



The entrance to Currumbin Creek silted with sand from the bypass; left, campaigner Brad Smith ● **Pictures: Michael Ross**

Triple bypass operation to open creek's heart

by Mike Bruce
chief reporter

A NEW method of dredging will be used in Currumbin Creek this year to try to reverse the critical state of the waterway.

Fix Currumbin Creek president Brad Smith said the creek had become so badly silted that the committee had thrown caution to the wind and decided to try another approach.

Mr Smith said instead of taking its usual gradual 'centre-line cut' the length of the creek, the dredge would run through the cut three times to see if it made any difference to the creek channel.

"Basically they'll do a series of sweeps and see if we can get a

better outcome," said Mr Smith. "It's never been trialled so we voted unanimously to do it to see if it was better."

Mr Smith's group has complained for five years that the creek has been excessively silted as a result of the extra sand in Coolangatta Bay from the Tweed River sand bypass project.

The new approach of redredging the same area would stop new sand refilling the dredged area immediately after removal of the sand.

The Gold Coast City Council-funded dredging operation starts on October 13 and goes through until late November.

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