

Dog On and Off-Leash Areas Boreen Point

At the Cootharaba Community Association (CCA) General Meeting on 16 November 2024, a committee was formed from members to prepare a submission to Noosa Shire Council in relation to Dog Off Leash Areas at Boreen Point.

Members of the sub-committee are Mick Capelin, Margaret Moon and Warren Kuskopf.

Background

Animal Management in Noosa Shire is addressed in Local Law No 2 (Animal Management) 2015 (LL2). In Division 1 Animals in Public Places, LL2 provides for specifying public places where dogs (and other animals) may be prohibited; and designating areas where a dog is not required to be on a leash.

All animals are prohibited in Bathing Reserves that are designated at Noosa Main Beach, Sunshine-Sunrise Beaches and Peregrine Beach. There are no Bathing Reserves designated at Boreen Point.

The two Dog Off-Leash Areas at Boreen Point are shown on the following map (Attachment 1). Dogs must be kept on leash in all other areas in Boreen Point. There are no areas where dogs are excluded in Boreen Point.

Dog Off-Leash signs were erected at Post Office Beach and Buffalo Park in 2020. A petition was sent to Noosa Shire Council on 27 February 2021 signed by around 30 local residents requesting Council to restrict the dog off leash area to the area west of the boat ramp away from picnic and playground facilities. A copy of petition and cover letter is attached (Attachment 2)

There was no formal acknowledgement received from Noosa Council that the petition had been received or that the petition had been presented to Council. A Council officer phoned the author of the petition (Marilyn Capelin) in mid 2021 stating that the off-leash areas in the Shire were being reviewed and that public consultation would be undertaken prior to finalisation of the review. There has been no further contact or request from Council for submissions since that time.

Current Council Process

According to the Noosa Shire Council webpage, there are no projects currently open for consultation on the 'Your Say' pages. It is not known whether or when Council will review the 2015 Local Law No 2 (Animal Management).

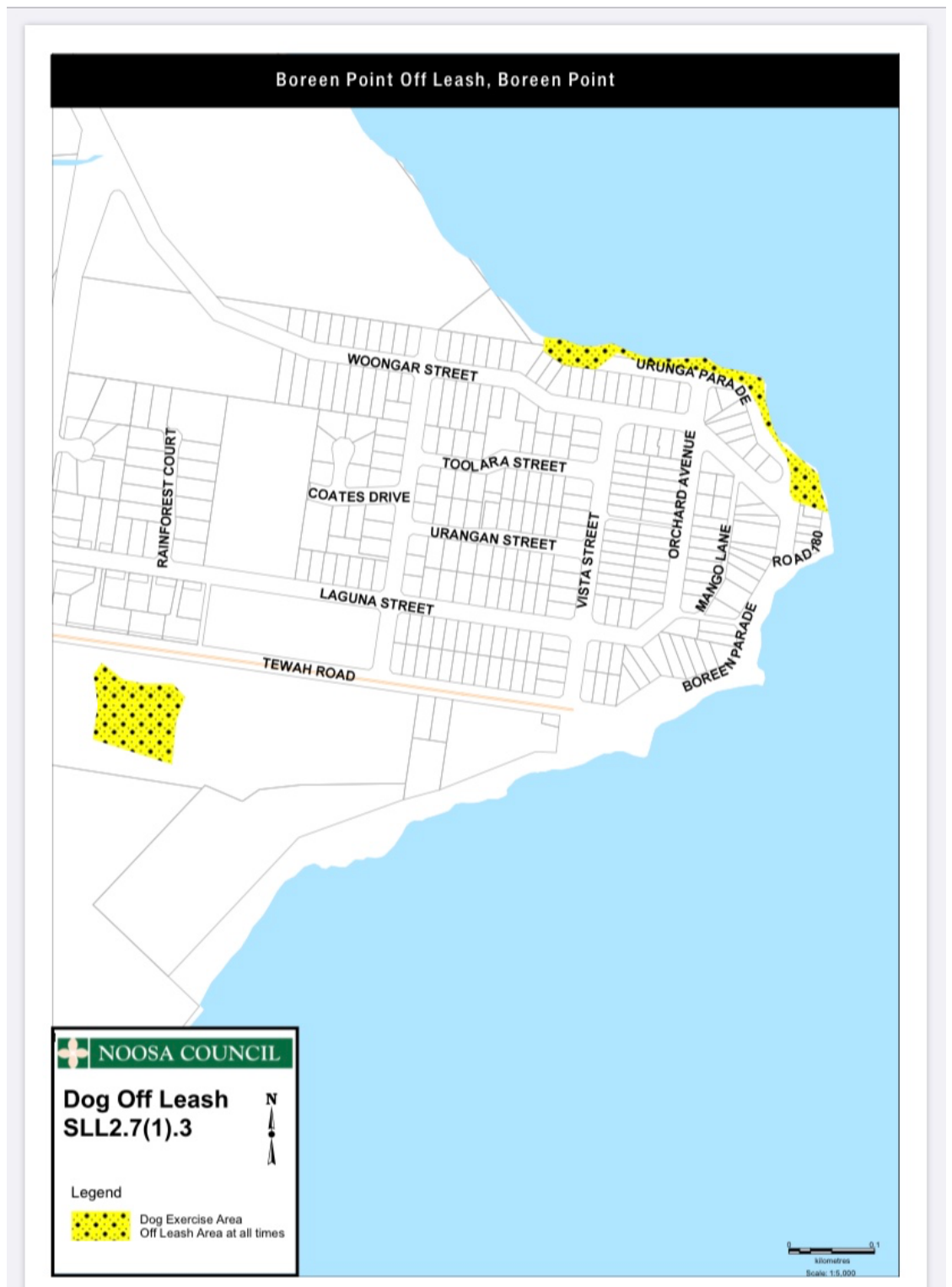
CCA is interested in preparing a submission on dog off-leash areas to be presented to council when the opportunity arises.

Request for information and suggestions

Members of the CCA are requested to provide information and ideas to the Secretary CCA on the following topics **by 30 June 2025**. Some options for change are listed in Attachment 3.

1. What criteria should be used to choose areas for designation for dog off-leash areas? For example: not in areas with picnic, barbecue and playground facilities; not in areas used for boat rigging; not in areas of known wildlife habitat etc
2. What areas currently designated should be removed as dog off-leash areas?
3. What new areas could be added to the dog off-leash areas?

Attachment 1. Off-leash areas Boreen Point



Attachment 2. Petition to Noosa Shire Council February 2021

26 February 2021

The Chief Executive Officer Noosa Council
PO Box 141
Tewantin Qld 4565

Dear Sir,

Re: Petition to amend the Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management) SLL 2.7(1).3 in regard to Off-Leash Areas on the foreshore at Urunga Parade, Boreen Point

I am writing to present the attached petition to Council to amend the location of the dog off-leash area on the foreshore picnic areas on Urunga Parade, Boreen Point.

These areas are popular picnic, play and bathing areas that contain multiple picnic, barbecue and children's play equipment installed by the Council.

The recent installation of Off-Leash Area signs has seen a significant increase in the number of dogs now running free in these small foreshore beach and picnic/ bbq areas. One of these areas is Buffalo Park which also has children's swings.

As this area is used regularly by families with small children for picnics and play, it seems both dangerous and contradictory to encourage and indeed permit dogs to be off-leash.

Personally I no longer feel safe sitting in the shallow water with my 3 year old and 10 month old grandchildren when large dogs are playing, fighting or running with large sticks in their mouths.

As these areas are very popular on weekends and school holidays and become quite crowded it is inappropriate to actively encourage dogs running off-leash.

Dogs are often not 'under control' of their owners despite the requirements or even the owner's intention.

The main beach area at Boreen Point is 'dog on-leash' which is appropriate given that it is the dedicated beach for launching, rigging and storing sailing boats between races.

The other dog off-leash area at Boreen Point is the recreation reserve behind the camping reserve which is a large open area, not used for sporting fixtures of any type and is signed as 'dog exercise area'. This area is more suitable and an appropriate area for dogs to run freely given its size and current usage.

As a resident I urge you to review the current 'dog off-leash' areas at Boreen Point as a matter of priority and amend the Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management) SLL 2.7(1).3 to delete the Off-Leash Area at Urunga Parade, Boreen Point.

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Capelin

28 Woongar Street, Boreen Point 0488975353

We, the undersigned, petition Noosa Shire Council to remove the off-leash area on the foreshore of Urunga Parade between the boat ramp and Woongar St at Boreen Point by amending Subordinate Local Law 2 (Animal Management) SLL 2.7(1).3 (page 18).

We, the undersigned, request that this petition be presented to the whole Council.

Dog Regulations Boreen Point - options for change May 2025

Areas	Current Regulation	Possible Options
Current on-leash		
Main Beach	On-leash at all times	On-leash at all times (no change)
Dun's Beach	On-leash at all times	Off-leash at southern end of beach only or Off-leash at all times
Everywhere else	On-leash at all times	On-leash at all times (no change)
Current off-leash		
Northern Beaches Buffalo Park to Post Office Beach	Off-leash at all times	Off-leash 5:00am-9:00am, on-leash at other times or On-leash at all times
Northern Beaches north of Boat Ramp to Ron's Jetty	Off-leash at all times	Off-leash at all times (no change)
Recreation Ground	Off-leash at all times	Off-leash at all times (no change)