



Tweed Sun  
Thursday 26/11/2009  
Page: 5  
Section: General News  
Region: Tweed Heads NSW Circulation: 37,138  
Type: Regional  
Size: 61.24 sq.cms.  
Published: ---T---

Brief: MHUNT\_KIRR

## Kirra's rocky road to recovery

THE replacement of a wall of rocks at Big Groyne, near Kirra, has been cited as a crucial job in one group's effort to restore one of the Coast's cherished surf breaks.

Kirra Point Inc spokesman Andrew McKinnon said despite about 15m of rocks being removed in 1998, the wave kept breaking until 2001.

But after that, the combination of a change in current and sand pumping filled up Coolangatta Bay and knocked the reefs out of Kirra . . . and the spectacular waves the spot was known for.

"I think by putting the rocks back on the front of Big Groyne that could help with the current to get that sand off the reef and get the dynamic point-break back," said Mr McKinnon.

"Already the middle reef, which we call Miles Street, is looking pretty good but we need the Butterbox Reef, which produced the incredible Kirra Point wave, to come back."

The next stage in the restoration of Kirra, likely to start this week, will be the pumping of sand from the shoreline to the dunes in front of Kirra Surf Club to create a natural erosion buffer.