



MEDIA RELEASE

20 January 2010

National Clean Beaches Judge visits Yeppoon

The Australian Clean Beaches Awards Judge, Dr David Moy, will be visiting Yeppoon Main Beach tomorrow as part of his national judging tour for the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Clean Beaches Awards.

Yeppoon will now compete against the other state and territory finalists to become the Australian Clean Beaches Winner in 2010, following the success of Sydney's North Steyne beach in 2009. The winner will be announced at the national awards presentation being held at North Steyne on Thursday 25 March 2010.

During his visit, Dr David Moy will be evaluating projects undertaken by the Rockhampton Regional Council, local community groups, schools and individuals that are helping to raise awareness and educate locals and visitors on ways to protect the local coastal environment, reduce litter and waste, reduce stormwater contamination and more.

The judge will view facilities along the esplanade of Yeppoon main beach and surrounding areas, visit the Fig Tree Creek Inlet and Keppel Bay Sailing Club, and will learn about a range of initiatives undertaken by the local surfrider group, Surf Life Saving Club and other groups.

According to the Australian Clean Beaches Judge, Dr David Moy, "My judging visits to the Clean Beaches national finalists have coincided with the recent release of the 'Climate Change Risks to Australia's Coasts' report by Minister Penny Wong.

"Keep Australia Beautiful welcomes the research and policy structure that this provides and stands ready to assist in this area, by promoting the work of the coastal and inland waterway communities that take part in the Australian Clean Beaches Awards, which form part of the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards."

"During my visits to our Clean Beaches finalists, I have observed many examples of local communities, councils and businesses working together to overcome environmental issues and it is their examples, combined with the report, which should be inspiration to other beach communities under threat. I look forward to seeing how Yeppoon can provide further examples of excellence," he added.

Yeppoon Main Beach is now competing against other state finalists including South Port Noarlunga (SA); West Beach (Burnie TAS); Shady Beach (Yirrkala NT); Balnarring (Mornington Peninsula VIC) and Pt Kembla Beach (Ilawarra NSW).

The Australian Clean Beaches Awards are proudly sponsored by Mount Franklin, the Hungry Jack's 'Bag It & Bin It' program and Coastal Watch.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: THURSDAY 21 JANUARY @ 11am

Who: National Judge, Dr David Moy with Cr Sandra O'Brien

Where: Keppel Bay Sailing Club, Anzac Parade, alongside Yeppoon Main Beach

For further information about the judge's visit, or photo opportunities, please contact:

National Judge: Dr David Moy on 0411 871 460 or davidmoy@optusnet.com.au

Council PR: Catherine Rivett, Media and Public Relations Officer on 07 4936 8071 or catherine.rivett@rrc.qld.gov.au

KAB QLD: Laura Willmott on 0427 763245 or laura@kabq.org.au

KAB National PR: Lara Shannon on 0415 076 015 or laras@kab.org.au

EDITOR'S NOTES:

About the Australian Clean Beaches Judge – Dr David Moy:

Dr David Moy is the Director of TechSearch Waste and Environment Services and also holds an Honorary Professorial appointment with Central Queensland University where he lectures in the post-graduate Environmental Management Program.

He has previously acted as judge for the Queensland Government's former Green Hospitals Award; Brisbane City Council's Waste Saver Awards and more recently, WMAA's National Landfill Division's Landfill Excellence Awards in 2007 and 2009.

With an extensive knowledge and understanding of environmental issues, David has a proven ability to identify relevant strengths and weaknesses in environmental and social performance. Having an affinity for beach communities, David works well with community groups and specialises in community engagement.

About the Australian Clean Beaches Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through research, communications programs and awards programs.

Its national awards are known as the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards which consist of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national grand final.

The Clean Beaches Awards are open to coastal and inland waterway communities working to protect and preserve Australian beaches and coastlines. Over 75% of the Australian population live within 50km of the coast. (2006 census)

The Australian Clean Beaches Awards are sponsored by:

Mount Franklin

Coca-Cola Amatil is a long term supporter of Keep Australia Beautiful. Its Mount Franklin premium spring water brand promotes positive actions. This makes it an ideal fit with the Clean Beaches awards which celebrate the environmental achievements of individuals and local communities.

Coastalwatch

Coastalwatch is a website with cameras at beaches all around Australia. Coastalwatch is committed to bringing the coast to a broad cross section of Australians and overseas visitors. Its goal is to make a significant contribution to more timely and safer coastal use, and more efficient and cost effective coastal management.

Hungry Jack's®

Hungry Jack's is a long term supporter of Keep Australia Beautiful and has been making consistent progress with its environmental initiatives. This includes an anti litter message on all packaging, kitchen food waste composting trials and implementing an Australian-first dining room food waste composting trial.