



Conjecture over Kirra groyne

RE-LENGTHENING Kirra's "big groyne" is back on the agenda in the ongoing effort to bring back the famous point-break wave.

According to Kirra Point Incorporated spokesperson Andrew McKinnon, Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypassing Project (TRESP) will examine the option of increasing the groyne length as part of a new study.

He said three options are being examined: Either leave the groyne how it is, completely take it away, or add length to the wall.

The groyne, built in the early 1970s, was reduced by about 15 metres in 1998.

Mr McKinnon said an initial consensus was that increasing the length of the groyne was not a solution, but the idea was popular among the "younger

crew" who surfed Kirra in its later days.

"There is a strong argument to get the rocks back," he said.

He said the sandbank Joel Parkinson won the Quiksilver Pro on was gone, and by lengthening the groyne the water current may be altered, which would allow more sand to leave the rocky outcrop known as the "butter box", which churned out Kirra's famous barrels.

"In light of the current situation ... there is a real case of replacing those rock boulders which would help recreate the Kirra big groyne point break," he said.

The TRESP study could be completed by Christmas. Gold Coast City Council is expected to release plans for the next stage of work at Kirra this week.