

9.13.1 Individual Specifications and Signage Recommendations – File Mile Beach



9.13.1 Characteristics of Four Mile Beach

(Findings are extracted from the Beaches of the Queensland Coast: Cooktown to Cairns, Andrew Short)

Four Mile Beach is one of the best known and most popular beaches of northern Australia. The beach runs due south for 4 km. It begins at the base of prominent, 70m high Island Point and ends amongst the rocks, reefs and mangroves of the Mowbray River mouth. For the most part the beach is very low, flat and at low tide up to 200m wide. The sand flats widen toward the river mouth.

The northern end of the beach, just 1 km from the town centre is the most accessible and most popular. It is also the site of the Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club, founded in 1984, that patrols the beach as well as maintaining a stinger enclosure. Down the beach is the Mirage Resort which provides three beach access tracks. Further access tracks are available through the residential development along the southern half of the beach, including one at the sailing club.

Swimming: Generally better at high tide, when it's deeper and not such a long walk to the water. Rips are rare, except during strong Trade winds and accompanying waves. During the stinger season (November to May) a net enclosure is located in front of the surf life saving club.

Surfing: Usually low, short waves, with the beach more popular for wind surfing, particularly when the Trades are blowing.

Fishing: It is flat off the beach and most fishers use the northern headland, the town jetties or head offshore in a boat.

Summary: A popular tourist destination and well worth a visit. There is plenty of space and the added safety of a patrolled beach and stinger enclosure.

9.13.2 ABSAMP Hazard Rating

The ABSAMP Hazard Rating for Four Mile Beach is:

HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
2	3

Four Mile Beach falls into the ABSAMP hazard rating scale of:

HAZARD RATING	DETAILS
1-3	Least Hazardous: Low Danger posed by water depth an/or weak currents; however supervision is still required, in particular for children and poor swimmers.

9.13.3 Life Saving Service Information

Four Mile Beach is patrolled when the red and yellow flags are displayed by lifeguards.

The Australian Lifeguard Service – Queensland provides a seven day a week, 365 day service

9.13.4 Hazards and Risk Assessment – have emailed Ebony in regards to this info she will get back to me (HC 18/12)

HAZARD	LEVEL OF RISK
No Lifesaving Service	
Marine Stingers	
Crocodiles	

9.13.5 Review of Incident History - have emailed Ebony in regards to this info she will get back to me (HC 18/12)

	07/08	06/07	05/06	04/05	03/04	02/03	01/02
Deaths							
Marine Stings							
Rescues							
Preventative Actions							
First Aid Treatments							

9.13.6 Summary of Signage Recommendations Requirements

SIGNAGE TYPE	SIGN REQUIREMENTS
Level 2 – Car Park Sign	2
Level 3 – Access Sign - Open	1
Level 4 – Hazard & Regulation Sign	1
Add 'Cairns Regional Council' Logo to existing signage	7

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 2 Car Park Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: **UNKNOWN**

SIGN REQUIREMENT: New Sign

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Northern Car park (Jalun Park), corner of Macrossan Street and Four Mile Beach Esplanade.



SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:
 FOUR MILE BEACH
 Cnr. Macrossan Street and Four Mile Beach Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:
 No GPS emergency access number being utilised at this entrance.

- Hazards:**
- Crocodile (WS,5) – May be present in these waters
 - Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters
 - Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:
 MARINE STINGER RESISTANT ENCLOSURE – This stinger resistant enclosure is provided for the enjoyment of the public; however it does not provide total protection from the entry of hazardous marine animals.

Directional arrow: Right
 Distance: 250m

- Regulations:**
- Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
 - Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
 - No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)

Regulations can be amended at the Council's discretion.

Sitting Information

- Recommended that existing 'Camping Prohibited' sign attached to 'Jalun Park' sign be removed (bottom photo), and 'Jalun Park' sign removed at Council's discretion.
- Recommended location for new sign is near the bins/sitting area in top photo. Sign needs to be facing car park so public can read it on way from car to beach.

Additional Comments:

- Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access



Location: Replace “BRAMSTON BEACH – Rocky Point” with “*FOUR MILE BEACH - Esplanade*”


GPS Location: No GPS location being utilised at this point - use of location address on sign will be sufficient.

Hazards: Crocodile (WS,5) – May be present in these waters
 Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters
 Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:
Lifeguards on duty when red and yellow flags are displayed. Please swim between the flags.
 Directional arrow: Right
 Distance: 250m

Regulations: Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
 Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
 No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)

BEACH NAME:	FOUR MILE BEACH
BEACH ACCESS TYPE:	Informal
TYPE OF SIGN:	No sign required
SITING (GPS) LOCATION:	Not required
SIGN REQUIREMENT:	No sign required – recommended access be closed.
LOCATION DESCRIPTION:	Northern end of Four Mile Beach, opposite Jalun Car Park, just north of shelter with seating.

	<p><u>SIGN SPECIFICATIONS</u></p> <p>Location / Address: FOUR MILE BEACH The Esplanade (Northern End)</p> <p>Emergency Access Number:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required <p>Hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required <p>Lifesaving Services Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required
	<p>Sitting Information Recommended that the access is closed.</p> <p>Additional Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are excessive access point's along this stretch for beach users and of the surrounding accesses this one presents itself as the least used. • Closing this access will assist with the prevention of erosion, vegetation control and will ensure long term protection of foreshore. • Rocks are used along the beach as a barrier, therefore large rocks or coppers logs could be utilised.

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Change Council logo to Cairns Regional Council

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Northern end of Four Mile Beach, opposite Jalun Car Park, just south of shelter with seating (seen in below picture).



SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:
 FOUR MILE BEACH
 The Esplanade (Northern End)

Emergency Access Number:
 FM1

- Hazards:**
- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters
 - Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:
 This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.

Directional Arrow: Right
 Distance: 250m

- Regulations:**
- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)
 - No Vehicles (RS,3)
 - Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
 - Fires Prohibited (RS,30)

Sitting Information

- Additional Comments:**
- Recommended that Douglas Shire Council logo is removed from sign and replaced with Cairns Regional Council logo.
 - Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion.
 - Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Open Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 - Open Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: **UNKNOWN**

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Remove sign FM2 (located on right of bins in picture below) and replace with a larger sign (Open Access Sign). As replacing FM2, use FM2 measure for new sign.

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Northern end of Four Mile Beach, opposite Jalun Car Park.



SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:
FOUR MILE BEACH
The Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:
FM 2

- Hazards:**
- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters
 - Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:
Lifeguards on duty when red and yellow flags are displayed. Please swim between the flags.

Directional Arrow: Right
Distance: 200m

- Regulations:**
- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)
 - Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
 - Camping Prohibited (RS,43)

Regulations can be amended at the Council's discretion.



Sitting Information

- As the area is a large open access there needs to be a large informative sign. The sign that is there at the moment, is recommended to be replaced as it is not large enough to catch the attention of beach goers.

Additional Comments:

- Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access



GPS Location: FM 2

Hazards: Marine Stingers (WS,26) – *May be present in these waters*
Crocodile (WS,5) – *May be present in these waters*
Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:

Lifeguards on duty when red and yellow flags are displayed. Please swim between the flags.
Directional Arrow: Right
Distance: 200m

Regulations: No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)
Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
Camping Prohibited (RS,43)

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH


BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: No sign required

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Remove large 'Dogs Prohibited' sign (seen on right in picture)
Add Cairns Regional Council logo to sign (in left of picture)

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: UNKNOWN

	<p>SIGN SPECIFICATIONS</p> <p>Location / Address: FOUR MILE BEACH The Esplanade</p> <p>Emergency Access Number: FM 3</p> <p>Hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters • Submerged Rocks (WS,35) <p>Lifesaving Services Information: This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.</p> <p>Directional Arrow: Right Distance: UNKNOWN (unable to read in photo)</p> <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping Prohibited (RS,43) • No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)
<p>Sitting Information</p>	
<p>Additional Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is already a 'dog prohibited' regulation sign located on the left sign. It is recommended that the large 'dog prohibited' sign (on right) be removed to avoid sign pollution. • Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion. • Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access 	

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 – Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Add Cairns Regional Council logo to sign

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: UNKNOWN
Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade



Siting Information

Additional Comments:

- Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion.
- Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:

FOUR MILE BEACH
The Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:

FM 4

Hazards:

- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters
- Submerged Rocks (WS,35)

Lifesaving Services Information:

This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.

Directional Arrow: Right

Distance: UNKNOWN

Regulations:

- Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 – Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Add Cairns Regional Council Logo to sign.

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: UNKNOWN
Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade



Sitting Information

Additional Comments:

- Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion.
- Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:

FOUR MILE BEACH
The Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:

FM 5

Hazards:

- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters

Lifesaving Services Information:

This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.

Directional Arrow: Right

Distance: UNKNOWN

Regulations:

- Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 – Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Add Cairns Regional Council logo to sign

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: UNKNOWN
Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade



SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:

UNKNOWN

Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:

FM 6

Hazards:

- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters

Lifesaving Services Information:

This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.

Directional Arrow: Right

Distance: (No distance as nets can be seen from sign)

Regulations:

- Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)

Siting Information

Additional Comments:

- Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion.

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH

BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Level 3 – Access Sign

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: UNKNOWN

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Add Cairns Regional Council logo to sign

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Directly behind Surf Life Saving Hut on Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade



Sitting Information

Additional Comments:

- Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Location / Address:

Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade

Emergency Access Number:

FM 7

Hazards:

- Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters

Lifesaving Services Information:

This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.

Directional Arrow: Right

Distance: (No distance – as nets can be sign from sign)

Regulations:

- No Dogs Allowed (RS,41)
- Fires Prohibited (RS,30)

GPS Location: FM 7.5 (is to replace PAL 01)

Location: Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade (is to replace Palm Cove – The Esplanade)



Make sign with "OFF DUTY" on it, then lifeguard can replace with "ON DUTY" when guarding.

The below clause is to be part of the above sign, positioned under 'Palm Cove, The Esplanade' wording. In regards to font, "Stinger Resistant Enclosure" would be the same size as the "On Duty" font and the remainder would be similar to the "Palm Cove, The Esplanade" font size.

STINGER RESISTANT ENCLOSURE

KEEP AWAY FROM THE NET AND ROPES

The stinger net enclosure is designed to afford reasonable protection from dangerous box jellyfish, but users are advised that no guarantee can be or is given of absolute protection. Jellyfish including the small Irukandji, or parts thereof, may be found within the enclosure. No liability will be accepted by Cairns Regional Council, Surf Life Saving Queensland or Uninet Enclosure Systems for any injury sustained by a person as a result of the presence within the enclosure of a jellyfish or part thereof.

BEACH NAME:	FOUR MILE BEACH
BEACH ACCESS TYPE:	Open, Maintained
TYPE OF SIGN:	Level 3 Access - Open
SITING (GPS) LOCATION:	UNKNOWN
SIGN REQUIREMENT:	Remove sign
LOCATION DESCRIPTION:	On the south side of the Surf Life Saving Hut on the Four Mile beach foreshore, southern end of beach.



Sitting Information



Additional Comments:

While a genuine attempt has been made to warn beach users of the potential hazards, they do not meet Australian Standard requirements. Therefore it is recommended that the existing regulation and advisory warning sign is removed.

A sign that adheres to the standards set out in the National Aquatic and Recreational Signage Style Manual is located 20m from this sign in a well populated area. Therefore no new sign is recommended to be implemented.

<u>SIGN SPECIFICATIONS</u>
Location / Address: Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade
Emergency Access Number: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required
Hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required
Lifesaving Services Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required
Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required

BEACH NAME:	FOUR MILE BEACH
BEACH ACCESS TYPE:	Maintained
TYPE OF SIGN:	Level 2 - Carpark Sign
SITING (GPS) LOCATION:	UNKNOWN
SIGN REQUIREMENT:	New sign & Remove other mentioned signs
LOCATION DESCRIPTION:	Southern end of Four Mile Beach in front of Surf Life Saving Club and restaurant.

	<p><u>SIGN SPECIFICATIONS</u></p> <p>Location / Address: FOUR MILE BEACH ESPLANADE Intersection with Mowbray Street Southern End</p> <p>Emergency Access Number: FM 8</p> <p>Hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crocodiles (WS,5) – may be present in these waters • Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters <p>Lifesaving Services Information: This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.</p> <p>Directional Arrow: Left Distance: (No distance – as nets can be sign from sign)</p> <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Vehicles (RS,3) • Camping Prohibited (RS,43) • Fires Prohibited (RS,30) • No Dogs Allowed (RS,42) with directional arrow pointing LEFT. • Dogs Allowed (P,1) with directional arrow pointing RIGHT. • Dog Litter Must be Picked up (RS,42) <p><i>Regulations can be amended at the Council's discretion.</i></p>
	
<p>Additional Comments: While a genuine attempt has been made to warn beach users of the potential hazards, they do not meet Australian Standards and are adding to the sign pollution.</p> <p>It is recommended that the “No Dogs”, “No Vehicles on Foreshore” and the “Dogs on Lead” signs be removed (as seen in bottom right photo). There are two “Pedestrians watch your step” signs placed in appropriate areas. The removal of these is at the Council’s discretion. If the current “Pedestrians watch you step” signs are removed, a Warning Hazard sign (WS,15) could be added to the new Defined Open Access sign with text “Watch your step”.</p> <p>It is recommended that the newest sign (seen in bottom left photo) be removed and replaced with the recommended sign, that also incorporates the warnings/hazards and regulations of the signs being removed around it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access 	



GPS Location: FM 8 (existing FM8 sign is being replaced with this one)

Hazards: Crocodile (WS,5) – *May be present in these waters*
Marine Stingers (WS,26) – *May be present in these waters*

Lifesaving Services Information:

Lifeguards on duty when red and yellow flags are displayed. Please swim between the flags. (No distance or direction required as nets can be seen from sign location).

Regulations: No Vehicles (RS,3)
Camping Prohibited (RS,43)
Fires Prohibited (RS,30)
No Dogs Allowed (RS,42) with directional arrow pointing **LEFT**.
Dogs Allowed (P, 1) with directional arrow pointing **RIGHT**.
Dog Litter Must be Picked up (RS,42)

BEACH NAME: FOUR MILE BEACH


BEACH ACCESS TYPE: Maintained

TYPE OF SIGN: Not required

SITING (GPS) LOCATION: **UNKNOWN**

SIGN REQUIREMENT: Add Cairns Regional Council logo to sign

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Southern end of Four Mile Beach Esplanade, in front and to the right of the Surf Life Saving Club and restaurant (that is on the corner of Mowbray Street and the Esplanade).

	<p>SIGN SPECIFICATIONS</p> <p>Location / Address: Four Mile Beach – The Esplanade (Southern End)</p> <p>Emergency Access Number: FM9</p> <p>Hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Stingers (WS,26) – May be present in these waters <p>Lifesaving Services Information: This beach is patrolled only when red and yellow flags are displayed by lifesavers.</p> <p>Directional Arrow: Right Distance: 100m</p> <p>Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires Prohibited (RS,30) • No Dogs Allowed (RS,41) with directional arrow LEFT • Dogs Allowed (R,1) with directional arrow RIGHT
<p>Sitting Information</p>	
<p>Additional Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cairns Regional Council logo needs to be added to sign. Location of logo is at council's discretion. • Installation of a Vinegar Station is also recommended at this access 	