

MEDIA STATEMENT

19 February 2024

MSQ kicks off consultation over extended speed zones at Double Island Point

- Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) is set to consult the public over a proposal to extend the area limiting vessels to speeds of six knots at Double Island Point.
- The proposal is aimed at ensuring the safety of all users of the lagoon area, which has extended due to movement of sand banks.
- Public consultation runs from 22 February 2024 to 24 March 2024.

Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) is commencing public consultation over a proposal to extend the gazetted six knot speed zone at Double Island Point to help improve the safety of all users of the lagoon area.

The current six knot zone was created in February 2022 and the review will consider extending this zone due to significant shifting of the sandbanks in the area immediately to the west of Double Island Point, which has caused the popular lagoon area to extend.

The current gazetted six knot speed zone does not capture the new western part of the lagoon, posing a danger to swimmers, anchored and passive craft and other vessels that use the waterway.

MSQ, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service have received complaints and reports of near misses from the community about this issue.

Relevant agencies, the local community and boaties will have various options to provide feedback about the proposal.

The consultation period will run from 22 February to 24 March 2024, and will include a public meeting at the Tin Can Bay Country Club at 11.00 am on 1 March.

Visit www.msq.qld.gov.au for more information.

Enquiries and feedback can be emailed to consultation@msq.qld.gov.au.

Compliance officers will continue to monitor and educate waterway users about safe boating practices during the consultation.

Quotes attributable to Maritime Safety Queensland's General Manager, Kell Dillon:

"Everyone deserves to be able to safely access our wonderful waterways.

"The beach and lagoon area at Double Island Point have grown in popularity amongst boaties and swimmers, and we want to ensure everyone can co-exist and enjoy the waters safely.

"That is why MSQ and our partner agencies have developed this proposal for consultation.

"I highly encourage all local communities, agencies and boaties to attend the public meeting or provide feedback by other means during the consultation process from 22 February until 24 March 2024.

"It is important everyone has their say about the proposed changes."

ENDS

