

Green Light for Almost \$11 Million Investment Into Killalea Reserve

Reflections Killalea Reserve will receive an injection of almost \$11 million over the next three years for the enhancement of public facilities and new eco-friendly accommodation thanks to a combined NSW Government Grant and contribution from Reflections Holiday Parks.

Reflections Holiday Parks CEO Steve Edmonds said Reflections was pleased to receive more than \$6.5 million from the NSW Government through its Regional Growth, Environment and Tourism Fund (RGETF) for the enhancement of facilities and eco-friendly accommodation at its Killalea Reserve Holiday Park.

"Including the RGETF Grant of \$6,531,000, Reflections will invest almost \$11 million into Killalea Reserve over the next two - three years to enhance the facilities for the local community and provide more accommodation for guests to the park," Mr Edmonds said.

"Our plan is to create a day visitor hub with outdoor fitness equipment, walking trails and a playground which will benefit local and surrounding communities.

"Our new accommodation planned for the park will adhere to Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles and be integrated sensitively into the reserve's natural environment.

"Recycled timbers and selective sourcing of material to reduce the carbon footprint, a cross ventilation design to reduce air conditioning and well-placed windows and skylights to maximise use of natural light will be incorporated into Killalea accommodation designs."

Planned improvements at Killalea Reserve, expected to be completed in 2022, include:

- A multifunction facility with restaurant/café, outdoor deck and natural Amphitheatre for events and cultural activities
- 15 environmentally-sustainable eco-cabins adhering to ESD Principles where the natural environment is the focus
- 53 enhanced camping sites with power, potable water and sewer services
- Recreational and fitness facilities including outdoor fitness equipment, new and enhanced guided walking trails which point out significant and cultural aspects of the park and a nature-play playground

"Killalea Reserve is a vast 260 hectares of pristine coast land and our park improvements will affect less than 2% of the entire reserve," Mr Edmonds said.

"We believe the view corridors and natural beauty of Killalea are such important elements which make up the character of the park. Any improvements will need to respect the character and ensure it is preserved for future generations."

Mr Edmonds said he had previously met with a range of stakeholders from the area to discuss working together should the Group's funding application be successful.

"Our initial meetings were very positive and involved a number of stakeholders including the Member for Shellharbour Anna Watson MP, Illawarra Land Council, surfing groups, Council and Destination Sydney Surrounds South," Mr Edmonds said.

"Now funding has been confirmed, we will be forming a wider Community Stakeholder Group to ensure the valuable perspectives of the surrounding community are considered in this park improvement process.

"We want to work with key stakeholders to design the park's Multifunction Centre in a way that it reflects the current need and is well utilised by the surrounding community.

"This group will consider building locations and key activities aimed at providing maximum benefit to the broader community, residents and visitors.

"Killalea Reserve is such an iconic place for the South Coast, and we are excited to ensure the park remains sustainable for all whilst respecting important aspects during the process including, natural flora and fauna, view corridors and natural environment, Aboriginal cultural heritage and traditions, surrounding industry and recreation, walking trails, wellness activities and educational facilities.

"Money spent at our parks goes directly back into the facilities, community and the surrounding reserves.

"Our investment into Killalea Reserve will see a significant economic benefit to this region and we couldn't be more excited.

"We take our role as a Manager of Crown land seriously – Killalea Reserve has an incredibly pristine natural environment which needs to be treated in a respectful manner and conserved for future generations to enjoy."

Visit <https://reflectionsolidayparks.com.au/about-us/park-development> to subscribe and be kept in the loop with our upcoming consultation process and progress at Reflections Holiday Parks Killalea Reserve.

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Photo: Reflections Killalea Reserve – The Farm

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About *Reflections Holiday Parks*

Reflections manages the operations of 37 holiday parks and community reserves on Crown land throughout NSW. Formed in 2013 to consolidate the operations of 28 coastal and nine inland holiday parks and reserves located on Crown land throughout NSW, the Group incorporated three holiday park brands, (*North Coast Holiday Parks, South Coast Holiday Parks and Inland Waters Holiday Parks*), under its corporate banner, *Crown Holiday Parks*.

Rebranded to *Reflections Holiday Parks* in February 2018, the Group brings its 37 holiday and community parks on Crown land under the one unified banner. The group is a not-for-profit organisation and reinvests its surplus funds across all its holiday and community parks, so visitors and regional communities can keep enjoying these pristine locations. The vision of *Reflections Holiday Parks* is to inspire all who visit.