

## Riding the artificial wave of success at Surf Lakes

IMAGES have surfaced from new tests carried out at the Surf Lakes testing facility of Yeppoon Rd.

Surf Lakes yesterday confirmed the research and development facility was back in action and released the new photos of a test in July. The photos show empty waves and showcase the variety of waves offered by the mechanical wave generator. A statement from the company said the testing began shortly after repairs finished in late June, and will continue until

late 2019. "(Surf Lakes) are working through a detailed process to refine the machine, systems and software in order to maximise efficiency," the statement read. "We are also reviewing the wave shape results at different sizes in relation to the current reef bathymetry.

"This information is being fed back into our Computational Fluid Dynamics modelling program in order to make further improvements."

Surf Lakes said the facility was edging closer to perfecting five

wave types to cater for varying skill levels of surfers. "To date the five wave types are breaking with great promise," the statement read. "The wave types include Level 1 and 2 fun beach breaks for those starting out, through to Level 4 and 5 waves, which are more challenging for experienced surfers."

The company reiterated the Yeppoon site was a "prototype only" and was not open to the public.

- Jack Evans



# New twist in croc mystery

## Orthopaedic plate found in crocodile's stomach in hands of police



The mystery find baffles staff and police have stepped in.

Photo: Koorana Crocodile Farm

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THE discovery of a metal plate in a crocodile's stomach near Rockhampton took several more twists yesterday as it officially became a police matter.

Koorana Crocodile Farm owner John Lever said police had contacted him and were set to take the orthopaedic plate yesterday afternoon as part of their investigations.

This week it was revealed

that the metal bone plate and six screws were found in the stomach of Koorana's resident 4.7m saltwater crocodile, MJ, during an autopsy conducted last month.

The find made international headlines and on Thursday some news sources reported that the metal plate was of human origin.

A medical services company in England called Which Medical Device and a British orthopaedic surgeon had said these

plates were definitely used in humans.

However there was a further twist on Thursday night when a veterinary surgeon in Australia said they had also used the same type of plate in animals.

"It has gone from me trying to find out whether the plate was human or veterinary, to being strictly human, back to being either," Mr Lever said yesterday.

"The plate goes into the police today (Friday) so as of then

it's a police matter and I won't be commenting much more, as police will release information as they see fit."

On Thursday Mr Lever said he'd received two separate enquiries from people in North Queensland who thought the plate may have been linked to disappearances of people near Tully and the Innisfail/Ingham areas.

The bodies of these missing persons had reportedly never been found.

Koorana Crocodile Farm this week posted a photograph on its Facebook page showing some of the things they'd recovered from crocodiles' stomachs during autopsies.

The items included a door handle, the leg bone of a dog and dog hair, and crab pot material including mesh and a foam buoy.

Mr Lever said during previous autopsies he'd also found broken bottles in the stomach of a crocodile.

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