areas while ensuring we can continue to enjoy them responsibly. It identifies how we can better work together to take a balanced approach that's sustainable for both the environment and for continued recreational use by locals and visitors.



#### 4. What are the next steps once the strategy is approved?

The success of the strategy will require organisations responsible for managing our coasts to work closely together. The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, the Department for Environment and Water, Yorke Peninsula Council, Copper Coast Council, Barunga West Council, Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Point Peace Aboriginal Corporation, and Yorke Peninsula Tourism have made a commitment to deliver the strategy.

Once the strategy is approved, a 3-year implementation plan will be developed by the partners. The implementation plan will identify local and regional priority actions, roles, responsibilities, funding requirements and guidance on monitoring and evaluation. Some actions may take place in the short term, while larger infrastructure projects may require several years.

#### 5. How can I have a say on the strategy?

All members of the community are encouraged to have their say on shaping the future of our coastline by completing a survey, which is available online or in person at local council offices. The survey can be accessed here: [bit.ly/YPCoastalSurvey](https://bit.ly/YPCoastalSurvey)

Consultation on the Draft Strategy will be open for public feedback until 20 March 2025.

For more information and to view the draft Strategy, visit the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board website at [landscape.sa.gov.au/ny](https://landscape.sa.gov.au/ny).

#### 6. How will my feedback be used?

All feedback received will be considered as part of the development of the final strategy, which is expected to be finalised by mid-2025.

All personal data will be kept confidential in line with the South Australian Government's Information Privacy Principles and handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1991, and other applicable legislation.

### Proposed actions include



Enhancing visitor education through campaigns and signage to promote responsible behaviour.



Improving infrastructure, such as designated access tracks and facilities, to support sustainable recreation.



Restricting access to sensitive areas to prevent further ecological and cultural damage.



Collaborating with Traditional Owners to preserve cultural and natural values.



## 7. Who is responsible for developing and implementing the strategy?



### Call

**(08) 8841 3444**

during business hours  
9am - 5pm

The strategy is being led by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and developed and implemented collaboratively with the Barunga West, Copper Coast and Yorke Peninsula councils, Department for Environment and Water, Yorke Peninsula Tourism, Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Point Pearce Aboriginal Corporation and local stakeholders.

It was developed with input from consultation sessions held with stakeholders, local landholders, councils, local progress associations, 4WD representatives and the tourism sector.

The strategy has not been designed to make specific recommendations but rather as a document that details priorities and establishes principles that will help guide decision making by relevant authorities about the sustainable management of coastal resources under their care and control.



### Email

**ny.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au**

## 8. Will driving on beaches be prohibited on all beaches?

No, there is no intention to ban all vehicles on all beaches. The strategy is not intended to remove people's access to beaches. It simply aims to balance sustainable coastal access for off-road vehicles with preserving fragile coastal ecosystems such as sand dunes and native wildlife and ensuring Yorke Peninsula's rich natural assets and cultural values are protected for future generations to enjoy.



### Website

**landscape.sa.gov.au/ny**

## 9. Who is responsible for managing our beaches and deciding who can drive and camp on beaches?

In South Australia, there is a complex legislative framework relating to driving and camping on beaches with a range of Acts and overlapping responsibilities. This varies across the region, and some beaches often have different tenure between the high and low tide marks.

There is no single authority that has responsibility for all beaches and there is no single authority that has responsibility for beaches across Guuranda - Yorke Peninsula, and there is often no single authority that has responsibility for an entire beach.

Beaches and adjoining coastal land on Yorke Peninsula are typically managed by the Department for Environment and Water, Department for Infrastructure and Transport, local government or private owners. Further information on the roles and responsibilities of coastal managers is detailed in the strategy.