



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## TOP MARKS FOR HUNTER BEACHES

Hunter beaches are among the best in the world, the latest State of the Beaches report has confirmed.

The annual scorecard was released yesterday and shows that for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running, 100 per cent of the Hunter's ocean beaches monitored by Beachwatch were graded as Good or Very Good.

Hunter Water's Manager of Public Affairs Jeremy Bath said this year's result was another notch for the Hunter as the highest performing region in the state.

"Every beach in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie was rated by Beachwatch as having good or very good water quality, making it 14 straight years of having the cleanest beaches in NSW.

"Hunter Water is acutely aware of the importance of local beaches to the community and the role they play in promoting the City. That's in part why we are investing \$27 million to build a UV disinfection system at Burwood Beach in 2016, to further improve local beach water quality.

"Hunter Water is also planning a significant upgrade of the Burwood wastewater treatment plant next year to ensure it is ready for a forecast 20% increase in local population over the next 2 decades. While our beaches are already ranked the cleanest in the state, Hunter Water understands and supports the community's expectation that we continue to look for ways to further protect our beaches," he said.

To make it as easy as possible for swimmers and beachgoers to find out about water quality at their local beach or while on holidays daily, pollution forecasts are available by email, on Twitter and Facebook and through a Beachwatch mobile app.

The full 2013/14 State of the Beaches Report is at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/ar1314/index.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/ar1314/index.htm)

### **Beaches rated as 'Very Good'**

Dudley Beach  
Redhead Beach  
Blacksmiths Beach  
Caves Beach  
Catherine Hill Bay  
South Stockton Beach  
Nobbys Beach  
Newcastle Beach  
Bar Beach

### **Beaches rated as 'Good'**

Glenrock Lagoon Beach  
Swansea Heads Little Beach  
Merewether Beach  
Burwood North Beach  
Burwood South Beach

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