



CHANGE: A new block wall is set to replace sandbags at a popular water skiing section of the Maroochy River.
Cade Mooney/cm183154i

NEWS

Council's bid to 'block' the Maroochy



by [SCOTT SAWYER](#)

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THE COUNCIL has lodged plans to build a sandstone block wall in place of sandbags at a busy section of the Maroochy River.

The code-assessable plans were lodged this week by BMT Eastern Australia on behalf of Sunshine Coast Council, to replace the geotextile bags with a sandstone block wall and carry out beach nourishment at Fishermans Road Cove.

Sand is proposed to be dredged from the entrance to the Maroochy Waters canal, trucked up Bradman Ave and then poured onto the sand at the cove to replenish the beach.

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The cove is a popular water ski launch area and also used by canoeists and kayakers.

The sandbag wall built adjacent to the ramp due to previous erosion to protect the ramp and parkland was currently below the highest astronomical tide.

Ongoing erosion issues at the cove prompted the proposal for the sandstone wall.



PLANS: A new sandstone block wall will be built in place of the sandbags at the Fishermans Road cove.

Sunshine Coast Council

The existing sandbag wall was found to be inappropriately aligned, as it was within a fish habitat, so the sandstone block wall was proposed to be built further back from the existing sandbags, set back from the highest astronomical tide mark.

The council has proposed to remove the existing sandbags and imported fill in front of the sandbag wall, replacing it with the sandstone block wall and placing about 300 cubic metres of sand dredged from near Maroochy Waters canal along the foreshore, in front of the new wall.

Maroochy Waterwatch CEO Cerran Fawns said the proposed new wall wasn't an environmental concern for the group.



Maroochy Waterwatch CEO Cerran Fawns.

Patrick Woods

"It's the wakeboarding and skiing area and that's basically what's causing the erosion," Ms Fawns said.

"It's a highly modified section of the river there."

She said the fish habitat issue was not a major concern where the proposed works were taking place, but on the other side of the river, among the mangroves, there was important fish habitat.



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"It's (proposed wall) not on the mangrove side, it's on the parkland side," she said.

"It's a pretty sterile area. On the other side of the river, definitely (there is fish life and important habitat)."

The sand was being taken from the Maroochy River canal entrance as it was cleaner sand than other sites tested closer to the proposed block wall.



BUSY: The Fishermans Road boat ramp is well-used.

Patrick Woods