

# Appendix 1 – Recommendations

The Reference Group makes 54 recommendations to provide a new marine safety system that achieves an appropriate balance between regulation and the diverse or competing interests within the maritime community.

## General recommendations

### 1 – Maroochy River system – enforcement presence

*Where practicable, that Maritime Safety Queensland, Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol and Sunshine Coast District Water Police should commit to an increased on-water enforcement presence throughout the Maroochy River system.*

### 2 – Maroochy River system – new speed limit of 6 knots

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of all creeks and waterways flowing into Maroochy River, except Coolum Creek, Petrie Creek and Eudlo Creek.*

### 3 – Maroochy River system – existing water skiing prohibition

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing water skiing prohibition for waters of all creeks and waterways flowing into Maroochy River (including Lake Dunethin), except certain waters of Eudlo Creek (subject to conditions set out in recommendation 49A, or subject to recommendation 49B).*

### 4 – Maroochy River system – new regulatory signs

*That the General Manager should erect 52 new speed signs at strategic locations throughout the Maroochy River system for all new speed limits, including six speed signs for operational speed limits.*

### 5 – Maroochy River system – new regulatory signs

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect 13 new water skiing signs at strategic locations throughout the Maroochy River system for all new water skiing prohibitions.*

### 6 – Maroochy River system – update Beacon to Beacon

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should update the Beacon to Beacon directory to include:*

- *all new regulatory signs and warning signs*
- *notes to explain the freestyling restriction and operational speed limits.*

### 7 – Maroochy River system – review of new speed limits and water skiing prohibitions

*That the Reference Group should re-convene to review the implementation and effect of all new speed limits and water skiing prohibitions, before December 2012.*

## **8 – Maroochy River system – proposal for a marine zone**

*That Sunshine Coast Regional Council should consider a proposal for a marine zone, as envisaged by part 9A of the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004, to manage unresolved waterways issues as documented by the Reference Group:*

- *wash capable of causing shoreline damage*
- *wash capable of causing a marine incident*
- *certain types of water skiing activities on Eudlo Creek.*

## **Specific recommendations**

### **9 – North and South Maroochy Rivers – existing speed limits of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limits of 6 knots for all ships on waters of North Maroochy River and South Maroochy River upstream of the confluence of these rivers with Maroochy River at Yandina.*

### **10A – Maroochy River (Area 1) – new speed limit of 20 knots – Option 1**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River upstream from 50 metres upstream of Brown's Rocks to the river's confluence with its north and south arms at Yandina; or alternatively*

### **10B – Maroochy River (Area 1) – new speed limit of 6 knots – Option 2**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River upstream from 50 metres upstream of Brown's Rocks to the river's confluence with its north and south arms at Yandina.*

### **11 – Maroochy River (Areas 1 and 2) – new speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River within 50 metres upstream and downstream of Brown's Rocks.*

### **12 – Maroochy River (Areas 1 and 2) – new water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River upstream from 50 metres downstream of Brown's Rocks.*

This is an administrative correction to describe the boundary of the water skiing prohibition as 50 metres downstream of Brown's Rocks, instead of the boundary as Brown's Rocks, which are an underwater obstruction and a danger to navigation.

### **13 – Maroochy River (Area 1) – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect three new warning signs at strategic location in Area 1 to warn waterway users about obstructions and hazardous conditions that affect navigation:*

- *for upstream of Brown's Rocks – one warning sign – POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTIONS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION*
- *at Brown's Rocks – two warning signs – UNDERWATER OBSTRUCTION / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

**14 – Maroochy River (Area 2) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 50 metres downstream of Brown's Rocks to 50 metres upstream of Lake Dunethin.*

**15 – Maroochy River (Area 2) – new speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 50 metres upstream of Lake Dunethin to 400 metres downstream of Lake Dunethin.*

**16 – Maroochy River (Area 2) – existing water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River from 100 metres upstream of Ashton's Wharf to the river's confluence with the small unnamed creek immediately downstream of Dunethin Rock.*

**17 – Maroochy River (Area 2) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 400 metres downstream of Lake Dunethin to 50 metres upstream of the cane train bridge at the suburb of Maroochy River.*

**18 – Maroochy River (Area 3) – new speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River within 50 metres upstream and downstream of the cane train bridge at the suburb of Maroochy River.*

**19 – Maroochy River (Area 3) – existing water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River within 50 metres upstream and downstream of the cane train bridge at the suburb of Maroochy River.*

**20 – Maroochy River (Area 3) – new reflectors for the cane train bridge**

*To assist night time navigation, that Sunshine Coast Regional Council should fix suitable reflectors to the cane train bridge across Maroochy River at the suburb of Maroochy River.*

**21 – Maroochy River (Area 4) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 50 metres downstream of the cane train*

bridge at the suburb of Maroochy River to 450 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek.

## **22 – Maroochy River (Areas 4 and 5) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 720 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek to 1,500 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Coolum Creek.*

## **23A – Maroochy River near Small Creek (Area 4) – new speed limit of 20 knots with new water skiing prohibition – Option 1**


*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 450 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek to 720 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek; in conjunction with*

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River from 450 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek to 720 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek; or alternatively*

## **23B – Maroochy River near Small Creek (Area 4) – new speed limit of 6 knots – Option 2**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 450 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek to 720 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Small Creek.*

## **24 – Maroochy River (Area 4) – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect two new warning signs at strategic locations in Area 4 for the sharp bend near Small Creek – SHARP BEND / KEEP STARBOARD (with an arrow ).*

## **25 – Maroochy River (Area 5) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 50 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

## **26 – Maroochy River (Area 5) – new speed limit of 20 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 1,500 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Coolum Creek to 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

**27A – Maroochy River near Cook Road (Area 5) – new speed limit of 20 knots with speed signs for operational speed limits – Option 1**

*That the General Manager should fix the speed limit of 20 knots (as mentioned in recommendation 26) and that Maritime Safety Queensland should erect two new regulatory signs for operational speed limits at strategic locations near the dwelling houses on Cook Road at Bli Bli (as mentioned in recommendation 4); or alternatively*

**27B – Maroochy River near Cook Road (Area 5) – new periodic speed limit of 6 knots – Option 2**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new periodic speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 1,300 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli for weekends and public holidays; or alternatively*

**27C – Maroochy River near Cook Road (Area 5) – new speed limit of 6 knots – Option 3**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 1,300 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

**28 – Maroochy River near Cook Road (Area 5) – review of new speed limit**

*That the Reference Group should re-convene to review the implementation and affect of the new speed limit for waters of Maroochy River adjacent to Cook Road at Bli Bli, before December 2012.*

**29 – Maroochy River near Cook Road (Area 5) – update Beacon to Beacon**


*That Maritime Safety Queensland should update Beacon to Beacon to include a note that describes the type of ship operations reasonably expected on Maroochy River near Cook Road and the likelihood of ship traffic congestion during weekends and public holidays.*

**30 – Maroochy River (Area 5) – existing water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River from 1,500 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Coolum Creek to 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli (refer to recommendation 54).*

**31 – Maroochy River (Area 5) – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect four new warning signs at strategic locations in Area 5 to warn waterway users about obstructions and hazardous conditions that affect navigation:*

- *for the sharp bend upstream of Bli Bli Islands – two warning signs – SHARP BEND / KEEP STARBOARD (with an arrow )*

- *near Bli Bli Islands – two warning signs – SAND BANKS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

### **32 – Maroochy River (Area 6) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 1,000 metres downstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 200 metres upstream of Sunshine Motorway Bridge at Maroochydore.*

### **33 – Maroochy River (Area 6) – new speed limit of 20 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River from 50 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 1,000 metres downstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

### **34 – Maroochy River (Area 6) – new water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River from 50 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli to 1,000 metres downstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

### **35 – Maroochy River (Area 6) – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect five new warning signs at strategic locations in Area 6 to warn waterway users about obstructions and hazardous conditions that affect navigation:*

- *at the public boat ramps at Muller Park, Fishermans Road and Cod Hole – three warning signs (one at each location) – BUSY WATERWAY (with graphical symbols for powered ship, personal watercraft, water skiing, sailing ship and paddle craft) NAVIGATE TO CONDITIONS*
- *between David Low Bridge and Sunshine Motorway Bridge – two warning signs – SAND BANKS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

### **36 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – existing speed limits of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limits of 6 knots for all ships on waters of all creeks and waterways flowing into Maroochy River downstream of Sunshine Motorway Bridge.*

### **37 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – existing speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River within the area bounded by an imaginary line from:*

- *a point on the mainland adjacent to the intersection of Buna Street and Bradman Avenue at Maroochydore to*
- *the western extremity of Chambers Island to*
- *the eastern extremity of Chambers Island to*
- *the upstream point at the entrance to Maroochy Waters canal; and*

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River within the area bounded by an imaginary line from:*

- *a point on the mainland approximately 110 metres downstream of the boat ramp at Picnic Point (as marked by a speed sign) then*
- *along an easterly line to the landmass of Channel Island and Goat Island then*
- *along the western side of the island landmass to the southern extremity of Goat Island then*
- *in a generally easterly direction to the port lateral beacon on the end of the most downstream groyne at Cotton Tree.*

### **38 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – existing speed limit of 40 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for certain ships on waters of the Maroochy River commercial personal watercraft area, namely nominated personal watercraft only.*

### **39 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – new speed limit of 20 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Maroochy River downstream from 200 metres upstream of Sunshine Motorway Bridge at Maroochydhore, except for nominated personal watercraft on waters of the Maroochy River commercial personal watercraft area.*

### **40 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – existing prohibition for operating etc.**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing prohibition for anchoring, berthing, mooring and operating of all ships from sunrise to sunset on waters of the Maroochy River commercial personal watercraft area because those activities endanger marine safety, except for nominated personal watercraft.*

### **41 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – new water skiing prohibition**

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River downstream from 200 metres upstream of Sunshine Motorway Bridge at Maroochydhore.*

### **42 – Maroochy River (Area 7) – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect four new warning signs at strategic locations in Area 7 to warn waterway users about obstructions and hazardous conditions that affect navigation:*

- *at the public boat ramps at Picnic Point and Nojoor Road – two warning signs (one at each location) – BUSY WATERWAY (with graphical symbols for powered ship, personal watercraft, sailing ship and paddle craft) NAVIGATE TO CONDITIONS*
- *between Sunshine Motorway Bridge and Maroochy Bar – two warning signs – SAND BANKS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

#### **43 – Coolum Creek – new speed limits of 20 knots and 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Coolum Creek from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River to approximately 920 metres upstream from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River (a point adjacent to West Coolum Road); in conjunction with*

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Coolum Creek upstream from approximately 920 metres upstream from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River (a point adjacent to West Coolum Road).*

#### **44 – Coolum Creek – new warning sign**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect one new warning sign in Coolum Creek near West Coolum Road – POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTIONS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

#### **45 – Petrie and Paynter Creeks – new speed limits of 20 knots and 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on waters of Petrie Creek from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River to the bridge across the creek on David Low Way at Diddillibah; in conjunction with*

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Petrie Creek upstream from the bridge across the creek on David Low Way at Diddillibah, including all creeks and waterways flowing into Petrie Creek upstream of the bridge.*

#### **46 – Petrie Creek – new warning sign**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect one new warning sign at the entrance to Petrie Creek – POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTIONS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.*

#### **47 – Eudlo Creek – existing speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Eudlo Creek and the adjoining lagoon from Eudlo Creek Bridge on David Low Way at Maroochydore to 50 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydore.*

#### **48 – Eudlo Creek – new speed limit of 6 knots**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 6 knots for all ships on waters of Eudlo Creek upstream from 1,150 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydore.*

#### **49A – Eudlo Creek – existing speed limit of 40 knots and new water skiing prohibition, on conditions – Option 1**

*That the General Manager should maintain the existing speed limit of 40 knots for all ships on certain waters of Eudlo Creek, namely:*

- *waters from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River to Eudlo Creek Bridge*



- from 50 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore to 1,150 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore; in conjunction with

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for all waters of Eudlo Creek, except for waters from 50 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore to 1,150 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore, providing the following conditions are met:*

- a ship towing a water skier must not be more than 6.1 metres in length
- there must not be more than one tow line attached to a ship; or alternatively

#### **49B – Eudlo Creek – new speed limit of 20 knots and new water skiing prohibition – Option 2**

*That the General Manager should fix by gazette notice a new speed limit of 20 knots for all ships on certain waters of Eudlo Creek, namely:*

- waters from the creek's confluence with Maroochy River to Eudlo Creek Bridge
- from 50 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore to 1,150 metres upstream of the public boat ramp in Fishermans Road at Maroochydhore; in conjunction with

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for all waters of Eudlo Creek.*

#### **50 – Eudlo Creek – new warning signs**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should erect three new warning signs at strategic locations in Eudlo Creek to warn waterway users about obstructions and hazardous conditions that affect navigation:*

- at the end of the existing water skiing area – one warning sign – POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTIONS / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION
- near the public boat ramp – one warning sign – SHALLOW WATERWAY / NAVIGATE WITH CAUTION.
- near the public boat ramp – one warning sign – BUSY WATERWAY (with graphical symbols for powered ship, personal watercraft, water skiing, sailing ship and paddle craft) NAVIGATE TO CONDITIONS.

#### **51 – Eudlo Creek – new code of conduct**

*That Maroochy River Water Ski Association and Sunshine Coast Kayak Club, with support from Maritime Safety Queensland, should develop and implement a code of conduct for water skiers and paddlers on Eudlo Creek (subject to recommendations 49A or 49B).*

#### **52 – Eudlo Creek – new safety management plan**

*That Maroochy River Water Ski Association, with support from Maritime Safety Queensland, should develop and implement a new safety management plan for water skiing activities on Eudlo Creek, incorporating the following:*

- maximum ship length – 6.1 metres

- *maximum number of tow lines – one*
- *maximum number of ships – three*
- *maximum length of tow lines – 18.3 metres*
- *standard direction of navigation on the creek – anti-clockwise so that ships towing water skiers pass port to port*
- *safety induction program – ship masters and water skiers before participating in water skiing activities on the creek*
- *water skiing roster – club members and visitors*
- *tidal information – time difference from Mooloolaba Boat Harbour*
- *local information – potential obstructions to navigation and other hazards on the creek*
- *strong discouragement for certain activities – wake boarding, towing of tubes, and use of air chairs and other hydrofoil-type water skis*
- *information signs – ship length, two lines, direction of navigation, tidal information*
- *warning signs – erected by Maritime Safety Queensland.*

This recommendation is subject to recommendations 49A or 49B.

### **53 – Maroochy River (Areas 6 and 7) and Eudlo Creek – new education campaign**

*That Maritime Safety Queensland should develop and implement a new recreational boating education campaign for Maroochy River and Eudlo Creek to raise community awareness about:*

- *different types of ship operations and activities reasonably expected between Bli Bli and Maroochydore*
- *water skiing on Eudlo Creek (subject to recommendations 49A or 49B)*
- *freestyling restriction for personal watercraft*
- *operational speed limits for ships and personal watercraft.*

The education campaign could include:

- *information packs*
- *information on Maritime Safety Queensland's website*
- *information on Department Transport and Main Road's Facebook and Twitter pages*
- *links from Maritime Safety Queensland's website to other government websites*
- *links from websites owned by external entities to Maritime Safety Queensland's website (subject to approval where necessary)*
- *articles in Maritime Safety Queensland's publication Seascope*
- *notices to mariners.*

### **54 – Maroochy River (Area 5) – administrative correction**

*That the General Manager should state by gazette notice a new water skiing prohibition for waters of Maroochy River from 1,500 metres downstream of the river's confluence with Coolum Creek to 1,050 metres upstream of David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.*

This recommendation is an administrative correction to accurately describe the boundary of the water skiing prohibition 50 metres downstream of the most downstream house in Cook Road, which is approximately 1,050 metres upstream of the David Low Bridge at Bli Bli.