



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



## Community Bulletin

INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES

### Removal of watercraft from Flying Fish Cove

**Number:** D01/2023 **Date:** 16 February 2023

**Relevant:** Christmas Island

**Topic:** Kayak & Watercraft Storage Clean-Up at Flying Fish Cove

Owners of any kayaks, small boats, sailboats and paddle boards left at Flying Fish Cove which are not placed in the storage rack need to remove their watercraft as a priority.

The vessels left off the rack are a risk to people and property in adverse weather conditions and pose a significant trip hazard.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department) provides a rack for public use to store small watercraft safely. Small watercraft and vessels that do not fit in the rack need to be stored appropriately by owners at their homes.

Any watercraft (including, but not limited to kayaks, small boats, sailboats and paddle boards) that are not stored in the rack **by 17 March 2023** will be deemed abandoned and surrendered to the Australian Federal Police, becoming subject to missing property report procedures and disposal.

Users who wish to store their watercraft on the racks are reminded that they do so at their own risk and responsibility. The Department is not liable for loss or damage to any watercraft stored at the racks. Users should note:

- The rack spaces are not personal issue. The rack spaces are not owned, leased or reserved.
- The use of the racks is self-regulated. If a vacant space is available, it can be used.
- The racks are for storage of kayaks and boards only.
- If you store your watercraft on a rack and remove it for use or other reason, that space immediately becomes vacant and available to others for use.
- All watercraft must be removed by its owners during weather events with predicted high winds.
- The Department may issue notices from time to time for the removal of all or some watercraft, through community bulletins, the Islander community newsletter or by notice posted at rack locations.
- Failure to remove your watercraft within a designated timeframe as specified within any notice, may result in the watercraft being deemed abandoned and surrendered to the Australian Federal Police and subject to missing property report procedures and disposal.
- Watercraft not stored on the racks and left in the area may be subject to notice of removal.

Community users are encouraged to respect the property of others and use the racks with care and consideration.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**Ian McKendrick, Director IOTA**