

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Queensland Government steps up Noosa River compliance**

- The Queensland Government has stepped up Noosa River compliance operations, including targeted patrols, vessel inspections and enforcement of 28-day anchorage restrictions.
- More than 80 long-term anchored vessels have relocated since the restrictions began on 1 January 2026.
- Operations are also targeting lifejacket offences, speeding, navigation lights, derelict vessels and marine pollution.

The Queensland Government is stepping up compliance operations on the Noosa River to improve safety, protect the environment and ensure fair access for waterway users.

Maritime Safety Queensland Marine Officers are conducting targeted patrols, including at night, as well as vessel inspections and enforcement of the 28-day anchorage restrictions.

Since the restrictions took effect on 1 January 2026, Marine Officers have conducted hundreds of vessel intercepts to check compliance with Queensland's maritime safety laws.

Operations also targeting lifejacket and speeding offences, vessel seaworthiness, marine pollution, navigation lights and other unsafe on-water behaviour.

Since the final stage of the Noosa River Management Plan was introduced, more than 80 vessels have relocated or been removed and more than 50 Marine Infringement Notices have been issued to non-compliant vessel owners, with patrols and further compliance action ongoing.

In recent weeks, Maritime Safety Queensland has also removed four derelict or abandoned vessels, including the 11-metre sailing vessel Adelaide, from Tewantin under the Queensland Government's Keeping Our Waterways Safe program.

Vessel owners and operators must comply with Queensland's maritime safety laws or face enforcement action.

Maritime Safety Queensland General Manager Kell Dillon said the operations supported safer, more sustainable use of one of Queensland's most iconic waterways.

"Maritime Safety Queensland has worked extensively with vessel owners to support voluntary compliance with the new anchorage restrictions," Mr Dillon said.

“With the transition period for the new restrictions now over, it is important the rules are enforced.

“These operations will improve safety and fair access, while tackling speeding, lifejacket offences, vessels operating without navigation lights and derelict vessels.

“We remain focused on voluntary compliance, but those who do not follow the rules, including the 28-day anchorage restrictions, may face enforcement action.”

The restrictions apply to vessels longer than five metres and are designed to improve navigational safety, protect the Noosa River environment and ensure fair access for all users.

For more information about the Noosa River Waterway Management Plan, the 28-day anchorage restrictions, vessel safety requirements or marine pollution obligations, visit the [Maritime Safety Queensland website](#).

## **ENDS**

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