

National Campaign Policy on Beach and Foreshore Access

Surfrider Foundation Australia advocates the following:

- Continuous and appropriate pedestrian access both perpendicular and parallel to the beach that caters to local demand and minimises impacts on coastal ecosystems and cultural heritage should be formally established and maintained along the entire Australian coast by means of the necessary planning, regulation and works.
- In line with the above policy, Surfrider Foundation Australia strongly encourages authorities to provide, enhance, maintain and promote ‘barrier free’ access to beaches and public coastal lands for less mobile people (i.e. the elderly, infirm, or physically challenged).
- Land tenure and management practices that restrict environmentally and culturally appropriate pedestrian access along the coast should be redressed.
- Surfrider Foundation Australia respects the right for people to enjoy beaches with their dogs where this activity is permitted. However, the impact of irresponsible dog owners (not their dogs per se) on the habitat quality of beaches, particular for ground nesting birds, is well documented, and therefore SFA advocates for no extension of existing access arrangements, including the periods during which dogs are permitted on beaches.