



## PROJECT FACT SHEET

# Wave Break Island Feasibility Study

The Gold Coast Waterways Authority is undertaking a feasibility investigation into The Spit Master Plan intent for Wave Break Island to be a natural retreat in the heart of The Broadwater.

## ABOUT WAVE BREAK ISLAND

Wave Break Island is a human-made island that was created as part of the construction of the Gold Coast Seaway in 1985. The Island was fundamental to the design to reduce the impact of wave action through the Seaway entrance on western foreshores of the Broadwater. It continues to play a key role in the hydrodynamic and coastal geomorphological processes of the Broadwater.

## PROJECT DETAILS

- Eight outcomes were identified for Wave Break Island in The Spit Master Plan (2019).
- The outcomes incorporate low impact ecotourism activities with associated rehabilitation and management to protect and enhance the characteristics and attributes of the Island.
- The feasibility study will explore each of these outcomes (2.1 to 2.8) and determine their merit, viability, and deliverability.
- The project will include community and key stakeholder engagement activities.

## PROJECT LOCATION

Wave Break Island,  
The Broadwater

## KEY DETAILS

**Planned Investment:**  
\$210,000

**Investigation Start:**  
July 2024

**Est. Investigation Completion:**  
June 2025

**Current Status:**  
Investigation

## CONTACT

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The feasibility study will consider how to:

- ✓ Improve the management and maintenance of the Island
- ✓ Enhance and maintain ecological and recreational values
- ✓ Maintain navigation role of the Island
- ✓ Limit impact on navigable channels around the Island
- ✓ Be consistent with The Spit Master Plan intent and community expectations from that process
- ✓ Be consistent with the designated purposes of the trust land (i.e., 'Beach Protection' and 'Coastal Management').

View [The Spit Master Plan](#) [HERE](#)



## The Spit Master Plan Outcomes

### Outcomes

- 2.1 Facilities including toilets, picnic tables and refuse disposal are available for visitors and campers at managed locations on Wave Break Island.
- 2.2 Camping facilities on Wave Break Island are small scale and restricted to one area on the island to enable use to be appropriately managed.
- 2.3 Day use areas are provided at the northern and southern parts of Wave Break Island.
- 2.4 An underwater attraction, located off the northeastern shore of Wave Break Island, provides a significant scuba diving and snorkelling facility for visitors to The Broadwater. The installation of the attraction minimises the disturbance of seagrass.
- 2.5 Wave Break Island is managed as a natural area on which regionally significant vegetation continues to flourish.
- 2.6 Walking tracks meander through the landscape of Wave Break Island and along the cleared navigational sightline. Interpretive signage informs visitors about the importance of protecting the environmental values of the island's flora and fauna.
- 2.7 A viewing platform and jetty on the northern side of Wave Break Island enables spectacular views across the expanse of The Broadwater.
- 2.8 A jetty on the southern side of Wave Break Island provides for ferry access to the island.
- 2.9 Curlew Island is appropriately zoned and managed to protect and enhance its environmental values.

