

# Anchors away, says one view

## Jury may be set to lower the boom

By PETER GARDINER

IT MAY be that the boom is about to drop on those living the good life on the Noosa River with the briefing to the new community jury about

potential future management options such as restricting unattended anchoring and creating anchoring-free areas. The scope of action may include permits and fees to anchor and live onboard

and the introduction of permit conditions to ensure vessels "have appropriate waste holding tanks and pumpout facilities". Ensuring houseboats are in a seaworthy condition and a review of "live on

board" (LOB) permits are other key points the Noosa Council wants the newly-convened jury to consider as part of its crucial river management brief.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



SINKING FEELING: This houseboat, that has seen better days on the Noosa River, is featured in the community jury Noosa Council Your Say website. PHOTO: NOOSA COUNCIL

# Setting a better course

FROM PAGE 1

ALONGSIDE these are possible consideration of a user-pays system and restrictions on LOB vessels in the river system be restricted.

The jurors, who met last Saturday week for the first time, were told there are 14 commercial leases along the river foreshore administered by the state, ranging from \$1100 to

\$31,500 a year. The lease timeframes of 20 years were recently extended to 30 years with "some leases approved for operations not related to boating". The jury may, if it sees merit in the suggestion, consider what commercial uses should be allowed in the river. And they may ponder whether such ventures as "new floating shops

permanently attached to a jetty", commercial use of amphibious vessels, new commercial jet ski businesses and Jetlev or Flyboard equipment are appropriate for Noosa.

The 26-member second community jury took a ferry trip to see some of the issues first-hand with council's rivers and coast environment officer Jan Maddin, highlighting the

proliferation of abandoned and derelict vessels, river clutter and the effect on visual amenity.

Noosa Council environment and planning manager Kerri Coyle said current management arrangements were complex, while the level of resources and a state-wide management approach were also having an impact. The jury members have

compiled a list of issues they'd like to hear more about and the experts they wish to consult. Council and newDemocracy Foundation are now working on delivering research and speakers for the jury when it next meets on September 16.

To get involved, have a say and stay up to date with the jury's progress, visit [yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au](http://yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au).

## River state

WHO does what at the state level right now?

### Maritime Safety Queensland

- Manage compliance via a system of complaint and information referrals to other state agencies.

### Boat Harbours Team

- Anchoring, mooring, grounding and live on-board
- Issue mooring and live-on-board permits.

### Boating and Fisheries Patrol/Qld Police Service

- Anchoring and mooring.
- Waste holding systems.
- Conduct marine safety campaigns.
- Regulate Noosa River Marine Zones.

### Department of Natural Resources

- Administer commercial jetty leases.

### Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

- Construction approvals, dredge permits etc.