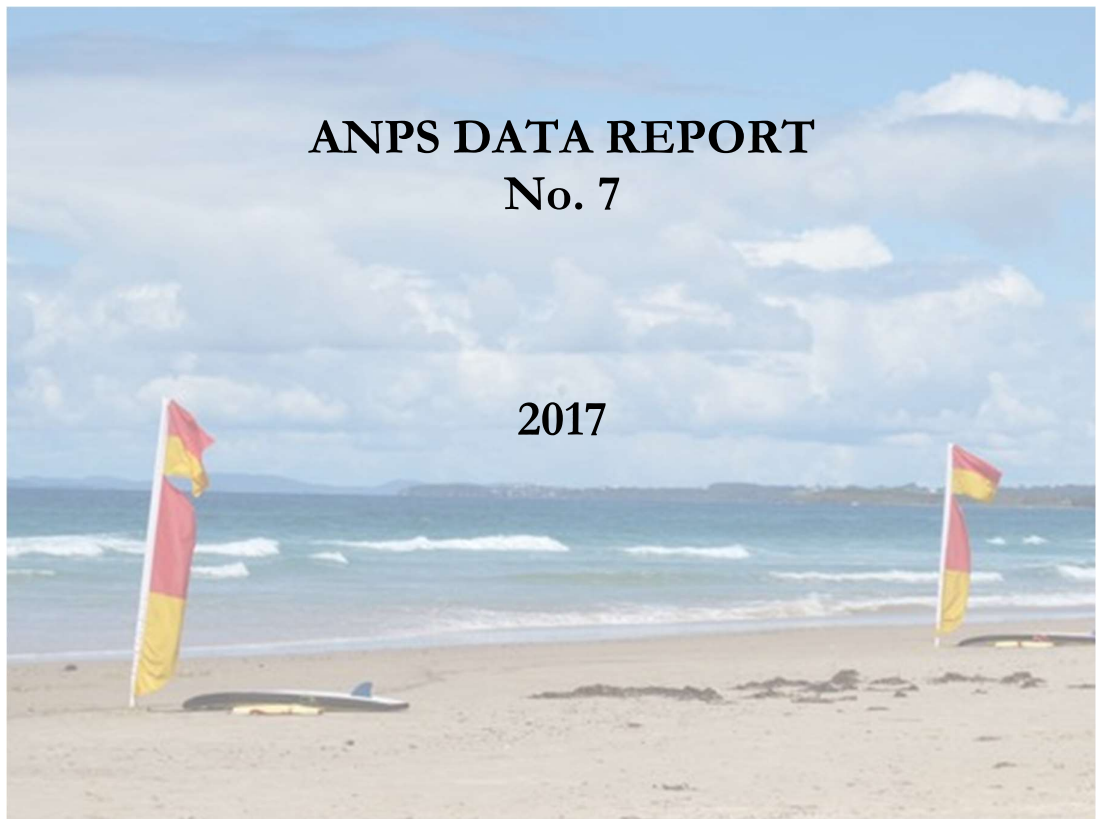


OCEAN BEACH NAMES

Northern NSW - Tweed to Hunter



ANPS DATA REPORT

No. 7

2017



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PLACENAMES SURVEY

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David Blair

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Old Bar Beach, SLSA187 (*photo*: Mike Blair)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Of all the coastal features of Australia, beaches are perhaps the most prominent in the life and discourse of those who live here. It is no surprise, then, that the names for those beaches demonstrate particularly well the challenges faced by the authorities responsible for assigning and recording toponyms. In particular, the regular use of such coastal features by swimmers, surfers and anglers seems to generate a high number of variant names. Some of these variants are historical forms which have been officially replaced by the currently-assigned names; others are minor variations in spelling from the official form; still others are locally-known names for beaches which are not officially named.

This Report is the second in a series covering the coastal beach sites of New South Wales. The first Report listed beach sites and names from the Hunter River southwards to the Shoalhaven.¹ This succeeding publication covers northern New South Wales, from the Queensland border (effectively the Tweed River) southwards to the Hunter.

In New South Wales the jurisdictional authority for placenames is the Geographical Names Board, but other official agencies (such as the Office of Environment and Heritage and various local government bodies) use placenames in their official publications. The National Parks and Wildlife Service also, through its website and its various regional pages, notes various feature names; some of these are not yet recorded in the State's Geographical Names Register. The most comprehensive listing of beach names in the State is that maintained by Surf Life Saving Australia.

Even a cursory examination of the beach names used or recorded by such authorities reveals many discrepancies. This no doubt reflects variant usage within local communities; and the fact that many beaches are small geographical features without easy access means that they may not have assigned names at all.

1.1 Standard sources for beach names

1.1.1 *Geographical Names Board*

The Geographical Names Board of NSW is the authority given the responsibility under the NSW Geographical Names Act 1966 to assign names to places and to publish the gazetteer of the State's geographical names. The gazetteer, as the Geographical Names Register, is made available online at: http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/place_naming/placename_search.

1.1.2 *Office of Environment and Heritage*

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (formerly the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water) operates the *Beachwatch* program to provide regular information on beach water quality. A total of 131 swimming locations are monitored in the Sydney, Hunter and Illawarra regions, with a further 117 sites monitored in partnership with local councils along the NSW coast. The Office maintains the *Beachwatch* website (www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/) as a publicly accessible report of current water quality conditions. Relevant to this Report, the website provides access to beach data at fourteen sites in the Ballina Shire and Richmond Valley Shire areas.

¹ *Ocean beach names: Newcastle – Sydney – Wollongong*. ANPS Data Report No. 5, 2016.

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

1.1.3 *National Parks & Wildlife Service*

The NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service provides a wide range of guides to the various parks and their facilities. These guides are easily accessed by the web pages maintained by the NPWS, and for anyone looking for toponymic information held by the Service the pages may substitute for the more formal listing that may have been hoped for. In particular, the tab *Things To Do* gives access to information on ‘Sailing, boating and cruises’, ‘Fishing’, ‘Surfing’ and ‘Swimming’—all of which may be relevant to a search on coastal beaches.

1.1.4 *Hunter Water*

The utility Hunter Water collects data on beach water quality and makes that information available on its website as well as providing it to the OEH *Beachwatch* program. Five beaches north of the Hunter River are recorded, and are therefore included within the toponymic listing of this Report.

1.1.5 *Local Government Authorities*

The city, shire and municipal councils on the NSW coast produce various documents in which beaches as listed or mentioned by name. They are not normally asserted to be comprehensive lists, and in some cases the focus of attention is not primarily on the beaches. However, they do record what council staff (and, possibly, residents) believe to be the generally-accepted names of the beaches which are listed.

1.1.6 *Surf Life Saving Australia*

The most comprehensive public listing of Australia’s beaches is maintained by Surf Life Saving Australia. The list of beaches (each with its unique numerical code) lies behind SLSA’s *Beachsafe* website, which ‘includes current information and conditions for every beach in Australia’.

1.1.7 *OzCoasts*

OzCoasts is a publicly accessible online database with a web-based interface that provides comprehensive information about Australia’s coasts to generate a better understanding of Australia’s coastal environments. The content of OzCoasts represents the collaborative efforts of more than 100 coastal scientists from a wide range of government agencies and universities. The beach conceptual models were developed as part of the Australian Beach Safety and Management Program (ABSAMP), which was a long-term collaborative project between the University of Sydney and Surf Life Saving Australia. The beach content was developed in collaboration with Professor Andrew Short (University of Sydney) and Surf Life Saving Australia.

1.2 **The structure of the entries**

The table containing the data (Section 2.0, below) shows the standard sources in four columns. The GNB list appears in the first column, representing the authoritative list of assigned toponyms for the State. The SLSA *Beachsafe* data fills the second column, representing the most comprehensive list of beach toponyms. The third column contains toponym references combined from three sources: National Parks and Wildlife Service; the Office of Environment and Heritage *Beachwatch* program; and Hunter Water. The fourth column contains toponym references identified in various publications and websites of Local Government Areas, from Tweed Shire Council in the north to Newcastle City Council in the south. Full references are given in Section 4.0, below.

The column for the GNB entries also gives the Placename Unique Number (PUN) that identifies the entry in the Board’s Register. Some of these entries are for non-beach features rather than for

beaches: these entries are indicated by the use of square brackets around the item and its feature type. (A definition for each of those feature types is given in the Appendix.)

The second column, similarly, gives the unique identifier code that the SLSA allocates to each of NSW's beaches. (In this Report, the State code is omitted; in the full national listing, each State and Territory has an identifier that consists of the alpha State code plus a numerical set.) It will be noted that in some cases the SLSA appears to give what might be called 'superordinate entries'; that is, a reference to beaches which may have other smaller beaches within their extent. The style of entry varies, and it is not always clear whether the superordinate is a toponym or merely a 'header' entry. See, for example, the entries for Norries Head (005), Sandon/Illaroo (060) and Newcastle Bight/Stockton (239A).

The column headed NPWS/OEH/HW entries also gives the *Beachmatch* code number in those few cases where the OEH has a coastal site.

All entries appear in order of increasing latitude, and it will be noted that the codes in both SLSA and OEH columns are in increasing numerical order as the location moves from north to south. The entries are restricted to ocean beaches; beaches on lakes and on harbour shorelines are excluded.

The general assumption for the entries is that the included generic is 'Beach'. The entry for *Iluka* therefore represents the toponym *Iluka Beach*. In cases where the authority omits the generic or uses another, the toponym appears in square brackets: [Pipers Hill], [Queens Head]. In some of these cases, it is not clear whether the beach name simply lacks a generic or whether the beach is, in fact, unnamed (and the listing merely implies 'the beach at Pipers Hill / Queens Head'). This problem does not arise with the GNB entries because, as noted above, the feature type always makes it clear whether the toponym is that for a BEACH or for an associated nearby feature.



Burgess Beach, SLSA199 (*photo*: Steve Blair)

2.0 THE DATA

<i>GNB</i>		<i>SLSA/OzCoasts</i>		<i>NPWS/OEH/HW</i>		<i>LGA</i>
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Duranbah prev: Flagstaff	75681 18857	Flagstaff/Duranbah 'Duranbah Beach... also called Flagstaff Beach'	001	--		Duranbah
[Letitia Spit— SPIT]	32792	Letitia Spit	002			Letitia
Fingal Head	82979	Fingal	002b			Fingal Head
		Dreamtime/Kingscliff/ Cudgen 'Dreamtime in the north and centre and Kingscliff in the south, with Cudgen Headland Surf Club at the southern end'	003			
Dreamtime	69149	Dreamtime	003a			Dreamtime
Kingscliff	82980	North Kingscliff	003b	--		Kingscliff
South Kingscliff	82982	Kingscliff/Cudgen	003c			South Kingscliff
Bogangar var: Cabarita	7006 26597	Bogangar/Cabarita incl: Salt/Casuarina 'Bogangar Beach runs... for 8 km from Cudgen Headland... to Norries Head'	004			Bogangar
Casuarina	82985	Salt/Casuarina 'a sub-section of Bogangar Beach'	004a			Casuarina
Cabarita	10412	--				--
Norries Cove	82986	Norries Head 'Norries Head and beach...'	005			Norries Cove
Maggies	82987	North Beach/South Bogangar	006			Maggies
[Hastings Point— POINT]	23218	Hastings Point Inlet 'Hastings Point beach...'	007			Hastings Point
Cudgera	15269	Cudgera	008			Cudgera
Pottsville	82988	Pottsville	009			Pottsville
		Mooball – New Brighton incl: Mooball, Wooyung, Crabbes Creek, New Brighton, Tyagarah	010			
Mooball	38851	Mooball	010a			Mooball
Wooyung	82989	Wooyung	010b			Wooyung
Crabbes Creek	14802	Crabbes Creek	010c			--
[South Golden Beach—LOCALITY]	71945	South Golden	010ca			South Golden
[New Brighton— LOCALITY]	42135	New Brighton	010d			--
[Tyagarah – LOCALITY]	60921	Tyagarah	010e			--
[Brunswick Heads — LOCALITY]	9856	[Brunswick Heads]	011			Brunswick Heads Main
Belongil	81393	Belongil	012			--
		Byron Bay incl: Main, Clarks, The Pass	013			

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Main	81392	Main	013a			Byron Bay Main
Clarkes Prev: Clarks	12568 27084	Clarks	013b			Clarkes
[The Pass—SURF BREAK]	82761	The Pass	013c			The Pass
Wategos	63342	Wategos	014			Wategos
Little Wategos	33952	Little Wategos	015			--
		Tallows/Suffolk Park/Broken Head incl: Tallows, Suffolk Park, Broken Head	016			
Tallow	56793	Tallows	016a	Tallow		Tallow
[Suffolk Park – LOCALITY]	55826	[Suffolk Park]	016b			[Suffolk Park]
Broken Head	9452	[Broken Head]	016c			[Broken Head]
Kings	31055	Kings 1	017			--
		Kings 2	018			--
Brays	8902	Brays	019			--
Whites	64645	Whites	020			--
Seven Mile	52381	Seven Mile/Lennox Head [i.e. Seven Mile]	021	Seven Mile	515	Lennox Head Seven Mile
Boulder prev: Skennars	8138	Boulder North 'The first, Boulder Beach...'	022			Boulder
		Boulder South 'a second... boulder beach'	023			
Sharpes prev: Sharps	52550	Sharps	024			Sharpes
Angels	1101	Angels North	025			Angels
		Angels South	026			
Shelly prev: Pebbly	52790	Shelly	027	Shelly	516	Shelly
Lighthouse	32931	Lighthouse	028	Lighthouse	517	Lighthouse
		South Ballina – Evans Head incl: South Ballina, Beswicks, Robins, Patches, Broadwater, Evans Head, Airforce	029			
South Ballina [SIX Maps]	--	South Ballina	029a			South Ballina
Beswicks	4473	Beswicks	029b			--
Robins	49477	Robins	029c			--
Patches	45200	Patches	029d			Patches
Broadwater	9353	Broadwater	029e			--
Evans Head	18037	[Evans Head]	029f	Main (Evans Head)	831	Main
Airforce	1321	Airforce	029g	Airforce	830	Airforce
--		Razorback 'also Little Beach'	030			--

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Red Hill	48697	Red Hill	031			--
		'...the small Red Head (sic) beach'				
Chinamans	71883	Chinamans North	032			--
		Chinamans South	033			
		'...the main Chinamans Beach'				
New Zealand	71768	New Zealand	034			--
		Ten Mile Beach – Shark Bay	035			
		incl: Ten Mile, Shark Bay				
Ten Mile	57628	Ten Mile	035a			Ten Mile
[Shark Bay—BAY]	52520	Shark Bay	035b	[Shark Bay]	833	--
[Woody Bay—BAY]	66191	[Woody Bay]	036			--
Back	75275	Back	037			--
--		[Frazer Reef]	038			--
Bluff	5402	Bluff	039			Iluka Bluff
Iluka	24705	Iluka	040			Iluka
Turners	60664	Turners	041			Turners
Yamba	66886	Yamba	042			Main ['Beach, Yamba']
prev: Andersons	736					
Convent	13686	Convent	043			
prev: Mckittricks	35477	SLSA and OzCoasts entries headed 'Convent / Mc Kittricks'				
Pippi	46605	Pippi	044			Pippi
Barri	--	Barri	045			
[SIX Maps]						
[Green Point—POINT]	75274	Green Point	046			
Spookies	--	Spookies	047			
[SIX Maps]		SLSA and OzCoasts entries headed 'Angourie'				
[Angourie Point—PT]	1082	Angourie Point	048	Angourie Headland		
[Angourie Bay—BAY]	1078	Back Angourie / Angourie Bay	049			
		implies no generic				
--		Little Shelly	050			
Little Shelley	33891	Shelly	051			
Shelley	52748	Caves	052			
Plumbago	46779	Plumbago	053			
Red Cliff	48563	Red Cliff	054			
Main	74324	Main/Brooms Head	055			Brooms Head Main
--		North Sandon	056			North Sandon
		'Sandon Beach (sic) commences on the south side of Brooms Head, where it is known as the Back Beach'				
Little Pebbly	33775	Little Pebbly	057			

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Pebbly	45434	Pebbly	058			
Hatchcover	23223	Hatchcover	059			
Sandon	82550	Sandon/Illaroo	060			Sandon
--		‘Sandon Beach commences on the southern side of Clay Head... to the southern section known as Illaroo’				
--		Illaroo South	061			
--		‘...the more protected Illaroo (south) beach’				
[Rocky Point—POINT]	49810	[Rocky Point]	062			
Minnie Water	82548	Minnie Water	063			Minnie Water [‘Main Beach’]
[Pipers Hill—HILLOCK]	46590	[Pipers Hill]	064			
		implies no generic: ‘at the foot of Pipers Hill is a curving 100 m long extension of Minnie Water beach’				
[Tree Point—POINT]	60044	[Tree Pt (1)]	065			
		no generic: ‘On the southern side of Tree Point... three small southeast-facing rock-bound beaches.’				
		[Tree Pt (2)]	066			
		[Tree Pt (3)]	067			
Minnie Water Back	82547	Back/Minnie waters	068			
		‘The Back Beach at Minnie Waters...’				
Diggers Camp	82546	Diggers Camp North	069			
		Diggers Camp South	070			Diggers Camp
		‘The main Diggers Camp beach...’				
--		Stony	071			
		‘short walking track from the Bookroom (sic; sc. Boorkoom) Camping Area				
--		Wilsons	072			
		‘...from Bookroom (sic; sc. Boorkoom) south to the Wilsons Headland Picnic Area’				
Wooli	82545	Wooli	073			Wooli
Jones	82549	Jones	074			
[Barcoongere Rocks—REEF]	2648	[Barcoongere Rocks 1]	075			
--		[Barcoongere Rocks 2]	076			
Freshwater	82544	Freshwater	077			
--		Pebbly	078			
Station Creek	82543	Station Creek	079			
Little	83059	Red Rock (North)	080	Little		

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

<i>GNB</i>		<i>SLSA/OzCoasts</i>		<i>NPWS/OEH/HW</i>		<i>LGA</i>
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Red Rock	82318	Red Rock (South) ‘The Main Beach (NSW 81, also called Red Rock)...’	081			Red Rock
Corindi	14370	Corindi (North)	082			Corindi
--		Corindi/Ararawarra ‘Corindi-Arwararra beach...’	083			Pipeclay
Ararawarra	82542	Ararawarra Headland	084	Ararawarra Headland		Ararawarra
Ocean View	43836	Ocean View	085			Ocean View (Mullawarra)
Mullaway	40289	Mullaway	086	Mullaway		Mullaway
Cabins	83060	South Mullaway	087			
--		Mullaway Head	088			
Darkum	83061	--				Darkum
Safety	83062	Safety	089			Safety
Woolgoolga	66231	Woolgoolga	090	Woolgoolga		Woolgoolga
Woolgoolga Back	82541	Woolgoolga/Back ‘Back Woolgoolga beach trends to the south...’	091			Woolgoolga Back
Hearn Lake [note that ‘Hearn Lake’ is a discontinued spelling for the LAKE]	82540	Hearn Lake	092			Hearn Lake
Sandy	51575	Sandy	093			Sandy
Fiddamans	18458	Fiddamans	094			
Emerald	82539	Emerald	095	Emerald		Emerald
Shelly	52795	Shelly	096			
Moonee	39008	Moonee	097			Moonee
Sapphire	73393	Sapphire	098			Sapphire
[Riecks Point— POINT]	49222	Riecks Point	099			
--		Nautilus/Pelican	100			
Campbells	10838	Campbells	101			Campbells
--		Hills North	102			
Opal Cove prev: Hills	23755	Opal Cove	103			Hills
Korora	31609	Korora	104			Korora
[Charlesworth Bay— BAY]	12099	[Charlesworth Bay/Pacific Bay] ‘...largely occupied by Pacific Bay Resort’	105			Charlesworth Bay
Diggers	82266	Diggers North (Aanuka) a reference to Aanuka Beach Resort	106	Diggers		Diggers
		Diggers South ‘...the main Diggers Beach’	107			

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
[Macauleys Headland—HEADLAND]	35016	[Macauleys Headland] '...between the high cliffs of Macauleys Headland'	108			
Park	45006	Park	109			Park
North Wall	83063	Park South '...the southern section of Park Beach'	110			
Jetty	83051	Coffs Harbour (Jetty) '...also called Jetty Beach'	111			
Gallows [note: no generic]	83064	Gallows use of generic is uncertain	112			
Boambee	5343	Boambee	113			
Murrays	83065	Sawtell	114			Sawtell North (Murrays)
Sawtell	83066					Sawtell
Bonville	83067	Bonville	115	Bongil		Bonville
North	42719	North	116			North
[Hungry Head—HEADLAND]	24477	Hungry Head North (South) the significance of the qualifier is unclear	117			Hungry Head
		Hungry Head	118			
		Hungry Head South	119			
North Valla [SIX Maps]	--	Wenonah Head/Valla 'Wenonah Head... to Valla Head, with the long Valla Beach in between'	120			North Valla Valla
[Valla Headland—HEAD, SIX Maps]	--	Valla Headland	121			
--	--	Valla South '... the southern Valla Beach'	122			South Valla
South Valla [SIX Maps]	--	Hyland	123			
--		Nambucca North	124			
--		Main	125			Main
Beilbys	3531	Beilbys	126			
Shelly prev: Shelley	52802 52752	Shelly	127			Shelly
--		Entrance	128			
Forster prev: South Fosters	19193 53832 28724	Forster (South)/Scotts Head 'Forster Beach... sweeping round to face north in lee of Scotts Head where it is known as Scotts Head Beach'	129			Forster [northern tip mapped as <i>South Beach</i>]
Little [SIX Maps]	--	Little	130			
[Scotts Head—HEADLAND]	52082	Scotts Head	131			Scotts Head
Middle	37558	Middle	132			

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

<i>GNB</i>		<i>SLSA/OzCoasts</i>		<i>NPWS/OEH/HW</i>		<i>LGA</i>
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Grassy	21595	Grassy	133			Grassy Head
[Stuarts Point—LOCALITY]	83097	Stuarts Point	134			
Back	51	Back	135			
[Horseshoe Cove—COVE]	24211	Horseshoe Bay entry implies there may be no other generic, despite the SLSA index page for 'Horseshoe Bay Beach'	136			Horseshoe Bay [no other generic]; Trial Bay [no other generic]
Front	19542	Front	137	Front		Front; Main
[Little Bay—BAY]	33309	Little Bay	138	Little Bay		
Gap	19765	Gap	139			Gap
--		Cobble	140			
--		North Smoky 1	141			
--		North Smoky 2	142			
North Smoky	42928	North Smoky 3 '...also known as Dead Cow... The real North Smoky Beach'	143			North Smoky
South Smoky	54003	South Smoky – Hat Head includes: South Smoky 1; South Smoky 2; Hat Head	144			South Smoky
		South Smoky 1	144a			
		South Smoky 2	144b			
[Hat Head—HEADLAND]	23229	Hat Head	144c			Hat Head ['southern part of South Smoky = Hat Head Beach']
Little	82410	Little	145			
[The Island—ISLAND]	82414	Island	146			
Gap	71407	Gap	147			
O'Connors prev: Connors	71795 71216	Connors	148			
Third	72018	Third	149			
Killick prev: Front	74752	Killick OzCoasts = Killick Beach, nsw	150a			Killick
[Crescent Head—HEADLAND]	14928	[Crescent Head]	150b			
Pebbly		Pebbly	151			
Goolawah prev: Back	74751	Goolawah	152			Goolawah
[Racecourse Head—HEADLAND]	48082	Racecourse entry headed 'Racecourse Head'	153			
[Delicate Nobby—POINT]	16522	Delicate Nobby	154			Delicate
[Big Hill Point—POINT]	4801	[Big Hill] entry headed 'Big Hill (2)'; includes northern section not separately named: 155N	155			

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
--		Barries Bay	156			Barries
		‘The main beach, known as Barries (sic) Bay in the north and Point Plomer in the south...’ includes small northern beach not separately named: 156N				
[Point Plomer—HEADLAND]	46766	[Point Plomer]	157			
[Queens Head—HEADLAND]	71865	[Queens Head]	158			
North Shore	42926	North Shore	159			North
[Pelican Point—POINT]	45554	[Pelican Point]	160			
Town	59895	Town	161			
Oxleys	44536	Oxleys	162			Oxley
Rocky	49610	Rocky	163			
Flynns	19045	Flynns	164			Flynn’s
Nobbys	42556	Nobbys	165			
Shelly	52800	Shelly	166			
--		[Miners (n)]	167			
		SLSA entry = ‘small beach on the northern headland, not separately named’				
Miners	38186	Miners North	168			
		SLSA entry = ‘Miners Beach... the northern section’				
		Miners South	169			
		SLSA entry = ‘Miners Beach... the southern section’				
--		Tacking Point North	170			
[Tacking Point—HEADLAND]	56651	Tacking Point/ Lighthouse	171			
		‘Lighthouse or Tacking Point Beach...’				
Lighthouse	32932	Lighthouse	172			Lighthouse
[Lake Cathie—LAKE]	11707	Lake Cathie	173			Cathie
		‘Includes: Middle Rock Beach’				
[Middle Rock Point—POINT]	37764	Middle Rock	173a			
Rainbow	48122	Rainbow/Bonny Hills	174			Rainbow; Bonny Hills
Boat Ramp [SIX Maps]	--	Boat Ramp	175			
		Although the SLSA text is unclear whether the name applies to a beach or a ramp, OzCoasts confirms the former. The text of SLSA also refers to ‘Sponys Bay beach’ as NSW 176 and to ‘Bartletts’, otherwise unidentified				

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

<i>GNB</i>		<i>SLSA/OzCoasts</i>		<i>NPWS/OEH/HW</i>		<i>LGA</i>
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Bartletts	3048	Bartletts [...Sponys Bay beach] This and the preceding entry are confused in SLSA: the entry headers and ID codes are as given here, but the text refers to 'Sponys Bay beach – NSW 176' and 'Bartletts Beach – NSW 177'. OzCoasts = Bartletts	176			
Grants	21543	Shark	177			Shark
		Grants/North Haven 'Grants Beach also known as North Haven Beach...'	178			Grants; North Haven
--		Pilot	179			
Pilot	46178	Wash House	180			
--		Pebbly	181			
Dunbogan prev: South	16764	Dunbogan	182			Dunbogan
Kylies	31869	Kylie	183			Kylies
[Crowdy Gap— DUNES]	15113	Crowdy	184			Crowdy Head
--		Harrington	185			Harrington
Old Bar	71800	Manning Point	186			Manning Point
		Old Bar	187			Old Bar
Wallabi	72056	Saltwater 'Also officially known as Wallabi Beach'	188	Wallabi		
Saltwater prev: Diamond; Red Head North	51068	Saltwater ? entry is a stub, not in OzCoasts data; possibly intended to become merged with 188	189a			
Diamond prev: Saltwater; Red Head North	68320	Diamond 'Also known as Back Saltwater, or just Back Beach'; OzCoasts = 'Saltwater/Diamond'	189			
		Diamond South	190			
Shelly	52797	Shelly	191			
Black Head	6323	Black Head use of generic is uncertain	192			Black Head Front
Pebbly prev: Pebbley	45436	Pebbly	193			
[Diamond Reef— ROCK]	68347	Diamond Reef '...also known as Back Beach'	194			Black Head Back
Nine Mile prev: Tuncurry	42464	Nine Mile	195			Tuncurry Nine Mile
	60519	Tuncurry Although the SLSA entry is headed 'Tuncurry', the descriptive text does not mention a beach with that name. OzCoasts has no matching entry.	195B			
Forster	19192	Forster	196			Forster Main; Main

GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
Pebbly prev: Pebbley	45437	Pebbly	197			
One Mile	44145	One Mile	198			
Burgess	70186	Burgess	199			
Lobster Pot	34062	--				
Mcbrides prev: Lobster Pot	35237	Mc Brides SLSA text = 'McBrides'	200			
[Cape Hawke— CAPE]	11064	Cape Hawke 1	201			
		Cape Hawke 2	202			
--		Janies Corner use of a 'beach' generic is uncertain	203			
Seven Mile	52382	Seven Mile	204			
[Lindemans Cove— COVE]	33138	Lindeman Cove	205			
Elizabeth	17399	Elizabeth	206			Elizabeth
Shelly	52796	Shelly	207			
Boomerang	7597	Boomerang	208			Boomerang
Blueys	5418	Blueys	209			
[Sandbar— LOCALITY]	51190	Sandbar	210			Sandbar
--		Number Six	211			
--		Number Five	212			
--		Number Four	213			
--		Number Three	214			
--		Number Two	215			
Number One	43172	Number One	216			Number One
Boat	5329	Boat	217			Boat
Lighthouse	32934	Lighthouse	218			
Treachery prev: Yagon	60038 66792	Treachery 'also known to surfers as Yagon'; entry is headed <i>Treachery/Yagon</i>	219			
Submarine	55817	Submarine 'also Fiona beach'; entry is headed <i>Submarine/Fiona</i>	220			
Fiona	18604	--				
Mungo	40599	Mungo	221			
[Dark Point— POINT]	16038	Dark Point North	222			
Bennetts prev: Great Mermaid	4177 29402	Bennetts	223			Bennetts var: Hawks Nest
Zenith	67819	Zenith	224	Zenith		
--		Wreck North	225			
Wreck	79915	Wreck	226			
Box		Box	227	Box		

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GNB		SLSA/OzCoasts		NPWS/OEH/HW		LGA
<i>Name</i>	<i>PUN</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Name</i>
[Fly Roads—ROADSTEAD]	19052	Fly Roads	228			
[Fingal Spit—SPIT] prev: The Spit	18568					
[Shark Bay—BAY]	52519	Shark Bay	229			
Fingal	18562	Fingal	230	Fingal, Fingal Bay		Fingal
[Samurai Point—POINT]	51174	Anna Bay (Samurai)	231			One Mile
One Mile	44146	Anna Bay (One Mile)	232	One Mile		
--		Boulder	233			
[Boat Harbour—BAY]	5327	Boat Harbour	234			
Kingsley	31136	Kingsley	235			
Little Kingsley	33565	Little Kingsley	236			
[Fishermans Bay—BAY]	18657	Fishermans Bay	237			
[Birubi Point—POINT]	6650	Birubi Point	238	Birubi		Birubi
Stockton	55116	Stockton	239			Stockton
		Newcastle Bight /Stockton SLSA entry is confused: although it seems intended to include both Stockton Beach (31.8 km) and Birubi Point Beach, its length is given as 30 metres; and Birubi Point beach is also labeled as 239a	239A			
		Stockton (southern section)	239B	Stockton South, South Stockton		
Little Park	33770	Little Park	240			
Horse Shoe	24197	Horseshoe	240S			



Bennetts Beach at Hawks Nest, SLSA223 (photo: Steve Blair)

3.0 DATA COMPARISON

The number of beaches identified by the four standard sources is given in Table 1 below.

<i>Source</i>	<i>Beach locations identified</i>	<i>% of total</i>
GNB	214	77.8
SLSA/OzCoasts	270	98.2
NPWS/OEH/HW	35	12.7
LGA	116	42.2
<i>All Sources</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 1: Coastal beach sites identified by standard sources

The two most authoritative sources are the Register of the NSW Geographical Names Board and the *Beachsafe* website of Surf Life Saving Australia. These, as might be expected, also provide the most comprehensive lists of beaches in the area. The remaining sources (National Parks tourist information, *Beachwatch* reports of the Office of Environment & Heritage, and the various documents from local government authorities) each have specialised objectives that are not focused on beach naming.

Not all beach sites are identified by a beach name: various swimming locations or beaches are identified only by their associated feature of BAY, COVE, HEADLAND or such, and it is not always clear whether that feature provides the beach-related toponym or whether the beach is actually unnamed. The GNB listing is the only source which clearly indicates whether the toponym relates to a beach as opposed to an adjacent related feature. Table 2 below shows the proportion of beaches identified by the two authoritative sources for which names are clearly recorded.

<i>Source</i>	<i>Beach locations identified</i>	<i>Beaches named</i>	<i>% named of total locations</i>
GNB	214	163	59.3
SLSA/OzCoasts	270	247	89.8
<i>Combined Sources Total</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>274</i>	<i>99.6</i>

Table 2: Coastal beach locations identified and named by the two major sources

One notable figure in the data is the number of beach names that were not recorded in the Register of the Geographical Names Board. Of the 275 beaches that were identified in the data, 112 (or 40.7%) do not appear in the NSW Register (although eight of those do appear on *SIX Maps*, the State digital mapping facility of NSW Spatial Services).

Of the 112 beach names missing from the GNB Register

81 are attested by 1 other source (almost all of those by SLSA)

30 by 2 others (usually by SLSA and LGA)

1 by 3 others (*Birubi / Birubi Point Beach*)

The SLSA *Beachsafe* database fails to record just five of the beach sites captured by the data, a much better coverage than that of the Newcastle-Wollongong region (where 23 beach sites were absent

Ocean beach names: Tweed to Hunter

from the SLSA list). The beaches (*Cabarita, Darkum, Murrays, Lobster Pot* and *Fiona*) are all named in the GNB Register.

Of the 275 locations listed as coastal beaches, only nine are recorded by all four sources using the same linguistic form and with reference to the same extent.

At the other extreme is the sole identified beach which is not named by any of the sources: the beach south of Port Macquarie, labelled NSW167 by SLSA and identified as 'a 50m pocket of sand-covered rocks and reef'. It lies on the southern side of the (unnamed) headland which lies south-east of Shelly Beach. It is conceivable that the GNB description of *Miners Beach* is intended to include this feature; but the stated bounds of *Miners Beach* are ambiguous and are not helped by the fact that the adjacent headland is also unnamed.

This unique example is outweighed by the 55 beaches named by only one of the sources: SLSA's *Beachsafe* list is the only source for 52 beach names, from *New Brighton Beach* in the north to *Fishermans Bay Beach* in the south. The GNB is the only source for three beaches: *Cabarita Beach, Lobster Pot Beach* and *Fiona Beach*.

The prime pattern that emerges in a comparison of the sources is one of inconsistency in both identification and naming. This is true even when the comparison is restricted to the two major sources, the register of the NSW GNB and SLSA's *Beachsafe* list. Even such an iconic location as Byron Bay does not display consistency in its beach names across the major sources: *Clarke's Beach* appears as *Clarks* in the SLSA *Beachsafe* list, and *Tallow Beach* as *Tallows*. A telling example is that of beaches 050-052. Beach 052, named *Little Shelly* by SLSA, is missed by the GNB; beach 051 is *Shelley* in the SLSA list and *Little Shelley* in the GNB register; beach 052 is called *Caves* by SLSA but *Shelley* by the GNB.

These results are similar to those of the earlier Data Report for the Newcastle-Sydney-Wollongong coast. The GNB recorded 77% and the SLSA 96% of the 214 beach sites listed in that Report, not significantly different from the 78% and 98% respectively in this present audit. These figures give little support to the possible hypothesis that beach sites near major population centres are more often identified and named than those in remoter areas.

4.0 SOURCES

4.1 LGA Sources

Tweed Shire Council [SLSA Codes 001-010B]
[http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Recreation Services/Casual Park Hire/TSC05663_Map_of_Tweed_Beaches.pdf](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Recreation%20Services/Casual%20Park%20Hire/TSC05663_Map_of_Tweed_Beaches.pdf)
<http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Beaches>

Byron Shire Council [SLSA Codes 010C-020]
<http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/beaches-in-byron-shire>

Ballina Shire [SLSA Codes 021-029D]
http://www.ballina.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-KHM-42-36-07
http://www.mybeachinfo.com.au/overview_table.asp

- Richmond Valley Council* [SLSA Codes 029E-035]
<http://www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au/page/Environment/Beachwatch/>
- Clarence Valley Council* [SLSA Codes 035A-078]
<https://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/page.asp?f=RES-PHG-25-78-28>
https://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/metro/res.asp?id=3790
- Coffs Harbour City Council* [SLSA Codes 079-115]
<http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/our-community/facilities-parks-and-places/beaches/Pages/BeachPatrols.aspx>
<http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/our-community/living-with-animals/Pages/dogs-in-public-places.aspx>
<http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/moving-around/Pages/driving-on-beaches.aspx>
- Bellingen Shire Council* [SLSA Codes 116-125]
<http://www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au/recreation/beaches>
- Nambucca Shire Council* [SLSA Codes 126-131]
http://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-QTW-44-38-10
- Kempsey Shire Council* [SLSA Codes 132-158]
<http://www.kempsey.nsw.gov.au/environment/water-quality/beachwatch.html>
<http://macleayvalleycoast.com.au/all-things-to-do/surfing-beaches-2/?submit=discover%20something%20new%20today>
- Port Macquarie-Hastings Shire Council* [SLSA Codes 159-182]
<http://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au/Facilities-amp-Recreation/Outdoor-Spaces/Beaches-amp-Waterways>
- MidCoast Council* [SLSA Codes 183-223]
<http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Recreation/Beaches>
- Port Stephens Council* [SLSA Codes 224-237]
<http://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/play/recreation-in-port-stephens/beaches-and-foreshores>
- Newcastle City Council* [SLSA Codes 238-240S]
<http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Explore/Recreation/Beaches-Baths/Beaches>

4.2 Other Sources

- GNB Geographical Names Board of NSW, Register
http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/place_naming/placename_search
- SLSA Surf Life Saving Australia national catalogue – *Beachsafe* website
<https://beachsafe.org.au>
- OZ OzCoasts: Australian Online Coastal Information (dataset)
http://www.ozcoasts.gov.au/search_data/beach_search.jsp
- HW Hunter Water: Beach Water Quality
<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/Water-and-Sewer/Wastewater-Systems/Beach-Water-Quality.aspx>
- OEH NSW Office of Environment & Heritage: *Beachwatch* data
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/
- NPWS NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/search?near=north%20coast&extent=in&categories=469>

APPENDIX

GNB Feature Terms

The following terms appear in SMALL CAPITALS in the GNB column to indicate features other than *beaches*. The definitions are those given by the Geographical Names Board in its *Glossary of designation values in the Geographical Names Register*.

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
BAY	A well-marked indentation made by the sea or a lake into a coastline, whose penetration is in such proportion to the width of its mouth as to contain land locked waters and constitutes more than a mere curvature of the coast.
CAPE	A piece of land jutting into the sea; a projecting headland or promontory.
CAVE	A hollowed-out chamber in the earth, especially a natural cavity with an opening to the surface.
COVE	A small indention in a coast, usually sheltered.
DUNES	Mounds or ridges of sand formed, either in a desert or along the sea coast, through transportation by the wind.
HEAD	A comparatively high promontory of land projecting into the sea with a steep face. An un-named head is usually described as a 'Headland' when a specific name is assigned, it becomes a 'Head'.
HEADLAND	A narrow area of land jutting out into a sea, lake, etc.
HILLOCK	A small hill or mound.
ISLAND	A piece of land usually completely surrounded by water.
LAKE	An extensive sheet of fresh or saltwater, natural or artificial, enclosed or nearly enclosed by land. It may or may not have in and out-flowing water, and in dry areas may even dry up at times.
LOCALITY	A bounded area within the landscape that has a 'Rural' character.
POINT	A location, spot, or position. Point of land. A small Promontory.
REEF	A ridge of rocks or coral lying near the surface of the sea, which may be visible at low tide, but is usually covered by water.
ROADSTEAD	An open anchorage for ships, which may be sufficiently sheltered to give protection from seas, usually by reefs, sandbanks, or islands.
ROCK	A prominent or isolated out crop of rock, or even a single large stone. This designation includes 'boulder' 'crag' 'needle' 'pillar' and 'tor'.
RURAL PLACE	A place, site or precinct in a rural landscape, generally of small extent, the name of which is in current use.
SPIT	A small bank of low land projecting into the sea from the shore. [ANPS Features Glossary]
SUBURB	A bounded area within the landscape that has an 'Urban' character.
SURF BREAK	A permanent obstruction such as a reef, bomborra, rock or sandbar which causes waves to break thus making conditions conducive to surfing.



Lighthouse Beach at Port Macquarie, SLA172 (photo: Steve Blair)