

Why are some dogs a nuisance?

Although many dogs are well behaved, some just love to dig in the sand, chase animals and bark.

Regular disturbance of native birds, reptiles and mammals (especially by dogs) stresses these animals, disrupting their feeding, resting and breeding routines. Stressed native animals are less likely to survive and breed successfully.

Darwin is the only capital city in the world where flatback turtles nest on city beaches. They nest on Casuarina Beach between Rapid Creek and Lee Point. For this to continue, it is important that their nests are not disturbed.



Flatback turtle hatchlings

Migratory shorebirds gather in large numbers on the beach between Lee Point and Buffalo Creek. Many birds stopover here as part of their annual migration. Some travel up to 25,000 km a year. The birds build up their body fat and energy stores for their journeys by feeding along the intertidal zone within the Reserve. A common misunderstanding is that 'dogs don't hurt the birds – the birds just fly away' but the chased birds are either resting from a long journey, or are feeding getting ready for another huge flight. They need to be left alone.

Horses being exercised in the Reserve don't like to be chased or barked at by dogs either. Just as many visitors without dogs would prefer to walk or sit quietly without being disturbed.

Dog owners, you can help make Casuarina Coastal Reserve a more relaxing place for animals and people. Please get to know these regulations and manage your dogs accordingly.

Dog and horse regulations

Areas have been set aside for dogs, horses and wildlife. Listed below is a summary of the regulations, for more details refer to the map inside this brochure.



Dogs under control -

- on the beach between:
Rapid Creek - Dripstone Point
Sandy Creek - Lee Point Rocks.



Dogs on leads -

- on the beach between:
Dripstone Point- Sandy Creek
- on walks in the Reserve between:
Rapid Creek - area behind Hospital
- in caparks and some picnic areas.



No dogs -

- on the beach between:
Lee Point Rocks - Buffalo Creek
- on walks in the Reserve between:
northern area behind
Hospital - Lee Point
- in the following picnic areas:
Dripstone, Buffalo Creek.



Horses permitted -

- on the beach between:
Rapid Creek - Dripstone Point
- on horse access track between:
Trower Road - Casuarina Beach.

Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Dog and horse regulations



Information Sheet

This brochure gives you information about the dog and horse regulations. These regulations have been developed through community consultation.

Casuarina Coastal Reserve protects a significant coastal area between the mouth of Rapid Creek and Buffalo Creek. It is also a very popular recreation area being the highest visited Reserve in the NT.

One of the management challenges for the Reserve is to balance its conservation and recreation roles.

Domestic animal regulations at Casuarina Coastal Reserve have been simplified and improved:

- time restrictions - removed
- tracks for dogs on leads between suburbs and beach - increased
- beach areas zoned for dogs under control - retained
- dog-free beach zone for people and migratory birds - retained
- signs explaining the regulations - improved.

For more information please turn overleaf.



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Casuarina Coastal Reserve

Dog and horse regulations



Zone Regulations	 Dogs under control	 Dogs on leads	 No dogs	 Horses
on beach 	Rapid Creek - Dripstone Point Sandy Creek - Lee Point Rocks	Dripstone Point - Sandy Creek	Lee Point Rocks - Buffalo Creek	Rapid Creek - Dripstone Point
in other areas	 Rapid Creek Open Space	 Walking track  Dripstone Cliffs and Lee Point picnic areas  Casuarina Beach carparks	 Walking track  Buffalo Creek and Dripstone picnic areas  In other parts of the Reserve	 Horse track No horses in other parts of the Reserve