

2025.3 Community Led Proposal for the progressive installation of Rescue Stations at beaches in Bawley Point and Kioloa

Project Leaders Jan Manyard and Lurlene Eve.

Reasons:

- These beaches are unpatrolled 365 days a year and have been the sites of drownings and many unreported rescues by the public.
- There are existing defibrillators at Bawley Point shops and the Fire Shed but they are not near the beaches.
- We have international students and holiday makers who are unaware of the dangers of the ocean
- It takes a minimum of 30 mins for paramedics to arrive at Bawley Point from Ulladulla, longer to Kioloa.
- We have an aging demographic of permanent residents as well as many families with young children who would also benefit from this provision.

Existing defibrillator locations from Bawley Point to Kioloa, note not all accessible to the General Public 24/7.

1. Bawley Point Shops adjacent to Chemist, maintained by LE, organisation ownership not certain.
2. Bawley Point RFS maintained by RFS (BP)
3. Tasman Racecourse in Office maintained by Tasman, located inside Office.
4. Men's Shed adjacent to Recycle Facility, maintained by MS, locked out of hours.
5. ANU Kioloa Campus on Buildings maintained by themselves
6. Kioloa RFS, adjacent maintained by RFS(Kioloa)
7. Tasman Kioloa in office maintained by themselves.
8. Merry Takeaway maintained by LE/PM, organisational ownership not certain(rusting)
9. Marine Rescue Kioloa maintained by themselves
10. Ingenia Merry Beach in office maintained by Ingenia
- 11. A recent addition late August 25, Racecourse Beach, installed by Surf Lifesaving (NSW), funded by NSW State Government we understand. Details in the Appendix.**



Figure 1 New automatic station Racecourse Beach

Operating and Maintenance Conditions for Defibrillators

Defibrillator maintenance is crucial for ensuring readiness in emergencies. Regular checks, including visual inspections, battery and pad replacement, and proper storage, are vital. Monthly visual checks are recommended, with more frequent checks required in some areas. Batteries and pads have expiration dates (typically 2-5 years) and should be replaced promptly. Annual professional servicing is also recommended. [🔗](#)

The recommended operating temperature range for storing a defibrillator (AED) in a cabinet, whether indoors or outdoors, is generally between 0°C to 50°C (32°F to 122°F). This range ensures the battery and electrode pads function properly and prevents damage to the device. [🔗](#)



Note Members of the community would be required to undertake monthly checks and arrange for regular maintenance, Council would require an organisation to enter a Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU) for ongoing maintenance with SCC.

Proposed sites, staggered implementation dependent on funding, in following order, subject to Community decision:

1. Bawley Beach
2. Shelly Beach (Mudholes) NSW 493
3. Cormorant Beach
4. Gannet Beach
5. Murramarang Beach
6. ~~Kioloa Boat Ramp (note there is an existing DIFIB at Marine Rescue)~~ Not required.

Stations would be attached to existing Shoalhaven Shire Council structures or signage poles and will need to be agreed with Council.

Sustainability /Durability considerations use 316 Stainless Steel or Aluminium Frames, Hinges, Screws, Marine Ply and or FRP products, like Treadwell, Wagner's. More work required.

Proposed Funding, no applications yet pending Community and Council approvals.

- BPKTCA future funding
- Kioloa Bawley Point Sport and Rec
- Grants through NSW State and Federal Government
- Veolia Waste Management
- GoFundMe page
- Surf Life Saving Australia and or NSW

- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. There is a potential to submit a grant application under Small and Vital Grant which provides funding up to \$10,000

Investigation of TWO Options for Rescue Stations

Option 1 Manyana/Bendalong Style Rescue Station offering Combined Defib, Rescue Tubes, nearby Shark Kit.

Description:

Each rescue station would consist of a cabinet with appropriate signage which houses 2 rescue tubes and an AED, shark bite kit separate addition. See attached photos.



Figure 2 Manyana style Rescue Station

Existing Information regarding Manyana proposal:

- Patti Bartlett at Manyana/Bendalong community has been instrumental in getting 7 rescue stations at Manyana/ Bendalong beaches installed and maintained with community support in 2023
- 1 station was installed in April 2023
- 6 subsequent stations were installed in 2023 which are funded and maintained by the community.
- Regarding Vandalism; There has been no reported vandalism to any stations there since installation in 2023
- In that time, one has been taken to the beach but was not needed.

Option 2 Ballina Shire Council style Rescue Stations, separate Defib and Rescue Tube Stations, more flexibility as stations can be separated.

Beach Rescue Devices

Ballina Shire Council has installed beach rescue equipment along our coastline for the safety of all beach users, supported by key partners. This equipment is available to all members of the community to make use of in case of an emergency.

Critical Response Kits

Critical response kits contain:

- Defibrillator
- Bleed kit
- CAT tourniquet
- CPR mask
- First Aid instructions

Critical Response Kits are available at 10 locations along our coastline in clearly marked storage boxes.

The inner case is removable and designed to be carried onto the beach to give first aid directly to any member of the community in case of a critical emergency.

Contents of the kit are maintained by Ballina Shire Council. Please [report any use, loss or damage of the equipment here](#) or scan the QR code located on the storage box.



Rescue Tubes

Rescue tubes are installed at a number of local beaches and can help someone drowning to stay afloat. Signage on the storage boxes advise a rescue tubes should only be used by a strong swimmer after dialling 000, and if there is no lifeguard or surfboard available to assist.

Rescue tubes are maintained by Ballina Shire Council. Please [report any use, loss or damage of the equipment here](#) or scan the QR code located on the storage box.



Cost Estimate per station

Option 1 Manyana (experience)

Item	Qty	Unit Rate	Amount
Rescue Box (Ulladulla men's shed)	1	\$250/box	\$250
Signage by Ulladulla Printing	1	\$250/box	\$250
Recue Tubes	2	\$125 each	\$250
Defibrillator Just First Aid, Ulladulla	1	\$2756 each	\$2756
Replace defibrillator battery every 4- 5 year	2	\$500/each	\$1000
Replace pads every 3 years, event based	3	\$265/each	\$795
Shark Bite KIT	1	\$150/each	\$150
Subtotal			\$5451

Based on 10-year life, one battery replacement, 3 pad replacements

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Box made by Ulladulla Men's shed | \$250 per box |
| 2. Signage by Ulladulla Printing Service | \$250 per box |
| 3. Rescue tubes x 2 | \$275 per box |
| 4. Defibrillator from Just First Aid, Ulladulla | \$2,756 |

Option 2 Ballina Council (experience)

Item	Qty	Unit Rate	Amount
Rescue Tube Box including signage (Aluminium) 245mm wide x 1060mm high x 150mm deep, allows two tubes	1	\$850/box	\$850
Critical Response Kit (Stainless 316) 450mm wide x 400 high x 200mm deep	1	\$750/box	\$750
Signage to Critical Response Kit	1	\$250/box	\$250
Recue Tubes	2	\$125 each	\$250
Defibrillator Recommend Zoll AED+ Case	1	\$2500 each	\$2500
Replace defibrillator battery every 4- 5 year	2	\$110/each	\$220
Replace pads every 3 years, event based	3	\$200/each	\$600
Shark Bite KIT	1	\$150/each	\$150
Total Budget Ballina Style Option 2			\$5,570

Based on 10-year life, two battery replacement, 3 pad replacements

Total Budget Estimate per station **\$5,500-\$5750 each Option 1 or Option 2**

Conclusion

Based on experiences of installation and ongoing management in Manyana/Bendalong, we would like to recommend that consideration be made for the installation of at least 2 rescue stations initially in the villages of Bawley and Kioloa, with the view, subject to funding, of a further 4.

Proposal is first station on or near existing infrastructure at Bawley Beach Boat Ramp



Figure 3 Proposed Location bawley Beach using existing poles.

Proposal is second station on or near existing infrastructure at Shelley Beach (Mud Holes)

Services ANU swimmers, Beach goers at Shelley Beach including Tasman Racecourse visitors who walk across their Southern headland, and available to walkers, bike riders in the recently completed Shared Path. Note that there is an existing Defib at marine Rescue Kioloa.



Figure 4 Mud Hole Car Park using existing poles.

Appendix A

Additional information regarding Option 2 Ballina style and feedback from their experience.

Greg Hackfath

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Please see below questions and answers from other councils to Greg...

Thank you for the email and great you reached out to me. I have a goal to expand this program throughout NSW Coastal Councils initially and then even further. The Remote Rescue Tube program works. I'll answer all your questions below and should you have anything else, please don't hesitate to ask.

- 1. How many units have you installed? **We have installed 52 units across 23 beaches covering all formal access tracks.***
- 2. How long have the units been in place? **The units for the trial at Sawtell have been installed now for 5-years, we commenced our expansion project 2-years ago. This is our 3rd year and hope to cover the balance of beaches within the LGA.***
- 3. Have any of them been stolen or vandalized? **We have had 3 thefts of the rescue tubes (all 3 were anonymously returned after some Social Media posts) 1 act of vandalism where a person used a tube as a maxtrax to get his car out of a bog, it ruined the tube. Person was caught however and charged.***
- 4. Do you have a cost per unit? **Cost is just under \$1,000 per unit, this includes the box, signwriting, tube and installation.***
- 5. Do you have a manufacturer's contact details? **We have used Sign-a-Rama Coffs Harbour, anyone can use our artwork, the boxes are made locally, however all arranged through Sign-a-Rama sales.coffsharbour@signarama.com.au***
- 6. Do you have any documentation or thoughts on overcoming any liability? **Our LGA is insured through State-wide Mutual, they provided advice that Council is covered for PL etc. Most Council's in NSW use State-wide Mutual.***
- 7. Do you have any record of whether any of the units have been used in a rescue? **Yes, the units have been used successfully in 13 rescues (both rescuer and casualty survived). These are the rescues that we know of, there have been others we have heard about, however couldn't substantiate any details.***
- 8. Did the idea of purchasing and leaving Tactical Tourniquets (in case of a shark attack) in each unit, go ahead? **No, it wasn't supported due to risk of theft. A rescue tube is difficult to steal; however, a tactical tourniquet could easily be stolen. In a perfect world, I would have a trauma kit and AED with the setup.***

Again, if you need anything else, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Regards

IN
EMERGENCY



CALL 000

**RESCUE
TUBE
DEVICE**

INSIDE



**GET HELP
DIAL 000
GET A SURFER'S**

ASSISTANCE IF POSSIBLE

**If you are NOT A
STRONG SWIMMER,
DO NOT USE THIS
DEVICE! DO NOT
GO IN THE WATER**

Place strap over
head and one
shoulder, pull
rescue tube
behind you as you
swim - use fins if
available



When
approaching
patient, keep clear
and push tube
towards them.
Instruct them to
hold on and
remain calm



Hold onto tube
with patient,
RAISE ONE ARM
and wait for help
or swim across
current towards
broken waves
and/or shore



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AUSTRALIAN
LIFEGUARD
SERVICE

IN
EMERGENCY



CALL 000

**RESCUE
TUBE
DEVICE**

INSIDE

**IN AN
EMERGENCY
CALL 000**

To report the use
of, theft or
vandalism of this
device, please
use the QR code
below



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BAWLEY POINT, KIOLOA AND TERMEIL
YOUR COMMUNITY AT WORK

Appendix B Information on the SLS NSW Program

A recent addition August 25, Racecourse Beach, installed by Surf Lifesaving (NSW), funded by NSW State Government. Details below



Figure 5 Racecourse Beach recently installed AUG 25.

HOW DOES IT WORK

ERBs have been and continue to be rolled out across locations where volunteer lifesavers and lifeguards do not patrol, extending the reach of lifesaving operations.



The Emergency Response Beacon (ERB) unit on the beach



In an emergency, press the button for help. You will be connected to the Surf Life Saving support operations centre



Listen for the operator who will ask you for information to assist you in your emergency.



The operator will use the camera to view the emergency and monitor the situation to provide information to emergency services.

With the push of a button, members of the public can be connected to the SLSNSW State Operations Centre where a State Duty Officer will be on hand to gather important information, issue instructions or provide reassurance in an emergency situation. They can then decide on the most appropriate response to the emergency, calling on jetskis, inflatable rescue boats, volunteer callout teams from surf clubs, lifeguards, or helicopter or drone services.

SLSNSW Emergency Response Beacons



WHY WERE THESE LOCATIONS SELECTED

The NSW Government's Enhanced Rescue Funding package is funding the rollout of ERBs across the state. \$16 million has been pledged over a four-year period to place new generation ERB units at identified drowning hotspots.

Dear Lynn

Thank you for your email regarding Surf Lifesaving NSW Emergency Response Beacons. Please see my answers below in blue to your questions.

Yesterday while walking on Racecourse Beach at Bawley Point, I noticed, what I assume is, one of your ERBs. A very impressive looking unit. I have read your article on ERBs, which lists 59 locations. This list does **not** include an ERB at Bawley Point (NSW south coast, Shoalhaven Council area). But very happy to see it there!

The SLSNSW website has not been updated with the most current installation locations.

As it happens the Bawley Point Kioloa Termeil Community Association is in the process of preparing a Community Led Program to present to Shoalhaven Council. Program is to seek grant funding to place Beach rescue stations on 2 of our local beaches, 2 to start and more to come. Stations will include AED and rescue tubes.

Bawley Point / Kioloa are very popular destinations for tourists and none of our beaches are patrolled.

I note the new ERB contains only one rescue tube, is there any advantage in having 2?

Only one can be fitted to the existing ERB pole and allow it to remain functional for service and operational response. There are some many things that could be added, where do you draw the line? The removal of the rescue tube activates the ERB and provides SLSNSW with a notification of its removal. The introduction of the rescue tube is only new with all units in NSW being retrofitted to include the tube.

Can you please confirm:

- Is the new ERB at Racecourse Beach, Bawley Point funded by the NSW Government's Enhanced Rescue Funding package (even though not included in the 59 locations) The greater majority of ERB's in NSW have been funded by the NSW Government as a project by SLSNSW. The initial project was a proof of concept / trial and the second being an advancement and replacement of some of the oldest units and the introduction of the rescue tubes. There currently 58 NSW Government funded units and 3 funded by Local Councils, hence the difference of number 58 Government funded, 61 in total.
- What is the price of each ERB Approximately \$30,000
- Why was Racecourse beach, Bawley Point chosen (is it a black spot)? The location of every ERB in NSW is a identified black spot, which means there has been a death/s or near misses at each location. Over 180 unpatrolled locations were identified and with limited funding not every location can have an ERB installed.
- Are there any plans for more ERBs in our area (Bawley Point or Kioloa)? There are not further planned installation on the South Coast of NSW at this stage

Additionally, the Department of Primary Industry (DPI) is looking to add a tourniquet kit to each ERB. These will not be interfaced to the ERB system and will need to be monitored locally for use, damage or theft

Answers to these questions will help us decide on which 2 beaches to place our initial rescue stations.

I wish you all the best with your local endeavours and the installation of this Emergency Equipment and the associated approvals can be a very long-drawn-out process dependant on who owns the lands that you are planning to place the unit.