

Developing a robust set of surf break assessment criteria: two case studies from New Zealand



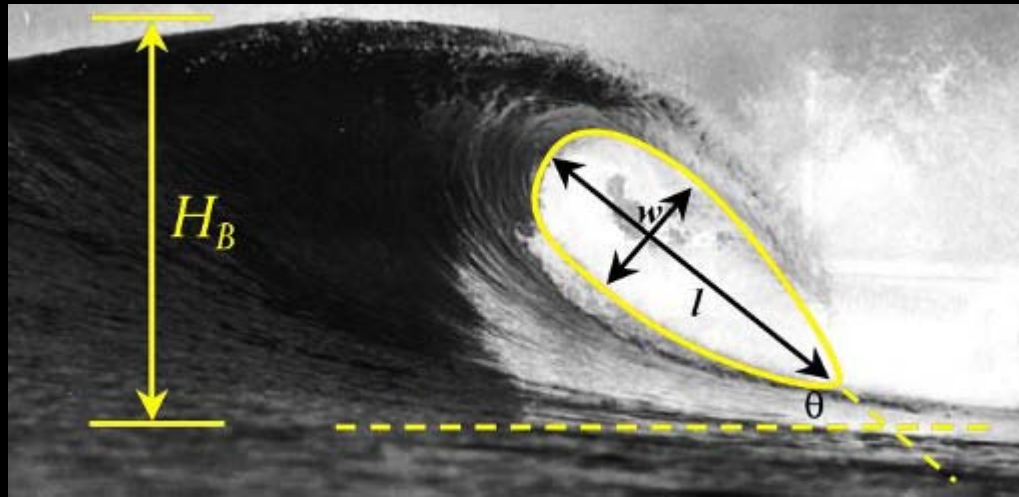
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(Hons)

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Still taken from *Surfing for Life* – a film by David Brown and Roy Earnest

Surfing science and the grass-roots response



- Artificial reefs programme
- Waikato University
- ASR

Image taken from Scarfe 2008

- Surfbreak Protection Society + SEAS
- Surfrider + Save the Waves Foundation



Whanga Bar, Whangamata. © photocpl.co.nz

NZCPS Policy

- **Policy 16:** protect surf breaks of national significance

- Schedule 1

- Glossary Definitions

- **Policy 13:** preserve natural character

- Surf breaks included

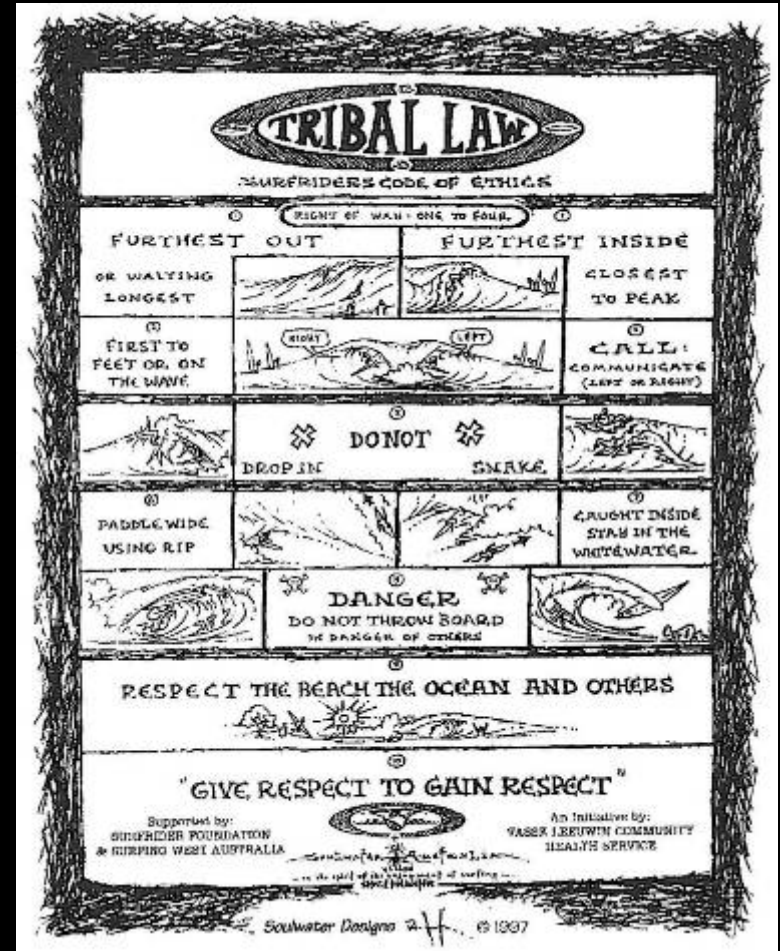


Image of Stockroute, Gisborne -by Bailey Peryman

Case Studies

Methodology:

- Different political contexts, project manager attitudes
- Engage local experts – snowballing technique and its value for action-research



Results

- Surf Break assessment criteria developed
- Localised values reflect national policy
- Inextricable link between culture and place
- Main threats – usual development issues + planning methods
- Surfers want to be involved in policy implementation



Image of 'Whales' and Makorori Headland, from Okitu car park, Gisborne – taken by Bailey Peryman

Implications for policy and planning



'Whangamata Chocolate Bar' – Image courtesy of COL, Surf2surf.com

- Methods for translating variable local environment and cultural values to policy are lacking
- Significant shift in understanding of land:sea interface
- Mere extraction of local knowledge vs. meaningful collaboration
- Focus on outputs, not outcomes