

Guuranda | Yorke Peninsula Coastal Access Survey

What We Heard Report



A survey on the Draft *Guuranda | Yorke Peninsula Coastal Access Strategy 2026-2036* was made available to the public from 20 February 2025 to 20 March 2025. The purpose of the survey was to seek feedback from the community and stakeholders to inform the finalisation of the Strategy.

About the survey

- › **2,106** people participated
- › Survey was open for **4 weeks**
- › **Promotion** was via multiple channels including email, website, social media, posters, media releases and newspaper articles

Feedback was gathered on:

- › The draft Strategy vision
- › **17 individual strategies** across **7 themes**

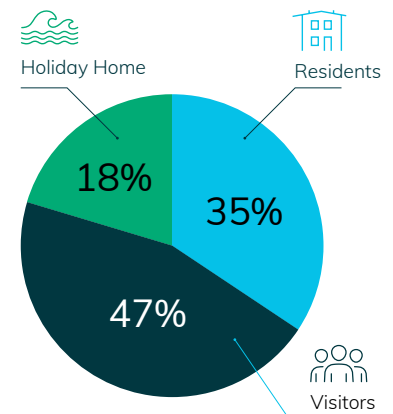
About the respondents

35% of survey respondents were residents of **Yorke Peninsula**

115 respondents identified as **Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander**

The top three community groups that respondents identified with were:

- Resident group (24%)
- 4WD club (20%)
- Environmental group (9%).



Key Insights

Respondents expressed their level of support for the draft vision and offered suggestions for improvement.

The following key themes emerged highlighting a key tension between protection and access.

What people support	What people oppose
Protecting the environment Preservation of coastline, wildlife, native vegetation and dune systems	Loss of public access Restrictions or closures of beaches, camping areas
Better management Of 4WD use, littering, over-crowding and irresponsible behaviour	Fees and permits Introduction of blanket bans, fees or paid permits for local residents
Targeted enforcement Local rangers, signage, education and improved facilities (bins, fencing etc)	Over-regulation Unnecessary or excessive control over land
Narungga involvement Cultural heritage protection	Economic impacts Impacts on local tourism and township economies

Survey Summary

Overall, the community sought a balanced approach across the following four areas:

Environment	Protect: Dunes, Bird habitats Use: Seasonal restrictions, Evidence-based decisions Explore: Technology and digital tools
Access	Maintain: Beach access Avoid: Blanket closures Use: Targeted restrictions
Management	Infrastructure More: Toilets, Bins, Dump points Improve: Tracks, Signage Enforcement Explore: Permits and fines More: Rangers Focus: On offenders (not everyone)
Collaboration	Community More: Local involvement, Local knowledge Governance Improve: Transparency in decisions More: Education

Survey Results

“The community supports protecting the coast – but wants fair access, practical solutions, and strong local involvement.”

Theme	Most Desired	Concerns Raised	Ideas Proposed
 Sustainable Beach Access Strongly Supported	✓ Maintain public access to Yorke Peninsula beaches ✓ Improve visitor facilities ✓ Allow camping in appropriate locations	? Widespread beach closures ? Limits to 4WD access ? Camping restrictions	💡 Improve visitor infrastructure i.e. toilets, bins. 💡 Visitor permit systems and 💡 Designated camping areas
 Healthy Coastal Ecosystems Supported	✓ Protect, restore and manage access to coastal habitats ✓ Enforce the rules via monitoring and fines	? Blanket bans and closures ? Impact on tourism and local economy	💡 Seasonal or zoned beach restrictions especially during nesting and migratory seasons 💡 Public awareness and education campaigns 💡 Better signage and use of digital tools
 Functioning Coastal Landforms Supported	✓ Targeted coastal dune protection (where damage evident)	? Permanent restrictions ? Over regulation	💡 Community involvement 💡 Clearer signage 💡 Better camping management
 Narungga Cultural Heritage Mixed Support	✓ Cultural heritage site protection ✓ Narungga ranger-led management	? Loss of access ? Restrictions to heritage sites	💡 Mapping, signage and fencing to protect important sites 💡 Shared decision making 💡 Balanced approach
 Informed Decision Making Supported	✓ Adaptive management informed by monitoring	? Consultation without action ? Decisions already made	💡 Locally informed 💡 Greater transparency
 Respectful Visitors Strongly Supported	✓ Clear and inclusive communication ✓ Visitor education ✓ Visible enforcement of poor behaviour	? Fair access for respectful users ? Holding offenders accountable	💡 Co-designed with local communities 💡 Use of digital and physical tools 💡 Monitoring and penalties i.e. rangers and fines
 Supportive Governance Supported	✓ Focus on environmental outcomes over bureaucracy ✓ Better enforcement	? Blanket restrictions ? Fees for general beach access – seen as a cash grab ? Fairness for locals	💡 Camping permits 💡 Resident exemptions



Find out more visit www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ny or scan the QR code.

This report was prepared by URPS for the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board