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## Surfers to protest famous break loss

SURFERS on the Gold Coast will use Australia Day to protest the loss of an iconic surfing spot.

Boardriders, surf lifesavers and environmentalists will unite for the Australia Day Paddle Out, creating a large map of Australia offshore from Kirra.

Organisers say hundreds of paddlers will focus on the loss of the famous Kirra Point break after sand pumping around the mouth of the Tweed River dumped millions of cubic metres of sand along Queensland's southernmost beaches from 2002.

Protest organisers say the adjoining marine reefs have been covered over and Kirra has been left with a beach resembling a deserted oasis.

Kirra Surfriders' Club president Stuart Ball said the impact had destroyed their home surf break.

The paddle out will start at 10am (AEST).