

Recognising, protecting and celebrating our night sky

Purpose: To to respond to a Council resolution in relation to recognising, protecting and celebrating the Sunshine Coast night sky

What are dark skies and light pollution?

A **dark sky** is the natural occurrence of the sky at night, free from human-caused light pollution.

Light pollution is excessive use of artificial light. When outdoor lighting is inefficient, overly bright, poorly targeted and/or improperly shielded, light spills into the sky, rather than focusing it on to the actual objects and areas that people want illuminated.



P.Tyrer, Wild Horse Mountain

Mechanisms review and findings

- An **International Dark Sky Place** designation
- Other complimentary tools/approaches were identified.



Proposed next steps

Undertake a review of the International Dark Sky Places Program and its five designation types with targeted stakeholder input for Council consideration to:

- scope potential Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Place designations
- determine eligibility and requirements of designations
- determine interest and support of required partners
- present findings to Council in November 2021.



D. Wilcock, Yaroomba

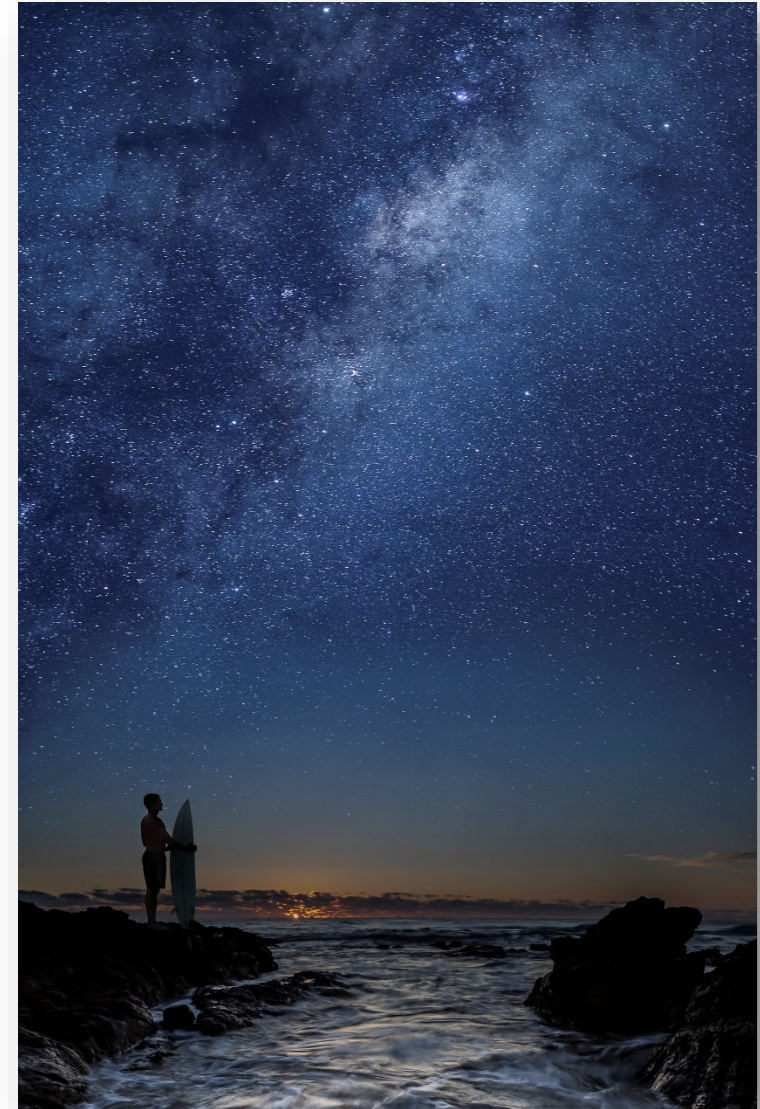
Recommendation

Note the appendix “Night Sky Protection – Review of Mechanisms Report” and

support further investigations with targeted input,

to scope potential Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Place designations and associated location/s, requirements and benefits and

report back to Council in November 2021 for consideration.



M. Rich, Coolum