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Off-road vehicle users in Rangers' sights

City of Albany rangers will be patrolling Cheyne Beach over the Easter long weekend to inform and educate off-road vehicle owners of their responsibilities.

Rangers have become aware of an increasing number of registered and un-registered motorbikes and quad bikes using the beach and sand dunes, potentially putting other beach users at risk. As a result, rangers will run a campaign over Easter to crackdown on irresponsible behaviour and use of unregistered vehicles.

While driving an unlicensed off-road vehicle on the beach can incur a \$500 fine, Ranger Team Leader Colin Hyde said rangers wanted to take an educational approach rather than slap people with fines.

"We hope by having a ranger presence at Cheyne Beach early in the morning they can stop and chat to people before they unload their unregistered bikes and attract an infringement," Mr Hyde said. "The ranger will remind them of their responsibilities and the fines they can attract, and also encourage users of licenced off-road vehicles to use them safely and well away from other beach users."

Mr Hyde said Cheyne Beach was a popular destination over Easter and the City did not want to see any incidents that could result in injuries or deaths.

"Motorbikes and quadbikes can be a lot of fun when used responsibly, and they can be very dangerous when used irresponsibly," he said. "The beach is not a place for hooning. It is much better if we can encourage people to behave in the appropriate way rather than some of the inappropriate actions we are seeing at the moment. We want everyone to be able to enjoy the beach."

Mr Hyde said that while Easter was an especially busy time at Cheyne Beach, rangers would continue to monitor the beach after the Easter break to ensure compliance continued in off-peak periods.

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