

COX PENINSULA RESTRICTED USE AREA

The Restricted Use Area (RUA), as indicated on the map was declared under the *Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation Act in 1983*. The Declaration was made to protect the areas adjacent to Imaluk and Wagait Beach from further damage due to illegal mining, clearing and vehicular use and to provide a buffer between the foreshore and development. The area has been set aside for **public recreation use**.

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA) is responsible for the enforcement of these conditions, however we rely heavily on the local community to both support the declaration and to report any breaches to the Department as soon as possible. Reports can be made to the Natural Resource Management Division – see contact details below.

Under Section 20C of the Act, a person within the Restricted Use Area may not, unless provided with written authority:

- Use a motor vehicle;
- Remove or damage any vegetation;
- Take or remove any sand, gravel, rock, clay or earth;
- Interfere with any erosion control works;
- Cause water or any other fluid to be drained or to flow over the area.

[The penalty for a breach of any of the above condition is \\$500.00](#)

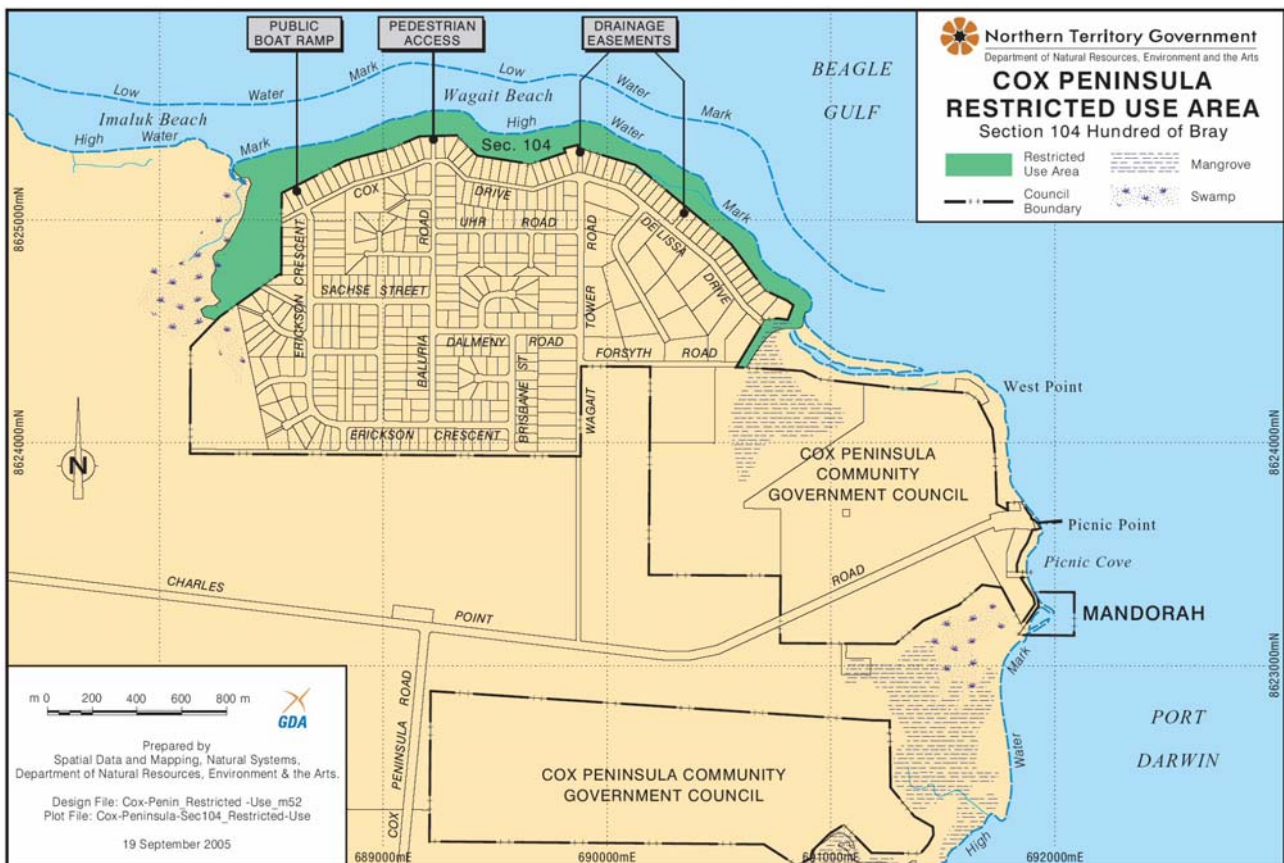
WHY IS THE RUA IMPORTANT?

Shoreline movement is a natural and unavoidable process of coastal environments. Since European settlement, the foreshore around Darwin Harbour has undergone considerable change. These changes to the shoreline can be attributed to climatic and oceanographic processes and human impact. In order to protect property and the environment along the Cox Peninsula, a buffer strip (the RUA) has been set aside to allow for the natural fluctuation of the foreshore. To improve and maintain the RUA, there are a number of things residents and visitors can do within the RUA. These include:

- **Beach Access**; -only use the walkways provided to reach the beach from behind the foredune. This helps to maintain healthy dune vegetation and stabilise the dunes. These accesses **are not** for boat launching or vehicle access.
- **Boat launching**; - public boat ramps have been provided in the area. Using these launch areas will protect other parts of the foreshore from degradation.

- **Vegetation;** - removing or burning vegetation from the RUA **is not permitted**, unless written authority is received from the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA). Removal or burning of vegetation leads to degradation of the foreshore.
- **Drainage;** - altering or obstructing or installing pipes or culverts in drainage lines within the RUA **is not permitted**. The altering of drainage lines can lead to increased degradation of the foreshore.
- **Earthworks;** - removal of earth **is not permitted** within the RUA. Earthworks disturb the soil and surface, which leaves the area susceptible to erosion from wind and water.
- **Vehicle use;** - driving vehicles over or along the dunes and foreshore is **not permitted** within the RUA. Vehicles damage vegetation and create erosion opportunities. This area has been set aside for public recreation and vehicles pose an unacceptable risk to people using the area.
- **Infrastructure;** - Buildings or infrastructure of any sort are **not permitted** within the RUA.

It is important that the RUA is managed and protected from human induced damage, to enable it to continue to function naturally whilst providing a buffer between the foreshore and your property.



For further information contact:

**Vegetation and Land Management Branch
 Natural Resource Management Division
 Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts
 Ph (08) 8999 4824
 Fax (08) 8999 4403**