



Pumping review after ministers visit sand bypass

SAND may be pumped to replenish eroded Tweed beaches, following a review by the NSW and Queensland governments of the controversial Tweed River Sand Bypass.

The review will be completed "as soon as possible" after NSW Lands Minister Tony Kelly and Queensland Climate Change and Sustainability Minister Kate Jones visited Kirra

and the sand pumping station at Letitia Spit on July 31.

The ministers checked out the sand build-up which surfers blame for destroying Kirra's famous barrelling waves.

And they inspected Gold Coast City Council works to shift 20,000 cubic metres of sand from Kirra as part of a \$1.5 million Queensland government election promise to fix

the sand crisis.

Mr Kelly said a rethink of the sand bypass operation could see the sand, which is shifted from the rivermouth to near Snapper Rocks, also used as part of the border area's defences against climate change.

The review will look at possible new sand outlets, alternative deposit sites for dredged sand and the possibility of ex-

panding the bypass to deliver sand back to eroded Tweed beaches when needed.

Mr Kelly advised that community consultation "will be foremost to finding any solution", but the Kirra Point Inc community group, which has guided efforts to review the sand bypass operation, was not advised of the ministers' visit.

— Leonie Brann



Tony Kelly.