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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Lifeguards back to patrol Cable Beach

Lifeguard patrols on Broome's world-famous Cable Beach get underway at the Easter long weekend and will run throughout the dry season.

From Friday 14 April through to Sunday 29 October 2017, lifeguards will be stationed between the swimming area flags in their distinctive red and yellow uniforms between 9am and 4.30pm.

Shire of Broome Manager Sport and Recreation, Casey Zepnick, said Surf Life Saving WA would again manage the lifeguard service under contract with the Shire and employ local lifeguards.

"Lifeguards will be back on duty from Good Friday keeping both tourists and locals safe when they visit Cable Beach during the dry season," Mr Zepnick said.

"During the 2016 season statistics show more than 126,000 people visited Cable Beach, with lifeguards performing 12 rescues, attending one major first aid incident and 219 minor first aid incidents, carrying out more than 6650 preventative actions including warning swimmers, surfers and other beachgoers of rips, rocks and other hazards, and undertaking net drags for marine stingers twice a day."

Broome Surf Life Saving Club volunteers will assist the lifeguards between May and October by running patrols on Sundays from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Surf Life Saving WA Lifesaving Services Contract Manager, Peter Scott, said that as well as providing a rescue service for beachgoers, the lifeguards would provide first aid and beach safety information.

"It's important that people follow the lifeguards' instructions, swim between the flags and pay attention to warning signs," he said.

"SLSWA has also produced a coastal safety brochure for visitors to Cable Beach.

"Containing information about patrol services and important beach safety tips, the brochure will be available at various outlets in Broome."

Ends