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Dear Members

Well hopefully the country can get out of this lockdown soon and get back to some normality whatever that may look like for the coming months. Just a quick update on what's been happening ramp wise and what's coming up.

We have obtained the approval to replace the tar seal at the top of the ramp. We will be putting a concrete pad in its place. This may cause some inconvenience as the top of the ramp will be closed for a number of days. Once we know when this will be happening, we will send out an email and will also note it on our website. Please bear with us, as we can use the container side of the ramp to enter and exit for launching and retrieving except at high tide. We intend to have traffic management on site to help.

We will not be manning the ramp with wardens till level 1 as we did last year, the risk is too high, however we will have traffic wardens helping out on busy days to keep the traffic moving and off State Highway 25. Encourage non members to use the honesty box and use your common sense and be kind to your fellow fishermen/ladies.

The AGM was held at the Thames Sailing Club on the 25th of July and the draft minutes will be posted on our website shortly.

The meeting was attended by 50 members, and we had guest speakers from the Sports Fishing Council and LegaSea. They are all based here on the Coromandel and they voiced their concern over recreational fisho's like us not having a real voice at the various government hearings on the proposed changes to the fishing quota system and the proposed fishing zones. They asked our members to join up with them as individuals so they can stay informed and have a voice. Otherwise the government will only be hearing from the corporations about allowing fishing corridors in the gulf. Evidence shows that the trawling of these fishing corridors absolutely decimates marine life and how do we ensure that they stay in the designated areas? The meeting supported their cause and voted to donate \$5k to the Fishing Council to contribute to their costs at the hearings.

If you have any issues or questions, please feel free to drop us an email (wbrs2000@gmail.com) and hopefully we can answer your queries. We hope to see you out there on the water soon, take care and happy fishing.

Eric Carter, President, Waikawau Boat Ramp Inc. Society

URGENT NEWS FLASH

Ramp repairs are happening on the week commencing 4th October (next week). The **top of the ramp will be closed** between Monday and Friday to pour concrete. *Please avoid using the ramp over these days if possible.* The lower part of the ramp (accessible from the side) will be able to be used between low time and approximately 2 hours either side of high tide.

From the AGM: Elections

President: Eric Carter.
Vice President: John Sanford
Secretary: Mike Lander
Treasurer: Matt Juby
Members Secretary: Bev Walker
Committee Members:
Rowan Christini, Peter Hudson,
Greg Ward and Bruce Bogan.

The Committee has the ability to co opt additional members if required.

Contact us on
wbrs2000@gmail.com

By now you will all hopefully have seen our safety brochure we have put out. If not, please get a copy from the ramp warden when you are next at the ramp. The rules are outlined below.

Waikawau Boat Ramp Rules for Safe use of the Boat Ramp

Please keep State Highway 25 clear at all times. Do not block the entrance to the reserve or cause queues onto the State Highway. Extend the queue to the toilet on busy days, or create multiple queues.

Please keep your speed below 5 kph in the reserve

Launching:

Prepare your boat before launching

Check life jackets and safety equipment on board

Ramp wardens are there to help. Please treat them with respect and follow their instructions

If you are not a member, please pay \$15 to the ramp warden for a day pass or use the honesty box if the ramp is unattended

It is a two lane ramp - use the bridge side of the ramp for launching – both sides can be used for launching if no-one is waiting to retrieve

No powering off the trailer

Once launched, please move your boat away from the bottom of the ramp as soon as practical

Observe the 5 knot speed limit in the channel to the outer marker

Keep right in the channel

Retrieving:

Use the lane closest to the sea

Observe the 5 knot speed limit in the channel

Remain in control of your boat at all times

Ensure you have your car and trailer ready to retrieve your boat by the time your boat is at the bottom of the ramp

Retrieve on the seaward side of the ramp – both sides can be used for retrieving if no one is waiting to launch

No powering onto trailer

Once your boat is retrieved, clear the ramp by 50m before applying tie downs, motor flag etc

Be courteous to other users and use common sense.

These rules are to safeguard the welfare of all ramp users, and sanctions may be applied to those who fail to comply. WBRs Committee

Did you know?

Some time ago the water tank servicing the TCDC toilet at Waikawau was stolen. Waikawau Boat Ramp Inc Society stepped up and funded the replacement concrete tank to speed up the process.

Do you have any interesting fishing stories or fishing tips for fishing out of Waikawau. If so, drop us a line so we can share with other members.

Ensure you keep an eye on the website for any relevant news before you head to the ramp. Important events (eg ramp closures and dredging) are advised on our home page.