

**Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability
The Honourable Kate Jones**

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SECOND STAGE OF KIRRA BEACH RESTORATION BEGINS

The second stage of the Queensland Government's \$1.5 million Kirra Beach Restoration Project is now underway, with works due to be completed before Christmas.

Climate Change and Sustainability Minister Kate Jones said the \$850,000 second stage would include moving some 100,000 cubic metres of sand from the tidal zone to create further dunes.

Revegetation work will then give stability to the new landscape.

"The new dunes will extend from about 50 metres west of the Coolangatta Creek outlet to the Cahill Street viewing platform with a maximum height of 6 metres above the average sea level," Ms Jones said.

"Care has been taken to ensure the new dunes and planted vegetation will not impede seaward views ensuring the adjacent North Kirra Surf Lifesaving Club will have unobscured sightlines to maintain beach safety.

"The construction works will be fully supervised to ensure safety for swimmers and other people enjoying Kirra Beach and the works will not impact on conditions at other Gold Coast beaches.

"This work follows a similar project in December last year that moved some 75,000 cubic metres of sand from the tidal area to create a dune at the back of Kirra Beach between the Miles Street Groyne and Coolangatta Creek."

Ms Jones said efforts to restore Kirra to its former glory were working well.

"The Kirra Beach Monitoring Report for October 2009 to May 2010 showed that the benefits of the work undertaken in December 2009 have carried through to this year," she said.

"Kirra Beach this year was at its narrowest since 2003, with tidal movements scalloping vast areas of sand to other locations."

Ms Jones said the Gold Coast City Council was a key stakeholder in the restoration project and would be carrying out the next stage of restoration work.

All stages of the Kirra Beach Restoration Project are being carried out in full consultation with key stakeholders including the Gold Coast City Council and Kirra Point Incorporated.

MEDIA CONTACT: 3239 0824