



Councillor Bingham's Motion of 26 September 2017 relevantly included that:

*"Staff undertake research on how 'dog parks' successfully operate elsewhere in Australia and overseas... in consultation with key stakeholders including... Pittwater Unleashed..."*

This brief sample of Case Studies has been prepared by Pittwater Unleashed (holiday reports from members) as an aid to help staff meet this requirement. Conscious of the acute shortage of open green space and funds in NBC, the focus here is on successful operation of dog parks which utilise beach and foreshore areas – *areas which other seaboard and foreshore councils have activated at low cost on a shared basis in order to address the broader community need.*

Case Study	: 1
Council area	: Gold Coast City
Name of park	: The Spit
General character of park	: Estuary foreshore, ocean beach
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash, 24/7
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: None
Days of restriction for off-leash	: None

### Know the signs

A dog exercise area is the signed part of a park, reserve, foreshore or beach where dogs may be exercised off-leash but under effective control.

A dog prohibited area is the signed part of a park, reserve, foreshore or beach where dogs are not permitted. Dogs are also totally prohibited in all children's playground areas and within 200 metres of flagged bathing areas. Dogs must be walked on a leash in all other areas. On the spot fines apply for non-compliance.

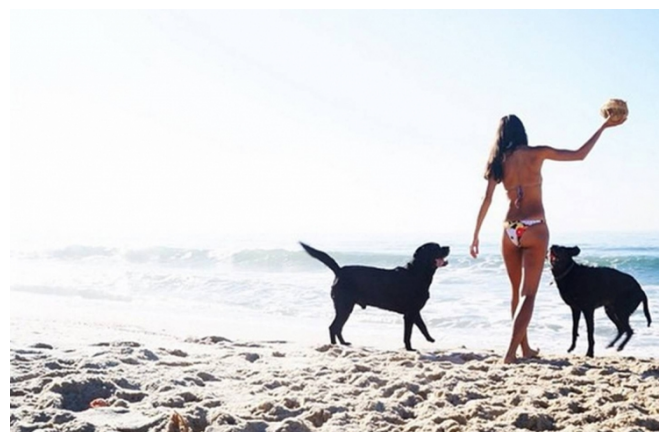


### You can walk your dog on most Gold Coast beaches but be sure to follow these rules:

- keep your dog on a leash and remember that dogs aren't permitted within 200 metres of flagged areas
- scoop the poop and bin it.

### There are also three off-leash dog exercise areas covering over three kilometres of beach:

- The Spit
- Tallebudgera Beach
- Palm Beach



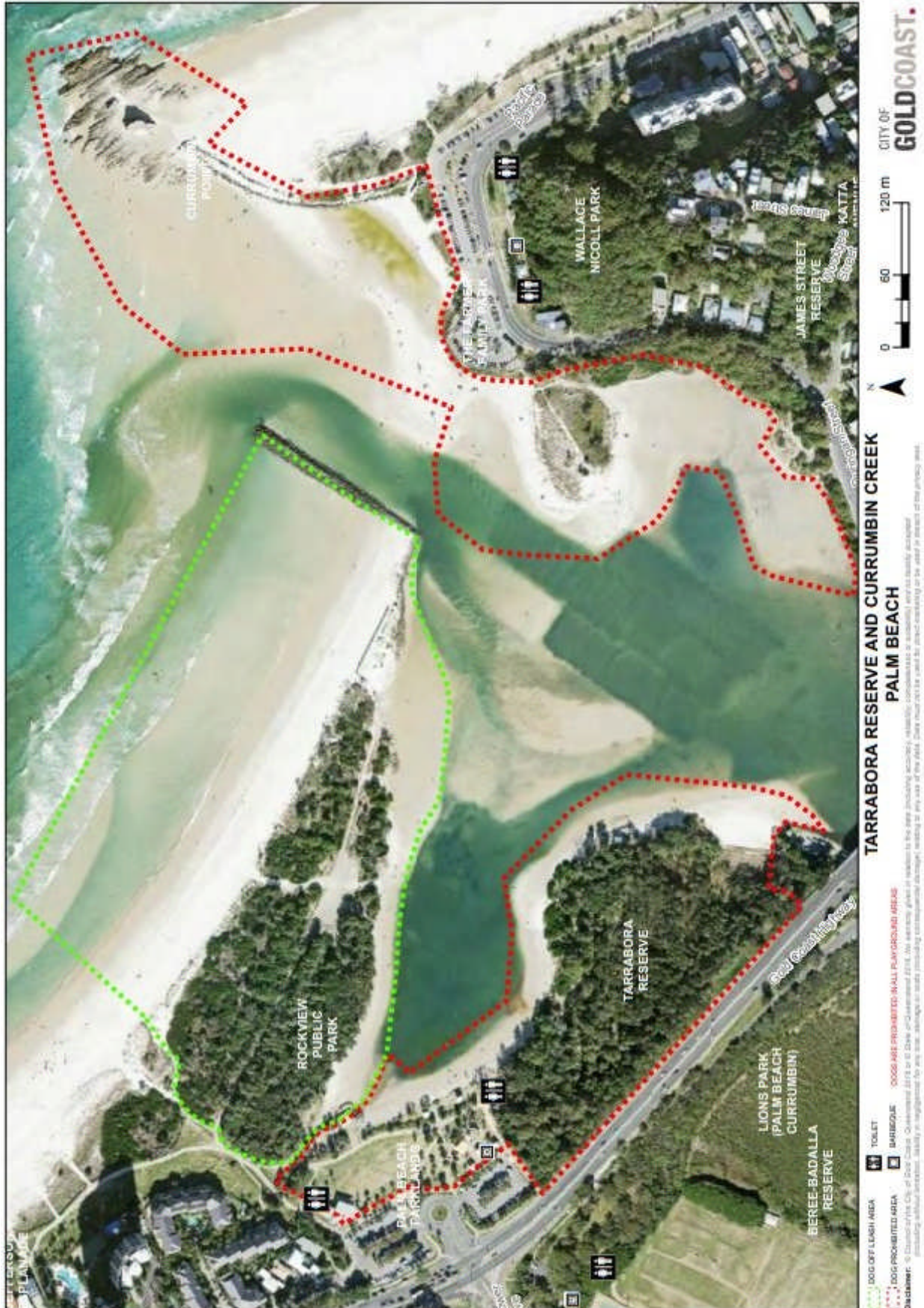
Dog exercise areas are provided by the City of Gold Coast. These areas are not for the exclusive use of dogs and their owners. They are for the enjoyment of all, so please be considerate of people who may be sharing the area with you and your dog or using the park or beach after you leave.

A permit is required to use a park, reserve, foreshore or beach for other animals, for example a horse.

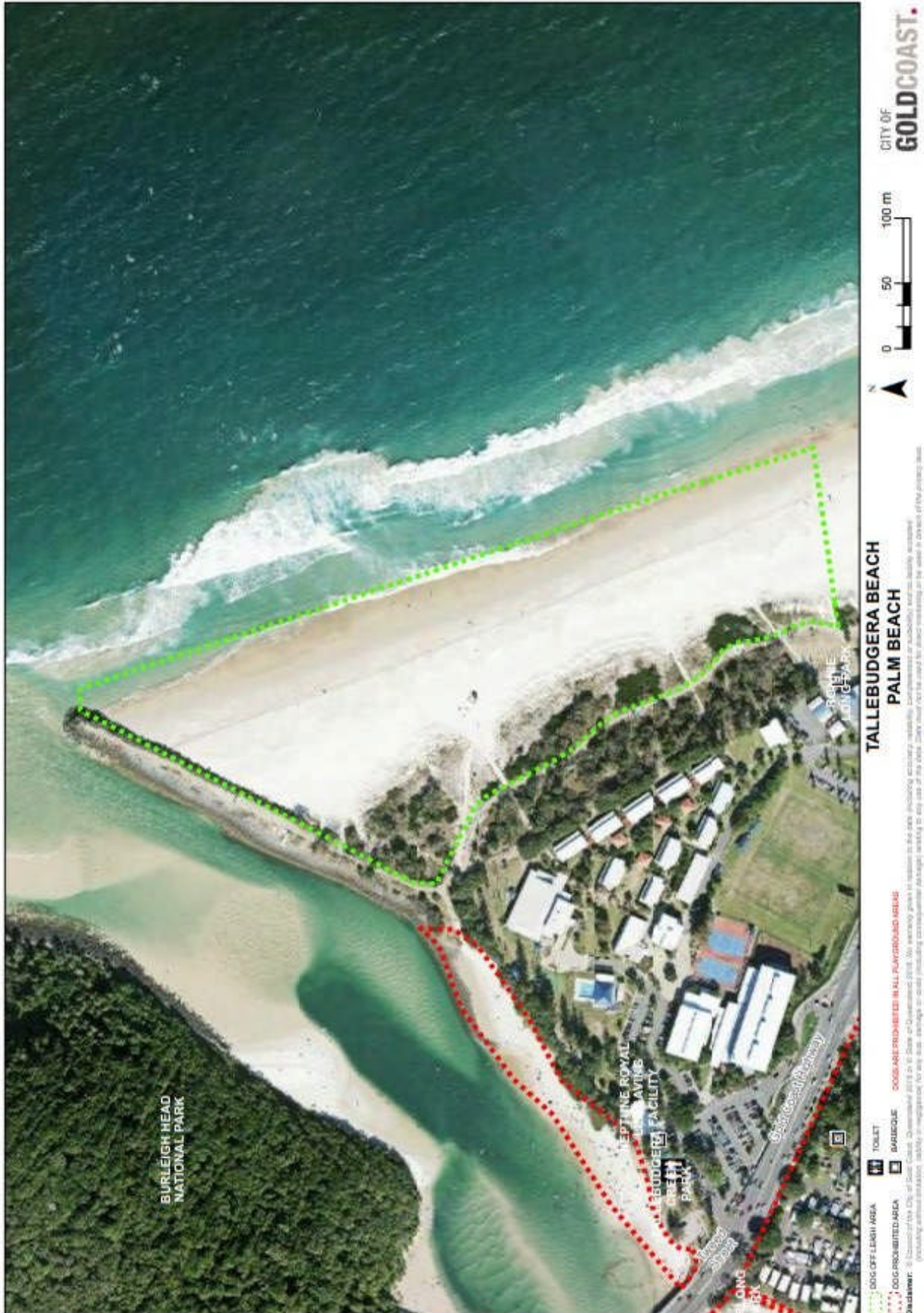




Case Study : 2  
 Council area : Gold Coast City  
 Name of park : Palm Beach  
 General character of park : Lagoon foreshore, dune areas, ocean beach  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash, 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None



Case Study : 3  
 Council area : Gold Coast City  
 Name of park : Tallebudgera Beach  
 General character of park : Dune areas, ocean beach  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash, 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None



Case Study	: 4
Council area	: Port Macquarie - Hastings City
Name of park	: Nobbys and 10 other beach areas
General character of park	: Ocean beach
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash, 24/7
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: None
Days of restriction for off-leash	: None

## Dog friendly areas

Council recognises the need and benefits of dog owners and their pets to be able to access and use public open space areas such as parks, reserves, foreshores and beaches. Council also considers other users of these areas too.

There are a number of dog friendly areas available for the enjoyment of pets and their owners that have been provided by Council, however certain conditions/restrictions on their use do apply.

### Permitted Areas - Leashed

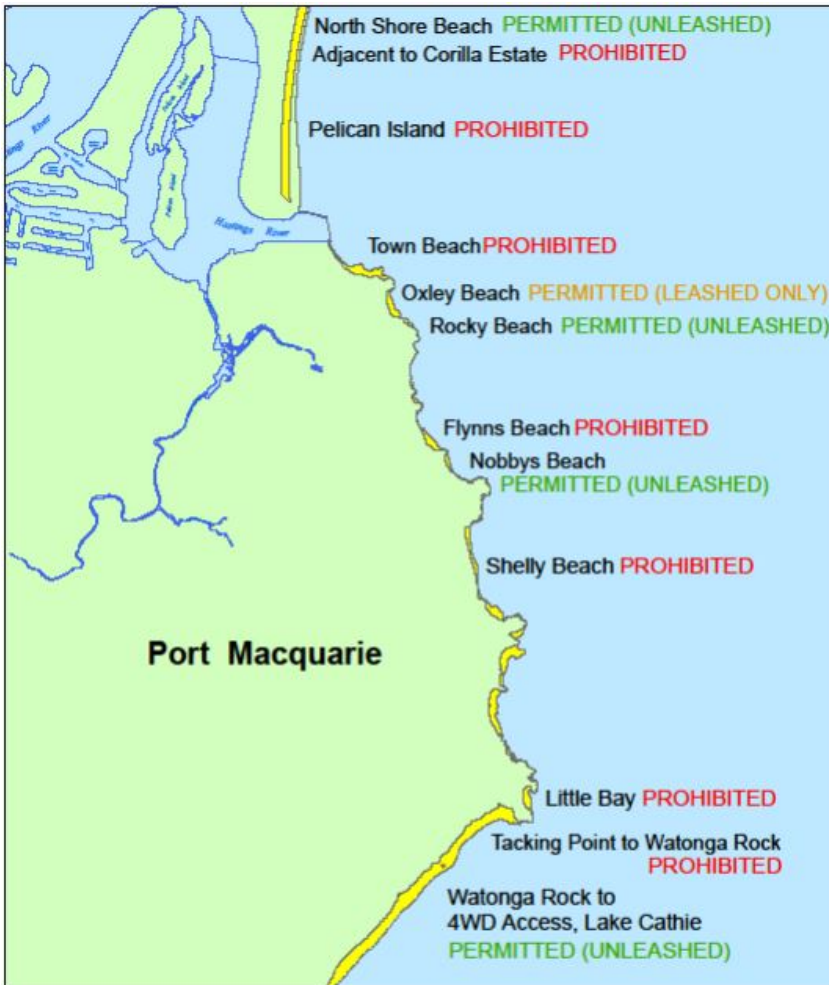
Dogs are permitted on the following beach areas whilst under effective control of a competent person by way of a leash, cord or chain:

- Oxley Beach, Port Macquarie
- Cathie Beach, Lake Cathie (Molong Street beach access point to Middle Rock)
- Rainbow Beach, Bonny Hills - from leash-free access point north to Duchess Creek (for access to leash free area only)
- Grants Beach, North Haven (from Surf Club car park north for a distance of 200m)
- Dunbogan Beach, Dunbogan (from the southern boundary of Kattang Nature Reserve to the Seaview Avenue beach access point).
- Sancrox Reserve

### Permitted Areas - Unleashed

Dogs are permitted on these beaches unleashed at any time:

- North Shore Beach from northern end on Corrilla Estate North to Queens Head 4WD access point
- North Shore Beach from southern end of Corrilla Estate South to the breakwall
- Rocky Beach, Port Macquarie
- Nobby's Beach, Port Macquarie
- Lighthouse Beach Port Macquarie from Watonga Rocks south to the 4WD beach access point Lake Cathie
- Rainbow Beach, Bonny Hills from Duchess Creek north to Middle Rock
- Spooney's Bay, Bonny Hills
- Grants Beach, North Haven from the northern end of the surf club car park, north to Grants Head
- Washhouse Beach, Dunbogan from the breakwall to the boundary of the Katang Nature Reserve
- Dunbogan Beach, Dunbogan from the Seaview beach access point south to Beach Street access point
- Henry Kendall Reserve, Laurieton, in the fenced dedicated dog park.



## The Future of Leash Free Areas

Council acknowledges the need for some park based leash free areas. Over the coming years, Council will allocate park based areas in Port Macquarie, Wauchope and Laurieton where people can exercise their dogs leash free.

As can be seen in the above text, Port Macquarie – Hastings has historically demonstrated a preference for dog exercise areas to be beach areas. This has allowed improved activation of these tick-free public spaces, and left the park areas to be used principally for other things. Council is now addressing the need to make some park areas, in addition to the established beach areas, leash-free.

Case Study	: 5
Council area	: Wollongong City Council
Name of park	: 24 beach areas
General character of park	: Ocean beaches
Off-leash dog status	: 12 beaches off-leash 24/7, and 12 beaches timed off-leash
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: 6pm to 9am warmer months, 4pm to 9am cooler months
Days of restriction for off-leash	: None

### Dogs on Beaches and Parks

Council has adopted a new Dogs on Beaches and Parks Policy on 28 September 2010 that includes three types of dog access zones these being green, orange and red. The green areas are off-leash, the orange areas are time share access areas and the red areas are dog prohibited (banned) areas.

View the  [Dogs on Beaches and Parks brochure \[3.5 MB\]](#)

#### See Also

[Pets and Animals](#)

#### Related Policies

 [Dogs on Beaches and Parks \[5 MB\]](#)

### Rules for Off-Leash Areas

Off-leash areas have been provided as a facility for enjoyment by the community. To improve conditions for users of off-leash areas, Council has included rules of use which can be seen on signage at each off-leash area.

All dogs within the designated off-leash area must be supervised by a person. The person in charge of any dog within this area **MUST**:

1. Be a competent person 16 years of age or over.
2. Be able to control the dog (by voice command or other means).
3. Carry a bag suitable for dog faeces.
4. Remove and place dog faeces in a suitable bag and dispose in an appropriate rubbish bin.
5. Not allow restricted breeds, or dogs declared as dangerous, to use this off-leash area.
6. Not allow dogs suffering from contagious disease, skin irritation or parasitic infection to use this area.

**Note: The owner of the dog is legally responsible if the dog attacks a person or animal.**

As well as educating users about expectations, the rules signage is enforceable under the Local Government Act where users act contrary to the signage.

#### Green Zone: Off-Leash

This zone allows dogs off-leash at all times.

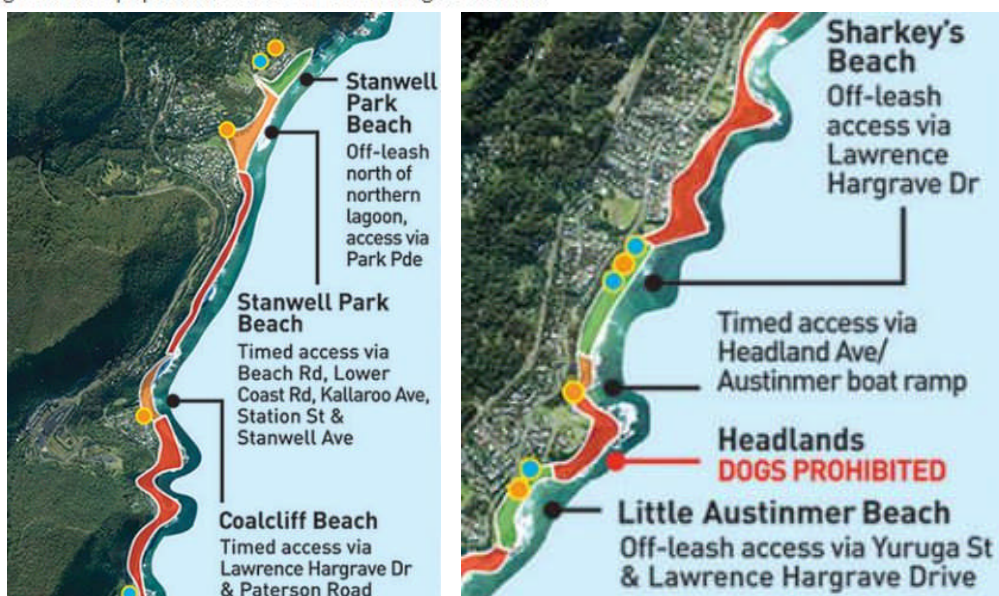
It's important to note that walkway access, carpark and adjoining parks and reserves are **not** part of the off-leash area. Dogs must be kept on leash and under effective control at all times until reaching the designated off-leash area.

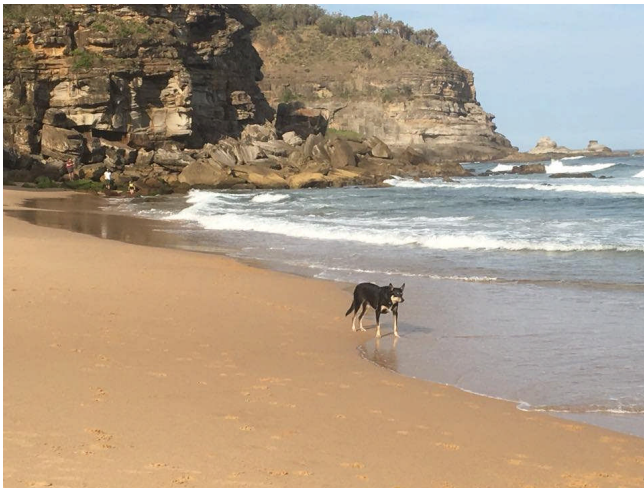
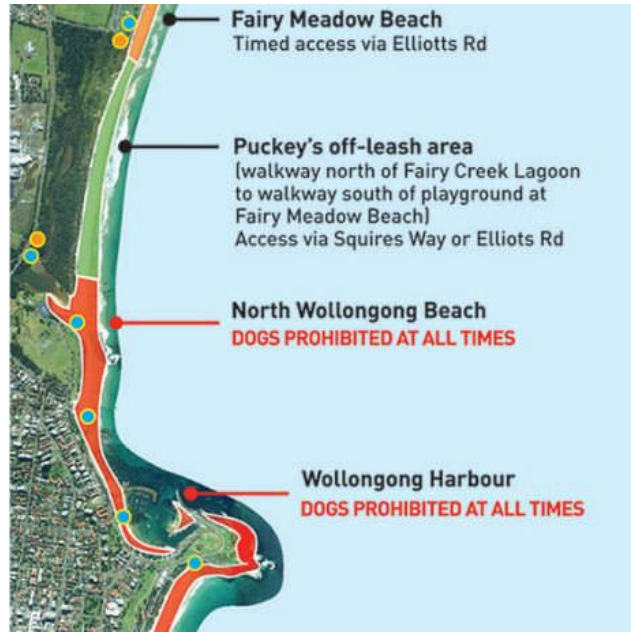
#### Orange Zone: Timed Access

The orange zone is a time sharing zone allowing access on the beach on leash in summer before 9am and after 6pm, and in winter before 9am and after 4pm. Summer is defined as being from September school holidays to ANZAC Day, and winter is the remainder of the year. The orange zone includes all beaches not designated as off-leash (green) or banned areas (red).

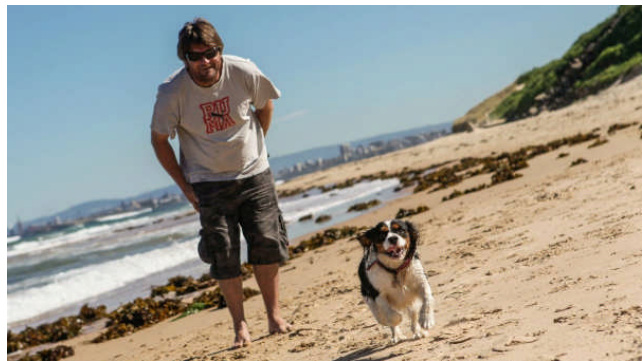
#### Red Zone: Prohibited

The red zone is an area where dogs are prohibited at all times due to sites having sensitive environmental fauna and flora factors, high human population areas or for heritage reasons.





Stanwell Park Beach



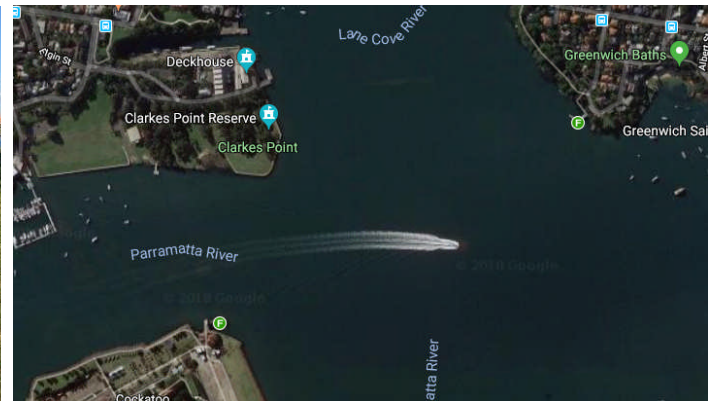
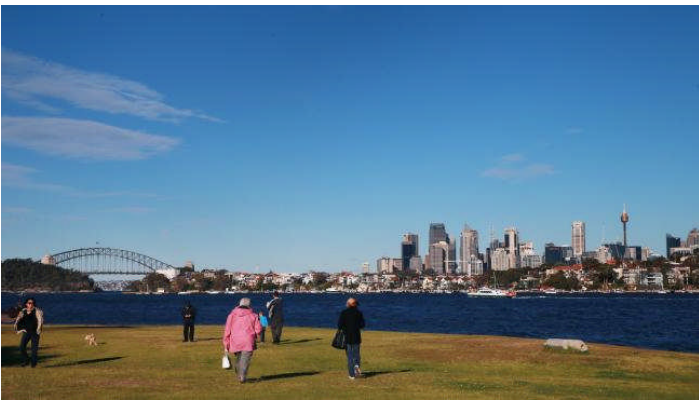
East Corrimal Beach



Case Study	: 6
Council area	: Hunters Hill Municipal Council
Name of park	: Clarks Point Reserve
General character of park	: Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash 24hrs 5 days, timed access weekends
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: Before 9:30am weekends
Days of restriction for off-leash	: Weekends only, unrestricted off-leash on week days

## 2.7 Park use and recreation

Clarks Point Reserve is well used for a range of passive recreational activities by both the local community and regional visitors. Open grassed areas adjoining the foreshore are popular for picnics, especially during long weekends and the New Years Eve fire works. Walkers, dog owners and amateur fishermen (including clubs / organised groups) use the Reserves on a daily basis. Dogs are currently permitted off leash all day Monday-Friday, and before 9.30am on weekends. Dogs are required to be on leash after 9.30am on weekends.



Case Study	: 7
Council area	: City of Sydney Council
Name of park	: Blackwattle Bay Park
General character of park	: Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash 24hrs 7 days
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: None
Days of restriction for off-leash	: None

### Glebe Foreshore Parks

Nestled against the Glebe foreshore in the city's west, these 4 parks make up more than 17 hectares of open grasslands, sports fields, adventure playgrounds, wetlands and off-leash areas.

The parks also feature public toilets and bubblers, as well as barbecue and picnic areas. Glebe Foreshore Parks are well serviced by bus and light rail links.

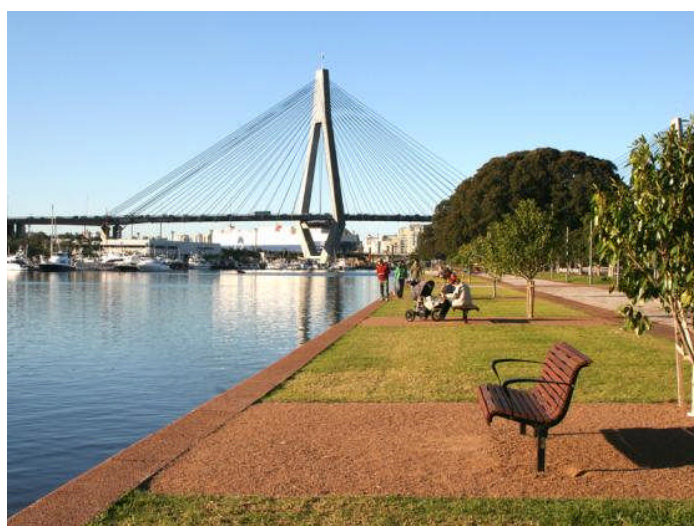
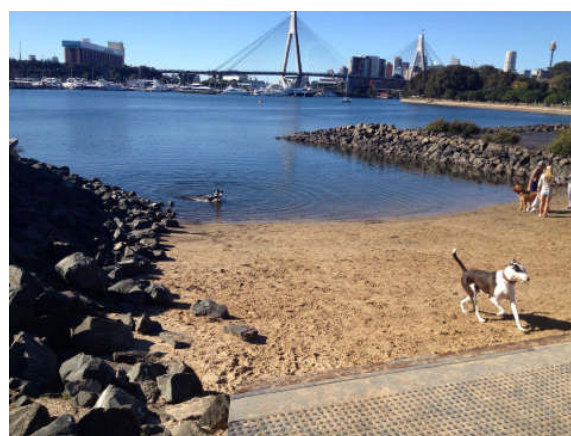
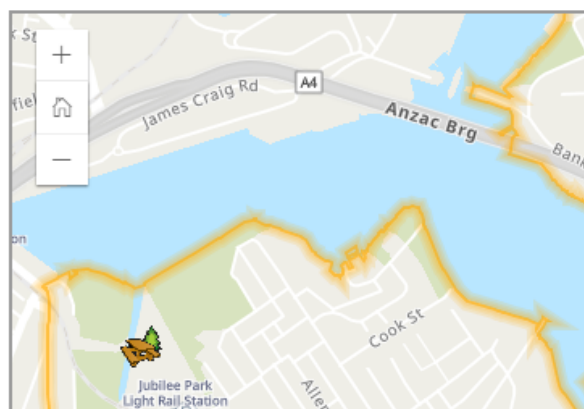
### Federal Park

You're spoilt for choice when it comes to venues for sports activities in Federal Park, with a floodlit field perfect for hockey and touch football as well as skateboard ramp open to the public. Your dog will love Federal Park too, with the grass sections off-leash areas at all times. Dogs are also allowed on the field when not in use for sport.

Car parking is available in Chapman Road. Bus and light rail services also travel to the park.

### Blackwattle Bay Park

The park includes the Glebe Foreshore Walk, which meanders along Blackwattle Bay. A selection of historical structures dot the area and barbecue and picnic areas are available. The foot of Leichhardt Street features a playground and the park is an off-leash area at all times.

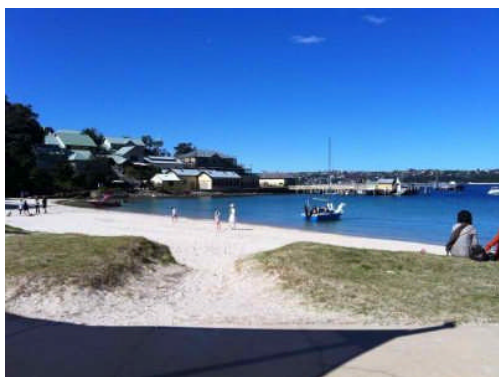


Case Study : 8  
Council area : Mosman Council  
Name of park : Clifton Gardens Reserve  
General character of park : Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events  
Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24hrs 5 days, weekend morning and evenings  
Hours of restriction for off-leash : Unrestricted Mon-Fri, before 9am after 4pm weekends  
Days of restriction for off-leash : Weekends

Dogs are permitted off-leash on the beach east of the Clifton Gardens jetty at the following times:

- before 9am and after 4pm weekdays during winter
- Before 9am and after 6pm weekdays during daylight savings summer months (Oct – Mar)

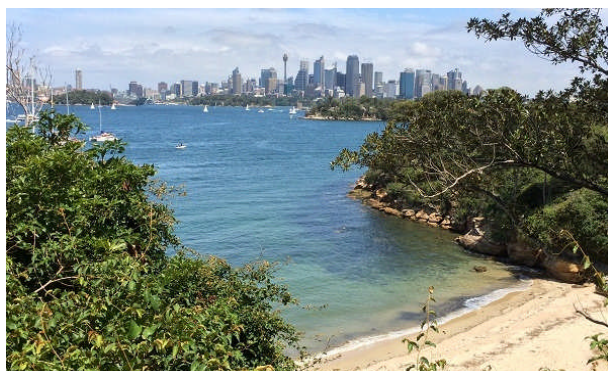
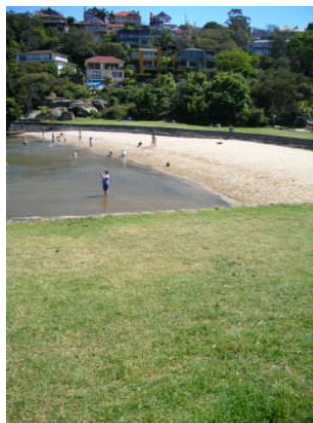
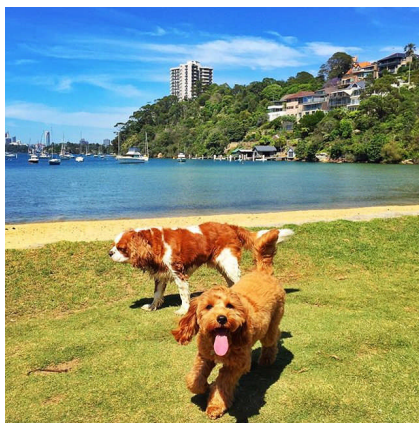
Dogs must be under the effective control of a competent person at all times.



Case Study : 9  
 Council area : Mosman Council  
 Name of park : Sirius Cove Park  
 General character of park : Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24hrs 5 days, weekend morning and evenings  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : Unrestricted Mon-Fri, before 9am after 4pm weekends  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : Weekends

Unleashed dogs are permitted on the beach and in the water all day Monday to Friday, and before 9am and after 4pm on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays in the following areas:

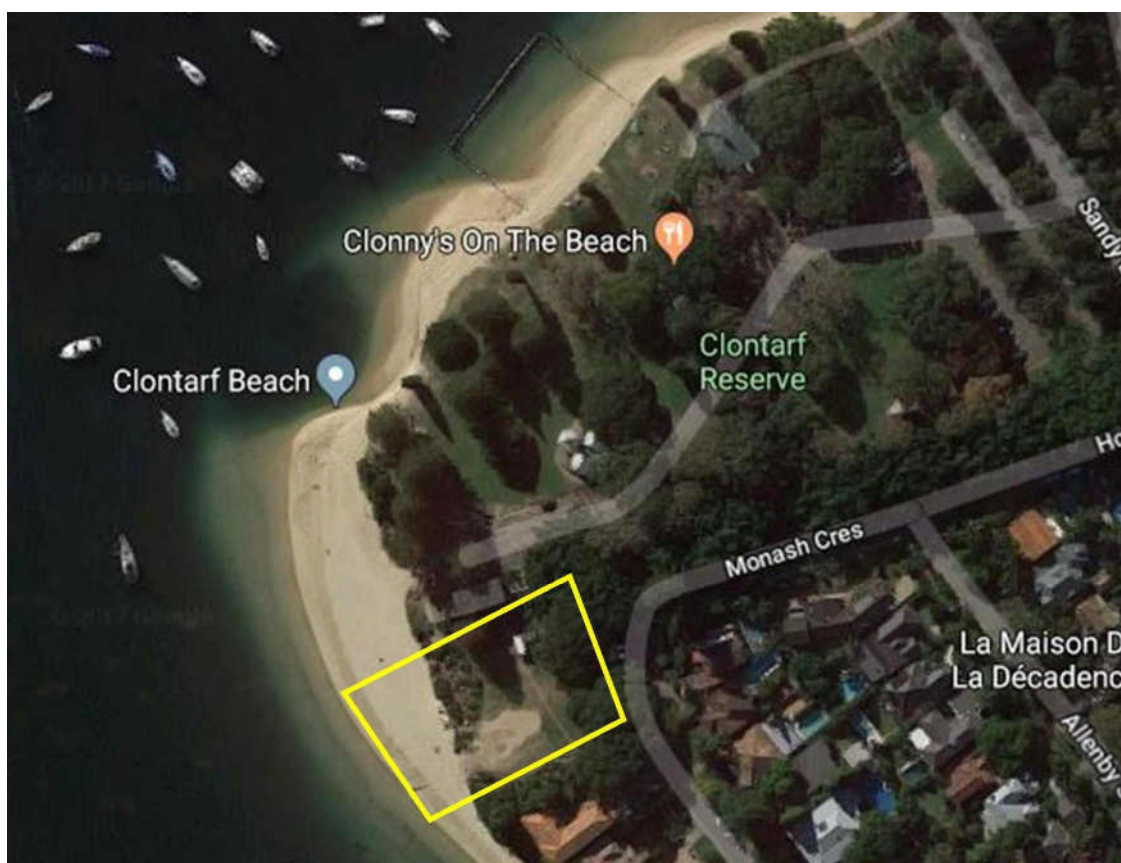
- o Sirius Cove
- o Spit West and Spit East Reserves



Case Study	: 10
Council area	: Northern Beaches Council
Name of park	: Clontarf Reserve
General character of park	: Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash 24hrs Mon-Fri, timeshare weekend and holidays
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: Unrestricted off-leash Mon-Fri
Days of restriction for off-leash	: On-leash weekends 10am – 6pm AEST, 10am – 8pm AEDT
Days of restriction for off-leash	: On-leash time requirements are weekends and holidays only

Unless dogs are under effective control of some competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash they are excluded from:

- i. Clontarf Reserve between the hours of 10am and 6pm (eastern standard time) and 10am and 8pm eastern summer time) on weekends, school holidays and public holidays.

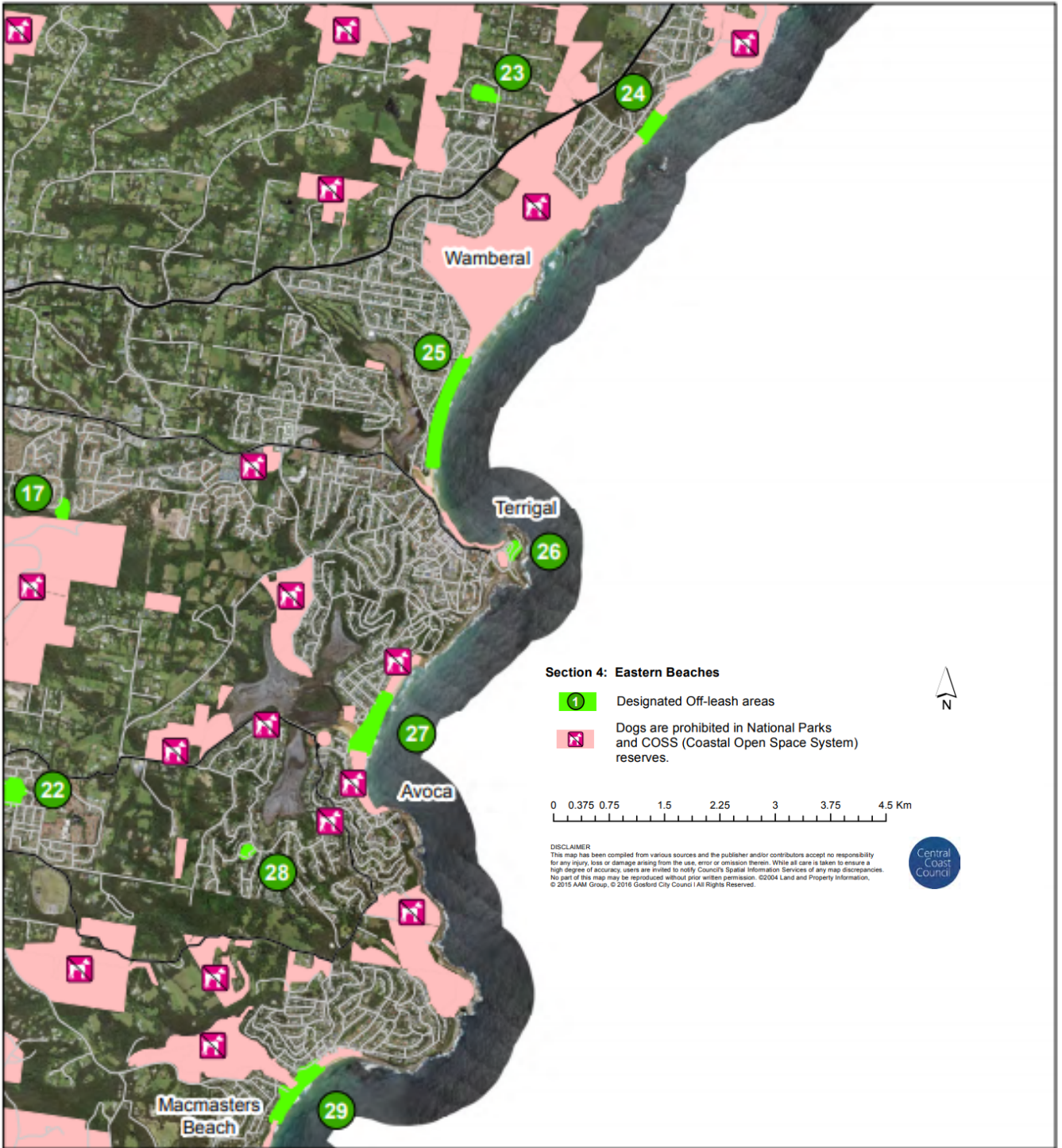


*Yellow boxed area denotes potential new dog exercise area, well clear of the Clontarf swimming enclosure, to be considered as a means to help spread the load experienced at the popular Manly Lagoon dog swimming area. For families who bring their dog to their picnics at Clontarf Reserve, there is currently a need to pack up and relocate to Sandy Bay if they wish to allow the dog to have a splash. This yellow boxed area is instead just a short walk, yet well separated from the picnic and swimming areas.*

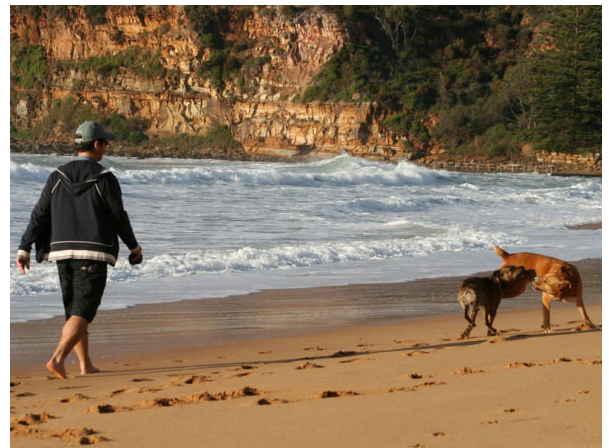
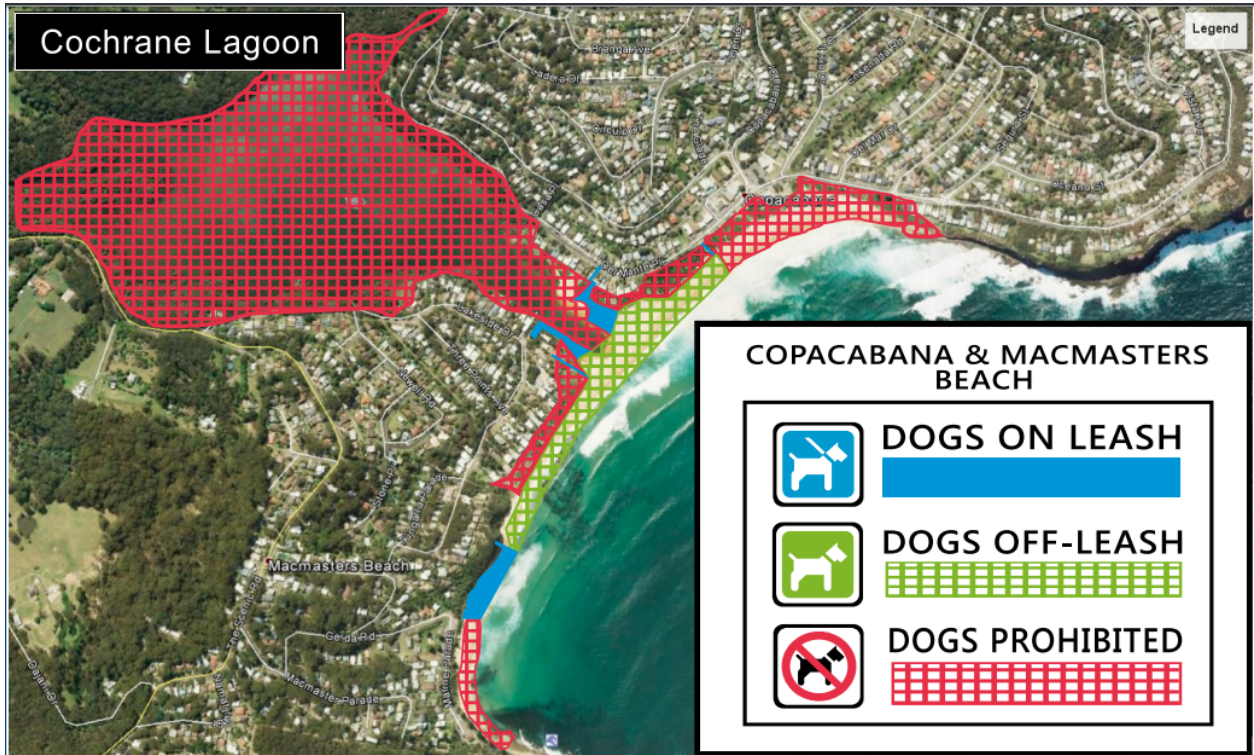
Case Study : 11  
Council area : Northern Beaches Council  
Name of park : Sandy Bay Foreshore  
General character of park : Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, swimming  
Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7  
Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
Days of restriction for off-leash : None



Case Study	: 12
Council area	: Central Coast Council (south of Wamberal only, included here)
Name of park	: 8 ocean beaches
General character of park	: Ocean beach
Off-leash dog status	: Off-leash 24/7
Hours of restriction for off-leash	: None
Days of restriction for off-leash	: None



Case Study : 13  
 Council area : Central Coast Council  
 Name of park : Copacabana and Macmasters Beach  
 General character of park : Ocean beach  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None





Case Study : 14  
 Council area : Central Coast Council  
 Name of park : 7 estuary foreshore areas  
 General character of park : Estuary foreshore, public swimming  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None



**Section 5: Woy Woy to Patonga**

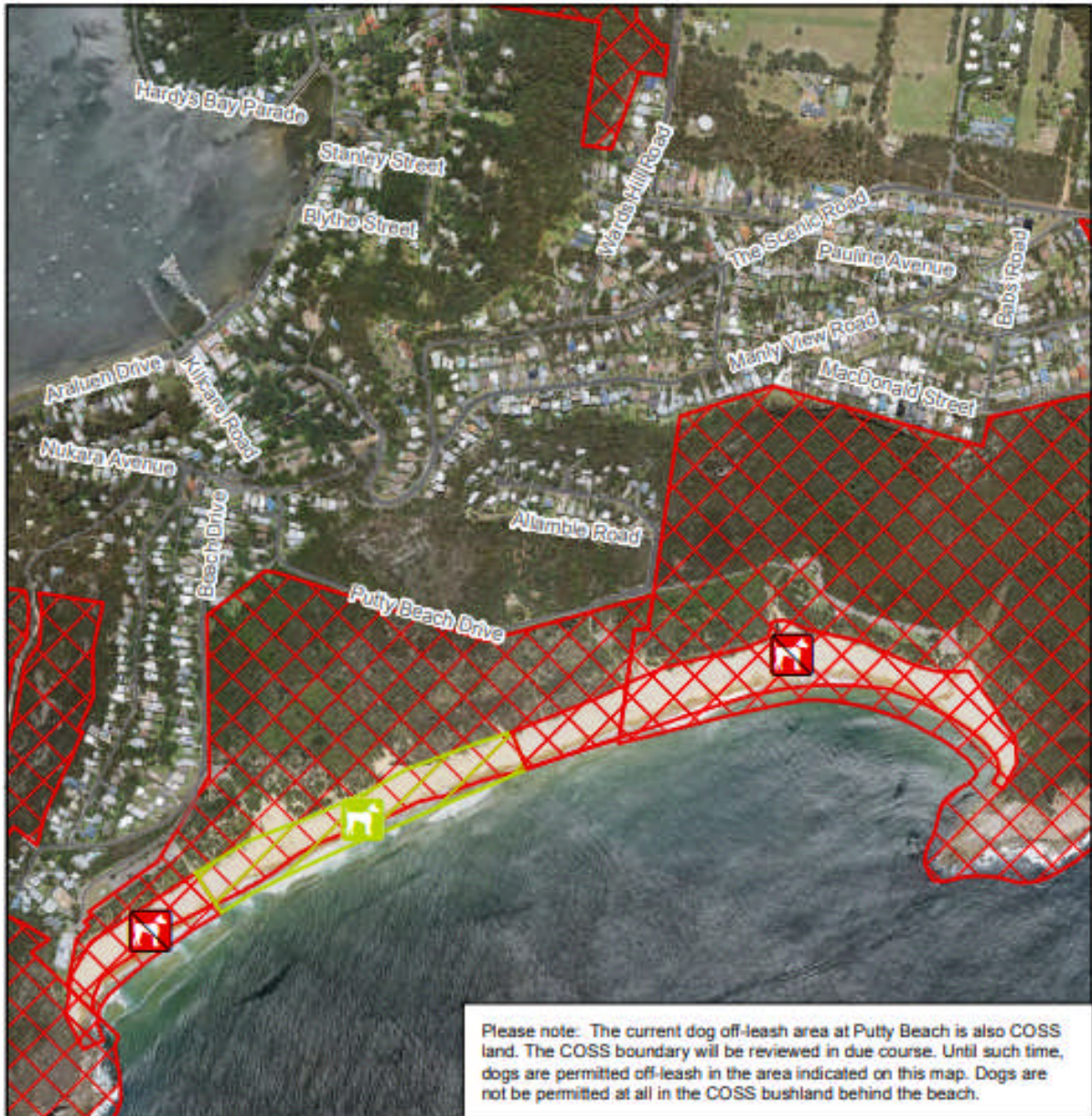
- 1 Designated Off-leash areas
- X Dogs are prohibited in National Parks and COSS (Coastal Open Space System) reserves.



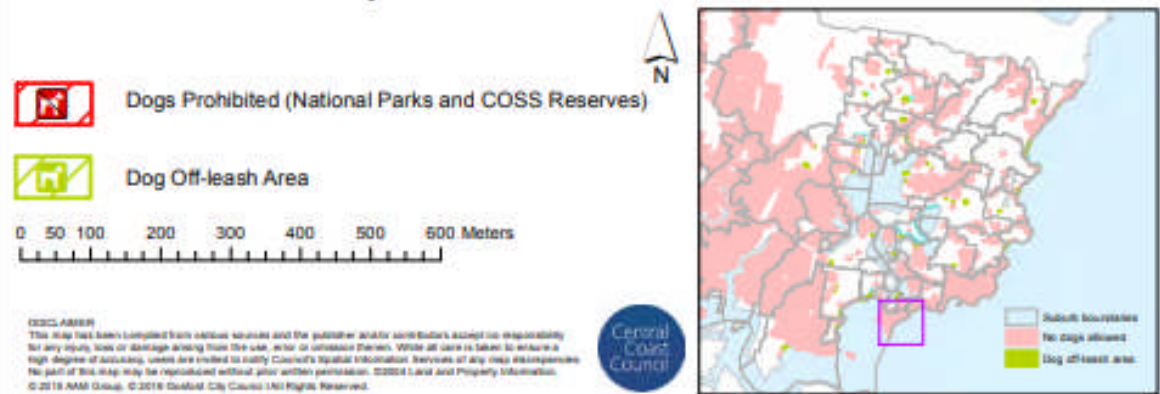
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Case Study : 15  
 Council area : Central Coast Council  
 Name of park : Putty Beach, Killcare  
 General character of park : Ocean beach  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None



**Off-leash Area 43: Putty Beach**



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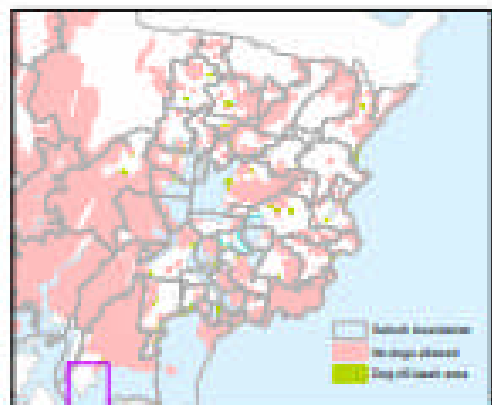


Case Study : 16  
 Council area : Central Coast Council  
 Name of park : Patonga Beach  
 General character of park : Estuary foreshore, public swimming  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : None



**Off-leash Area 40: Patonga Beach**

 Dogs on Leash    
  Dogs Prohibited  
 Dog Off-leash Area



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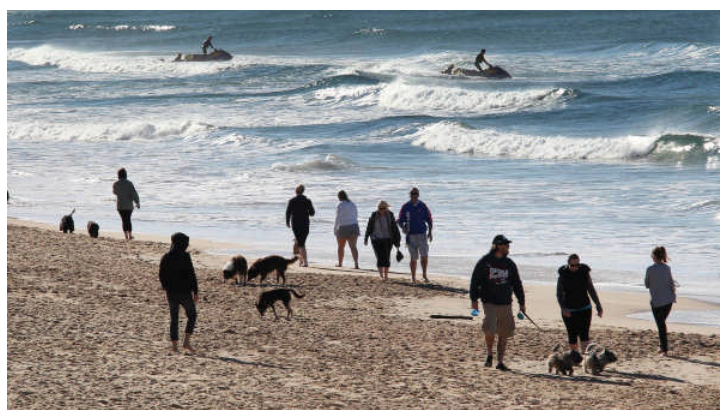
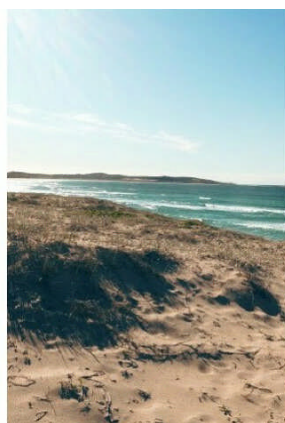
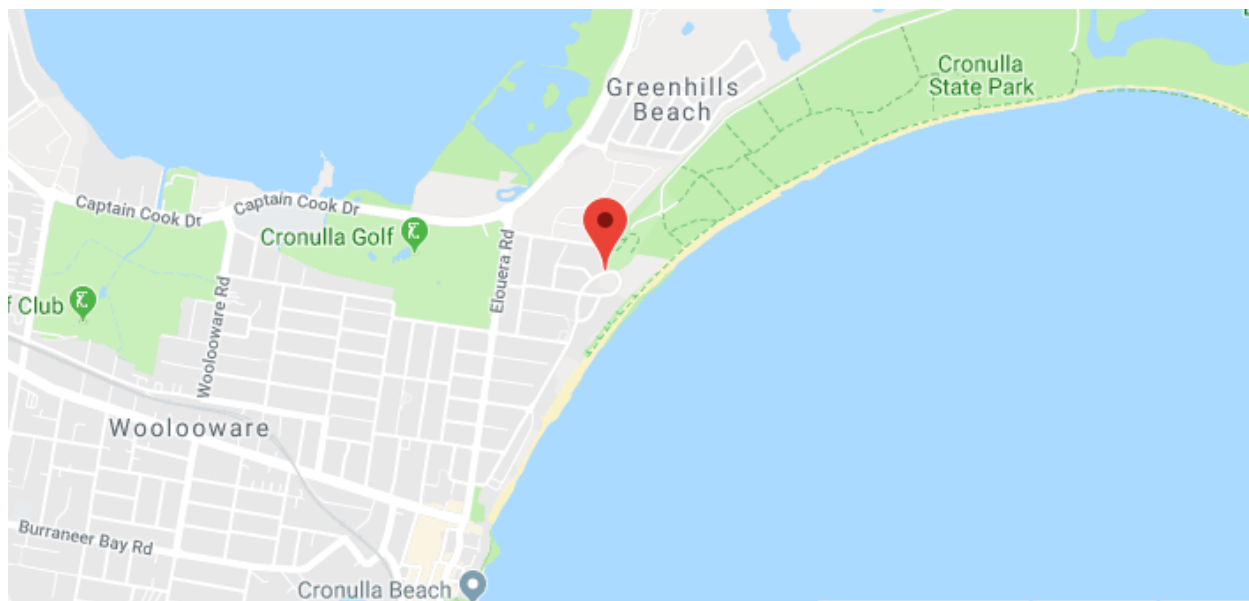
Case Study : 17  
Council area : Sutherland Shire  
Name of park : Greenhills Beach (North Wanda), Cronulla  
General character of park : Ocean beach  
Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 7 days, with time restrictions  
Hours of restriction for off-leash : Before 10am and after 4pm  
Days of restriction for off-leash : 7 days

## Dogs allowed off leash

Monday-Sunday - before 10am and after 4pm.

## Dogs prohibited

At all other times dogs are prohibited at the beach (that is between Monday to Sunday 10am to 4pm).



Case Study : 18  
 Council area : Shoalhaven City Council  
 Name of park : Callala Bay Beach  
 General character of park : Ocean beach (Jervis Bay)  
 Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 7 days all year, with time restrictions  
 Hours of restriction for off-leash : Before 10am and after 3pm, before 8am and after 4pm  
 Days of restriction for off-leash : 7 days



Case Study : 19  
Council area : Northern Beaches Council  
Name of park : Rowland Reserve  
General character of park : Reclaimed silt from channel dredging, up to 1,000 dogs/day  
Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7 all year  
Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
Days of restriction for off-leash : None



Case Study : 20  
Council area : City of Sydney Council  
Name of park : Jackson's Landing  
General character of park : Harbour foreshore, picnic grounds, catered events  
Off-leash dog status : Off-leash 24/7 all year  
Hours of restriction for off-leash : None  
Days of restriction for off-leash : None



16 February 2018

*Michele Robertson*

**Michele Robertson**  
PRESIDENT, PITWATER UNLEASHED