



Tweed Sun
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Locals needed to get involved

COMMUNITY input is now being sought for the next phase of work to restore Kirra Point.

A meeting will be held today at Coolangatta to discuss what happens after 20,000 cubic metres of sand is removed to replenish Gold Coast beaches savaged by wild weather conditions in May.

The State Government has to date refused to release details of its plans for Stage 2 of restoration of the iconic surfing break.

But local lobbyists fear Stage 1 – which started last week – will chew up most of the \$1.5 million which has so far been allocated to the project.

Neil Lazarow, from Kirra Point Incorporated, said the focus needed to be on long-term goals to ensure the reef and the break would be returned to their former state.

“The community is going to really need to pull through to see this project complete,” he said.

The first stage involves shifting 10,000 cubic metres of sand to fill the ponds on upper Kirra Beach and a further 10,000 to restore beach access at Palm Beach. This is expected to take four weeks.

Meantime, lobbyists are still investigating whether environmental clauses in the Tweed River sand pumping contracts have been breached.

Mr Lazarow said ‘really detailed questions’ had been submitted as part of an external review of the contracts.

—KATE HICKSON